



#### August 31-September 4

Floyd Perry's Groundskeepers Management Academy, Kissimmee, FL. (800) 227-9381.

#### September 15

Clemson University's Turfgrass Field Day, Clemson, SC, 9:00 am. Contact Landon Miller: (864) 656-4966, Bert McCarty: (864) 656-0120, or Ted Whitwell: (864) 656-4971.

#### September 16-19

Florida Turfgrass Association's (FTGA) 46th annual Conference and Show (TurfWeb '98), Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, FL. Contact FTGA: (800) 882-6721, or (407) 856-5767.

#### September 27-October 1

Floyd Perry's Groundskeepers Management Academy, Salt Lake City, UT. (800) 227-9381.

#### September 30

Virginia Tech's Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center's (HRAREC) 23rd annual Field Day, Virginia Beach, VA, 10:00 am-5:00 pm. Contact Dr. Bonnie Appleton, HRAREC: (757) 363-3906.

#### October 5-December 11

Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School (two 10-week sessions), Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Susan Wohl: (732) 932-9271.

#### 1999

#### January 13-17

Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 10th annual Conference & Exhibition, Mesa, AZ. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875, or (712) 366-2669.

## STMA MESSAGE

Sports  
Turf  
Managers Association



## There's Growth in this here Organization

**Y**ou can simply ride on the shirrtails of the STMA as part of the tremendous growth our organization is experiencing, or you can really get involved. You'll find that you can personally grow and create opportunities for your own development within this organization.

I have found the later to be true from personal experience. The STMA has been the framework for my sports turf career over the past 10 years. The more I've gotten involved with this organization, the more I've learned and have been able to share in its development.

This month's issue features the accomplishments of another individual whose successful career has been framed by the STMA. Abby McNeal is turfgrass manager of Pleasant View Sports Complex in Boulder, CO, STMA's 1997 College Soccer Field of the Year.

Abby has been actively involved in CSTMA since 1992, and in STMA since 1993. She was introduced to the organization while still a student at Colorado State University, as the two-time recipient of the Colorado Chapter's Scholarship. She later received the National STMA Scholarship in 1993. Today, she serves as President of the Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association.

Those of us who have had the opportunity to get to know Abby during this period know that she is worthy of these honors. We're very proud of her, and we're grateful for her dedication, hard work, and commitment to STMA and the sports turf industry. I anticipate that Abby's career within our association will continue, and will include further involvement at the national level. Abby, thanks for all you do for our organization, and for creating better and safer sports fields for your local community.

At a recent STMA Board meeting, the issue of ethics was brought to the discussion. It was noted that STMA had previously established a code of ethics, and that the code needed to be resurrected, examined, and refined so that it could be reinstated.

There are times when our job presents tasks that move us to question the ethical implications of our actions. This could mean altering conditions to provide what may be considered a home field advantage, or it may involve attempts to control an unwanted agent, be it a weed or a competitor.

At these times, we stand at a crossroads, and we must take a 'gut check.' We, as professional sports turf managers or commercial affiliates, must do what is right, ethical, and morally correct as individuals, as professionals, and as members of a respected organization.

Is this not the core of what it is to be a professional? Is this not the obligation of each and every member of our organization? Is this not the true meaning of sports — to compete on a fair and level playing surface? Let the best man or woman win!

I ask you all to think about your obligation to our industry, and to provide playing surfaces that are consistent and fair. Once you have made a commitment to ethics in every area of your career, pride, satisfaction, and recognition will be yours.

**Stephen Guise, STMA President**  
**(714) 704-0403**