

Continuing Professional Development

CPD

BIGGA introduced its Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme for Full Members of BIGGA on 1 July 2000.

Our mission statement includes 'BIGGA is dedicated to the continuing professional development of its members...' and the introduction of the scheme was a step towards maintaining and enhancing the professionalism of greenkeepers.

Your questions answered:

What is Continuing Professional Development (CPD)?

CPD is a personal commitment to keeping your professional knowledge and skills up to date. Most of you are probably already doing CPD on an informal basis, but by formally recording your learning you'll show that you're actively committed to developing your career.

What are the benefits of CPD?

- Show employers that greenkeepers are true professionals
- Show current and prospective employers that you are committed to continuing your learning and development beyond a minimum level
- Update and adapt skills on a regular basis
- Record of your learning
- Provide you with the skills to cope with change
- Increase your chances of career development

What counts towards CPD?

- National, Regional and Section Events – Conferences, Workshops, Seminars
- Formal Qualifications – NVQ's, HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, MSc
- On-the-job – Training on new machinery, health and safety
- Presentations and Articles
- Online Learning
- Events run by the GCMA, CMAE, PGA and any other relevant body
- Night classes relevant to your job as a greenkeeper (IT, languages, science etc)

This list is not exhaustive; please contact the L&D Department for further details.

How do I join the BIGGA CPD Scheme?

- Complete a Registration Form available on the website www.bigga.org.uk/education
- Contact the L&D Department for a Registration Form
- Sign the CPD Register at an event (if available)

How much does it cost to join the CPD Scheme?

The CPD Scheme is Free of Charge to Full BIGGA Members thanks to the support of the Gold and Silver Key members' contributions to the Learning and Development Fund.

How many credits do I have to claim and in what time period?

To receive your Certificate of Continuing Professional Development you need to gain 10 CPD credits between 1 July and 30 June each year.

How do I claim CPD Credits?

- Sign the event register (if available)
- Complete a CPD Credits Claim Form and have it signed by the event organiser or lecturer

What do I get for my CPD Credits?

When you accumulate 10 or more Credits within the CPD Year (July 1 to June 30) you will receive a Certificate of Continuing Professional Development. If you receive 5 consecutive CPD Certificates you will receive a Diploma of Continuing Professional Development. CPD Diplomas are awarded at Harrogate Week each year.

If you have any further questions about the CPD scheme, please contact either Rachael or Sami in the Learning and Development Department on 01347 833800 and select Option 3.