

President's Message

Join a committee and get something done

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This past year STMA worked to engage more committee members in its committee system, and I'm happy to report that we surpassed the previous year's involvement. The more than 200 members who participated this year helped us focus on providing value back to members.

Our more than 20 committees and subcommittees developed programs such as the expanded Student Challenge; created tools and resources, such as the Assessment Advisory Bulletin to guide members through the synthetic/natural field decision making process; and directed the governance process to document standard operating procedures for the association. These are just a few accomplishments of our committees. I am very proud of the work undertaken by all of our committees and the leadership of their chairpersons. That brings me to a final request as I hand over the reins in January to Mike Andresen, CSFM: become involved in committee work.

Our organization cannot possibly advance without the support of members. Yes, it is your dues dollars and conference attendance that supplies the means for the association to provide programs and services back to you. However, it is the committee system that ensures those programs and services will meet your needs and provide true value to you.

As noted in the November STMA Electronic Newsletter, the deadline to sign up for committee participation is December 15. However, I have asked headquarters to extend that deadline to December 31, to ensure that you have the opportunity to consider committee service and use the form included in this issue (see page 38).

Our process for placing volunteers on committees is as follows: Members fill out a committee interest form and return it to headquarters by Dec. 31. At the Winter Board meeting, incoming President Andresen will appoint committee chairs. Those chairs will be provided with the information on which committees you are interested in serving, and they will make their recommendations to the STMA Executive Committee (Officers) by Feb. 15. The Executive Committee will make the appointments by the Spring Board meeting, which is typically in March. New to the process this year are "term limits" and limited representation on multiple committees. This means that volunteering isn't a forever commitment! Rather, volunteers will serve one-year terms, with a three-year maximum on a specific committee.

I encourage you to go on line at www.sportsturfmanager.org to review the charges of each committee to determine what work excites you. Or, if you are interested in helping out wherever you are needed, just indicate that on the form.

Have a safe and relaxing holiday season!

Mike Trigg