



Hampshire Cricket Board

Association of Cricket Groundsmen

Newsletter No 2 – December 2012

Dear Colleague,

We hope that the information we provided in the first Newsletter was helpful to you.

Thank you again for joining our new Association. Membership has now reached 40, but clearly there are many others working in and for our cricket clubs who have not joined us yet – we have representation from only 12 SEPCL clubs and 13 HCL clubs. Please help us to spread the word when you can!

2. Training

There is an IOG Foundation (**Level 1**), **Part A** course – Spring preparation and Summer maintenance - at Hursley Park CC on **Tuesday 16 April 2013, 09.00 – 16.30**. The **Part B** course - Autumn Renovation and Winter Maintenance – is also at Hursley Park on **Tuesday 10 September 2013**, same times. The fee for each Course is £114 for IOG members and £228 for non-members.

We strongly urge all members who have never taken advantage of these courses to do so. They are hands-on, delivered by qualified Institute of Groundsmanship tutors who are usually also working groundsmen. Chris Westbrook, our County Pitch Advisor, is also on hand to assist the tutor and lend his club's equipment.

Part A covers

- Mowing , Scarifying and brushing , Aeration , Irrigation, Rolling, Fertiliser Application
- Preparing the square, Preparation of the match pitch, Pitch repair and renovation,

Maintenance of the outfield, Maintenance of non-turf pitches

Part B includes

- Safe Working practices, Scarification, Aeration, Repairs and renovation, Overseeding ,
Top dressing, Fertiliser application, Care of outfield, Maintaining non turf surfaces.

The Hampshire Cricket Board will continue to assist with course fees for members of the CGA. HCB will refund up to £114 for each part, and if you become a member of IOG as well (the current annual subscription is £47) you will then in effect get two free courses.

The Ageas Bowl
Botley Road West End
Southampton
Hampshire SO30 3XH

Tel: 023 8047 5600
Fax: 023 8047 2122
enquiries@ageasbowl.com
www.ageasbowl.com



Hampshire
Cricket Board Ltd

'Providing a cricketing future for all'

More information is available on the IOG website - on membership at <http://www.iog.org/membership-ben>, and on the courses and to book places at <http://www.iog.org/train-education>.

Alternatively you can call IOG on 01908 312511 to book a place.

To claim a refund of the course fee, please **send a copy of the paid invoice** to me **after the course**.

We are still investigating ways of meeting other training needs which you mentioned on your membership forms, and we will be in touch about these as soon as we can.

3. **Winter work**

These notes may be stating the obvious to many of you, but just in case –

On the square -

Consider the need for spiking to assist root growth (to be completed by mid-January).

Maintain regular inspections and brushing/drag matting to minimise the opportunity of any disease developing and ensure the dispersal of worm casts, if present.

Also check regularly for disease and any excessive grass growth. If necessary and conditions are suitable, cut to a height of 18-25mm.

Mid-winter is a good time to clean and arrange maintenance of equipment, and produce a budget for approval by the Club Committee for the forthcoming year.

Should you need further advice on winter work, please contact Chris Westbrook, County Pitch Advisor – 02380 475 400, wetwickets@aol.com

Colin Savage
HCB Administrator

02380 475609

07920 452544

colin.savage@ageasbowl.com

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Southampton
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