

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Manager – Sustainable Golf Development
<b>Department:</b>	Sustainable Golf
<b>Reporting To:</b>	Assistant Director – Sustainable Golf Development
<b>Direct Reports:</b>	0
<b>Version</b>	V1 14/10/2025

### Job Purpose

The Research Manager will play a central role in advancing The R&A's strategic priority of providing best practice advice to ensure a sustainable future for golf courses. This will be achieved by delivering high-impact research projects that produce practical solutions for environmentally responsible golf course management and agronomy. This incorporates R&A sustainable golf research, including Golf Course 2030 (GC2030) and the International Turfgrass Research Initiative (ITRI).

This position will also lead the expansion of the R&A's research portfolio in sustainable agronomy; awarding, coordinating and commissioning applied turfgrass research projects at key global sites with our network of partners. The postholder will ensure that research outcomes address the most material issues facing golf course management worldwide and are practically adopted by the industry.

### Key Accountabilities

#### 1. Programme Leadership and Delivery

- Manage and coordinate delivery of the Golf Course 2030 and International Turfgrass Research Initiative programmes.
- Develop and implement a global research plan addressing priority areas in sustainable agronomy and turfgrass science.
- Identify, design, oversee or monitor field research projects at selected international sites in collaboration with universities, institutes, and golf industry partners.
- Ensure that research aligns with the R&A's strategic sustainability objectives and provides actionable outcomes for agronomists, course managers, greenkeepers, and golf course operators.

#### 2. Research Management and Partnerships

- Establish and maintain strong relationships with research partners, national associations, and global agronomy networks.
- Commission and manage research contracts, ensuring delivery to agreed scope, budget, and timelines. Evaluate research proposals and ensure projects meet scientific, technical, and sustainability standards.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange across regions to ensure findings are disseminated effectively and inform best practice globally.

### 3. Data, Insight, and Impact

- Lead the collection, analysis, and reporting of research data to demonstrate environmental and performance impacts.
- Translate research outputs into practical tools, guidance documents, and resources for golf course managers.
- Produce technical reports, publications, and presentations for internal and external stakeholders.
- Track and assess emerging research needs, technologies, and innovations relevant to turfgrass and golf course sustainability.

### 4. Leadership and Communication

- Review portfolio of existing R&A research (Golf Course 2030) and establish appropriate communication strategies for the key topics.
- Represent The R&A at international research forums, turfgrass conferences, and industry events to promote R&A sustainable golf research.
- Work collaboratively with R&A Sustainable Agronomy and Sustainable Golf Development and wider R&A departments to promote global adoption of research findings.

#### Resource

The Research Manager will manage The R&A's Sustainable Golf research budget, and will oversee a diverse sub-contracted group of researchers and project teams internationally.

#### Expertise

- Degree (and ideally postgraduate qualification) in turfgrass science, agronomy, plant or soil science, environmental science, or a related discipline.
- Experience managing applied research programmes in turfgrass, agriculture, or environmental sustainability.
- Understanding of golf course management practices, sustainability challenges, and the international turfgrass research landscape.
- Demonstrated ability to manage multi-stakeholder projects and budgets.
- Excellent communication skills, with experience translating scientific findings into practical recommendations.
- Willingness to travel internationally for research coordination and stakeholder engagement.

This job description is written as an indication of the nature and scope of duties and responsibilities. It is not intended as a fully descriptive or definitive list and jobholders will be expected to carry out other duties assigned which are appropriate to the position.