

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 Ken Richardson on 01347 833800 or via ken@bigga.co.uk

Golden Key Supporters



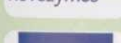
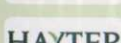
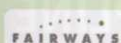
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Silver Key Company Members

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Education Update

Ken Richardson reveals Harrogate Week's one-day workshops.

You should have received a copy of the Harrogate Week brochure with this copy of Greenkeeper International or, in the case of golf club officials, by direct mail. It is packed full of educational opportunities for everyone involved in turf management and golf club management at prices everyone can afford. For example, there are 27 seminars on offer, of which 20 are free of charge and the other seven attract attractive discounts for quantity. Book all seminars and it will cost £122.50. That means that the average cost of each seminar is £4.53. When you consider that it costs at least £23,000 to run the seminars less a generous £5,000 worth of support from the GTC, we need an average of 147 delegates at each seminar in order to break even.



Following on from my last article that looked at two-day workshops, this article looks at the nine one-day workshops.

Continue to Learn 2007

One-day workshops will be held on both Sunday, January 21 and Monday, January 22 in the Queens Suite of Harrogate International Centre.

WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO CAUSE YOU STRESS

This is a workshop that the vast majority of us could find useful but as it is limited to 12 delegates you had better book early to keep your stress levels down. All jobs can be stressful at times and some stress is important for high performance. However, bad stress can be unhelpful and lead to ill health. This workshop will show you how to reduce stress by managing relationships in a more productive way by looking at communication styles and how to manage conflict.

BUDGETING-MAKING NUMBERS COUNT

Following last year's successful two-day workshop, Andy and Brin have redesigned it as 2 one-day workshops. They did this to try and include even more useful financial management information. The workshop will be very intensive and delegates will have to prepare themselves through pre-course reading and research. It will look at how to prepare a budget, expenditure reports, monitoring trends, controlling delegated budgets, costings, cash controls and basic maths.

ARE YOUR FINANCES BELOW PAR?

This one-day workshop follows on from the previous workshop and delegates must have completed last year's two-day workshop or the Making Number Count workshop plus some pre-course reading.

This workshop takes a wider look at financial management in golf industry. It is aimed at Course Managers, Golf Professionals and Club Secretaries. It will look at how external influences have an impact on financial decision making, on the flow of finance, on budgets, on cash flow forecasting and on investment decision making.

COACHING IN THE WORKPLACE

We all coach our staff, some of it is formal coaching and some of it is more informal mentoring. Why not enrol on this one-day workshop and discover how you can add to your management skills portfolio. Save your club time and money and improve the skills of your staff.

DRAIN BEFORE THE RAIN

Following this year's drought, it is a sure bet that we shall have a wet winter. Make sure that your drainage systems can cope by attending this one-day workshop presented by the Land Drainage Contactors Association.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Don't be like Basil Fawlty - make sure that your communication skills are appropriate and affective by attending this one-day workshop presented by Mike John. Good, effective communication is vital in a competitive market place and it involves everyone.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

As more and more pressures are brought onto golf clubs and sports ground to be 'greener', it is even more important to manage your club with the Environment in mind. Come to this one-day workshop and identify the strengths and weakness of your current approach and assess your course against European Commission Standards.

R&A SWARD IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOP

More than 300 delegates attended the Sustainable Golf Course Workshop held during Harrogate Week last January. Some delegates wholeheartedly agreed with the philosophy of sustainability set out by the various speakers while others disagreed. Some delegates were not convinced that they could change from their current grass species to bent fescue and were content to continue their current management regimes.

This one-day workshop will concentrate on showing how swards can be converted without impacting adversely on playing quality. Come and listen to eight greenkeepers explain how they managed to increase the proportion of desirable fescue and brown top bent on their greens and see if you agree that it can be done at your course.

A1 ASSESSOR UPDATE

This session is a must for all assessors who have been qualified for some time. Bring your skills up to date by attending this free one day workshop.