

## STMA Synthetic/Natural Turfgrass Task Force finalizes Guide

**A**n 11-month project is nearing completion as the STMA Synthetic/Natural Turfgrass Task Force finalizes its publication, "Q&A to Guide the Selection, Construction and Maintenance of Synthetic and Natural Turf for Sports Fields."

The guide is written for a non-technical audience, targeting athletic directors, school boards, community sports organizations, coaches, parents, athletes and the general public.

It is divided into seven sections with each section equally addressing information for synthetic turf and natural turfgrass. The areas covered include:

- Field construction
- Management and cultural practices
- Special events

- Equipment
- Heat
- Health & safety of athletes
- Warranties

The guide also includes a glossary and resources to access for additional information. The guide will be available on the STMA web site at [www.sportsturfmanager.org](http://www.sportsturfmanager.org) in later this month and copies will be available at the annual Conference. The Task Force members include: Chairman Abby McNeal, CSFM, Mike Boekholder, Darby McCamy, Mike McGraw, Andy McNitt, Ph.D., James Newberry, A.J. Powell, Ph.D., Tony Strickland, CSFM, and Dave Wallace.

The task force plans to develop a more technical guide targeted to sports turf managers during 2006. ■

## STMA Calendar

**Jan. 5-7** American Baseball Coaches Association, Chicago, IL (STMA President Mike Trigg, CSFM, to attend)

**Jan. 12-14** IAAM International Stadium Managers Conference (ISMC), Tampa, FL (STMA President-Elect Mike Andresen, CSFM, and Board Member Jay Warnick, CSFM, are presenting).

**Jan. 18-22** STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition, *Disney's Coronado Springs* Resort and Convention Center, Lake Buena Vista, FL

**Feb. 6-11** Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Conference and Show, Atlanta, GA. (STMA exhibits)

**March 6-9** New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show, Providence, RI (STMA President Mike Trigg, CSFM, to present)

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## STMA announces Field of the Year Award winners

**S**TMA announces 14 Field of the Year Award winners for 2005. The awards will be presented at the annual STMA Conference and Exhibition awards banquet on Friday, January 20. The STMA Conference and Exhibition is January 18-22 in Orlando, FL.

The winners are:

### BASEBALL

**(Schools/Parks):** Hillcrest Booster Field, Greenville, SC; David Brooks, Sports Turf Manager

**(Collegiate):** Charlie Smith Field at Tony Gwynn Stadium, San Diego, CA; Ron Hostick, CSFM, Sports Turf Manager

**(Professional):** Roger Dean Stadium, Jupiter, FL; Marshall Jennings, Sports Turf Manager

### FOOTBALL

**(Schools/Parks):** Viking Field at Bryan High School, Bryan, TX; David Hanus, Athletic Fields and Grounds Supervisor

**(Collegiate):** Michigan State University, Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, MI; Amy Fouty, CSFM, Athletic Turf Manager

**(Professional):** INVESCO Field at Mile High, Denver, CO; Ross Kurcab, CSFM, Turf Manager

### SOCCER

**(Schools/Parks):** Sportscore II Soccer Complex, Rockford, IL; Steve Roser, Sports Field Superintendent

**(Collegiate):** Olivet Nazarene University, Soccer Field, Bourbonnais, IL; Larry Berry, Assistant Director of Physical Plant

**(Professional):** INVESCO Field at Mile High, Denver, CO; Ross Kurcab, CSFM, Turf Manager

### SOFTBALL

**(Schools/Parks):** Lady Viking Field at Bryan High School, Bryan, TX; David Hanus, Athletic Fields and Grounds Supervisor

**(Collegiate):** ASA Don E. Porter Hall of Fame Stadium, Oklahoma City, OK; Rick Newville, Sports Turf Superintendent

### COMPLEX

**(Schools/Parks):** North Scott Community School District, Eldridge, IA; John Netwal, CGCS, Director of Operations

**(Collegiate):** Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA; Kevin Yeiser, Director of Grounds and Athletic Facilities

**(Professional):** Surprise Recreation Campus, Surprise, AZ; Joe Kennedy III, Baseball Maintenance Manager

The Field of the Year awards program began in 1992. There are five field types for which awards may be given: baseball, football, soccer, softball, and complex. For each field type, awards may be given in three categories: professional, collegiate, and schools/parks. To be considered for the Complex of the Year Award, the facility must have a minimum of four fields and host a minimum of three different sports.

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JOHN MOHR PHOTOGRAPHY



## STMA member wins IPM award

**K**evin Trotta, head groundskeeper for the North Rockland Central School District in Rockland County, NY, recently received the New York State Excellence in IPM Award, according to Dr. Michael Hoffmann, director of the New York State IPM Program. He is the first athletic field manager and STMA member to receive this award. Each year the Program awards individuals or organizations whose work supports integrated pest management in New York State.

Trotta's efforts in IPM education and the promotion of more environmentally friendly athletic field management and lawn care have gained wide recognition. He was a speaker at the STMA conference in Phoenix this past year and regularly teaches these methods in classes at the New York Botanical Garden, the Institute of Ecosystem Studies, for Cooperative Extension and at seminars around the country. Congratulations, Kevin!

A panel of five judges independently scored each entry based on the playability and appearance of the playing surfaces, innovative solutions employed, effective use of budget, and the development and implementation of a comprehensive, sound agronomic program.

The program is sponsored by Bayer Environmental Sciences; Carolina Green Corp.; Covermaster, Inc.; Hunter Industries; Jacobsen, A Textron Company; Nu-Gro Technologies, Inc.; Turface; Turf-Seed, Inc.; West Coast Turf; and World Class Athletic Surfaces. These sponsors fund a registration to the annual STMA Conference and Exhibition for each award winner, hotel costs up to \$500, and signature clothing for the award winners and their staff. The winning fields will also be featured separately in an article in this magazine during 2006. ■

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