



# Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

## BIGGA is now a Limited Company

During the last few weeks the membership department have received telephone calls from some members who are concerned about the conversion to a limited company and were under the misunderstanding that BIGGA were in some sort of financial difficulty. I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that BIGGA is not in any financial difficulty, the decision to convert BIGGA to a company limited by guarantee was taken by the Board as it considered that such a structure would be advantageous to the Association. Some advantages of BIGGA Limited: -

- The Association will have its own legal identity, allowing BIGGA Limited to enter into contracts under the name of BIGGA Limited rather than under individual names.
- BIGGA Limited will be liable for fulfilling any contracts to which BIGGA Limited is a party rather than individual members of the Board.
- Members have limited personal liability (up to a maximum amount of £1) for any outstanding debts should BIGGA Limited cease to trade and a contribution is needed to enable its debts to be paid, rather than unlimited liability as previously.

If you have not yet returned your application to transfer to BIGGA Limited please return this as soon as possible, even though it is past the deadline stated on the letter we can still accept the forms.

If you want more information refer back to your June issue of Greenkeeper International and on page 9 is a full notice regarding conversion to a limited company.

## BIGGA – A professional body for sports turf professionals

We are pleased to welcome applications for full membership from sports turf professionals, who are employed in the maintenance of sports turf at a sports facility, who work not only on golf courses,

but football, cricket, rugby, tennis, bowling greens, hockey and horse racing (to mention only a few of the other key turf related sports).

An application form and guidelines for membership can be downloaded from the BIGGA website, by entering [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) into your search engine, click on 'Join' across the top bar, all the information you need to join, or renew your membership, can be found here.

## BIGGA Membership Numbers on the increase

We are pleased to report that the slight downturn experienced in membership numbers has been halted and we are steadily back on the increase. We have received a lot of enquiries from past members who are wishing to re-join. Remember if you have been a member of BIGGA before, normally, there is no need to complete a new application form and go through the new application procedure, if your membership lapsed during the last 24 months, and you are still on our system, you can complete a renewal form and we can re-join you usually within a week of receiving your form.

## BIGGA Membership Benefit of the Month

All Full members of BIGGA, and their partners, have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to a legal helpline, where any personal legal matter can be discussed with a trained professional legal advisor.

If you need to ring the freephone number (0800 0177 7891 – this can also be found on the reverse of your membership card), remember to say that you are a member of the BIGGA Legal Expenses Scheme and have your membership number to hand.

As your Association continues to move forward remember those immortal words of George Bernard Shaw.....

“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”



### Contact Details

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### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

(Full Members only)

Personal Accident Helpline  
02075 603013  
Greenkeepers Legal Assistance  
0800 177 7891  
Greenkeepers Support Services  
0800 174 319  
Debt Counselling Helpline  
0800 174319

## BIGGA welcomes the following new members

### Scottish Region

Craig Cunningham, West  
Scott Downie, Central  
Elliot Gaughan, West  
Richard Jenkinson, Central  
Ryan Morrison, West  
Calum Stewart, North  
Steven Wood, North

### Northern Region

Daniel Blenkinsop, Northern  
Jack Bryson, Northern  
Graham Green, Northern  
Christopher Morris, North West  
Gary Parr, Northern  
Kevin Paterson, North West  
James Rawsthorne, North West  
Thomas Scott, North West  
Tom Strong, Sheffield  
Alan Underwood, North East  
Tom Wood, Northern

### Midland Region

Duncan Bagshaw, Midland  
Stuart Bailey, Midland  
Oliver Boys, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Thomas Chester, Midland  
Lee Cooper, East Midland  
Nicholas Harding, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Terence Martin, Midland  
Lee Mitchell, East Midland  
Liam Perry, Mid Anglia  
Gary Simpson, Midland  
Robert Stillie, Mid Anglia  
Lee Wenlock, East Midland  
Paul Williams, Midland

### South East Region

Brian Allen, East Anglia  
Jamie Finch, East Anglia  
Timothy Goffin, Sussex  
Louis Hulford, Surrey  
Nick Lamb, East Anglia  
Elliott May, Surrey  
Darren Mitchell, Sussex  
Jacob Morris, Surrey  
Sam Nunn, East Anglia  
Nicholas Plowright, Sussex  
Greg Savidge, Sussex  
Charlie Sparks, Essex  
Peter Staples, East Anglia  
Dave Turner, Essex  
Kimberley Yeldham, Essex

### South West/South Wales Region

Lewis Andrews, South West  
Robert Gean, South Wales  
Paul Hazell, South Coast  
Carl Holmes, Devon & Cornwall  
Christopher Rawlings, South West