

Team support for Walter at Open



A greenkeeper hard at work to make the Open a great success.

FOR several years prior to the formation of BIGGA, a small band of Scottish greenkeepers had been giving their services to the Open Championship by means of bunker raking duties.

Now in 1990 a Greenkeeping Support team and a links management committee will be involved in a much more organised operation. The Links Superintendent at St Andrews,

Mr Walter Woods, was one of the greenkeepers instrumental in getting the Association involved in the world's most important golf tournament.

This year Walter will be hosting his third Open and I know he is proud of his profession and BIGGA.

The first Chairman of BIGGA really had his work cut out this year but, as ever, Walter and his team have come up with a course to test the world's best golfers.

The Association is proud of his achievements in the profession and our colleagues in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America have also acknowledged his services by presenting him with their much coveted 'Old Tom Morris Award'.

Certainly over the last two years the Association has had much more involvement at the Open Championship starting with the flooding at Royal Lytham and baking last year at Royal Troon. This year the Support Team will be resident at Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, one of the G.T.C. Approv-

ed Colleges for Greenkeeper Training.

The team will be breakfasting early and most will arrive at the course before 8.00 a.m. On the first two championship days play will commence at 7.15 a.m. and BIGGA will have a member with each match.

Prior to commencement of play Walter and his team will have been cutting from first light and the final touches applied to give the first class conditions the players now come to expect from our members.

The Open Championship amongst all the other tour-

naments including the American Master, still has that certain air of expectancy about it and the final scenes are fantastic to behold.

Members, after completion of their rounds wait at the 18th green for the finale. For members previously involved July 18th cannot come quickly enough.

Those who will be involved for the first time will be part of a professional team supporting Walter to ensure the world's greatest golfing tournament is played on a course in first class condition.

DAVID F. GOLDING

BIGGA joins in to make event success

As our tribute to Walter Woods, Head Greenkeeper at this year's Open venue at St. Andrew's, Greenkeeping Management highlights the man himself and BIGGA's role in helping Walter make the world's greatest golfing tournament run like a well oiled machine . . .