

New Chapter

A new chapter has joined STMA. The New England Sports Turf Managers Association brings the total to 27 chapters. This chapter will represent the New England states and provide strong local networking and educational opportunities for STMA members. Welcome to STMA!

Chapter Affiliation Agreement in Place

At the fall STMA Board meeting the Board approved the new Chapter Affiliation and Chapter Fee Agreements. All current STMA affiliated chapters have been asked to sign a copy of the agreement and return it to STMA headquarters by Feb. 7, 2005, to maintain their affiliation. This new agreement is a simplified version of the older one that can be found in the Chapter Compliance Handbook for comparison. If you have any questions please contact Abby McNeal, CSFM, Mike Andresen, CSFM, or STMA headquarters.

The new chapter bylaws and agreement means a totally different approach to how the STMA administers chapters. The chapter relations committee took a hard look at what chapters have been looking for from STMA and then formulated the new agreement. Please continue to forward comments and suggestions to Abby McNeal, CSFM or to STMA Headquarters.

The changes include:

- * Chapters will no longer be required to pay the \$10.00 dues per non-national member to STMA.
- * Chapters will pay a flat fee to STMA for the services. This new fee structure equitably balances the chapters' payment responsibility, resulting in some chapters paying a slightly higher fee and others paying a slightly lower fee and still others paying approximately the same.
- * Chapters can use Headquarters for chapter billings for an additional fee.
- Chapters can customize their needs/services from STMA headquarters. The agreement also assists newly forming chapters to gradually work toward the standard cost of an affiliated chapter, over 2 years.

Sports Turf Managers Association Affiliation Agreement

(Effective January 2005)

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to formally establish a working organization affiliation between the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) and Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association (Chapter). Both organizations are recognized leaders in strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing their member's competence and acknowledging their professionalism. The proposed

affiliation will benefit the members of both STMA and Chapter along with the entire sports turf industry.

Article 1: Chapters will be governed by their existing bylaws and board of directors. STMA will remain a separate organization from Chapter and will exist and operate per their existing bylaws. Any amendments to Chapter bylaws must be reported to STMA's Board of Directors prior to approval.

Article 2: As specified by Chapter bylaws, Chapter will operate with a President, Vice-President,

receive copies of all other STMA affiliated chapters newsletters as published. (Provided that the chapter produces a newsletter)

Article 7: Chapter agrees to be classified as an STMA affiliated chapter. This classification allows the Chapter to have the privileges of other existing STMA chapters such as: using the STMA logo in chapter advertising for your specific activities; STMA promotional marketing materials; use of the membership management system; chapter web site linking; participating in conference calls with other chapters; and one, 1-year complimentary STMA Membership to use as the organization (Chapter) sees fit.

Article 8: Chapter agrees to pay STMA the Chapter affiliation fee of \$550 that is determined by the STMA Board of Directors.

Article 9: Chapter shall provide a financial report at the end of each fiscal year April 15; a copy of which shall be sent to the STMA Treasurer. Chapter will comply with Tax laws requiring tax return filing yearly.

Article 10: Chapter will agree to be incorporated within the State that it is established within and will file any required State Tax reports.

Article 11: Chapter members, Chapter officers, and directors will be covered under the current STMA liability insurance coverage currently offered the other STMA affiliated Chapters.

Article 12: Chapter will agree to operate within the chapter compliance as stated below:

* A chapter found to be operating in conflict with the chapter procedures or bylaws will be notified in writing of its specific areas of non-compliance and will have a 90-day probationary period to come into compliance.

A. Probation

If a chapter meets the compliance requirements within a 90-day period, it will receive written notice that the probationary status been terminated.

B. Revocation

If a chapter does not come in to compliance within the 90-day period, its affiliation will be automatically revoked.

Article 13: In the event that the Chapter disbands all remaining funds shall be transferred to a STMA Board approved designated foundation that is in good standing with the IRS (501(c) 3 recommended).

Article 14: This agreement will commence on the date listed below and will be reviewed by Chapter and STMA boards and officers on an annual basis.

Chapter Events

For information on upcoming chapter events, go to www.sportsturfmanager.com and click on the chapters tab.



Treasurer, Secretary, and a Board of Directors. Chapter will maintain its existing committee structure with appropriate chairs. Elections of Chapter officers shall be held in accordance with the Chapter's bylaws.

Article 3: Chapter agrees to maintain a minimum of 25 active Chapter members. Chapter members that become STMA members will be entitled to all the benefits of current STMA members. Chapter will provide STMA headquarters with an updated membership list quarterly.

Article 4: Chapter will promote the benefits of becoming an STMA member to its membership.

* Chapter will promote STMA in the (newsletter), at the annual and at all workshops. STMA membership applications (provided by STMA) will be included to all Chapter members along with Chapter membership renewal information.

* STMA will promote Chapter to its membership, within the chapter news section, throughout the year via STMA website, SPORTSTURF magazine, and through its newsletter. Chapter President or representative will be included in Chapter Relations conference calls and at the annual Chapter Officer Training Session (held in conjunction with the annual STMA Conference and Trade Show).

Article 5: Chapter is encouraged to hold two member meetings per year, which will be determined by their current board of directors.

Article 6: Chapter agrees to exchange copies of its newsletters with STMA headquarters and all other STMA affiliated Chapters as published. Chapter will