The McFarland Experience

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MISTMA): The Michigan Chapter will participate in the MSU/MTF/MISTMA field day which will be hosted by the MTF at Michigan State University August 13. This event will team sports turf managers and business managers with a focus on the business end of maintaining sports fields.

For information on the Chapter or pending events, contact MISTMA Headquarters at 517-712-3407, or email Amy Fonny, University of Michigan, at fonny@umich.edu, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter’s new website.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: The MO-KAN Chapter will hold a Fall Turf Management Field Day at the Pennbrook Hill High School Football Stadium August 14. The program will cover maintenance and repair on high use football fields, including topdressing and renovation. There will be a field painting seminar with tips and shortcuts to get fields painted accurately and efficiently. “Hands-on” practice painting custom field logos also will be offered. Instructors include: Chuck Dixon, JL Bruce & Assoc.; Brad Fresenburg, University of Missouri; Jim Wilson, Blue Valley Schools; and Field Paint and Equipment sales professionals.

For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121; Gary Custis at 816-460-6215, or Mike Green at 913-208-6158.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The OSTMA chapter will participate in the OSU/OTF Research Field Day in Columbus August 14. The OSTMA Fall Field Day will be held at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy in Cincinnati August 20. Morning educational sessions include: “Picking the Correct Seed for the Job,” presented by Randy Heilman of Central Farm and Garden Center, and “Maintenance of High School Complexes,” presented by Michael Bell, director of facilities for the school. Bell also will conduct a tour of the school’s athletic facilities. The Vendor Showcase will be the focus of the afternoon events. The Chapter also will participate in the Paul Zwaska Ball Field Workshop to be held September 10 at the OSU Intramural complex off Lane Avenue in Columbus. For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter’s website at www.ostma.org.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: PNWSTMA is in the process of planning a Field Day at the Mariners for August 19. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact in Washington, Jay Warnick at JW@Seahawks.com or in Oregon, Mike Wagner at MWagner@Oregon.UOregon.edu.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: The Colorado Chapter will meet at Shea Stadium/Highlands Ranch on August 21. A meeting at Coors Field is being planned for late September or early October.

For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter’s website, www.CSTMA.org, or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Iowa Chapter will hold a workshop August 28 at the Muscatine Soccer Complex and Kent Stein Park in

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STMA in Action

STMA Chapter News

ST
Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: The Arizona Chapter is again partnering with the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association for another packed day of educational sessions at the APRA 2002 Conference. The Conference will be held August 27-30 at Pointe Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort in Phoenix. August 29 will feature one breakout session focused on sports turf management and one on parks maintenance. The opening two hours, from 7-9 AM, are devoted to registration and Trade Show viewing. Educational sessions begin at 9 AM and run through 2:50 PM with the lunch hour beginning at noon. Topics and speakers for the Sports Turf Sessions are: "Chemical Elimination of Rye in Overseeded Bermuda," presented by Dr. Dave Kopeck, University of Arizona; "Common Sports Turf Problems," by Dr. Gil Landry, University of Georgia; "High Profile Field Preparation," by Bob Campbell, CSFM, University of Tennessee; "A World Series Year," by Grant Trenheath, Arizona Diamondbacks; and "Turf Nutrition," by Mike Pfeiffer, Pesticide Training Resources. Registration information for this event is available on the web at: www.apra.org or by calling 877-443-2670.

For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcutta at e-mail: chrisc@peoriaaz.com or tel. 623-412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bnmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or tel. 480-312-7956.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): TVSTMA is planning an August event with the Tennessee Titans. For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Dan Kime, Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association, at e-mail: tkime@blmtn.ars.usda.gov or tel. 629-283-8206.

Midwest Chapter STMA: The Midwest Chapter will hold its Tour on Wheels in late August. For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter's website, http://www.mstmta.org/, or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Florida Chapter # 1: The Florida Chapter will participate in the Florida Turfgrass Association Show to be held in Tampa September 16-18.

For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will have a booth at the Turfgrass and Landscape Expo (SCTC) Fairplex in Pomona on October 9-10. In the planning stages is an October Field Day at Edison International, date and time to be announced soon. For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University-Fullerton, at 714-278-3929 or email sdugas@fullerton.edu.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: The Minnesota Chapter's Fall Workshop is scheduled for October 17. More details will be announced soon. For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: j-hintz@bethel.edu.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 930-758-4200.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Gateway Chapter, or pending events, contact Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2328 or email krone@mubap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Georgia Chapter, or pending events, contact Loni Turek at 770-309-3663 or gstra@earthlink.net.

Indiana Chapter: For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-336-8424.

Keystone: Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA): For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, email Loren Humphrey at: lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org or call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Fred Castenschneider at 908-722-9830 or email to mike@blast.net; or call Eleanor Murfit, at 908-236-9118; e-mail to HQ@stmanj.org.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, contact Scott Piecha at 817-381-4505 or spiecha@aol.com or Rene Asprion at 972-647-3393, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

Chapters On The Grow

Kentucky: For information on the chapter forming in Kentucky, contact Tom Nielsen at TNichols@batsbaseball.com or Aaron Boggs at ABoggs@netscape.net.

Las Vegas: For information on the chapter developing in Las Vegas, contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rms@hcvca.com or at tel. 702-386-7140.

New York: For information on the chapter forming in Central New York, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: kmg@nvhs.org or call Fred Castenschiold at 908-722-9830 or email tomkc@blast.net; or call Eleanora Murfit at 908-236-9118; e-mail to HQ@stmanj.org.

Across the Border Sports Turf Events

Canada's Sports Turf Association will hold its 15th Annual Field Day September 12 at River Oaks Recreation Centre in Oakville, Ontario. Educational sessions will include: "Intelligent Irrigation," presented by Gregory South of Rain Bird International; "The Olympic Experience," presented by Becky Kellar, member of the Team Canada Women's Hockey Team; "Introduction to Turf Covers," presented by Dr. Julie Dione of the University of Guelph; and "The Ace of Diamonds Tour Athletic Field Maintenance Seminar," presented by Mel Landford. For more information contact executive manager Ms. Lee Heuther, at the STA office at e-mail: sta@gt.uoguelph.ca or at tel. 519/663-9431.

STMA Chapter News
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2001 Awards Recipients:

2001 STMA Professional Baseball Field of the Year - The Dell Diamond of Round Rock, Texas - Dennis Klein, Head Groundskeeper

2001 STMA High Schools/Parks & Rec. Field of the Year - Patriot Field of the Putnam City Schools, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - Rick Newville, Baseball Coach

2001 STMA College/University Softball Field of the Year - Samford Field, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama - Joe Collins, Sports Turf Manager

2001 STMA High School/Parks & Rec. Softball Field of the Year - McNinch Softball Complex, City of Carrollton, Texas - Andy Babbitt, Athletic Manager; Mason Ward, Athletic Supervisor

2001 STMA College/University Soccer Field of the Year - Lebanon Valley College Soccer Stadium, Annville, Pennsylvania - Kevin Yeiser, Director of Grounds and Athletic Facilities

2001 STMA Parks & Rec. Soccer Field of the Year - Muscatine Soccer Complex, City of Muscatine, Iowa - Kevin Vos, CSFM, Athletic Facilities Supervisor

2001 STMA College/University Football Field of the Year - University of Virginia's David A. Harrison III Field/Scott Stadium, Charlottesville, Virginia - Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM, Sports Field Manager

2001 Dick Ericson Award - Heather Nabozny, Head Groundskeeper, Detroit Tigers Baseball Club, Detroit, Michigan

2001 George Toma Golden Rake Award - Terry Nance, Horticulture Instructor, Cape Fear High School, Fayetteville, North Carolina

2001 Dr. William H. Daniel Award - Dr. Coleman Y. Ward, Professor Emeritus, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

2001 Harry C. Gill Memorial Award - Dan Douglas, Stadium Grounds Superintendent, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, Reading, Pennsylvania

Call for 2002 Applicants

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) recognizes that you make personal and professional contributions to our industry and the organization you serve. Both members and non-members are encouraged to participate in the STMA Awards Program.

If you are currently not a member of STMA, please join us.

This year, the following awards will be bestowed at the STMA Annual Awards Banquet, Friday, January 17, 2003, in San Antonio, Texas.

• STMA Baseball Field of the Year Award
• STMA Softball Field of the Year Award
• STMA Football Field of the Year Award
• STMA Soccer Field of the Year Award
• STMA Founders Awards: The Dick Ericson Award, The George Toma Golden Rake Award, The Dr. William H. Daniel Award, and the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award

All Award recipients will be selected by an Awards Committee made up of five highly-regarded STMA professionals.

For a copy of the Awards Booklet contact STMA Headquarters by phone: 800/323-3875, fax: 800/366-0391 or

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Who will win the Minnesota/ Iowa Chapter Challenge?

Mike McDonald, CSFM
University of Minnesota

I like questions that have a definitive answer. After 3 consecutive years of defeat Iowa is now the reigning champion. Just for the record, Minnesota has won the softball tournament 3 out of 4 years and Iowa has won the golf tournament 3 out of 4 years. Since sportsturf rules, it is the softball tournament that the corn-fed Iowans coveted.

Minnesota captain Mike McDonald offered up the broom in the 7th inning as Iowa made a clean sweep with a 37 to 7 softball victory. Bragging rights aside the real winners are all those who get involved with the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). This unofficial event was conceived in 1999 during a de-turfing session. We play golf one afternoon and softball the next morning with a cookout or ballgame tailgate and a few beverages in between.

This year we played Bocce on one of the putting greens during the cookout at the ISU Turf Research Station. Scoring was optional and play was halted as darkness swallowed the paulina or “pea ball” as we called it. Thanks to Iowa captain Mike Andresen for broadening our experience with a new game, Bocce, which is kind of like horseshoes played with croquet balls and the little pea ball can be rolled anywhere as the target.

We also had a tour of the facility and looked at some of the research pertaining to sand pad construction, species traffic tolerance, and bermudagrass used to patch up worn fields in the summer. We always make it simple, inexpensive, and fun for everyone. The participating athletes this year aged from 17 to 50 something. Family and kids attended as well.

As usual I look to learn something at every event and this is what I learned:

Networking may be considered a new era form of communication, but these guys and gals have been networking in their own way for quite some time. Their competitive spirit, as a player of the sport was equaled by their competitive desire to make the best playing surfaces. STMA relationships can go way beyond bylaws, certification, and education. These guys and gals are simply good friends and as for the networking, well who wouldn’t share their knowledge and experience with their friends.

During this year’s Chapter Challenge I was involved in group and one on one discussions about good and bad jobs and employers, the direction of natural and synthetic turf, products and equipment that performs as well as equipment about which we are uncertain. This is the type of detailed information and experience that you simply don’t read about and I certainly can’t write about. Maybe that’s what networking is, inside “trading” that’s legal.

Many of you are responsible for getting others involved and for finding speakers for your Chapter education events. An out growth of the Chapter Challenge/friendship has been an exchange of members to speak at their state turf conference and STMA workshops.

On behalf of the Iowa Chapter we look forward to next year’s Chapter Challenge in Minnesota. And by the way, Captain McDonald, thanks for teaching us that wonderful Minnesota expression about opening a can of whoop ... 37-7.
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