

three major proposed changes:

Combine the Board Secretary and Treasurer positions into one position, Secretary/Treasurer. Once elected, the member in this position will be on track for President Elect and President. This will clarify the ascension process and reduce the number of Board Officers to five.

Expand the Board by two At-Large Director positions. Along with combining Secretary and Treasurer into one position, this will be a net gain of one Board member, bringing the total number of Board members to 13. Twelve Board members will be eligible to vote—the Immediate Past President remains a non-voting member of the Board. The two new Director positions can represent any category of membership except Commercial. One of the new Director positions will be placed on the ballot with a minimum of two candidates running for that position, and will be voted on like the current Director candidates. This Director position will also have a 2-year term. The other new Director position will be appointed by the President to a 1-year term. This Director will typically be the candidate who loses the Secretary/Treasurer election.

Shorten the Officers' terms to 1 year vs. the current 2-year terms, with the exception of the Commercial Vice President, who will continue to serve 2 years. This will reduce the maximum time spent on the board from 14 years to 8 years.

The Bylaws Committee is working on aligning the Bylaws with these changes and the Governance Task Group is working on Standard Operating Procedures that will clearly define how these processes will work and the appropriate actions if unique situations arise, such as if the President Elect and the President have to leave the Board during their terms.

Look for continued information about these changes throughout the spring and summer in this magazine and in the STMA Online newsletter.

to interact with the professionals about their Major League Baseball (MLB) teams and particular sports field venues," he said.

Covermaster, Toro, and Turface Athletics, along with 48 MLB groundskeepers representing 25 teams, donated time, resources, and materials to utterly transform the high school field. In one day, these pros rebuilt the pitcher's mound, bullpen and batter's boxes; mowed and edged the turf; dragged the infield; and incorporated field conditioner into the playing surfaces.

Grant Trenbeath, head groundskeeper of the Arizona Diamondbacks, helped connect the MLB groundskeepers with Paradise Valley. "We were happy to renovate a sports field in the Phoenix area," said Trenbeath. "Besides helping the community, it allowed us time for camaraderie and to catch up with one another. We sweated elbow-to-elbow, working hard to get a lot done in a single day with a dedicated group."

"This has become somewhat of a tradition at the Sports Turf Managers Conference," said Joe Betulius, vice president of sales for Profile Products. "The STMA is a great organization and we are proud to be affiliated with such a talented group of individuals." Profile Products donated 10 tons of soil conditioning products and mound and batter's box clays to the effort.

"Seeing the transformation from beginning to end was truly amazing; we came quite a long way," said Dale Getz, national sales manager for Toro's sports fields and grounds business. "Toro is proud to sponsor this important event. Throughout the day, the professionals were happy to share field maintenance tips that can be used to keep the field in tip-top shape."

Toro provided the use of a Groundsmaster rotary mower, utility vehicles, a Dingo compact utility loader, line painter, and an Infield Pro. Covermaster donated sports surface covers.

## STMA members and sponsors renovate field in AZ

**A**s it has done for the past 3 years, STMA and several corporate sponsors "gave back" to the community in which the association held its Annual Conference in January, in this case the baseball field at Paradise Valley High School near Phoenix.

Roy Muller, teacher and coach at Paradise Valley, was very pleased with the renovation. "The renovation made the sports field look great and also safer for the kids. But it was really good for the students to see the professionals volunteer their time and energy for a community project. It was also fun for the students

