



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

Golden Key Supporters



Golden Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
AGCO (Massey Ferguson)	02476 851286
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Kubota (UK) Ltd	01844 214500
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 677777
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01480 226800

Golden Key Individual Members

JH Fry; JH Greasley; WJ Rogers; Chris Yeaman; Andy Campbell
MG, CGCS; Iain A Macleod; Tom Smith; Bruce Cruickshank; Frank Newberry; Andrew Cornes; Christopher Lomas MG.

Silver Key Supporters



Silver Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600
Ernest Doe & Sons	01245 380311
General Legal Protection Ltd	01904 611600
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444
Heath Lambert Group	0113 246 1313
Novozymes Biologicals	01789 290906
Rainbird	01273 891326
Symbio	01372 456101
Syngenta Professional Products	0041 613 233 028
Turftrax Group Ltd	01722 434000

Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Robert Maibusch MG; Steven Tierney; Roger Barker; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogarth; Nichollas Gray; Trevor Smith; Iain Barr; Richard McGlynn; Alex McCombie; Paul Murphy; Reaseheath College; Steve Dixon; Ian Benison.

What a change of pace it has been this last month for both Sami and for me. I have gone from counting tropical fish to ploughing through the Safety Management System, while Sami has gone from resting her knee to intense physiotherapy, organising the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, updating the CPD database, helping to write the new BIGGA database, organising training courses and administering the recent Master Greenkeeper Examinations. We have also found time to produce the draft Continue to Learn Programme for Harrogate Week 2008 and we have written letters inviting presenters to take part.

SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



You will now be able to access the Safety Management System through the membership area of the BIGGA website.

Thanks to sponsorship by Ransomes Jacobsen and to the hard work of a large team of golf course managers, golf club Managers (golf club secretaries), health and safety advisors and to the support of golf clubs, this Safety Management System should help all golf clubs produce a health and safety system that will make their clubs safer places to work and play.

Most health and safety is common sense although you might not think so if you read the popular press. This SMS tries to keep things as simple as possible but clubs need to have a 'competent' person or persons to implement the System. This competent person can be someone at your golf club who has the experience and qualifications that makes them competent or you could employ a health and safety advisor to help you to implement the system.

The Safety Management System is provided free of charge to all members of BIGGA and to all members of the GCMA (formally AGCS). However, clubs will need to budget for the costs involved in managing health and safety and provide the physical resources to make it happen.

Every department in the club should be involved in producing the SMS and communication between management and staff and with members and visitors is critical.

This SMS has taken two years of hard work to produce and it is as complete as we can make it. However, if you have any problems with the Site or if you think that it needs amending please contact me at BIGGA House.

BIGGA GOLF ENVIRONMENT COMPETITION



All golf clubs in Great Britain should have received a copy of the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition Application Form through the post.

This competition would be impossible to run without the kind sponsorship of Scotts UK Professional, Syngenta Professional Products and Ransomes Jacobsen all of whom see the need for golf clubs to be aware of their environment and the need to manage a golf course sympathetically.



Almost every news bulletin and every newspaper carries a story about global warming, the 'greenhouse' effect, carbon footprints etc but being the usual media coverage, they tend to forget the good that is happening and concentrate on the bad.

Golf and golf clubs have had some bad press in the past. For example, horror stories about the excessive use of chemicals, excessive use of irrigation during a drought and pollution from cars, course equipment and golf buggies are just three that come to mind. However, many golf clubs do have an environmental management plan, have reduced waste, recycle glass, paper, cardboard and grass clippings. Use 'grey' water for irrigation. Have reduced cutting frequency, have wild flowers in the rough and have reduced chemical inputs.

Many of these clubs have taken part in the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, some have won a prize, some have received visits from STRI Ecologists and all have had feedback on their progress. Why not enter your club this year; it does not cost anything apart from the price of a stamp. Let us show the media, politicians and the general public that golf is good for the environment and that golf courses are doing their bit to reduce their 'carbon footprints'.