

The background of the entire advertisement is a photograph of four young men standing on a wooden staircase. They are all dressed in formal suits with red, white, and blue striped ties. The two men in the back row are holding small framed certificates. The two men in the front row are holding large, ornate glass trophies. The trophies have a circular base and a wide, flared top. The man on the far right has a small green circular logo on his lapel.

TORO

**STUDENT
GREENKEEPER
OF THE YEAR
AWARDS
2026**

TORO

MAKE THIS YOUR YEAR

All the reasons why you should enter the
Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Awards 2026!



FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITIES ELEVATE YOU AND YOUR CLUB

TORO STUDENT GREENKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2026

The Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Awards offer students of all ages, backgrounds and experience a chance to excel. As long as you're studying, you have the chance to further your career and network with industry leaders. Entering is easy and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities await the winning greenkeepers.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any greenkeeping student who is undertaking one of the listed qualifications below (at the time of application) and has been a greenkeeper for a minimum of 12 months:

Level 2

Golf Greenkeeper apprenticeship / SVQ Level 2

Level 3

Advanced Golf Greenkeeper apprenticeship / SVQ Level 3

Young Award students must be aged 21 years or under and studying for a Level 2 award at time of application.



Nothing is ever out of reach. Believe in yourself, trust your knowledge and instincts, then go for it.

Bradley Taylor

Beau Desert/Myerscough College
Student Award Winner 2025



FINALS WILL BE HELD AT ROCKLIFFE HALL,
THE FIVE-STAR HOTEL, GOLF AND SPA
RESORT IN COUNTY DURHAM

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME PRIZES

STUDENT AWARD PRIZE

Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year winner

will receive: enrolment in an internationally recognised 10-week turf management remote study course at the University of Massachusetts' Winter Turf School. A one-week work experience placement at a UK or overseas golf course. An all-expenses paid trip to the USA to visit Toro HQ, R&D and manufacturing.

Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year runner-up

will receive: a trip to Continue to Learn at BTME, including four days of education, five nights' accommodation, travel and £125 expenses. A Toro training course voucher.

YOUNG STUDENT AWARD PRIZE

Toro Young Student Greenkeeper of the Year

Award winner will receive: an all-expenses paid trip to the USA to visit Toro HQ, R&D and manufacturing. A one-week work experience placement at a UK or overseas golf course. A trip to Continue to Learn at BTME, including four days of education, five nights' accommodation, travel and £125 expenses. A Toro training course voucher.

Toro Young Student Greenkeeper of the Year

runner-up will receive: a trip to Continue to Learn at BTME, including two days of education, three nights' accommodation, travel and £75 expenses. A Toro training course voucher.

Endorser of the Toro Student Greenkeeper

of the Year will receive: a trip to BTME with a two day conference pass and a night in a Harrogate hotel. An invitation to the BIGGA Celebration to recognise achievements of members throughout the year, followed by a valuable networking event with Reesink Turfcare and Toro. A profile in Greenkeeper International.

Endorser of the Toro Young Student Greenkeeper

of the Year will receive: a trip to BTME with a two day conference pass and a night in a Harrogate hotel. An invitation to the BIGGA Celebration to recognise achievements of members throughout the year, followed by a valuable networking event with Reesink Turfcare and Toro. A profile in Greenkeeper International.

For further information and full terms and conditions, or to complete the online application form, please visit bigga.org.uk/education and queries can be emailed to education@bigga.co.uk

Students can put themselves forward for the awards with college tutors, assessors or employers endorsing their application. Please note all applications must be submitted online at **bigga.org.uk/education** by **10th April 2026**.

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry dates: 1 March-10 April 2026

Interviews: 11-15 and 18-22 May 2026

National final: 8-10 September 2026



My message is simple: step forward. Promoting yourself and your work is not arrogance – it's recognising achievement and it ensures the wider industry can share in your success.

Ronnie Myles

BIGGA President and award judge



WHY APPLY?

- Being chosen as a finalist is a fantastic endorsement for you and your club
- Increase skills and knowledge to enhance professional development
- Build relationships and make friendships that last a lifetime
- Chance to win once-in-a-lifetime prizes for you and your endorser!
- Network opportunities with industry influencers
- Enjoy five-star hospitality at Rockliffe Hall for the finals
- Don't let your talent and teamwork go unnoticed

TORO STUDENT GREENKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2025 WINNERS



Student Award finalists and judges

From left: Judges: Jon Cole, Divisional Business Manager, Reesink Turfcare and Stephen Bryne, Superintendent, The Vidauban Golf Club, main finalist Chris Szoradi, young finalists Oli Badger, Andrew Semple (back), Matthew Strutt Donnelly (front), main finalists Ruth Etches (back), Bradley Taylor (front), judge Ronnie Myles, President 2025, BIGGA (back), main finalists Jamie Beattie and Oliver Pate, judges Scott Reeves Head of Membership, BIGGA, David Timms, National Account Manager, Reesink Turfcare, Rob Phillips, Learning & Development Manager, BIGGA.





STUDENT
APPLICATION



ENDORSE
A STUDENT

Raise the game and your career.
Get nominated for a once-in-a-lifetime
Toro scholarship.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online application form at: bigga.org.uk/education

When applying, please provide the name of the individual who will endorse the application and email a passport-style photo of the nominee to education@bigga.co.uk

Applications can be endorsed by college tutors, college assessors, head greenkeepers/course managers or golf club managers.

Young Award students must be studying for a Level 2 qualification and be aged 21 years or under at the time of application.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: FRIDAY 10 APRIL 2026

For more information contact:

Deb Burnett,
Learning & Development Manager (BIGGA)

Tel: 01347 833 800

Email: deb@bigga.co.uk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The awards outlined in this document are jointly sponsored and presented by the following organisations in the interest of furthering the education of student greenkeepers:

REESINK TURFCARE

1-3 Station Road, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 1QF
Distributors for Toro Commercial and Irrigation products
reesinkturfcare.co.uk

THE TORO COMPANY

Minneapolis, USA
toro.com

BIGGA

Coxwold House, Easingwold Business Park,
Stillington Road, Easingwold, York, YO61 3FB
bigga.org.uk

TORO.

**STUDENT
GREENKEEPER
OF THE YEAR
AWARDS
2026**

