



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

Last week BIGGA experienced a record number of visitors to BTME and Continue to Learn 2012 where almost 8,500 people visited Harrogate International Centre to take advantage of a packed week of learning, networking and the opportunity to wander around four halls packed with leading suppliers of products and services all to do with the fine turf industry.

BTME 2012 also saw the introduction of the new 'Showfloor Theatre' which meant that all visitors could watch the presentation of various Awards – including the Edwin Budding Award, STRI Environment Awards, BIGGA CPD Diplomas and Master Greenkeeper Awards and the BIGGA Photographic Competition – and take part in a range of interesting seminars while passing by the BIGGA Stand.

The whole week had something for every greenkeeper whether an Assistant Greenkeeper, an aspiring Head Greenkeeper or a Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager. If you didn't attend and are thinking of attending in 2013, why not go along to a Section event this year and talk to other members about the show and education conference, it is well worth a visit. Also, many Regions and Sections organise trips to Harrogate Week, keep an eye out for notices later this year.



Membership Benefits

We saw the launch of the 'new' BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, which saw a lot of interest on the BIGGA Stand.

BIGGA and the GCMA have spent the last year updating and simplifying the SMS and is accessible through the members area of BIGGA's website or the library area of GCMA's website.

Key elements of the SMS are:

1. Policy
2. Organising
3. Planning and implementing
4. Measuring performance
5. Reviewing performance
6. Auditing occurs at each stage

A new area has been added for Fire Safety. It is a legal requirement in the UK for employers to provide a safe and healthy working environment and BIGGA/GCMA have provided the tools required to help golf clubs to establish their own SMS.

Field Guides

Thanks to the support and contributions of our Gold and Silver Key Supporters we have been able to produce additional pages for the Trees and Shrubs field guide and the Grasses found in Golf Course Rough field guide. To receive the updates please contact HQ.



facebook

Social Networking

Many BIGGA Sections now have a Facebook Group as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the GROUP British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join.



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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

