



# Membership

Tracey Maddison provides a membership benefits update on some core benefits and services BIGGA provides its members

## BIGGA Membership Benefits Update

### Education, Learning and Development

Greenkeeper International (GI) is BIGGA's official magazine, representing views and presenting articles from top greenkeepers and groundsman throughout the country. As part of membership a copy is sent to all members directly to their door on a monthly basis.

Learning and Development is available to BIGGA members through the twenty-six sections located around the UK. Although each section operates independently if a member wishes to attend a seminar or course in another section just contact the local section secretary. A full list of events is now available in GI each month and a contact list is available on the BIGGA website. These events are also an excellent way to consult, exchange and compare work related issues with colleagues in your own industry.

### Legal Assistance Helpline

During 2009 an average of 70 members per month contacted the legal assistance helpline for advice on various legal matters. The average call duration was almost 10 minutes per call and employment matters were the most common topic discussed.

Full Members of the Association can take advantage of legal advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week, arranged by Arc Legal Assistance. The protection is not just limited to supporting you, as Arc is on hand to make sure you and your family gets the best and most relevant protection you all need.

Not only can the legal assistance helpline offer advice on employment issues, consumer problems and personal injury cases but they can also give guidance on any personal legal matter, including will writing, moving home, matrimonial issues or discuss any motor offence cases.

Access to unlimited telephone legal advice is included as part of the service and the BIGGA scheme

also offers a reassuring benefit of covering the costs of arranging representation in Employment Tribunals and possibly internal disciplinary hearings with your employer. In addition, cover can extend to include legal costs incurred to deal with a consumer dispute and to pursue a personal injury claim.

There are many advantages of the BIGGA scheme over other telephone legal helplines, for example, the BIGGA scheme is available 24/7 on a freephone telephone number (within the UK) and there is somebody on the other end of the telephone to help immediately, no messages and call backs necessary.

### Personal Accident Insurance Scheme

During 2009 over £13,000 was paid out by BIGGA insurers to BIGGA members who were unfortunate enough to have had an accident which caused them to be off work, but were fortunate enough to be aware of the Personal Accident Insurance Scheme and were able to claim payments while they were off work.

### Stress and Debt Assistance Helpline

Both these helplines were introduced in 2009. Both available 24/7 these helplines offer a confidential, professional telephone counselling service which can help proactively manage stress at work or at home by providing immediate emotional support, advice and practical information and advice on a debt issue.

During 2009 over 20 members contacted these helplines to seek advice and guidance on a stress or debt related issue.

For a full list of benefits and services offered to BIGGA members visit the BIGGA website [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk), or if you have any suggestions for membership benefits contact the membership department.

Being a member of BIGGA provides access to a whole host of useful, interesting and important information to help you in your role in sports turf management.



### Contact Details

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### Regional Offices

#### Scotland & Northern Ireland

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#### South West & Wales

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Peter Boyd Peter Larter



Clive Osgood Jane Jones

### 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

### Welcome to New Members

For more information on new members log in to the Members Area of the BIGGA website:

[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

...and select 'Welcome New Members' from the Menu on the left hand side.

### This month BIGGA welcomes the following new members...

#### Scotland

Peter Casbolt, Ayrshire  
Grant Frogley, Central  
Ross Glendinning, East  
Kevin Lewis, Central  
Lukas Mati, Central  
Andrew McGarry, West  
Inzer Price Gendron, Central  
Stephen Robertson, Central  
Alan Walter, Ayrshire

#### Northern Region

Tahir Albert, North West  
Paul Barrow, North West  
Tom Beardsworth, Northern  
Steve Bowes, Northern  
Phillip Dodds, Northern  
Ian Hamilton, North East  
Martin Ishmael, North West  
Richard Ishmael, North West  
Gareth Kendal, North West  
Liam McKendry, Northern  
Steven Nixon, Sheffield  
Jon Scruton, Northern  
Joe Tiplady, Northern  
Mark Turner, North West  
Jonathon Wilkin, North West

#### Midland Region

Ricky Amos, Mid Anglia  
Peter Buckley, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Matthew Hardman, Midland  
Jason Higgins, Mid Anglia  
Simon Reardon, East Midland  
Roger Smith, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Mike Tipping, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Jordon Tromans, Midland  
Sam Voss, East Midland

#### South East Region

Mark Barber, East Anglia  
Sam Hoggett, Surrey  
Matthew Webb, Surrey

#### S West/S Wales Region

Richard Bailey, Devon & Cornwall  
Geoffrey Price, Devon & Cornwall  
Kevin Tigg, South Coast  
Daniel Townsend, Devon & Cornwall  
Rob Worster, South West

#### International Member

Challe Antoine, Denmark  
Leslie Cain, Belgium  
Caralynn Cullen, Canada  
Cameron Kusiek, Canada  
Cathal Sexton, Republic of Ireland