

Learning & Development

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development,
with an update on education issues



Festival season is approaching, so I hope you've all got your wellingtons and kagools at the ready. I know that I will not be camping this summer (or ever!), but I hope if you are the sunshine gods are kind to you and that you don't end up resembling a muddy monster from the deep!



BIGGA Library

Thanks to the support of the Learning and Development Fund contributors, several new books have been added to the library in the last month.

As you will see from the titles (some of them are brilliant!), they mainly concentrate on management issues but several of them will be useful, even if you're not in a management position.

The new titles are:

- Dealing with People You Can't Stand: How to Bring Out the Best on People at their Worst – Dr Rick Brinkman.
- Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most – Bruce Patton
- Coaching at Work: Powering Your Team with Awareness Responsibility and Trust – Matt Somers

- How to Form a Team: Five Keys to High Performance – Centre for Creative Leadership

- How to Launch a Team: Start Right for Success – Centre for Creative Leadership

- Maintaining Team Performance – Centre for Creative Leadership

- Customer Service Training 101: Quick and Easy Techniques That Get Great Results – Renee Evenson

- Toxic People: Decontaminate Difficult People at Work Without Using Weapons or Duct Tape – Marsha Petrie Sue

- The Art and Science of Communication: Tools for Effective Communication in the Workplace – Les Brown

To view the list of available books you can either request a printed Library List or you can go to the Members Section of the BIGGA Website and click on Lending Library, you can then search by Category or by Author.

Once you have found the book(s) you are interested in you can see if it is 'Available' or 'On Loan'.

If the book you are after is 'On Loan' you can either telephone or email your request and it will be sent to you on its return.

You can borrow up to two items for a period of up to six weeks.

The only cost to members is return postage to BIGGA HQ.

The funding provided by Golden and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

Many young greenkeepers owe their career progression to the assistance they've had from the Learning and Development Fund. An equal number of established greenkeepers have also been able to access the fund to continue their professional development thanks to the donations of the Golden and Silver Key Sponsors.

Higher Education Scholarships – supported by Ransomes Jacobsen



Funds are still available for Higher Education Scholarships. You could be eligible to apply for a scholarship of up to £1500 if you:

- Are a greenkeeper member of BIGGA
- Are working as a full-time greenkeeper
- Have been a BIGGA member for a minimum of two years

Courses that could be eligible for a Scholarship include: NVQ Level 4 Sports Turf Management, Foundation Degree, HNC, HND, MSc and BSc

Updates and Reminders

Master Greenkeeper

Congratulations go to Tim Anderson from Naperville Country Club in Illinois, USA on achieving the Master Greenkeeper Certificate. Tim is the 49th greenkeeper to achieve the Certificate.

Continuing Professional Development

The current CPD year ends on June 30. Send in your claim forms to ensure that you receive your 2008/09 Continuing Professional Development Certificate.

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