



# BIGGA Membership

The membership team reflect on current news and affairs affecting you, the BIGGA member

## Calling all Full and Affiliate Members of BIGGA, are you ready for the challenge of this years BIGGA National Championship 2012, sponsored by Charterhouse and Kubota

Last month's issue of Greenkeeper International gave a great overview of this year's venue for the BIGGA National Championship, The Irvine Golf Club at Bogside in Scotland. A true links challenge, the course sits on sand with fairways divided roughly by thick gorse bushes and heather. Built in 1887 some of the present character of the course comes from James Braid's designs in the 1920s and will provide even the best golfers with an opportunity to shine or despair.

The dates for this year's championship are Sunday 8th and Monday 9th October 2012 and as the course is set in a seaside location, the neighbouring Gulf Stream ensures year round golf.

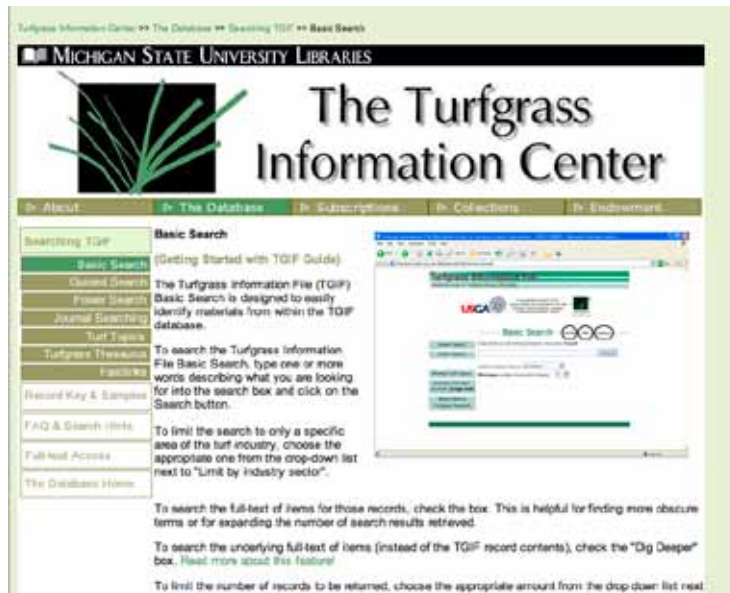
Why not pitch yourself against some of the best golfing greenkeepers and join us at The Irvine Golf Club and be in with a chance of getting your name on the coveted Challenge Trophy along with last year's winner Jason Hunt (Addington Palace GC) and 2010's winner Paul Frith (Birstall GC).

Entry fee is £95 and this includes all golf fees, lunch both days and dinner on Monday evening (accommodation is not included).

The main tournament for the Challenge Trophy will be played over 36 holes, medal play, with the best overall gross score producing the BIGGA National Champion, who must be a greenkeeper member, the greenkeeper player with the lowest nett score will be presented with the BIGGA Challenge Cup.

For full details see August's magazine or contact Rachael Duffy at BIGGA House. Deadline for entry is 11th September 2012.

As a BIGGA Member you can access a fantastic study resource in the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) where members can gain



access to a vast collection of turfgrass educational material.

This is a great benefit for all members who are currently in study, so whether you are studying at Level 2, 3 or 4 or studying for a diploma or degree this is definitely a resource you will find useful.

To access the TGIF log in to the members area of the BIGGA website, select 'Member Resources' from the options on the left hand side, scroll down to 'Turfgrass Information File (TGIF)' and download the Getting Started Guide or just click on the link which will give you access to the file directly.

## The BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition (BTME) 2013

Dates for your diary - 22nd - 24th January 2013 at Harrogate International Centre (HIC). With FREE entry to BTME 2013 you cannot afford to miss coming along to the must attend event for anybody interested in turf.

## Education Seminars and Workshops

Continue to Learn at BTME 2013 runs from Sunday 20th to Wednesday 23rd January 2013. With the return of the Turf Managers' Conference on Monday 21st January at The Crown Hotel, Harrogate

and a fantastic choice of one day and two day workshops and various seminars, Continue to Learn 2013 promises to offer everybody something of interest.

Keep an eye on the BIGGA website for details of the full programme.

## Regional Conferences

Confirmation has been received from Jane Jones of the South West and South Wales Region that the theme of this years Conference is 'Turf Management In All It's Glory'.

Speakers include Dr Colin Fleming, Plant Pathologist - presentation title "Biology and the Effects of Parasitic Nematodes", David Cole, Course Manager Loch Lomond Golf Club with "Winter Kill In West Scotland", Cameron MacMillan, Course Manager Queenwood Golf Club, with "Mission Impossible", Robert Wills First Assistant Remedy Oak Golf Club with "Changes in greenkeeping as seen by a First Assistant", Richard Comely Director of Product and Marketing at Ransomes Jacobsen with "Perceptions in Greens Management".

So be sure to put the date of 15th November in your diary at Oaktree Arena, Highbridge, Somerset, get your booking in nice and early as this Conference gets busy.



## Contact Details

Tracey Maddison  
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Elaine Jones  
elaine@bigga.co.uk

Tel: 01347 833800  
(option 1 for Membership)



You can follow BIGGA on Twitter @BIGGALtd

## BIGGA Regional Offices

### Scotland & Northern Ireland

John Young  
Mobile: 07776 242120  
johnyoung@bigga.co.uk

### Northern & Midland

Sandra Raper  
Mobile: 07866 366966  
sandra@bigga.co.uk

### South East

Clive Osgood  
Tel: 01737 819343  
Mobile: 07841 948410  
cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk

### South West & Wales

Jane Jones  
Tel: 01454 270850  
Mobile: 07841 948110  
jane@bigga.co.uk



John Young Sandra Raper



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