



# Learning & Development

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

When looking for inspiration for my May column I decided to Google 'May'. I now know, and so do you, that May is when the Eurovision Song Contest takes place, it's Skin Cancer Awareness Month\* (suntan lotion at the ready please), May's birthstone is Emerald and most importantly, it's a great month for Bank Holidays!

## CPD

### Continuing Professional Development

Are you signed up to the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme?

CPD is a process that is used to maintain and enhance competence and professionalism and is achieved by accumulating credits for undertaking education and training that is relevant to your role as a greenkeeper.

The CPD Scheme is free of charge to all Full and Associate Members and offers benefits to the individual and employers alike:

#### Benefits for the Individual

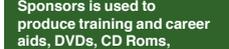
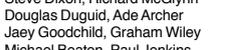
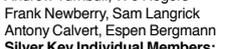
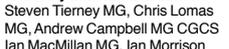
- Opportunities for career advancement
- Personal development
- Proficiency
- Confidence
- Engagement with the wider industry
- Networking
- Recognition
- Quality standard
- Adapt outdated skills
- In touch with changes in legislation

#### Benefits for the Employer:

- Professional staff
- Proficiency
- Efficiency
- Confidence in staff ability
- Updated and informed staff
- Motivated team
- Valued team

### What activities are CPD credits awarded for?

- Continue to Learn at BTME



The funding provided by Gold 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.



#### Contact Details

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- Regional Conferences
- Section Seminars
- Health and Safety training
- Achieving certificates of competence (e.g. Pesticide Application, Chainsaw, First Aid)
  - Work related certificates (e.g. tractor driving, manual handling, fire safety)
  - Formal qualifications (e.g. SVQ/Diploma in Greenkeeping Units, Foundation Degree modules)
  - Master Greenkeeper Golf Course Inspection assessor
  - Presenting a seminar or workshop at a section, region, national or international event
  - Education offered by allied associations
  - Courses, seminars, workshops and training days presented by companies and approved by BIGGA

### How do I add credits to my CPD record?

- Sign a register of attendance at the event
- Complete a CPD credit claim form and provide evidence of attendance
- Email evidence of attendance or copies of certificates

A BIGGA Certificate of Continuing Professional Development will be awarded to those BIGGA green-

keeper members who accumulate 10 CPD Credits annually from 1 July to 30 June.

Members who have been awarded five successive Certificates of Continuing Professional Development will receive a Diploma of Continuing Professional Development.

For further information and to download a registration form, or a credit claim form, visit [www.bigga.org.uk/education/qualifications/continuing-professional-development](http://www.bigga.org.uk/education/qualifications/continuing-professional-development) alternatively contact Rachael Duffy, Learning and Development Administrator on 01347 833800 or [rachael@bigga.co.uk](mailto:rachael@bigga.co.uk).



### Student of the Year

The closing date for Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year applications is 11 May.



### BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships

Funds are still available for members who wish to undertake a higher education course.

\* For info. on Skin Cancer visit the Cancer Research UK dedicated page: [www.sunsmart.org.uk](http://www.sunsmart.org.uk).