

**STMA welcomes the newest affiliated chapter:** The Greater LA Basin of Sports Turf Managers Association. For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University - Fullerton, at 714-278-3929 or email [sdugas@fullerton.edu](mailto:sdugas@fullerton.edu).

**Midwest Chapter STMA:** The Midwest Chapter will hold its Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon on March 15, 2002, at Alexian Field in Schaumburg, IL. The focus of this year's meeting will be professional development for the sports turf manager and the presentation of Field & Facility Awards and scholarships. For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter's website, <http://mcstma.org/>, or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email [Bake60ft6in@aol.com](mailto:Bake60ft6in@aol.com).

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA):** The Northwest Pennsylvania Athletic Field, Turf and Ornamentals Conference will be held Tuesday, March 19, 2002, at the Allegheny College Campus Center in Meadville.

Sessions specific to Athletic Fields include: Basic Drainage, presented by Dr. Andy McNitt, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences; Soccer, Soccer and More Soccer, presented by Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame; and Selecting a Topdressing by Dr. Andrew McNitt. The KAFMO Chapter is a co-sponsor of this event, along with Penn State Cooperative Extension and Allegheny College. For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail [kafmo@aol.com](mailto:kafmo@aol.com).

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Gateway Chapter is planning a March Meeting at Busch Stadium. More details will be announced soon. For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2382.

**Florida Chapter #1:** The Florida Chapter will take part in the IFAS field Day to be held in Davies, in March. More details will be announced. For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** The Minnesota Chapter is planning a spring workshop. More details will be announced soon. For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, 651-638-6075 or e-mail: [j-hintz@bethel.edu](mailto:j-hintz@bethel.edu).

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** The Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) will host a Spring Field Day on Wednesday, April 3, 2002, at Plainsboro Township Community Park. Sports field managers, grounds crew members, coaches, athletic directors, parks & recreation directors, buildings & grounds, DPW, administrators, and supervisors are encouraged to attend. Attendees can meet vendors, see new products, and watch professionals demonstrate various aspects of athletic field management. For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming

events, call Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at 732-248-8979; or call Eleanora Murfitt, at 908-236-9118; e-mail to [SFMAN-JCHAPTER@netscape.net](mailto:SFMAN-JCHAPTER@netscape.net).

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** The OSTMA chapter will hold a spring workshop with the Cleveland Browns in May. More information and registration forms will be available on the website as soon as they are finalized. Don't miss out on this great event and your chance to hear how the pros operate, and also network with your peers!

Come join the OSTMA as they host a summer workshop with the Toledo Mudhens on June 26, 2002, at the brand new 5/3rd Field in downtown Toledo. Jeff Limburg, Head Sports Field Manager and the OSTMA will have a great day of learning as well as tickets to the game afterwards. For more information, check out the website or call headquarters. The MISTMA Chapter has also been invited to participate in this great event! For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982, or visit [www.glstma.org](http://www.glstma.org).



**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Colorado Chapter Board for 2002 includes: President - Kalin Stoval, Colorado State University; Vice President - Troy Smith, Denver Broncos; Immediate Past President - Jim Mueller, Hall-Irwin; Commercial Officer - Dave Cromley, Helena Chemical Company. Directors are: Riley Caldwell, Denver Parks and Recreation; Phil McQuade, Jeffco Stadium; Ryan Jensen, City of Broomfield; Dan Rockne, Foothills Park and Recreation District; and Tom Moody, Aurora Higher Education Center. Bobbi Smith is Executive Secretary for the Chapter. For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website, [www.CSTMA.org](http://www.CSTMA.org), or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

**Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA):** The MAFMO Board of Directors includes: President - David Navarro, Jr., University of Maryland; Vice President - Walter McKain, Calvert County Park and Rec; Treasurer - Bob Shumate, Georgetown University; Immediate Past President - Tim Moore, M-NCPPC. Board members are: Tim Anderson, Meyers Seed International; Al Capitos, Baltimore Orioles; Devin Morris, National Turfgrass Federation; and Dale Stevens, Oakwood Sod Farm. For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

**North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** The North Texas Board for 2002 includes: Scott Piecha, Gail's Flags; President Elect - Greg Zimmerman, City of University Park; Past President - Rene Asprien, Diamond Pro (Tx); Commercial Vice President - Bruce Watson, Professional Turf Products; Treasurer - Kayla McAfee; Directors: Advertising - Kathy Cassmeyer, Lockhead-Martin; Communications - Randy Thompson, City of Allen; Events - T. J. Thompson, City of Colleyville; Membership - Rob Anthony, Southern Methodist University; Programs - Shawn Ray, City of Cedar Hill; Special Projects - Mike Pender, Turfgrass America. Executive Secretary is Dr. James McAfee, Texas A & M University. For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, call Kayla McAfee at 972-234-6584 or Rene Asprien at 972-647-3393, or visit [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org).

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** The Tennessee Valley Chapter has launched its new website: [www.tvstma.org](http://www.tvstma.org). For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062.

**South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information, call Craig Potts, Texas A & M University, at tel. 979-458-8841, or e-mail: [CPotts@athletics.tamu.edu](mailto:CPotts@athletics.tamu.edu).

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Iowa Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: [Lori@iowaturfgrass.org](mailto:Lori@iowaturfgrass.org).

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:** For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: [bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us](mailto:bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us) or tel. 480-312-7954.

**Southern California Chapter:** For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

**Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

**Indiana Chapter:** For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, call Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-356-8424.

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** For information on the Chapter, call Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at 616-738-6974, or go to [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org) to visit the chapter's new website.

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121.

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426. See *Chapter News* on page 66



# Field slopes

Can you comment on ideal grading of a full size soccer field? Information I've found so far indicates 1% or less grade across the width of the field. A landscape architect's design plan grading print for a new sports complex in our park has 1.5-% grade slope, sloping from center of the field toward the goals.

I know they should be as flat as possible and I think the slope should be from centerline of the field toward the sidelines. Any references you could suggest, or input from your experience would be very useful before they start moving dirt.

—Parks and Recreation Department  
Indiana

**Y**ou raise an interesting question, one that I had not heard before. I agree with your assessment but thought I should at least consider your architect's point of view. I did a quick search to see if I could find any athletic field construction reference that suggested a field be built with the slope toward the "narrow ends of the field" since I have never seen a field purposely designed to slope from the center toward the goals, without some slope to the sidelines. I could not find a recent reference suggesting a field layout as you described.

Everything that I found suggested that fields be sloped from the middle to the sidelines. This design is often called a "crowned" field. To provide a higher level of drainage, an additional crown may be installed starting about 20 to 30 yd. in from the endlines or endzone (e.g., turtle back or hipped-roof drainage designs). Sidelines may

or may not be level. These designs provide additional drainage without significantly altering the field's playing characteristics.

Most fields are crowned down the longitudinal axis of the field to promote drainage. If the soccer field is sand-based then a 1-% slope is more desirable than more. I would not want more than a 1.5% on a soccer field and then only if the soil is a heavier soil (poorer subsurface drainage). Soccer players prefer flat fields to minimize ball deflection as it rolls across the field surface. Most flat fields need an installed drain system within the field to prevent them from becoming too wet or to at least aid in water removal from the surface. Most flat fields are also built with a high percentage of sand in the profile to promote rapid movement of water through the profile.

## Potential problems

I see three potential problems to the design you mentioned. One, with most of the game played "down" the field, you would have a lot of "running up and down the hills" as players crossed sides and it would be harder for them to get a feel for ball speed.

Second, the water movement would be toward the goals which already has enough wear problems from play. Excessive wear in the goal mouths often leads to depressions that naturally hold excess water. The wetter the area, the more opportunity for increased damage. The goal mouth is no place for standing water.

Third, in the design you mentioned, the water would have a greater distance to move to be off the field. In addition, you would have a greater volume of water per given field surface area if the middle had to drain toward the goals rather than toward the sidelines.

The crown from center to goal is a poor idea unless the lay of the land dictates that to be the only option to minimize the amount of soil that needs to be moved and/or it is required for off-site water removal. Catch basins may alleviate that need if strategically placed to aid in water removal from a traditionally designed field with a longitudinal crown. This is the best time to address drainage, when the field is being designed and built.

**ST**



## Have Questions?

Send them to Grady Miller at the University of Florida, PO Box 110670, Gainesville, FL 32611, or email [glmi@ufl.edu](mailto:glmi@ufl.edu). Or, send them to Dave Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011, or email [dminner@iastate.edu](mailto:dminner@iastate.edu).

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Affiliate Award for 2001 was National Mower and Turfco Mfg. Inc. The Award was in recognition of the company's long-standing and continuing support of STMA. The company is a long-term advertising supporter of STMA's publications; helps support the annual Conference; and continues to promote professionalism within the sports turf industry.

## New Board members

STMA announced its 2002 officers and board of directors at the Conference. Moving from President Elect into the position of President was Murray Cook, SPORTSTurf Services, Columbia, MD. The following officers were elected to a 1-year term: President Elect—Bob Campbell, CSFM, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN; Vice President (Commercial)—Monty Montague, LASTEC, Liston, IN; Secretary—Mike Trigg, CSFM, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan, IL; and Treasurer—Tim Moore, CSFM, Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, Silver Spring, MD.

Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, Sylvania Recreation

Corporation, Sylvania, OH, representing sports turf managers of Parks and Recreation facilities, was elected to a 2-year board position. Re-elected to 2-year board positions were: Mike Andresen, CSFM, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, representing sports turf managers of College & University facilities; and Dr. Tony Koski, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, representing those in Research, Extension and Teaching positions.

Continuing on the Board in the second year of their 2-year director positions are: Mark Razum, Colorado Rockies, Denver, CO, representing sports turf managers of facilities used by Professional teams; and Dave Rulli, Jeffco (Jefferson County) Stadium, Lakewood, CO, representing sports turf managers of other school facilities.

Vickie Wallace, Turf-Seed, Inc., Exeter, RI, was appointed by President Cook to fill the remaining year of the 2-year term as Board Representative of the Commercial membership vacated when Montague was elected as Vice President (Commercial).

Rich Moffitt, Moffitt and Associates and the St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO, will serve in the Board position of Immediate Past President.

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**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information, contact: Chapter Vice President, Randy Buchanan, County of Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: [buc06@co.henrico.va.us](mailto:buc06@co.henrico.va.us) or at tel. 804-261-8213.

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** For more information, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

## Chapters On The Grow

**Las Vegas:** Plans for the formation of a Las Vegas Chapter also are moving forward. For more information, please contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: [rms@lvcva.com](mailto:rms@lvcva.com) or at tel. 702-386-7140.

**New York:** A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: [Kevin@wpe.com](mailto:Kevin@wpe.com) or at tel. 607-432-2953.

**ST**