# GREENKEEPING

### How do would-be greenkeepers enter the profession and

HE greenkeeping profession has become highly-skilled and training takes many years. But the opportunities available are life-changing, and greenkeepers can find themselves travelling the world, helping out at golf's largest events and coming face-to-face with top golfers.

There are a variety of ways to become a greenkeeper. Some take a purely vocational route, others follow an academic path. However, most use a combined approach to their education and training within the industry. Here is what a typical career path would look like...

#### TRAINEE

The entrylevel position. Trainees will be working towards greenkeeping qualifications.

#### APPRENTICE

An alternative route is to undertake an apprenticeship under the guidance of an approved education provider.

#### GREENKEEPER

A fully-qualified greenkeeper carries out an extensive range of course maintenance responsibilities.

#### FIRST ASSISTANT

Carries out routine course maintenance tasks in addition to supervising the greenkeeping team, as directed by the course manager or their deputy.

"A successful greenkeeping career is underpinned by a commitment to continuing professional development. This

can take the form of pursuing formal qualifications all the way up to Masters degrees and/or informal learning taking

#### CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RECOGNITION WITH BIGGA



Attending – or being nominated for – the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year awards



Attending BIGGA regiona conferences



Being part of the BIGGA Open Championship Support Team

# A CAREER PATH

what does a typical career path look like?

#### DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER / Deputy course manager

Taking on additional management responsibilities, often including the day-to-day management of the greenkeeping team. Usually assists in planning work and deciding on agronomic programmes. Also assumes full responsibility in the absence of the course manager.



### HEAD GREENKEEPER / COURSE MANAGER

Departmental head with overall responsibility for the greenkeeping team. Working with general manager/secretary and club board/ownership to achieve agreed course standards and presentation. Organising staff and their duties. Planning work activities and agronomic programmes. Budgeting costs and controlling expenditure. Communicating with staff, employers, suppliers.



## DIRECTOR OF GOLF, HEAD OF ESTATES AND COURSES...AND BEYOND

Greenkeepers can go on to fulfil roles including director of golf, head of estates and courses, or club management positions. They can move to golf clubs all over the world, or make the transition into trade or roles in golf industry bodies.

advantage of the very many opportunities provided by BIGGA and utilising the enormous network of knowledge

within the greenkeeping industry"

Dedicated to the continuing professional development of members







Participating in the Future Turf
Managers Initiative

Being part of the BIGGA

Delegation to the Golf Industry
Show with Bernhard & Company

Attending – or being nominated for – the BIGGA Awards