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BIGGA Seminars at SALTEX 2013

The Grandstand, Royal Windsor Race Course

Wednesday 4 September 2013

BIGGA is delighted to have once again, been invited by the IOG to present a series of seminars at SALTEX 2013.

10.15 am – 11.15 pm
Greens Drainage - Mission Possible

A workable solution - Transforming soil based greens with Deep Thatch and Black Layer at Robin Hood Golf Club. Discover the methods used and the solution to draining troublesome greens.

Presented by Andy Wood, Course Manager, Robin Hood GC.

11.30 am – 12.30 pm
Sand Traps and Money Pits

This session will look at managing and constructing golf course bunkers on limited budgets, whilst revisiting the past to shape our future. It will also include the art of compost creation and it's role in modern traditional greenkeeping.

Presented by Stuart Yarwood MG, Golf Course Manager, Lymm Golf Club.

1.00 pm – 2.00 pm
Go in Green.....Come Out Clean

Winter disease on golf greens is particularly problematic since there is little turf growth to allow recovery and for scars to heal. This can impact the playability of greens right through into the spring period leading to the dissatisfaction of golfers. An integrated approach to disease management can reduce the disease pressure, improve turf health and enhance the performance of fungicide applications. New findings on disease management will be presented along with practical advice for how to deliver smooth, disease free greens right through the high risk autumn and winter periods.

Presented by Dr Simon Watson, Syngenta Technical Manager, EAME Turf and Landscape.

BIGGA CPD Credits
- 1 CPD credit is available for each seminar.
A CPD register will be available at the end of each seminar.



puzzlepage answers

QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ ANSWERS:

- 1) Martin Laird
- 2) John Daly
- 3) Matt Fitzpatrick and Jimmy Mullen
- 4) Paul Lawrie
- 5) Henrik Stenson
- 6) Ian Poulter and Jason Dufner
- 7) +12
- 8) Sandy Lyle
- 9) Charl Schwartzl

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MONSTER SUDOKU

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Monster Daily SuDoku: Tue 30-Jul-2013 easy

Daily SuDoku: Tue 30-Jul-2013 hard

The Back Nine

A column for writers and members to air and share their views on golf greenkeeping topics

Sean Sullivan, Golf Course Superintendent at The Briarwood Golf Course in Montana, USA, marked his Open Support Team debut last year by having the tournament's logo tattooed on his arm! Here he tells us how the bulletin boards and BIGGA members' superb hospitality set him up for Muirfield

For me, my Open experience begins before I even apply for the Support Team. This year our annual members' meeting was the same week I was told I had been selected, so I had the opportunity to explain to the membership the honour, for me, and the benefits for them, and also ensure my time in the UK would not clash with any tournaments at Briarwood.

From March to July I was on the course working every day just to have the privilege of working the Open. I wanted to experience Scotland so booked a flight for Friday 12 July – nearly a week before the tournament started properly. I was “shooting from the hip” – other than the team's official accommodation in Edinburgh I had not booked any hotels. But through a thread I started on BIGGA bulletin boards, several greenkeepers had made very kind offers of accommodation. This shows again what a great industry we are involved in.

Once in Edinburgh I got on a train and headed for Dunblane. I called Chris Pearson, Course Manager of Dunblane New GC, to let him know I was in town. Chris took me on a tour of the golf course, which was in great shape. As it was too hot for a round of golf, he gathered up his family and we went for a drive to St Andrews. You can never go wrong with a trip to St Andrews! We walked the Old Course watching the golfers and helping to locate errant shots while his family enjoyed the beach.

I then headed to Dundee, but because of poor planning

on my part, I missed out on another course tour and decided to head towards Inverness. While changing trains in Perth, I actually ran into someone I knew - Lee Strutt was on his way to Inverness, to help Chris Haspell at Castle Stuart for the Scottish Open. It was good to catch up with him and enjoy the journey through the Scottish countryside, and he gave me tips on places to stay that night.

The next day I met Iain Macleod, from Tain Golf Club, and I played my first round of golf in the UK at Tain. I'm going to claim a lack of course knowledge, jet lag, and borrowed clubs for the poor display of golf that Iain had to witness but I had a great time, despite the high score. Iain was kind enough to put me up at his house for the night and the next day we were off to Castle Stuart for the last day of the Scottish Open.

While walking around the course, we happened upon several greenkeepers, who I had only known from the BIGGA forum. It was great to meet them in person and put a face to the names. Thanks to Andy Campbell and Jacobsen for providing me with a ticket, to see the venue and have lunch with other greenkeepers. These types of opportunities are unbelievable considering the distance between Montana and Scotland.

Later that day I met Andy again and headed back to St Andrews, and he and his family were generous enough to offer me a place to stay at their house. Although a busy man, as were the others who took me around,



Several greenkeepers had made very kind offers of accommodation

about the author



Sean Sullivan is Golf Course Superintendent at the Briarwood Golf Course in Montana in Western USA. It is an 18-hole Championship course with hills, creeks and open rangeland, and is particularly notable for its coal slag black bunkers.

Sean has added many personal touches such as painting the flags of the nations in the UK on the club's ball washers, and has now twice been a member of BIGGA's Open Support Team.

he made sure I visited The Duke's Course Golf Club, with Derek Robson, and Carnoustie, where we ran into Craig Boath. Two more names that I was able to put faces to. I was dropped off at the Leuchars train station and headed back to Edinburgh to meet the whole Open Support Team.

Next month

Will Sean's Muirfield experience be memorable enough to justify another tattoo?

Will he be able to cram all his souvenirs into his case? And how will he cope with 48 hours without sleep during his marathon journey home? Find out in GI September...

The views expressed within this column are not necessarily those of Greenkeeper International

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