



## JOHN DEERE Team Championship

### Goes ahead for second year...

Following the successful involvement of Great Britain and Ireland in the 2002 John Deere World Team Championship golf tournament, John Deere chose the Show to announce that its participation is to continue in 2003.

Now in its 17th year, the Team Championship will follow a similar format to last year. John Deere dealers organise their own qualifying tournament for local golf clubs, operating within the Team Championship's own rules and regulations. Each team of four entered at this stage must include a senior member of the club's greenkeeping team, two members of the board or committee, and the club's head or assistant professional.

The winners of these regional qualifiers will go through to either the GB or Ireland national final, where the teams will be joined by the local dealer representative.

The two winning teams from the 2002 GB and Ireland national finals recently travelled to Scottsdale, Arizona, for the 2002 world finals. Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club from the New Forest and Milltown Golf Club from Dublin, victorious at the national finals held at The De Vere Belfry in August, were among 34 teams from seven nations, all competing for the world title on one of the most famous courses in America - Grayhawk Golf Club.

"The championship's success in GB and Ireland has exceeded all expectation in its first year. Altogether 27 dealers took part in qualifying



The John Deere Team Championship

tournaments with a total of 450 teams participating," says Pieter Nel, John Deere Limited's Commercial & Consumer Equipment Division Manager.

"The chance to go to the world final in Arizona is a big draw and the championship also provides a great opportunity to spend time with existing and potential customers in an informal atmosphere.

"The 2003 details are yet to be finalised but one thing is for sure - two teams, one from GB and one from Ireland, will be travelling to the USA in November to take part in the world final, and the chance to be crowned John Deere World Team Champions 2003."

John Deere Limited will again make a donation of £25 for every British and Irish team entered, to support the educational activities of BIGGA and GCSAI.

BIGGA used the £9,300 it received to support the National Education Conference during Harrogate Week.

## MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE



The latest Master Greenkeeper is Huw Morgan, Course Manager at the Wildernesse Club, in Sevenoaks, Kent.

There are now 33 BIGGA Master Greenkeepers in the World, two in Germany, 11 in the United States and now 20 in the United Kingdom.

A native of South Wales, Huw joined the Master Greenkeeper Scheme in 1999 and quickly achieved Stage 1 from a combination of experience, formal qualifications and Continuing Development. He moved onto Stage 2, the Assessment of Golf Course Operation in October 2000 and passed the Stage 3 Examination in March of 2002.

Huw was presented with his Master Greenkeeper jacket and plaque by the President of BIGGA, Sir Michael Bonallack and BIGGA Chairman Richard Barker, at a ceremony at BTME/ClubHouse 2003.

Among his other achievements Huw was the 2001 Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping Award winner.

### BTLIA

The BTLIA presented four members with the prestigious BTLIA Certificate of Merit.

The Certificate of Merit is both highly prized and highly regarded because it is a performance award based entirely upon feedback from the customers. Through the analysis of questionnaires completed by these customers and using a set formula, attainment marks are given for each contracting member. These are then used to produce a performance mark and those companies reaching the high mark of 85% are awarded the Certificate.

The companies that have been awarded the Certificate of Merit for 2002 are: -

- Irrigation Control Limited
- MJ Abbott limited
- SJS Irrigation
- TIS [Scotland] Ltd.



Harrogate increasingly attracts influential people from the world of golf and this year was no exception. Kyle Phillips, (left) the architect who designed Kings Barns, in St Andrews, and Southern Gables, near Ayr, attended the show to discuss his latest project The Grove, near London. Kyle who is pictured with Nigel Wyatt, of MJ Abbotts, who are constructing the course, expressed himself well impressed with the Show and promised to be back.



John Nicholson of John Nicholson Associates with Ken Brown, Mark James and Paul Jenkins, Course Manager of Lilley Brook GC