

programme is growing by the month and they have had over 100 people through the doors in the first year of opening the centre.

The programme is open to anyone. At the next session they have one delegate coming from Dubai, but regularly get people from all over the UK, Ireland and Europe.

Ben added: "A lot of people want proper factory-based training, and one of the most valuable things about it is getting to see the machines being put together and talking to the people who built them.

"You'd be amazed at how much everyone learns from talking to the men who build their actual machines. Our factory staff are all very experienced engineers and mechanics – they know more about the grinders and the fine tuning of grinders than anyone I know – so to talk to them and see the machines being engineered all helps the process of understanding. "It has been invaluable working alongside the GTC to build a regular biannual programme with their Quality Assured Centres, including colleges up and down the country, from the most basic Level 2, setting up mowers and grinders, to practical, hands-on instruction for Level 3 students.

"Alongside this, the GTC's QA Centres are acting as local venues for training workshops and with their strategic locations across the country, this is ideal for local course managers, groundsmen and greenkeepers to attend.

"Bernhard loan the machinery and supply expert training while the centres offer their classrooms. BIGGA and the GTC run the continued education standards programme, and what they hope to do together is promote best practice, better turf and better maintained, sharper cutting mowers.

"If everyone leaves these sessions with a deeper understanding of how mowers and turf and sharp cutting edges work in unison, then we know we have done a good job.

"The students, some of whom haven't attended a formal training course for many years, comment on how this specialist workshop has opened their eyes to something they'd never thought about or given credibility to.

"Many delegates attending a training workshop do feel we are offering a valuable service to both today's and the next generation of greenkeepers."

Ben concluded "Other 'quiet' benefits with these training sessions and workshops are the invaluable relationships that are built up between the GTC's QA Centres, colleges, industry, student and manufacturer".

Happy New Year from all at The GTC.

Bernhard & Co will be attending BTME and you can find them on Stand B44.



The GTC is funded by:





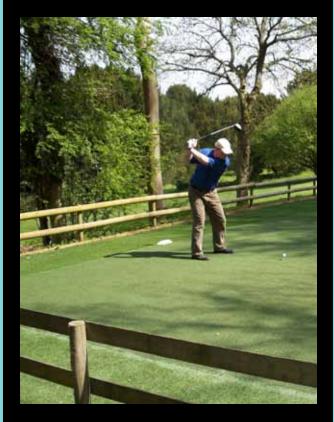


PCA The Professional Golfers' Association



BUYERS' GUIDE

NEW GENERATION HUXLEY TURF SOLVES WINTER **TEE PROBLEMS**



Huxley Golf, PGA Official Supplier of all-weather golf surfaces, reports that sales of its new Huxley Premier Tee Turf 2 (PTT2) all-weather tee turf are continuing at record levels.

Director Paul Huxley explains: "Huxley PTT2 takes a normal tee peg anywhere in the pile (even the very long tee pegs for large-headed Drivers), so it's ideal for use as an alternative or winter tee and it's also been a great success on ranges and practice tees, such as at St Andrews and many other top courses. The new synthetic yarn we use won't fade, so it looks great anywhere - even in the shade under trees where natural grass won't grow. Huxley PTT2 tee turf requires no irrigation, mowing or aeration and the special fibres do not need any infill for support. This means that regular maintenance is absolutely minimal, one of our key R & D objectives when introducing this new Huxley turf."

To solve your winter tee or practice ground problems, find out about Huxley Golf's new PTT2 tee turf. Huxley Golf have specialist Distributors throughout the UK and Ireland and also in many other countries. They can install or give advice to customers about self installation.

For full information and latest list of Huxley PTT2 users contact Huxley Golf:

Tel: 01962 733222 sales@huxleygolf.co.uk www.huxleygolf.com

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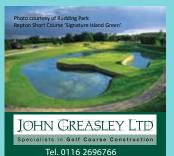




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Recruitment



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Head Greenkeeper

We are looking for a qualified and experienced person to take on the role of Head Greenkeeper at "Dreamland Golf resort". This new 18 Hole Course is an undulating inland style course outside Baku, Azerbaijan. The course is designed by Dye Design Group and currently under construction.

As part of the Management Team You will be responsible for leading a team who Grow-In and thereafter maintain the course to highest possible standards as set out by our agronomist using modern cultural techniques and machinery. You will be responsible for managing all aspects of the maintenance including Maintenance equipment, The golf car fleet, Clubhouse grounds, landscaping. Other responsibilities include: keeping accurate and complete records on payroll, inventory, weather data, maintenance procedures preparing the annual budgets for the maintenance, Plan all maintenance and project work, applying his or her agronomic and administrative expertise to achieve the agreed-upon maintenance standards and long-range goals, inventory control and oversees the equipment maintenance programs.

You will be expected to demonstrate in your application how you meet each of these criteria

The person:

Ideally you will have at least 5 years minimum previous experience as Golf Course Grounds Maintenance superintendant. With extensive back ground in Grow in. Candidates must be able to adapt and adjust in a challenging environment and have the Ability to work with the minimum of supervision using your own initiative and to be flexible and patience with day to day issues and local staff. HND Level in Turf management or equivalent is mandatory.

We can offer you

We can offer a generous remuneration expatriate package: How to Apply

Applications must be made by sending your CV to: recruitment@dreamland.az any additional information can NOT be made available until the final selection procedure commences.

Closing date for applications is January 31, 2014 at 12 noon. All applicants will receive a response only by 15th of February. Interviews will be held soon thereafter.

HEAD GREENKEEPER FELTWELL GOLF CLUB REQUIRED FROM LATE APRIL 2014

Previous experience essential

Closing date 20th January 2014

Interviews will be held in late January, salary negotiable depending on experience.

Please apply with full CV and covering letter to:

Jon Moore, Manager, Feltwell Golf Club, Thor Avenue, Wilton Road, Feltwell, Thetford, Norfolk, IP26 4AY

Telephone: 01842 827644

E mail: feltwellgolfclub@btconnect.com

HEAD GREENKEEPER Rotherham Golf Club, South Yorkshire

Rotherham Golf Club is a well-established, premier private members club situated within the county of South Yorkshire. The Club enjoys a well-presented parkland course and are currently looking to fill the position of Head Greenkeeper.

The successful candidate should be fully qualified in all aspects of green keeping and ideally have the following skills : NVQ level 4 or equivalent, PA1, PA2 and PA6A spraying certificates, minimum 5 years experience in the green keeping industry, and a good working knowledge of fine turf machinery and automatic irrigation systems combined with the repair and maintenance of associated parts.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate high levels of management skills, communication and leadership within their role. Previous experience as a Head Green keeper is desirable but not essential.

Closing date for applications is Friday 25th January 2013.

All interested applicants to apply in writing or via email, including a covering letter and detailed CV to Rob Norton, Greens Director, Rotherham Golf Club, Doncaster Road, Thrybergh, Rotherham, S65 4NU.

Tel: 01709 850466 Email: chairman@rotherhamgolfclub.com



Head Greenkeeper Le Touquet Paris Plage, 62520, France

Le Touquet Golf Club is a 45 holes resort in northern France that is currently looking to fill the position of Head Greenkeeper. The first 18 holes called La Forêt was established in 1904 and designed by H.Hutchinson is more of an "heathland" course. The second 18 holes called La Mer designed by H. Colt and open in 1931 is one of the few links course in France. Both courses have hosted the French Open several times and are regularly hosting national and international pro am or tournament. The successful candidate will be in charge of the two courses.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate high levels of management skills, communication and leadership within a crew of 15 people.
 Experience in the maintenance of a "links" course applying sustainable philosophy.

 Desire and willingness for an effective cooperation with golf course secretary and the consultant (Gordon Irvine).
 Experience in mechanical maintenance.

 Good working knowledge of automatic irrigation systems combined with the repair and maintenance of associated parts.

- General computer knowledge.
- The rules of golf relating to golf course maintenance
 Have suitable gualifications for the above position

Starting date: as soon as possible/to be discussed. A salary based on your skills and qualifications. All interested applicants to apply in writing or via email, including a covering letter and detailed CV before January 31st 2014 by email cdebruyne@ opengolfclub.com to the attention of Mr. Debruyne Charles – Golf secretary.

Closing date: 31st January 2014

Recruitment



Coombe Hill Golf Club, Surrey COURSE MANAGER

Coombe Hill Golf Club, ranked in the 100 golf clubs, is a private 18 hole members' club situated close to Kingston upon Thames and only 10 miles from the centre of London. The 6400 yard Par 71 parkland course designed by J F Abercrombie in 1911, features tree lined fairways leading to high quality undulating greens.

We are looking to recruit a dynamic Course Manager who has the drive and passion to reach new standards of excellence in the management and presentation of our heathland/ parkland golf course. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a successful track record in course and man management and will hold relevant greenkeeping and/or agronomy qualifications.

Previous experience as a Course Manager is essential.

Closing date for Applications is

Interested applicants should apply in writing enclosing a full CV no later than Friday 24th January 2014.

Mr Colin Chapman, Chief Executive, Coombe Hill Golf Club, Golf Club Drive, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 7DF

Email: ceo@chgc.net

Interviews are expected W/C 3rd February 2014.

Closing: 24 January 2014

FERENEZE GOLF CLUB HEAD GREENKEEPER

Built in 1904 Fereneze is a fine 18 hole moorland golf course with magnificent views over the Clyde Valley and beyond. The Club is looking to recruit an experienced and highly motivated Head Greenkeeper as a replacement for our present Head Greenkeeper who is retiring. The Candidate should have

• NVQ Level 3 in Greenkeeping
 • PA1, PA2 and PA6

NPTC Chain Saw licence – preferred but not essential

Knowledge of modern machinery and maintenance

Up to date knowledge of Health and Safety Legislation
 An ability to communicate effectively with staff, club management
 and members

Please send your CV and covering letter by post to: Mr Mitchell Jones Secretary Fereneze Golf Club Fereneze Avenue BARRHEAD G78 1HJ

Closing Date for Application: 31 January 2014

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The Back Nine

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

Ian Tomlinson has experienced more snow than most greenkeepers during 27 years working in Switzerland and Denmark. In the first part of a timely two part article, he advises you how to deal with the white stuff

During the last couple of winters there has been lots of talk about snow on greens.

Should you remove it or leave it were it is?

What about a layer of ice on the greens, will the grass die under such a layer, should you try to crack it or leave it alone?

If you remove the snow and then have weeks of freezing easterly winds will the grass die of desiccation or should we leave it there but risk snow mould damage?

Lots of questions and you will not find the answer in a textbook!

After 14 years working in Switzerland managing golf courses and now 13 years in Denmark I have had my fair share of experience but you are always surprised by mother nature. In Switzerland it was normal to have one metre of snow most winters and very low temperatures. Snow could fall anytime from October to April. At that time we were all lucky to have a fungicide product containing PCNB (pentachloronitrobenzene). This has since been removed but the results were outstanding. We applied the product hours before the first snowfall then usually dug the greens free of the snow on 1 March...and found perfect greens.

But where do we stand today? In Denmark where legislation has removed almost all pesticides and we have only a systemic fungicide available to use (which is no use whatsoever in autumn and winter) how do we keep greens disease free?

The first issue is to address the botanical composition of the turf on your greens and the growing environments around green sites. It is certain that if you are promoting poa annua dominated swards in our environment you will lose your turf every winter. I am not saying that if you are promoting fescue/bent turf that you will have no problems, you will. The difference is that when the poa is attacked the whole plant is



damaged including the crown and you end up with a bare depression on your playing surface. With fescue the plant will be attacked but survives and as soon as favourable climatic conditions allow the greens will regenerate and be perfect again in a matter of weeks. The poa greens will be scarred and bumpy and may take two or three months before an acceptable putting surface can be produced.

Our best greens are the ones with 80% fescue/bent grasses in them and no shading issues from trees. Other greens growing in wooded areas where sunlight and air movement is an issue have more poa annua and invariably end up with major snow mould damage.

We experienced a hard winter in 2009/2010. We were lucky that the greens were frozen before the snow fell. This situation will certainly help limit your disease damage to the turf. You then have another issue as halfway through the winter there is a thaw. But the green is frozen and the melted snow has nowhere to go and you end up with water

about the author



Ian Tomlinson

Ian began his greenkeeping career at Scarcroft Golf Club in 1976 before spending 14 years at Lausanne Golf Club in Switzerland. He returned briefly to the UK before taking up his current position as Course Manager at Rungsted Golf Club in Denmark

lan's wife and children live with him in Denmark. He loves the lifestyle and scenery, but loathes the Danish taxman who ensures that the cost of living is incredibly high with two thirds of his salary disappearing in taxes! on the putting surface. Then, it freezes again and you have a few centimetres of ice on top of your turf. Under this situation poa will survive up to 30 days before it dies of asphyxiation. Fescue/bents can go between 60 to 100 days. Another issue is that if there is a great deal of direct sunshine on the ice but it's too cold to melt it the ice can act as a magnifying glass scorching the grass.

On many occasions I have run the verti-drain across the greens with the tines set just deep enough to crack the ice and stop at the grass canopy. You cannot remove the ice as the grass leaf blades are frozen into the ice but this will allow for vital air to get through to the grass to avoid suffocation. I prefer to risk a little turf damage by doing something rather than leaving the ice and risk running into scorching greens which happened to me one year in Switzerland.

Next month Ian offers his conclusions on dealing with snow and take us through the past few Danish winters...



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