

MASTER GREENKEEPER

C E R T I F I C A T E

The Premier Greenkeeping Qualification



Presented by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Endorsed by the Greenkeepers Training Committee



This certificate is awarded to those greenkeeper members of BIGGA who have reached the highest standards of greenkeeping and golf course management. It is a prestigious, industry award gained through experience as a greenkeeper, through formal and informal training, through high quality golf course management and through a rigorous, two-part examination. Credits are awarded for a wide range of formal education and training qualifications e.g. National and Higher Certificates, National Vocational Qualifications, National and Higher Diplomas, Foundation Degrees, First Degrees and for Masters Degrees. Credits are also awarded for attendance at BIGGA Conferences, Workshops, Seminars and Training Courses.

GETTING STARTED

All greenkeeper members of BIGGA are eligible to join the scheme and earn Stage 1 Credits. However, applicants must be Course Managers (Superintendents)/Head Greenkeepers to progress to Stages 2 and 3.

STAGE 1

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Candidates must earn a minimum of 200 Credits to reach the Standards for Stage 1. Credits are awarded for a range of formal and informal education and training and for years of greenkeeping experience.

EXPERIENCE

Four Credits are awarded for each year of greenkeeping experience up to a maximum of 140 Credits. This is equivalent to 35 years greenkeeping experience.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING CREDITS

The maximum number of Credits that can be awarded for formal education and formal training is 140. However, further Credits can be awarded for continuing education and training.

FORMAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The list of formal education and training credits given below is not exhaustive and other qualifications/competencies may be considered.

WORK BASED QUALIFICATION

National/Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Level 2	45 Credits
Level 3	45 Credits
Level 4	50 Credits
A1 Assessor Award	10 Credits
L 12 Trainer Award	5 Credits

WORK RELATED QUALIFICATIONS

National Certificate (Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management)	80 Credits
National Diploma (Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management)	90 Credits
Higher National Certificate (Golf Course Management)	100 Credits
Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree (Golf Course Management)	120 Credits
BSc (Turfgrass Science)	130 Credits
MSc (Sports Surface Technology)	140 Credits

Titles of qualifications are given for guidance only. Other qualifications will be considered on their merits.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (INFORMAL)

BIGGA Two-Day Workshop	8 Credits
BIGGA One-Day Workshop	4 Credits
BIGGA Half-Day Workshop	1 1/2 Credits
BIGGA Two-Day Regional Course	8 Credits
BIGGA One-Day Regional Course	4 Credits
BIGGA Seminar (One Hour)	1/2 Credit
BIGGA Seminar (Half Hour)	1/4 Credit

STRI Greenkeeping Course		8 Credits
Presentation of Paper (Per Hour)		4 Credits
Control of Pesticides Certificate PA1		5 Credits
Control of Pesticides Certificate PA2a		5 Credits
Control of Pesticides Certificate PA6		5 Credits
Four Day First Aid Certificate		10 Credits
One Day First Aid Certificate		2 Credit
Certified Golf Course Superintendent		20 Credits
Non-BIGGA Events	1/2 day	1 1/2 Credits
	1 day	3 Credits
	2 day	5 Credits

Other courses, workshops, seminars and conferences may well be considered for the award of Credits.

STAGE 2

ASSESSMENT OF GOLF COURSE OPERATION

- Candidates must have at least 200 Stage 1 Credits and at least ten years greenkeeping experience, that must include a minimum of 3 years as a course manager (superintendent) Head Greenkeeper before they can progress to Stage 2. Moreover, they must have been in sole charge of their current golf course for at least two years.
- Golf course inspections will be carried out in the growing season.
- Golf course inspections are usually, carried out by two current Master Greenkeepers. Where this is not possible, the inspection will be carried out by one Master Greenkeeper plus a suitably qualified course manager/superintendent e.g. CGCS.
- The applicant may be given an indication of the result of the assessment on the day. However, formal notification will be within two months. If a candidate is unsuccessful, only those sections below the standard will be reassessed. However, a failure on the Health & Safety Section will constitute a failure of the whole assessment.
- Only one reassessment per growing season is allowed.

STAGE 3

CASE STUDY AND MODULE EXAMINATION

- Examinations will usually take place in March and October each year. Candidates may sit the examinations at BIGGA House or at another location approved by BIGGA e.g. college or training provider.
- Examinations are set and marked by a panel of assessors approved by the BIGGA Board of Management Education sub Committee.
- If candidates fail either paper. Then that paper must be retaken. Each failed paper may be retaken only twice in the twelve month period following the original examination, otherwise both parts of the examination must be retaken.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All Master Greenkeepers are expected to be a member of the BIGGA CPD Scheme. This scheme is free of charge to all BIGGA members. Ten Credits should be gained annually to receive a certificate of Continuing Professional Development.

Anyone joining the Master Greenkeeper Scheme after 31 January 2005 will, on becoming a Master Greenkeeper, have to earn 10 CPD Credits each year in order to maintain Master Greenkeeper status.

FEES

Stage 1 Certification Process	£15 inc VAT (Worldwide)
Stages 2 and 3	£200 inc VAT (UK, Ireland and Mainland Europe)
	£250 inc VAT (USA and Canada)

Travel expenses for Stage 2 Golf Course Inspections will be limited to £160

The candidate must meet any travel expenses above £160

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form with as much detail as possible in BLOCK CAPITALS

First Name	Last Name
Home Address	
	Postcode/ Zip Code
Home Tel	Mobile
E-mail	Date of Birth
Nationality	
Present Employer	
Work Address	
	Postcode/ Zip Code
Work Tel	Work Fax
E-mail	BIGGA Membership Number

EXPERIENCE

1. Greenkeeping Employment

Position	Employer	Dates (From - To)

2. Other relevant experience you wish to be considered

PAYMENT DETAILS

I hereby apply to be registered for the BIGGA Master Greenkeeper Certificate. I enclose copies of all relevant documentation to support my application.
I agree to BIGGA taking all necessary action to verify the information contained in this application.
I enclose payment of £15 inc VAT. I agree to pay such further fees as are necessary to enter Stages 2 & 3.

Signature	Date
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Cheque <input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/>	Card Type:	Issue No (Switch only)
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Number	Expiry Date
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