

## STMA Message

**Sports  
Turf  
Managers Association**  
www.sportsturfmanager.com



### Questions and Answers

Spring is finally here officially and I know that many of you are very happy to welcome it. While working with the whims of Mother Nature is an ongoing part of sports turf management, most of you described your relationship with her this past winter as a stormy one. I've heard reports of record cold, snowfall, ice storms, rain-fall...sometimes all from the same region and even in the same day. So, here's wishing you all a better relationship with Mother Nature this spring, with temperatures, sunshine and rainfall that fit your needs and schedule.

As spring sports take over your fields, please take a few minutes to consider the STMA Field of the Year Awards program. Do you have a baseball, softball, soccer or football field that you feel would be a worthy contender for Field of the Year honors? If so, now is the time to start taking the photographs and gathering the data to put together your entry. For information on entering a field for consideration, please contact STMA Headquarters by phone at 800-323-3875 or by e-mail at SportsTMgr@aol.com.

Sports turf management is all about developing and maintaining the best possible athletic fields for all levels of play. The role of the STMA is to help you achieve that. Over the past year, the STMA Board and the Strategic Planning Committee have developed a Strategic Plan to carry out the STMA Mission Statement: To be the recognized leader in strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing members' competence and the acknowledgement of their professionalism.

To help accomplish all this, STMA sought input through a survey issued to all of our members in January of this year. The questions were focused on finding out more about our members, their facilities, their programs and their needs. The answers to these questions will provide a good, overall picture of the industry as a whole. They also will help in finding out how the members rate the effectiveness and importance of current STMA programs and in discovering what additional types of programs and services STMA members would like to have the Association provide. In addition, the answers provided on the survey will help STMA do a better job of spreading the word to others that sports turf managers are professionals whose professionalism is to be recognized and affirmed.

We greatly appreciate the time so many of you have taken to fill out and return these surveys. We especially appreciate the comments so many of you have added in the comment sections of the survey. Thank you. Your input will be shared with the STMA Board and the pertinent information with the appropriate STMA Committees so that your concerns and suggestions can be incorporated into the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Together, we're reaching new heights as individual professionals, as a profession and as an association. And we're moving forward at this higher level, looking ahead and tackling the challenges of the new millennium.

**Rich Moffitt**  
STMA President  
(314) 977-2956

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