

## Bylaws Committee Recommends Changes

The STMA Bylaws Committee has been reviewing and realigning the bylaws, primarily to adjust the language regarding membership categories. They have completed their work on the "categories" portion of the Bylaws and have provided their recommendations to the STMA Board of Directors.

During the spring and summer of 2005, the Membership Committee addressed the existing membership categories and created new categories of membership to help grow the association and advance the profession. The Board approved the category revisions during their summer 2005 board meeting, and subsequently engaged the Bylaws Committee to align the bylaws with these revisions.

There are three major changes to the membership categories in the Bylaws.

No matter who your employer is –  
if you do the work of a sports turf manager – you will be in the category of Sports Turf Manager.

First, the sports turf manager category has been clearly defined so that it does not matter who your employer is – if you do the work of a sports turf manager – you will be in the category of Sports Turf Manager. That was not very clear previously. The category representation, i.e., what type of facility you work for, has been removed from the requirements for membership. However, it is still very important for board service and has been defined very clearly under Board representation. There have been no changes to the Bylaws in the required Category Representation on the board, except for some descriptive language, which is noted below.

Second, multiple sports turf manager members from the same facility will pay lower dues. The first sports turf manager from the facility will pay full dues; other sports turf managers will have the same voting rights and privileges, but will pay a discounted rate. This member will be categorized as a Sports Turf Manager Associate. This will help the budgets of those facilities that support the association with multiple members.

Third, STMA has added a new category so that those who work on sports fields, but **not** as their primary profession, such as a coach, a volunteer, an athletic director, can join the STMA and learn from its members. This category will pay lower dues and be known as an **Affiliate** member and will **not** be eligible to vote.

All of these changes will be presented to the membership during the next several months. The STMA membership will have the opportunity to vote on these changes during the annual election process. ■

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PREVIOUS LANGUAGE	NEW LANGUAGE
Professional Sports Turf Facilities Managers	Person who manages sports fields used by professional athletes.
College and University Sports Turf Facility Manager	Higher education ...who manages sports fields for institutions that provide education beyond the secondary level.
Parks and Recreation Sports Turf Facility Manager	Parks and Recreation ...who manages sports fields for parks and recreational facility, municipality, city, or other non-profit entity.
Other Schools Sports Turf Facility Manager	K-12 ...who manages sports fields for institutions that provide education to students in grades kindergarten through 12.
Research, Teaching, Extension Personnel	Academic
Commercial	Commercial (includes consultants, architects, designers, contractors, management companies, distributors and manufacturers, etc.) Company engaged in a commercial enterprise providing services and/or products to the sports turf profession.
Commercial Affiliate	Commercial Associate