



## Strength and conditioning programs

As summer rolls to a close, things are heating up for many sports turf managers. College and university fall sports programs are underway by mid-August, with the athletes already "in training" and the remainder of the student body soon to return to campus. High school athletes also are beginning their fall routine with those dreaded "two a day" practices weeding out football team lineups. The marching bands at both colleges and high schools are working on their half-time performances. Practice fields, game fields, and intramural fields are geared up and ready for-or already into-their fall workouts.

Major League Baseball ballfields remain constantly in the public eye. Those in charge of NFL practice facilities and pre-season game sites already are coping with the field damage today's players inflict thanks to the bigger, stronger bodies honed by year-long strength and conditioning programs.

Sports turf managers constantly upgrade the "strength and conditioning programs" for their fields as well. Off-season for the teams often is the only time for the aggressive maintenance tasks that yield top in-season field performance.

Sports turf managers upgrade their own strength and conditioning programs by increasing their knowledge. They attend educational sessions, take part in seminars and workshops such as Chapter-sponsored events, dig into research on specific topics, and through networking harvest the vast knowledge within this industry.

The Sports Turf Managers Association also is constantly upgrading its "strength and conditioning program," for the association and for the profession. By the time you read this, the STMA Board will have completed our July meeting. Reports and recommendations presented by the Certification, Chapter Relations, Annual Conference Education, Annual Conference Exhibition, Finance and Audit, Marketing, Membership, Strategic Planning, Survey, Technical Standards, and Website Committees all will have been reviewed, discussed and, where recommendations require Board approval, voted upon. STMA is continually working for you to promote the profession and gain acknowledgement of the important role filled by those within the profession.

"We're on a Roll" describes the progress of STMA. It's the STMA 2002 Conference Theme and ties into the Conference's Las Vegas location. Mark your calendars now-the dates are January 16-20, 2002.

I'm pleased to announce another exciting event, the first SAFE Foundation Drawing. Dave Ditzler, turf & irrigation specialist for Grinnell College in Grinnell, IA, held the winning ticket in the July 4 drawing. Dave and his wife, Tami, will take an expense-paid trip to Canton, OH, to enjoy a visit to the Pro Football Hall of Fame (HOF), take part in the NFL Experience, join in the 2001 HOF Golf Scramble (with NFL players) at Shady Hollow Country Club, join in the HOF pre-game Tailgate Party, and attend the HOF Game between the St. Louis Rams and Miami Dolphins. Proceeds from this fund-raising event will support sports turf-related research and scholarships. Congratulations, Dave and Tami!

Rich Moffitt  
STMA President

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