STMA members win turf manager awards

Tom Nielsen of the Louisville Bats has again been voted as the International League Sports Turf Manager of the Year. Voted on by International League field managers and pitching coaches, the award was established in 1992 to recognize outstanding effort and excellence in the care and maintenance of a baseball playing surface. Nielsen also won the award in 2003.

Dan “Dirt” Douglas of the Reading (PA) Phillies was named winner of the 2009 Eastern League Diamond Pro Sports Field Manager of the Year Award. This marks the fourth time in his career that Dan has been selected as the winner of the award, which is voted on by Eastern League field staff and umpires. Douglas is the long-time president of the Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization and 2001 recipient of STMA's prestigious Harry C. Gill Memorial Award.

Corpus Christi Hooks field superintendent Garrett Reddehase has been named the Texas League’s Turf Manager of the Year in voting by league managers and umpires. Reddehase, who has been involved with the grounds crew at Whataburger Field since the building of the facility in 2005, has been the club’s head groundskeeper since October 2007.

Ed Attalla of the Southern League’s Jacksonville Suns has been named its 2009 Groundskeeper of the Year, as selected by the league’s field managers and umpires. The honor marks the fifth time Attalla has been named the circuit’s top groundskeeper. Attalla joined the Suns in 2003 and won the award in each of his first four seasons with the club. He was also named the Double-A Field Turf Manager of the Year in 2003.

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Special Announcement: The North Carolina and South Carolina Chapters are co-hosting a conference on November 17-18, in Myrtle Beach, SC, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association is also holding their annual conference at the Center during this time. The NC/SC STMA Conference & Trade Show is hosting an Athletic Field Tours, Trade Show, and Social on Nov. 17, followed by Educational Sessions and the Trade Show on Nov. 18.

Featured speakers are Kim Heck, CEO of STMA and Larry DiVito, Head Groundskeeper, Minnesota Twins. For more information visit their websites noted in the list below.

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**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:** [www.astma.com](http://www.astma.com)

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization – MAFMO Chapter STMA):** [www.ccstma.org](http://www.ccstma.org)

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org)

**Florida #1 Chapter:** 954/782-2748

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gatewaystma.org](http://www.gatewaystma.org)

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gstma.org](http://www.gstma.org)

**The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.stmalabasin.com](http://www.stmalabasin.com)

**Illinois Chapter STMA:** 847/263-7603

**Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.imstma.org](http://www.imstma.org)

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.iowaturfgrass.org](http://www.iowaturfgrass.org)

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA):** [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org)

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.kystma.org](http://www.kystma.org)

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org)

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** [www.mstma.com](http://www.mstma.com)

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.mokansma.com](http://www.mokansma.com)

**New England STMA (NESTMA):** [www.nestma.org](http://www.nestma.org)

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** 402/441-4425

**North Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.ncsportsturf.org](http://www.ncsportsturf.org)

**North Florida STMA Chapter:** 850/580-4026

**Northern California STMA:** [www.norcalstma.org](http://www.norcalstma.org)

**Ozarks STMA:** [www.ozarksstma.org](http://www.ozarksstma.org)

**Sports Turf Managers of New York:** [www.stmony.org](http://www.stmony.org)

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** [www.sfmanj.org](http://www.sfmanj.org)

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** [www.ostma.org](http://www.ostma.org)

**Oregon STMA Chapter:** 503/953-9406

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.pnwstma.org](http://www.pnwstma.org)

**Southern California STMA:** [www.socalstma.com](http://www.socalstma.com)

**South Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.scstma.org](http://www.scstma.org)

**Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** 866/897-8621

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** [www.tvstma.com](http://www.tvstma.com)

**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.vstma.org](http://www.vstma.org)

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.wstma.org](http://www.wstma.org)

**Forming Chapters:**

- **Central Florida:** Contact George Lawson, 863-665-5800
- **Gulf Coast Chapter:** 225/757-9136
- **Nevada STMA Chapter:** 702/884-2987
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