No doubt about it, your work affects the game. So when productivity is compromised by equipment that can't stand up to dusty infields, it's never good. Toro designed the new Infield Pro® 5020 with that in mind. It's the only groomer with a completely sealed double-filtration system. The engine stays grime-free, so you can focus on the details of playability instead of breakdowns. See the new Infield Pro 5020 and other Infield Pro models, with their huge line of attachments, at www.toro.com/grounds/sports or contact your Toro Distributor at 1-800-803-8676.
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1999 Product Source Book
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14 Supplier Directory
25 Product Listings

On the Cover:
The future of sports turf management will see more fields built specifically for soccer as the sport continues to grow in the U.S.

Line-Up
Front Office .................................................. 6
Tip o' the Month ........................................... 6
Calendar ....................................................... 7
STMA Message ................................................ 7
STMA in Action .............................................. 7
Advertisers' Index ....................................... 37
Classifieds .................................................... 38

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Accidents Happen

I always welcome reader feedback. I rely on your calls, letters, and e-mail messages to bring me up to speed on the industry's most current issues.

I recently received an e-mail message from a Canadian reader who wanted to draw attention to facility liability. Stan Szwarzkowski writes:

We all need to do a better job at communicating liability issues, whether it's up here in Canada, or in the U.S.A. The latest one that I've heard about is the injury to a football player on a high school site.

It is common practice where I'm from to utilize the football post as soccer nets. Most multi-use posts have tabs or rings welded to the top bar, and the support posts to tie the soccer nets to.

A football player, after scoring a touchdown, jumped up and attempted to slam dunk the football over the up-rights on the goal posts. The palm of his hand caught on one of the rings or tabs used to tie down the soccer nets. The result was that he tore off the palm of his hand.

This resulted in a large settlement through the courts. Please advise your readers of this concern. After inspecting our schools and parks, I've found more than 10 sets of posts with this type of hazard present.

Thanks,

Stan Szwarzkowski
Supervisor of Sportsfields
City of Kitchener
Ontario, Canada

General consensus designates safety and playability of sports facilities as the first priority of a sports turf manager. Ideally, this goal would stem exclusively from a desire to protect the health and well being of field users. But get a couple of lawyers involved and you've got an entirely different scenario.

Apparently, accidents don't happen anymore. The courts seem to have decided that people can no longer be held responsible for their own actions. Somebody else is always to blame, and that somebody is usually the one with the deepest pockets.

You have to cover your back these days. Accidents can happen any time, and you never know when you're going to find yourself staring down the barrel of a pointed finger.

Working in the schools is, by nature, a risky business. Parents trust you to keep their children safe, and you're going to take the heat if something goes wrong.

I'm sure this kid's parents gave him permission to play football, and they probably came to cheer at every game. However, this zeal gets thrown out the window the second their son gets hurt.

It doesn't even matter that the school never intended the goal post be used as a basketball hoop, or that the boy's actions didn't officially have anything to do with the game. A big scar and permanent damage are difficult things to argue against.

Bob Tracinski is business communications manager for John Deere in Raleigh, NC. He is public relations co-chair for the national STMA.

Equipment manufacturers are using new technology to design machines that help sports turf managers do their jobs faster, more easily, and more effectively.

The advantages of this equipment may be readily apparent to the sports turf manager, but budgeting entities are often more difficult to convince. Here are some strategies:

• Explain cost advantages

  Calculate the number of labor hours saved per day, week, and month by: adding a ride-on triplex reel mower that delivers a game-quality cut; grooming baseball and softball skinned areas with a field rake; or adding a utility vehicle with multiple attachments.

• Explain effects on the overall program

  A faster mower can cover a greater area in less time. More work can be done without increasing staffing levels.

  With a field rake, the existing crew can prep a greater number of fields for weekend play.

  The utility vehicle will free a truck from on-site people or materials movement. It can be equipped for spraying or snow removal, or for cross-department use as an emergency medical transportation unit.
January 4-February 19
UMass Winter School for Turf Managers. Contact Trudie Goodchild: (413) 545-2484, or Mary Owen: (508) 892-0382.

January 5-7
Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: (814) 863-3475, or fax: (814) 863-3479.

January 7
New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Northeast Regional Conference, Albany, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

January 12-15
The 37th annual North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show, Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Contact Marsha Richardson: (910) 695-1333, or fax: (910) 695-1222.

January 13-17
Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 10th annual Conference & Exhibition, Mesa, AZ. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

January 13-March 17
Turfgrass Pests, Palm Desert, CA, 6-9 pm Wednesdays. Contact University of California Riverside Extension, Natural Sciences Department: (909) 787-5804, or fax: (909) 787-7374.

January 14-16
The Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL. Contact Mid-Am: 1000 N. Rand Road, Ste. 214, Wauconda, IL 60084; (847) 526-2010, or fax: (847) 526-3993.
The KAFMO Chapter joined Delaware Valley College for a field day at James Work Stadium October 13. Forty-nine KAFMO members, 14 vendors, and students in the DVC Turfgrass Management program turned out for the event in Doylestown, PA, on a beautiful fall day.

After a welcome from KAFMO President Dan Douglas, Keith Evans of Lebanon Valley College Grounds Department gave a presentation on field layout. Evans covered steps to lay out soccer, field hockey, and football fields for practices and games. He involved the audience in the discussion and answered many questions.

Washington Redskins' Don Follett came all the way from Jack Kent Cooke Stadium to demonstrate logo and field painting techniques. He also provided information on ways of making and obtaining stencils. Follett showed how quickly a logo job can be done. He had the complete outline for the Redskins logo painted on a corner of the practice field in a matter of minutes. It might take a non-practiced individual a little longer, but the principles are the same.

STMA Executive Director Steve Trusty reported on the National STMA and the Certified Sports Turf Manager program over lunch. The vendors then introduced their products and services in a show and tell session.

The afternoon continued with a session on late-season goal mouth repair by Jim Welshans, Dauphin County Extension. A tour of the Delaware Valley College turf research plots and a session on turf identification led by Dr. Douglas Linde, Assistant Professor of Agronomy and Environmental Science, wrapped up the day's activities.

This program was some distance from KAFMO’s core membership, so attendance was lower than usual. But attendees felt that the day was very educational and informative, and the distance traveled was worth the effort.

**Chapter news**

**Mid-South Chapter:** The chapter will hold a field day at Memphis University School in Memphis Dec. 16. Registration opens at 8:15 am, and educational sessions begin at 8:30 am.

Afternoon events will include on-

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**KAFMO Chapter:**

KAFMO members are encouraged to attend the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council's Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show. Four hours of athletic field related seminars and four hours of trade show are scheduled Jan. 7.

Feb. 19 KAFMO/STMA will sponsor an athletic field conference in Grantville, PA, featuring seminars and vendor displays. Presentation topics will include: drainage, liability, sprayer calibration, low-budget turf care, innovative establishment systems, and more.

Mar. 23 KAFMO/STMA is co-sponsoring the Northwestern Pennsylvania Athletic Field, Turf, and Ornamental Conference in Meadville, PA. Contact Jeff Fowler for details on this event: (814) 437-7607.

For general information, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club: (610) 375-8469, ext. 212.

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**Great Lakes Chapter:** GLSTMA has elected its 1999 board:

Boyd Montgomery, Sylvania Recreation President
Joe Zelinko, Athletic Field Services Immediate Past President
Duane Smith, Baldwin Wallace College President Elect
Dave Conover, Conover Supply Company Commercial V.P.
Karen Zelinko, Athletic Field Services Secretary

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Keynote speaker Gerry Sweda of Sweda Training will speak at 10:15 am Jan. 26 on the topic: “How could a job that felt so good in the past, feel so bad today?” A two-hour “Continuing Pesticide Instructional Course” begins at 1:30 pm Jan. 27.

ISTMA will hold its annual meeting 3-4 pm Jan. 26.

For information, contact Lori Westrum at the Turf Office: (515) 232-8222, or fax: (515) 232-8228.
Allen Weirauch, Liberty Center Schools
Treasurer
For information, contact Joe Zelinko: (800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery: (419) 885-1982.

MAFMO Chapter: For information, contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

Florida Chapter #1: For information, contact John Mascaro: (954) 341-3115.

Northern California Chapter: For information, contact Sal Genito, UC Davis: (530) 752-1691.

Southern California Chapter: For information, contact the chapter hotline: (888) 578-STMA.

Midwest Chapter: For information, call the chapter hotline: (847) 622-3517.

Minnesota Chapter: For information, contact Connie Rudolph: (612) 646-1679.

Colorado Chapter: For information, call the 24-hour CSTMA chapter hotline/fax: (303) 438-9645.

Michigan Chapter: For information, contact Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools: (616) 395-2364.

Chapters on the grow

North Texas Chapter: For information, contact Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987, or Tom Welch, CSM, Central Garden and Pet: (800) 788-9581.

Arizona Chapter: STMAAZ will take an active part in the STMA 10th annual Conference & Exposition Jan. 13-17 at the Sheraton Mesa hotel in Mesa, AZ.
Area sports turf facilities will be featured in the Seminar on Wheels tours Jan. 13 and 17. Trade Show hours are 4:30-8 pm Jan. 14, and 10:30 am-2 pm Jan. 15. Other events include general and break-out educational sessions, interactive roundtable discussions, and the annual awards banquet. For information on the conference, contact STMA Headquarters: (800) 323-3875.

For general information, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 994-7954, or Kris Kircher, City of Chandler Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 786-2728.

Indiana Chapter: The newly forming chapter has officially elected officers:
Ron Clites
President

Don Rowley
President Elect
Terry Updike
Commercial V.P.
Pat Hickner
Secretary
Jim Dayhuff
Treasurer
The board will meet in December to set the activity agenda for 1999.
For information, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer: (219) 356-8424, or Pat Hickner: (800) 672-4273.


Nevada Chapter: For information, contact Ibsen Dow: (702) 649-1551, or Alan Paulson, Clark County School District: (702) 799-8724.

Great Plains Chapter: For information, contact Mark Schimming, City of Wichita: (316) 337-9123.

Q: What do all of these teams have in common?

Oakland A's
Arizona Diamondbacks
University of Texas Longhorns
San Diego Chargers
University of Southern California Trojans
California Angels
Arizona State University Sun Devils
San Francisco 49'ers
San Diego State University Aztecs
San Francisco Giants
San Diego Padres
Los Angeles Dodgers
Oakland Raiders
Arizona Cardinals

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Maintain It Easy—Keep It Safe, by Floyd Perry. Learn from hundreds of instructional photos featuring all aspects of softball field groundskeeping. Explains: Lip reduction; setting of multiple bases and pitching plates; dragging equipment and patterns; base line options; unique complex ideas; dugout design; batting cage and hitting station; layout; water removal and much more. Unique field ideas from across the country. 4023 $37.00

Management of Turfgrass Diseases, Joseph M. Vargas, Jr. Completely revised and updated to provide the latest information on maintaining a healthy turf and identifying turf diseases. Covers cultural, genetic, biological and chemical approaches to turf management and provides practical solutions to everyday problems. Fungal, bacterial and viral diseases; black layer disease; and diseases caused by nematodes are addressed for all major grasses. Tips on irrigation, fertilization, and grass culture. 72 full-page photos and more than 100 figures. 320 pgs. 4016 $67.00

Color Atlas of Turfgrass Diseases on Golf Courses, by Dr. Toshikazu Tani and Contributing Author, Dr. James B. Beard. Presents over 350 high-quality color photographs of all the major turfgrass diseases that occur on both warm and cool season grasses and is international in scope. The standard color guide to disease diagnosis and pathogen identification for golf course superintendents and turfgrass practitioners. Maps are included to assist in disease identification by providing geographical locations where each disease/pathogen is likely to occur. It also provides color photos of step-by-step guidance on diagnostic techniques for laboratory analysis which can be used by practitioners. 140 pages. 4005 $79.95

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