

It is with great pleasure that the GTC accepted the offer from BIGGA to contribute a regular column in Greenkeeper International.

For many of the more mature readers of GI the history of the two bodies working together will need no explanation however in this first article I think it is important that the GTC's Aims and Objectives are shown and also the structure of the GTC.

The GTC Board has representatives from the following organisations.

- The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews
- The British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association
- The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Ireland
- The English Golf Union
- The Golfing Union of Ireland
- The Scottish Golf Union
- The Welsh Golfing Union

The GTC also has a Technical Committee to support the Education Director and advise the Board on all greenkeeper education and training matters.

Chairman: Dr Mike Canaway, Former STRI Chief Executive

Committee members:

Gordon McKillop	STRI Chief Executive
Ken Richardson	BIGGA Education & Training Manager
Tony Mears	Course Manager & GTC Liaison Officer
Paddy Holohan	Course Manager & GCSAI Representative
David Leach MG	Course Manager & BIGGA Representative
John Davis	Independent Education & Health & Safety Advisor

In attendance:

Gordon Huddy	GTC Board Chairman
David Golding	GTC Education Director

In a brief summary for this first article the GTC represents both golf club employers and greenkeepers. Its main aim is to ensure that the sector has a range of relevant qualifications, which have national recognition by Government and are both vocational and academic.

The GTC has a network of Approved Training Providers who offer courses related to the qualifications and range from day/block release, work-based or on-line.

Finally, if the content of any turf-related qualifications is proved to require amending the GTC can ensure this can be actioned by the appropriate body.

Aims & Objectives

- ◆ To work with Government bodies to ensure the Golf Greenkeeping sector has qualifications relevant to meet employers and employees needs.
- ◆ To work with the Awarding Bodies i.e. City & Guilds, Edexcel, SQA, NCVA to ensure Quality Assurance is being maintained throughout Centres.
- ◆ To maintain a network of GTC Approved Training Providers throughout the United Kingdom & Ireland.
- ◆ To assist the Training Providers with the delivery of Vocational Qualifications by maintaining a structure of workbased trainers and assessors.
- ◆ To maintain a consultation network to review qualifications and training courses relating to Greenkeeping and Golf Course Management.
- ◆ To communicate with Golf Club employers on the benefits and opportunities for the training of Greenkeepers and to offer an independent advisory service on all matters relating to Greenkeeper training.
- ◆ To co-operate with Greenkeeping Associations in the furtherance of education and training for their members.



Greenkeepers Training Committee
Aldwark Manor
Aldwark
Alne
York YO61 1UF

Tel: 01347 838640
Fax: 01347 838775
E-mail: golf@the-gtc.co.uk
Website: www.the-gtc.co.uk