

GREENKEEPER CONSULTANCY INITIATIVE

THE BIGGA Greenkeeping Consultancy Service in association with the International Golfers Club (IGC) was launched at the BIGGA conference in Egham sponsored by the IGC. Jack McMillan became operational on April 1.

In parallel with the huge growth in the golf industry throughout Europe, Jack has got off to a "flying start". The first three days of action saw Jack out in France at Golf de la Lague, he has subsequently made three further visits at the request of other golf complexes in France and Switzerland.

The Initiative receives considerable interest from the Continent, and surprisingly has met few acute language barriers.

In mentioning languages, there are opportunities for English speaking trainee greenkeepers on the Continent to accompany Jack as an interpreter on future visits to their home countries. Aside from a small wage settlement, courtesy of IGC, invaluable experience can be gained in accompanying Jack.

Jack is also very busy offering advice to both new large multi million pound projects and indeed individual members clubs.

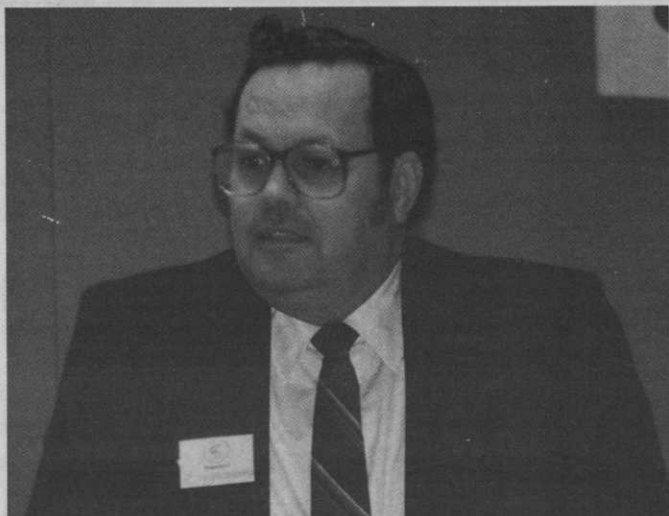
It is pleasing to see that every club Jack has visited to date has requested an ongoing series of visits.

Jack will be making visits to different regions in the forthcoming months, should you require further information on the above, please contact Samantha Flint at BIGGA. I would like to emphasise that the Initiative gives the STRI its full support and at every club visited, Jack encourages the employment of the STRI.

1990 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT GANTON GOLF CLUB 6th-9th AUGUST

ENTRIES are invited for the above event to be played over three days at the majestic Ganton Golf Club in Yorkshire.

A banquet will take place at the Royal Hotel, Scarborough on the Tuesday evening and the prize presentation will be held on the Wednesday, following completion of the third round at Ganton Golf Club.



Dr Beard

WORLD EXPERT AT BIGGA EXHIBITION

ONE of the world's leading authorities on turf – Dr James B. Beard has agreed to present a two-day workshop prior to the 1991 BIGGA exhibition in Harrogate.

The workshop is scheduled for either a January 21st or January 22nd start and is bound to create extensive interest and demand among members.

In fact BIGGA staff are already predicting over subscription at this early stage. The announcement guarantees huge crowds of greenkeepers in Harrogate –

good news indeed for companies committed to the Exhibition.

And yet a further incentive to companies not yet certain to take the plunge and participate in what looks like being the premier greenkeeping exhibition of 1991.

Further details of Dr Beard's workshop will appear in a later issue of Greenkeeping Management.

For further exhibition details ring organiser Debbie Savage at BIGGA headquarters, Aldwark Manor, Alne, Yorkshire on 03473 581/582.

Don't delay – ring today or you'll feel out in the cold next January!

REGATTA FUN

IT'S the 150th year of the Whitby Regatta from August 4th to 6th – and there's lots to do for the wives of greenkeepers attending the national tournament at Ganton between August 6th and 8th.

A fantastic treasure hunt, flying displays, comic events – the Regatta has it all for wives to enjoy.

Surely yet another reason to pop along to the tournament. While the men are on the course the ladies can be on course for fun!

The event will be multisponsored and coach trips will be arranged on two of the days for companions.

Entries to BIGGA Headquarters enclosing a cheque for £30.00 to include one banquet ticket.

Extras: Banquet per ticket £14.00; Coach trip: Monday-Yorkshire Dales £7.50; Tuesday-Trip to York £5.00.

Accommodation

MEMBERS wishing to book accommodation with fellow competitors for the National Tournament may book at the Southlands Hotel. The address as follows: Southlands Hotel, West Street, Scarborough. Twin-Bedded Room - £25 per night, bed and breakfast. Single Room £32.50 per night, bed and breakfast.

A mini-bus service will run from these hotels to and from Ganton Golf Club. All accommodation enquiries to Samantha Flint at BIGGA Headquarters. **BOOK EARLY!**

MANAGEMENT COURSES 1990

FOLLOWING the success of the 1989 Management Courses held at BIGGA Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, the courses are to be repeated this coming autumn/winter.

Joint sponsors of the 1989 series – Kubota UK and the Greenkeepers Training Committee – have again agreed to part-fund the indepth week of education. Last year's delegates wishing to return to BIGGA Headquarters will have the opportunity in week 4 with a specially designed week to follow on from their first course. Priority will be given to delegates who attended the 1989 series to attend Week 4.

Weeks 1, 2 and 3 will be very similar to last year with slight modifications. The changes will be on the suggestion made by delegates attending the 1989 series however, one suggestion made by some of the delegates was to take out the early evening seminars.

This will not be taken on board and attendees in October and November can expect a very intensive week. Please do not be put off as there is still plenty of free time to socialise with fellow greenkeepers.

The courses are expected to be quickly over subscribed and early application is advised. Do not rely on others to book for you!!!

Eight Master Greenkeepers Credits will be issued per week. Week 1 commencing Monday 22 October, Week 2 commencing Monday 29 October, Week 3 commencing Monday 5 November.

● All courses finish on the Friday lunchtime.

Course content includes: Time management, conservation, preparing budgets, personnel management, health and safety, turf diseases, maintenance problems of: Tees, greens, fairways, bunkers etc., pesticide regulations, grasses for the golf

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Dear Sir,

I would be grateful for your help in obtaining a job. I have attended college in Holland for one year, carrying out practical and theory study, with up to now first class results.

My work experience includes practical experience working with the Course Manager Bill Garner at Hilversum, then further experience at three courses here in Holland.

I am looking for work within the Cheshire Area, as I will attend Reaseheath College in September this year. Therefore I can work, and travel to college.

I would appreciate your help in this matter. Bill Garner could give a reference for me. Tel. 35-63006.

**Yours truly,
ARNE VAN AMERONGEN
Wakkerendijk 166A
3755 DH Eemnes
The Netherlands**

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course and communications.

Week 4 commencing Monday 12 November (1989 delegates will have the first option). Course content includes: Personal awareness, report writing, public speaking, team building, stress, committee presentation and customer care.

The cost of weeks 1, 2, 3 or 4 will be £173.75 plus VAT. Total £200.00. Accommodation, four nights, all meals etc will be on a twin-bedded basis within the Aldwark Manor Hotel, York. Please make all cheques payable to BIGGA.

MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE UPDATE

SEVERAL members are fast approaching the magical 200 credits which will then allow them onto Stages 2 and 3 of the Certificate.

The MGC Working Party have taken into consideration all the constructive comments from members since the introduction of the Scheme and more and more members are now joining.

Golf Clubs are registering the full Greenkeeping Staff onto the Scheme and at the same time requesting directions for the staff's education. Are you registered yet?

Several of the Greenkeepers Training Committee Colleges are looking at Schemes for accrediting Greenkeepers for their previous learning. This will be a major breakthrough for all greenkeepers who have not received certificates for all their experience and knowledge attained over the years. Credits will also be issued for Section, Regional and National Seminars.

The College Courses all carry high credits for their City and Guilds and Scotvec courses. NB Extra Credits are given for attending courses at GTC Approved Colleges. Stages 2 and 3 are here in detail and also a Credits Report example on the many ways of achieving Stage 1. If anyone has any questions about the MGC please ring me at Headquarters. Remember the Master Greenkeeper Certificate is the most prestigious award in our profession based on both experience and education.

DAVID GOLDING
Education Officer

MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE

Details of Stage Two

THERE are nine subsections, all of which must be passed. Sections will be marked from one to five and if a question is marked less than three, questions will be asked. If a satisfactory answer is given, then a further one or two marks may be awarded.

Section 1. Presentation of the Course.

Areas of assessment: i. greens, ii. tees, iii. fairways, iv semi-rough, v. rough, vi. bunkers, vii. surrounds, viii. pathways, ix. furniture, x. hazards, xi. clubhouse area, xii drainage, xiii. trees and xiv. boundary fences, hedges etc. Presentation involves accuracy and tidiness of maintenance, siting, condition and playability of area.

Section 2. Staff Organisation.

In staff organisation, the assessors will be looking for general attitude to work from the point of view of the golfer, dress, welfare, accommodation and training programmes on and off site. This will require questions in the following areas: i. welfare, ii. training – on site, iii. training – off site, iv. attitude and v. safety.

Section 3. Organisation of Sheds.

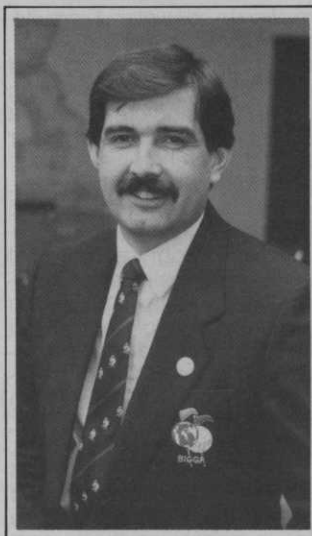
Assessors will be looking for general tidiness (not daily dirt), compliance with appropriate safety regulations regarding storage of tools and equipment, also the current state of repairs of buildings. Questions will be asked in the following areas: i. tidiness, ii. legislation and iii. shed condition.

Section 4. Budget Management.

The wide range of variation and responsibility should be recognised in this section but the least expected should be that the budget prepared by the Greenkeeper should be the basis for management discussion. The important elements are therefore responsibility for the budget within members (Committee) limits. NB Lack of direct involvement with setting or servicing a budget by whatever means will be regarded as a disqualification. Questions will be asked on the following: i. Preparation of a budget, ii. Control of a budget and iii. Purchasing procedures.

Section 5. Record and Stock Control.

Assessors will expect to find that all records required as a result of legislation are completed to their satisfaction. Also other records are necessary to achieve an adequate level of



BIGGA Education Officer David Golding.

management. Accessibility of records to other staff will be taken into account where appropriate and therefore questions will be asked on the following: i. Diary, ii. Machine Maintenance, iii. Stock Inventory and iv. Chemical Log.

Section 6. Management Participation.

In this area a Master Greenkeeper should play a major role in the decision making process of the club with regards to the golf course. It is essential that the relationship to the management, the role within the Committee and the ability/opportunity to submit reports and support them will be considered. Questions regarding the exact areas will be asked: i. Attendance at management meetings, ii. Role at management meetings, iii. Report submission, iv. Relationship with management.

Section 7. Course Development Programme.

Assessors will be looking for the candidate to recognise potential problems and have drawn up a programme to correct or rectify specific problems. This may involve a long term maintenance or construction programme. Assessors will be looking for the relationship between the greenkeeper and the club in the methods used in drawing up the programme.

NB. It will be assumed that bodies providing relevant assistance would be brought in as required. Questions will be asked on the following: i. Construction programme implemented, ii. Development programme in situ, iii. Sources used for development and iv. Conservation.

Section 8. Machine and Irrigation.

Assessors will be looking for a planned replacement and maintenance programme. The

greenkeeper's influence, also at the operative condition of equipment, which will also be coupled with questions directed to what the assessors find: i. Programme, ii. Condition, iii. Irrigation operative and iv. Irrigation Maintenance.

Section 9. Golf.

An ability to play golf or at least a detailed knowledge of the requirements of a golfer of varying standards. i. Golfing knowledge. All sections must be passed to complete Stage 2. The applicant will be notified of the result within two months and if unsuccessful can appeal to the BIGGA Education Sub-Committee within one month.

MASTER GREENKEEPER – STAGE 3 MODULE EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

All syllabus items should be prefixed by the words: "The Master Greenkeeper is expected to be able to".

1 Plants and Growth, Trees and Shrubs

Grasses and Turf: 1.1 Recognise and evaluate the more common grass species. 1.2 Interpret reliable sources of technical information on species and cultivars. 1.3 Relate plant structure and the following physiological processes involved in plant growth to the turf grass management: 1. Photosynthesis; b. Respiration; c. Water uptake and transpiration and d. Nutrient uptake and distribution.

1.4 Recognise the effects of plant growth and the relationship to turf management of the following: a. Light levels; b. Day length; c. Temperature; d. Water levels; e. Maintenance operations and f. Wear.

1.5 Explain the effects of maintenance procedures, wear and tear, soil type and condition on botanical composition of turf. 1.6 Explain the methods involved in restoring and improving botanical composition of turf. 1.7 Explain the consequences of changing maintenance operations on the survival and development of grasses. 1.8 Recognise changes in general turf appearances, composition and range of plants. 1.9 Recognise environmental factors influencing range of plants found on parkland, heathland, moorland and links courses. 2.0 Explain how grasses are selected, bred and bulked up for sales by plant breeders.

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