

Ken Richardson gives his monthly update on matters educational

Greenkeeper **Education and** Development Fund

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Regional Training

This month sees the start of the BIGGA 2002/2003 Regional Training Courses. You should have received a copy of the brochure in your September Edition of Greenkeeper International but if not give myself or Sami a call and we will send one in the post. The range of courses has increased for this year and we have been able to keep costs to a minimum thanks to the contributors to our Education and Development Fund. All Golden Key Companies have been issued with Training Vouchers to hand to their customers. Each voucher has a face value of £30 plus VAT and can be used to pay for Regional Training or for the Continue to Learn Programme at Harrogate in January 2003.

Please note that the following courses are now full.

- · Pesticide Training at Trentham Golf Club on October 14-16
- · Reel Sharpening at De Vere Carden Park on November 28
- · Health and Safety at Work at Mere Golf and Country Club, October 30 & 31

An additional Reel Sharpening Course has been arranged at De Vere Carden Park on November 27.

An additional Health and Safety at Work course is available at Ham Manor Golf Club, West Sussex, on November 20 & 21.

Phone Sami Collins to check availability. Places on all courses are selling fast. Apply NOW to ensure that you get the training that you want.



In addition to their sponsorship of the Student of the Year Competition and Golden Key membership of the

BIGGA Education and

Development Fund, TORO have agreed to sponsor Continue to Learn articles in Greenkeeper International and to sponsor the Careers Fair at BTME. This sponsorship shows that TORO is committed to the ongoing education and training of greenkeepers and to helping them find ' the job of their dreams'. Watch out for further details of the Careers Fair in future Editions of Greenkeeper International and in the enclosed Continue to Learn brochure.

The National Education Conference and Workshop Programme, at Harrogate, will be suported by a donation from the John Deere Team Championship. This will allow us to continue to provide high quality training at minimum cost to our members.



The Key Note speaker, Debra Veal, will be sponsored by Textron, as part of their ongoing sponsorship of BIGGA **Education and Training** projects.

You will see that Continue to Learn, again, offers a wide range of Education and Training opportunities

for everyone, Golf Course Managers, Head Greenkeepers, Greenkeepers, Golf Club Secretaries, Chairmen of Green and other club officials. Please send your application form back to BIGGA as soon as possible to ensure your place.

Bookings for the STRI, Running Golf Courses in the 21 st Century Course should be sent direct to STRI.



The Final of this year's TORO Student of the Year Competition took place at BIGGA House on September 23. Full details will appear in the next edition of Greenkeeper International.

Salaries and Conditions of Service

The Standing Committee Recommendations on Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Employment 2003 are included in this magazine. Further copies are available from BIGGA House or from the Association of Golf Club Secretaries. The Committee has recommended a salary increase of 3.8%, the Average Earnings Index for June 2002.

The Standing Committee is currently reviewing Contracts of Employment, Job Specifications and Employee Handbooks, which should be available in December 2002.





Standing Committee on **Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Service**

The 2003 Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Service (CGS) are enclosed in this publication. Further copies may be obtained from the Association of Golf Club Secretaries Tel: 01934 641166 or from the Administration Department CGS Tel: 01347 833800.

The 2003 Recommendations show an increase on the 2002 figures of 3.8%. This is the Annual Earnings Index for June 2002.

The Standing Committee, which is an independent organisation, has once again, produced a substantial guide for golf clubs to base their greenkeeper's salaries. Readers should remember, however, that the Recommendations are only a guide and golf clubs need to interpret the figures to suit local conditions. For example, splitting the country into three

areas was done following a survey of actual salaries conducted in 1999/2000. The areas are based on counties and distance from London which can lead to some problems of interpretation as there are high cost areas in the All Remaining UK locations. It is not possible to give a recommended salary for every greenkeeper at every golf club and some local bargaining needs to take place to ensure that greenkeepers are paid a fair salary.

The Standing Committee is continuing its work on contracts of employment and terms of service and on job specifications. Future projects will include a detailed survey of greenkeeper salaries which will be used to refine the geographical split of the UK.



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