

The Premier Greenkeeping Qualification

MASTER GREENKEEPER

C E R T I F I C A T E

Presented by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association



MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE

THE CERTIFICATE

The Master Greenkeeper 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 (Superintendants)/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 shown is not exhaustive and other qualifications/competencies may be considered.

WORK BASED QUALIFICATION

National/Scottish Vocational Qualification
Level 2 - 45 Credits
Level 3 - 50 Credits
Level 4 - 55 Credits
A1 Assessor Award - 20 Credits

Work Related Qualifications

National Certificate
(Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management)
45 Credits

National Diploma
(Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management)
50 Credits

Higher National Certificate
(Golf Course Management)
65 Credits

Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree
(Golf Course Management)
80 Credits

BSc
(Turfgrass Science)
110 Credits

MSc
(Sports Surface Technology)
115 Credits

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

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (INFORMAL)

Education Credits: 1 hour = 1 Credit

BIGGA Two-Day Workshop - 16 Credits
BIGGA One-Day Workshop - 8 Credits
BIGGA Half-Day Workshop - 4 Credits

BIGGA Two-Day Regional Course - 16 Credits

BIGGA One-Day Regional Course - 8 Credits

BIGGA Seminar (One Hour) - 1 Credits

Presentation of Paper (Per Hour) - 2 Credits

Control of Pesticides Certificate PA1
5 Credits

Control of Pesticides Certificate PA2a
5 Credits

Control of Pesticides Certificate PA6
5 Credits

Chainsaw Certificates NPTC Level 2/LANTRA Awards (each)
5 Credits

Five Day First Aid Certificate - 25 Credits
Three Day First Aid Course - 15 Credits
One Day First Aid Course - 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, at least ten years greenkeeping experience, that must include a minimum of three 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.

Candidates must also be at CPD Approved status.

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 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 April and October each year. Candidates may sit the examinations at BIGGA House or at another location approved by BIGGA eg. College or training provider.

Examinations are set and marked by a panel of assessors approved by BIGGA.

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 taken. Examination results will be communicated to the candidate within 6 weeks.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All Master Greenkeepers are expected to be a member of the BIGGA CPD Programme and should be at Approved status. The programme is free of charge to all BIGGA members.

FEES

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

STAGE 1

£15 inc VAT
(Worldwide)

STAGES 2 & 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.





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

MR/MRS/MISS/OTHER First Name Last Name
Home Address
Postcode/ZipCode
Home Telephone No. Mobile No.
E-mail Date of Birth
Nationality
Present Employer
Work Address
Postcode/ZipCode
Work Telephone No. Work Fax
E-mail BIGGA Membership Number

Experience

1. Greenkeeping Employment

Table with 3 columns: Position, Employer, Dates (From - To). Includes multiple rows of dotted lines for data entry.

2. Other relevant experience you wish to be considered

Multiple rows of dotted lines for entering other relevant experience.

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 necessary to enter Stages 2 and 3.

Signature [] Date []
Cheque [] Credit Card [] Card Type: [] CCV [] Issue No (Maestro only) []
Number [] Expiry Date []

Education and Training Qualifications

All claims for Education and Training Credits must be supported by copies of the relevant certificates. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

List Work Based Qualification (eg. N/SVQ) below

Qualification Date
.....
.....

List Work Related Qualification (eg. Degree, HND, HNC) below

Qualification Date
.....
.....

List Continuing Education and Training Qualifications (eg. National Education Conference, BTME Seminars, Regional Training Courses, Spraying, First Aid etc) below

Qualification Date
.....
.....

List any other qualification you wish to be considered below

Qualification Date
.....
.....

Send your completed application form together with the registration fee of £15 to: Master Greenkeeper Certificate, BIGGA House, Aldwark, Alne, York, YO61 1UF

Please contact Learning & Development on 01347 833800 opt 3 with any queries.

**MASTER
GREENKEEPER**
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