

## STMA MESSAGE

### LOCAL CHAPTERS ARE KEY

The Colorado Chapter of the STMA began meeting in 1991. A group of interested professionals at a Colorado State University turfgrass conference decided to start a local organization to deal with the problems inherent to the arid West and the growing demands on sports facilities.

We are mainly a park and school-district organization; however, we are lucky to have a handful of professional stadium groundskeepers who take time to share their knowledge.

This brings me to the point I would like to emphasize: STMA is the cover organization. Its purpose is to educate and promote the sports-turf industry worldwide. It is the chapter's responsibility to carry that same message to the local level. What works at your site or field needs to be shared. What doesn't work is equally as important, as you may save someone from repeating the same mistake. Participate with your local chapter to bring ideas and workshops together. Join the National STMA and support your profession.

Some helpful points for chapters include the National STMA Chapter Start-Up Guide, which contains information on how to form a chapter. Don't be disappointed if it takes some time.

The core group that starts and stays with the process is the most valuable resource the chapter can have.

Utilize other chapters' knowledge. The Midwest Chapter was a great help to us as it went through the same growing pains only a year earlier. Find an accountant to help your group set up as a nonprofit organization. Contact local vendors who may want to help with some seed money for the chapter's first mailings.

Contact the National for bylaws and other important information. A chapter must pay \$100 to affiliate with the National STMA. The chapter also pays \$10 for each of its members who is not a National STMA member. The initial outlay may sound painful, but careful budgeting early on and the right dues structure will eliminate those worries.

The Colorado Chapter plans to host four workshops per year. We try to find a field and maintenance practice to highlight that will offer something we can all learn from.

Good luck in your chapter endeavors.  
Bill Whirty  
STMA Board Member

taining turf in high-traffic areas. Further details will be announced shortly.

For information on these meetings, charter bus arrangements for the July meeting, or other upcoming activities, call the Chapter Hotline at (708) 439-4727.

**Colorado Chapter:** The Colorado chapter is planning an August 24 Seminar/Workshop at the Pleasantview Sports Complex in Boulder. Make plans now to tour the facility and nine sand-based fields of this new, state-of-the-art soccer complex. More details will be announced soon. Please RSVP your plans to attend to the 24-hour CCSTMA Hotline/FAX: (303) 438-9645. For more information on the Seminar/Workshop, the Colorado Chapter or other upcoming activities contact: Ross Kurbab, Denver Broncos, at (303) 649-9000.

**Southern California Chapter:** For information on the Southern California Chapter and upcoming activities, contact Chris Bunnell at (619) 432-2421.



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## CHAPTER NEWS

**Midwest Chapter:** SPECIAL REMINDER — Take Me Out to the Ball Game is the theme of the July 19 meeting of the STMA Midwest Chapter. The event will begin with a tour of the Rockford, IL, Park District Sportscore, site of the STMA 1994-1995 Soccer Field of the Year. The meeting will then move to Marinelli Field, home of the Rockford Cubs, for a behind-the-scenes tour of the facility. Meeting participants will wrap up the day at the Cubs baseball game. The Midwest Chapter will charter a bus from the Chicago area for this meeting.

The Midwest Chapter will hold a workshop on "Rapid Turf Renovation-Restoration" on August 8 at Hinsdale Central High School in Hinsdale, IL. This site was one of the practice facilities used for World Cup Soccer. The workshop will focus on establishing and main-

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