

An early rise to the top

Craig Boath's Carnoustie shot scoops the BIGGA Golf Photographic Competition 2012

The winner of the seventh BIGGA Golf Photographic Competition is Craig Boath's stunning early morning shot of Carnoustie's Burnside Course.

The Head Greenkeeper on the Championship course took the superb shot at around 5.30am on a morning in July on the 5th hole of the course – a short par three.

One of the judges was golf course photographer Eric Hepworth who

was hugely impressed by Craig's picture.

"The winner really stood out.

His technique is perfect – if the sun had been any further to the right it would have been directly in the lens and caused flare spoiling the image, but the trees on the left shield the sun.

"In photography, and indeed art, we constantly talk about 'the rule of thirds' where an image is divided



BIGGA
2nd
Photo Comp



BIGGA
3rd
Photo Comp

into nine equal parts by two equally spaced horizontal lines and two equally spaced vertical lines.

Anyone can go online and find out more about this.

“He’s used the rule of thirds brilliantly – the flag is right on the convergence of one of the thirds and that’s one more reason why it’s such an appealing picture.”

He also went on to give advice to greenkeepers hoping to emulate Craig and scoop the 2013 award.

“The vast majority of entries were shot in the morning light, and I completely understand why this is as greenkeepers are working on their courses predominantly in the

morning rather than the evening.

“However, I think next year it would be great to see a bit more variety.

“Sunny evenings offer stunning oranges and reds (when the weather is good!) which really bring out the best in a course visually, and I would love to see some evening shots included in the next competition if possible.”

Second place went to Trevor Mitchell, International Greenkeeper at the Diamond Country Club in Vienna, Austria, for his spectacular shot of the course.

Third place was awarded to Course Manager James Bonfield

for his sunny photograph at the Hertfordshire Golf Club.

The entries were chosen by a judging panel at BIGGA House, taking on board advice from photographic experts Alan Birch and Eric Hepworth.

Thanks to everyone who submitted a photograph, and keep an eye out for how to enter the next competition.

This time of the year offers a fantastic opportunity for some great winter photography, so why not get out on the course now and start taking some shots, in time for when the competition re-opens?



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