

# THE EXTRA POINT

## STMA NEWS

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At its most recent meeting, one of the actions taken by the STMA board of directors was the sanctioning of the formation of local STMA chapters. The guidelines that the board established allow these chapters to be governed and function autonomously. The chapters are able to establish their own by-laws and elect their own officers, thus making them truly "local" organizations.

Since that time, STMA has seen at least three chapters begin the formation process one in Illinois, one in Florida, and one in Iowa. The Illinois and Florida groups have met several times and are beginning to draft their bylaws and set their goals.

Those of us who represent the national organization believe that local chapters will play a very important role in the future of STMA. They can provide the means by which professional sports turf managers in a given geographic area can meet on a regular basis to exchange ideas and share problems. By forming a network, individual sports turf managers do not have to feel like they are all alone against thousands of users on their fields.

Local chapters can provide printed materials to supplement the publications put out by the national STMA. These publications can focus on regional issues and people and become very valuable conduits for information.

STMA encourages the formation of local chapters and is prepared to offer assistance in guiding groups through the formation process. If you would like to create such a chapter, or you already have a local organization that would like to associate with STMA, contact headquarters. Tell us what is happening and how you are doing. Most of all, let STMA know what it can do to help form or support your local chapter.

### GCSAA APPROVES EDUCATION CREDITS FOR STMA CONFERENCE

Members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) will receive continuing education units (CEUs) for attending the STMA Annual Conference in Houston, TX, January 19-21, 1990. GCSAA has reviewed the program and authorized up to .85 CEUs for the three-day event.

CEUs are part of the GCSAA certification program. A superintendent must earn credits and take an exam to become certified. Once he is certified, he needs to earn an additional three units each year. One unit represents ten hours of classes.

GCSAA will award superintendents .5 unit for attending the educational conference on Friday, January 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional educational credit may be obtained by attending the budget writing workshop (.2 CEU) and the new ideas workshop (.15 CEU) on Sunday morning.

STMA has designed the educational program to be valuable to managers of all types of recreational turf. Sessions

on soils, nutrition, water management, compaction, and buying seed run concurrently with others on sand construction, scheduling maintenance around events and important research.

The trade show opens Friday night at 5 p.m. and continues on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The annual awards banquet will take place on Saturday evening.

### BOARD DISCUSSES FUTURE IN HOUSTON

After hashing out changes in the STMA bylaws necessitated by the organization's rapid growth, the board of directors turned its attention to the future during its recent board meeting in Houston, TX. The upcoming annual meeting, research, chapter formation, publicity, scholarships and future meeting sites were all discussed.

The board was impressed with the facilities at the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel, site of the upcoming annual conference and trade show, January 19-21, 1990. A decision was made to locate the conference in the Southwest in 1991 and go back to the Southeast in 1992.

A financial report on the first conference held this past January at Dodgertown in Vero Beach, FL, revealed a small profit. To boost commercial participation in the Houston conference, the board approved a motion to offer a 50 percent break in dues to those commercial affiliates exhibiting at the upcoming show. Conference registration packets have been mailed with the summer newsletter.

The next meeting of the board will take place at STMA headquarters in Upland, CA, in October. Members are encouraged to voice their comments to the board this summer for action at the next board meeting.

### CATCH THE ACTION

Mark your calendar!

**September 26 - Northeastern Sports Turf Institute**  
College of Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

**January 19-21, 1990 -**  
**Annual Conference and Trade Show**  
Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel, Houston, TX.



400 N. Mountain Ave., Suite 301, Upland, CA 91786  
(714) 981-9199