

Education



Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

Unlock the doors to progress through BIGGA's Education and Development Fund - the key to a great future for greenkeepers, golf clubs and the game of golf.

Golden and Silver Key Membership is available to both companies and individuals.

For details, please contact Neil Thomas on 01347 833800 or via neil@bigga.co.uk

Golden Key Supporters



Golden Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Gem Professional	01254 356611
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444
Massey Ferguson (AGCO Ltd)	02476 851292
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 377777
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01202 319987
TurfTrax Group Ltd	01722 434000

Golden Key Individual Members

J H Fry; J H Greasley; WJ Rogers; David S Robinson; Stuart Townsend; Douglas Smith; Andrew Cornes; Andy Campbell MG, CGCS; Roger Barker; Iain A MacLeod

Silver Key Supporters



Silver Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600
Ernest Doe & Sons	01254 380311
General Legal Protection Ltd	01904 611600
Heath Lambert Group	0113 246 1313
RainBird	01273 891326
Syngenta Professional Products	0041 613 233 028
Wolf Proline	01495 306600

Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; John Crawford; Bruce Cruickshank; Douglas G Duguid; Alan Holmes; Robert Maibusch MG; Richard S Mullen; Elliott R Small; Steven Tierney; CJ Yeaman; Richard Lawrence; Clive Osgood; David Robinson; Richard Stillwell; Stephen Dixon; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins

After a tiring but successful week in Harrogate, Sami and I are turning out thoughts to Continue to Learn 2004, which will be, again, supported by the John Deere Team Championship. The theme for the Harrogate week will be 'Golf, Sport and Business'. We hope to look back in time and see if things were really better 20 years ago, look at the present and the problems and pressures on the game and on greenkeepers and attempt to look forward to see what changes may occur in the next twenty years. Please let us know if you wish to see a particular speaker or subject.

We had a wide range of speakers at Harrogate in 2003, both greenkeepers and speakers from outside the Industry. We had some excellent talks and I would like to thank all those who took part. The Careers Fair was successful, in its first year, and, thanks to the support of TORO, it will be expanded and enhanced for 2004.

Watch out for further announcements in future editions of this magazine.

Greenkeeper Membership



Following a vote at the Annual General Meeting, held in Harrogate, on January 22, all those wishing to join the Association as Greenkeeper Members, after February 1, 2003, will need a minimum qualification of N/SVQ Level 2 Sportsturf or equivalent qualification. This change to the Constitution will not affect current

members who will retain their current membership category. Anyone wishing to join the Association after February 1, 2003 who does not hold a minimum qualification of N/SVQ Level 2 Sportsturf or equivalent qualification will be offered membership of the Association and will be called Members, i.e. not Greenkeeper Members, until such time as they become qualified.

Non-Greenkeeper, Members will pay a reduced membership fee of £10 less than the equivalent Greenkeeper Member rate. This reflects the lower recommended salaries for unqualified personnel. Additionally, Non Greenkeeper Members will not be given voting rights nor will be allowed to take up office at National, Regional or Section level.

Regional Training

There are still some places left on the Spring Series of Regional Training Courses. However, due to lack of support, we have had to cancel some courses. Courses with places still available are:

The New Supervisor	Newark Golf Club	12 & 13 February
Further Management Skills	Manchester Airport	19 & 20 February
Abrasive Wheels	De Vere Carden Park	26 February
Further Management Skills	Luton Airport	26 & 27 February
Further Computer Skills	Berkhamstead Golf Club	4 & 5 March
Project Management	Ross on Wye Golf Club	5 & 6 March
Presenting a Professional Image	De Vere Carden Park	20 March
Budgets and Finance	De Vere Carden Park	16 & 17 April

Remember that each one day course costs £30 + Vat and each two day course costs £60 + VAT thanks to massive subsidies from the BIGGA Education and Development Fund. All Golden Key contributors also have Training Vouchers, which they issue to their customers. As each training voucher is worth £30 + VAT, you could get your training free of charge.

Courses cancelled due to insufficient numbers are:

Basic Computer Skills	Old Fold Manor Golf Club	19 & 20 February
Coaching Skills	Potters Bar Golf Club	6 & 7 March
Basic Computer Skills	Southerndown Golf Club	18 & 19 March

BIGGA Golf Environment Competition

I have just been informed of the excellent news that two companies have agreed to sponsor the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition 2003. Following the announcement by the R&A to continue to support the Competition in 2003, Scotts UK Professional and Syngenta Professional Products have agreed, jointly, to sponsor the Competition, initially for 2003. Further detail of sponsors, sponsorship and detail of the Competition will appear in the March edition of this magazine.



Golf Environment Competition

Machinery and Work Equipment Training and Assessment Manual



Designed to complement the GTC Wall Chart, the Machinery and Work Equipment Assessment and Training Manual will be sent out to all BIGGA Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers, later this month. Sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, the Manual has been designed to assist Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers in the training and assessment of their staff and to give each member of staff a full record of training, assessment and competence.

Many Course Managers have already been visited by

Environmental Health Inspectors who have asked to see written records of training, assessment and competence. Be prepared by ensuring that all of your staff are given appropriate training and assessment of competence and that you keep full, written records.

Higher Education Scholarships supported by Ransomes Jacobsen



Several requests for Higher Education Scholarships 2003 have arrived at BIGGA House. Thanks to Ransomes Jacobsen, there are funds available to

support Greenkeeper Members of BIGGA who are about to enter Higher Education (N/SVQ Level 4, HNC, HND, BSc, MSc). The closing date for applications for the academic year starting in October 2003 is 2 June 2003.

TORO Student of the Year Competition

Application forms for the TORO Student of the Year Competition have been sent to all Training Providers. Applications must be returned to BIGGA House by 9 May 2003. Regional Finals will be held in Edinburgh, Manchester, St Albans, Cheltenham and Cambridgeshire during the week commencing 30 June 2003.

Get your entry in now and you could be following Murray Long, the 2002 Winner to the United States in January 2004.



Qualify while you work in Sports Surface Technology

Today, the sports industry is one of the fastest growing industries. It is essential that surfaces on which sports are played remain in outstanding condition. Our flexible training programme addresses the business and technical skills required to achieve the high quality sports facilities of tomorrow:

- Our ten, two week short courses are available individually and provide training in specific areas such as "Sports Surface Playability", "Mechanisation for Sports Surfaces" or "Irrigation and Drainage".
- Successfully complete all ten, together with a research project which can be carried out at your own sports venue and you will be awarded an MSc in Sports Surface Technology. You can take up to five years to complete the course.
- Our MSc in Sports Surface Technology is also available as a one-year full-time course. Apply now for entry in October 2003.

Supported by the Institute of Groundsmanship, British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and the Football Association as well as other leading professional bodies and industrial organisations. This qualification will enhance your future career and salary prospects.

Bursaries available

For further details please contact Sue O'Neill, Student Enquiries, Cranfield University, Silsoe, Bedford MK45 4DT.
Tel: 01525 863319 Fax: 01525 863399
Email: StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk
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