

EUROPEAN TURFGRASS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 04/2017

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Welcome to the 6th ETS Conference 2018!

July 2nd - 4th - Manchester, UK

We would like to warmly invite you to participate in the 6th European Turfgrass Society Conference in Manchester (UK) on the 2nd - 4th July, 2018.

This will be an excellent opportunity to present, demonstrate and discuss research, development, applications and the latest innovations in the field of turfgrass.

We would like to strongly encourage you to submit your abstracts and participate to the 6^{th} ETSC in order to share your achievements in the field of turfgrass.

Information on submission guidelines for authors will be provided soon.





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74° Italian Open and golf courses sustainability: the "Impegnati nel Verde" award

By Alessandro De Luca, Italian Golf Federation – Green Section

The Green Section of the Italian Golf Federation, established in 1989, besides providing technical assistance and training & research activities, has been since long committed to address environmental issues as well.

Among the different initiatives, the "Impegnati nel Verde" (INV) project was launched to foster a sustainable management of golf courses, raising awareness about environmental issues among golf clubs and players. Established in Italy in 2000 in the wake of the "Committed to Green" project promoted by the EGA Ecology Unit, INV was immediately successful, being attended by numerous national golf courses: currently, more than 80 golf clubs have been awarded this acknowledgement.

"Impegnati nel Verde" also has the important function of supporting the clubs in their path towards the GEO (Golf Environment Organization) Environmental Certification, a program recognized by the CIO and the major associations operating in the golf sector, such as R&A, EGA, PGA European Tour, or in the environment protection, like WWF.

Five environmentally-related categories have been considered: Water, Biodiversity, Energy, Landscape, Cultural Heritage.

The clubs that commit themselves to employing technology, methodology, projects and management leading to a definite enhancement of environmental sustainability, or embrace a responsible approach in the use of resources or make an effort to capitalize on peculiar historical-natural aspects can submit their application to earn the prestigious mark.

The clubs' work is monitored and supported by the Green Section of the Italian Golf Federation, while all applications are assessed by an independent Scientific and Technical Committee composed by five university professors that gathers once a year.

Every year, the certificates are conferred during the Italian Open, the most important golf event in Italy, precisely with the aim of raising the awareness of the whole golf community, from players to public, on crucial environmental issues.

This year, the award ceremony took place at the Golf Club Milano, during the 74th Italian Open, at

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the tent of the Istituto del Credito Sportivo, partner in the INV Project which this year was supported also by the R&A, the highest "governing body" in the golf world.

Here is the list of the clubs that earned the award in 2017 in the various categories:

"Water": GC Villa Condulmer

"Energy": GC Perugia, GC Dolomiti, GC Garfagnana

"Cultural heritage": GC Frassanelle, GC Acaya, San Domenico Golf, GC Archi di Claudio

"Landscape": GC Varese "Biodiversity": Les Iles.

During the ceremony, the Golf Club Carimate was acknowledged the GEO certification, being the ninth Italian golf club to reach this ambitious goal.