

## STMA Message

**Sports  
Turf  
Managers Association**  
[www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)



### Things Are Heating Up

**S**ummer heat is here. It may be combined with heavy rainfall or high humidity levels or with dry or even drought conditions. Either set of extremes adds more challenges for the sports turf manager.

Working with the whims of Mother Nature calls for flexibility, ingenuity, and resourcefulness—attributes that are never posted on a job description, but which are a key part of being successful in this profession. Developing a field management program to produce the best possible playing surfaces in an ever-changing environment is complex. It demands a solid understanding of turfgrass science and the experience to adapt those scientific principles to meet existing conditions. The field maintenance program is based on planning ahead and trying to be prepared for every possible scenario. Sports turf managers sometimes must work against basic agronomic practices to produce a playable field for the next game knowing they will need to alter or even reverse the results of their actions to preserve the long-term playability of the field.

One of the greatest resources in accomplishing all this is networking, tapping into the knowledge and expertise of other sports turf managers. The Sports Turf Managers Association was formed to help facilitate this sharing of information. An important function of the association is making it easier for sports turf managers to connect with each other.

Things are heating up with action in multiple areas to do just that. The comments and suggestions provided through the survey earlier this year have been very beneficial to the STMA Board, Committees and Headquarters in this process.

STMA Headquarters maintains a database of contact information on our members and has asked every member to review their information and make any changes or additions necessary to bring it up to date. Members can use the membership roster or contact Headquarters to get the information for one-on-one communication. The STMA Website Committee currently is in the process of upgrading the website ([www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)) to make it more "user-friendly" as a communications tool and to increase the information posted there. The STMA Membership Committee is working on developing methods to make interaction between members easier and to enhance membership benefits.

The Chapters have just completed a series of regional Conference Calls to share ideas on programs and services. The Chapters are expanding their outreach to provide educational resources not only to their members and potential members, but also to those in job positions that interact with the sports turf manager, to field user groups, and to the general public.

The Marketing Committee is interacting with all of the other committees to build public awareness/image awareness for our profession. This heat wave of action is already producing positive results and more are sure to follow.

**Rich Moffitt**  
STMA President

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