

# STMA announces its slate of candidates for 2012

**The STMA Nominating Committee** has developed the 2012 Board of Directors Slate of Candidates and is presenting it to the membership for election. STMA voting members have been issued ballots and can cast their votes via US mail or fax using the ballot, or electronically by following the instructions on the ballot. Included with the ballot are recommended changes to the Bylaws, which if passed, will create a new category of membership, Retired. Voting for the Board of Directors and the Bylaws closes on December 20.

Those slated on the ballot include:

For President James Michael Goatley Jr., Ph.D., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA; for Immediate Past President Troy Smith, CSFM, Denver Broncos Practice Facility, Englewood, CO; for President-Elect Martin Kaufman, CSFM, Ensworth Schools, Nashville, TN; and for Commercial Vice-President Rene Asprien, Diamond Pro/TXI, Dallas, TX.

There are two candidates slated for Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Hostick, CSFM, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA and David Pinsonneault, CSFM, CPRP, Town of Lexington, MA. The winner of this race will automatically be slated for President-Elect in 2013 and for President in 2014.

Four Director positions are up for election and have two candidates slated for each. Slated for the Higher Education Director are Jeff Salmond, CSFM, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK and David Schlotthauer, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT. Jeffrey Fowler, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Franklin, PA and Brad Jakubowski, Doane College, Lincoln, NE are the candidates for the Academic Director. The Parks and Recreation Director candidates are Debra Kneeshaw, City of Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland, OR and Brian Winka, CSFM, City of Chesterfield, Chesterfield, MO. Andrew Gossel,

Covenant Christian High School, Indianapolis, IN is running against Jay Warnick, CSFM, University of Portland Athletics, Portland, OR for the Director At-Large position.

Two Directors have one year left in their terms. Allen Johnson, CSFM, Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, WI represents the membership segment who manage facilities used by professional athletes and Mike Tarantino, CSFM, Poway USD, Poway, CA is the Director for Schools K-12.

The Commercial Director position is vacant due to the slating of Director Rene Asprien for Commercial Vice President and will be appointed by the President.

Those elected and appointed will officially take office at the STMA Annual Meeting, January 12, 2012, which will be held in Long Beach in conjunction with the Annual Conference and Exhibition. ■

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## The Value of Belonging

**STMA was created in 1981** by four founders: Dick Ericson, Georg Toma, William Daniel, Ph.D. and Harry Gill to advance the profession of sports turf management. They believed that by creating an association for those in the profession information on managing sports fields would be shared, agronomic research and education on field management would expand, and the result would be a stronger sports turf industry. Their vision is now reality.

STMA has more than 2,500 members and 33 affiliated chapters. It has hundreds of educational resources available to its members and disseminates the latest information about sports field management through its conferences, monthly publications and website. The membership has created a culture of sharing and helping others to succeed. This close-knit community networks and collaborates with its peers, which leads to increased learning, personal growth and career progression. This intangible value is what makes STMA unique among professional associations.

Join your peers in becoming a vital member of this professional association. In addition to having access to peers across the country to give you advice, the benefits

are many. STMA members receive:

- Access to the Members' Only section of STMA.org, which has a searchable membership directory, technical resources, educational materials, employment openings and résumés of potential employees and interns for easy recruitment.
- Discounted registration/exhibition fees to attend STMA's Annual Conference and Exhibition—an event unmatched in the industry for sports field specific information and education, and discounted registration to STMA's summer regional conference.
- A subscription to *SportsTurf* magazine, the official magazine of STMA and the industry's leading publication.
- A hard copy Membership Directory.
- A monthly e-newsletter that communicates association, industry and career development information.
- Online access to Michigan State's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF), the green industry's greatest resource for up-to-date technical information.
- Discounts to the University of Georgia's and the Ohio State University's distance-learning programs.
- Opportunity to take a leadership role

through national committee service.

- Ability to enter your sports field in the nationally recognized Field of the Year Awards Program.
- Ability to apply for a scholarship through The SAFE Foundation, STMA's charity (student members).
- Recognition as a professional and access to further validate your abilities through certification.

Go to [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org) and join STMA today! ■

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# Add to your Conference experience, support SAFE

**The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields for Everyone (SAFE)** will be hosting several fundraising events at the 2012 STMA Conference and Exhibition in Long Beach, CA January 10-14, 2012.

Every donation, big or small, ensures SAFE may continue to support its core purpose of funding education, outreach, research and scholarships to advance the safety and sustainability of playing surfaces and reduce sports field injuries.

The always popular SAFE Golf Tournament will be taking place Wednesday, January 11 at Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms. The 7,211-yard Eisenhower

Course, lovingly nicknamed "Ike," will play host to the event and provide a challenging, yet fair, test of the game to players of all skill levels. There will be the typical prizes for the top-3 finishers, plus long drive and proximity prizes and a hole-in-one contest. This event has limited space available and registration rates are \$135 per player through December 15, 2011. Rates go up to \$160 per player thereafter. Golf clubs will be available for rental at the rate of \$50 per set.

On Wednesday night after the Golf Tournament, SAFE will host its first ever Casino Night at the STMA Welcome Reception in the Regency Ballroom at the Hyatt Long Beach. Join other conference attendees to support the SAFE Foundation and have a good time in the process. Participants will gain entry to SAFE Casino night, where they can then enjoy many casino-style games and compete to win prizes, including wine, electronics and more. Early registration rates are \$45 and go up to \$55 on-site.

As usual, SAFE will be conducting auctions and raffles on-site. Attendees can purchase entries and bid on electronics, autographed merchandise, memorabilia, equipment and products, and much more at these events. Items in the silent auction will start at just \$5 and raffle tickets will be \$10. There will be some equipment, products or services available in the live auction that may require authorization from your employer and purchase orders will be accepted. Come prepared, as some items are not available at these reduced prices outside of this auction and can provide a great value for your facility or organization.

Every donation, big or small, ensures SAFE may continue to support its core purpose of funding education, outreach, research and scholarships to advance the safety and sustainability of playing surfaces and reduce sports field injuries.

Visit [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org) for more information on these events and the 23rd Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition. ■

## STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:**  
Chris Walsh [cwalsh@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:cwalsh@scottsdaleaz.gov)

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

**Florida #1 Chapter (South):** 305-235-5101  
(Bruce Bates) or Tom Curran [CTomSell@aol.com](mailto:CTomSell@aol.com)

**Florida #2 Chapter (North):** 850/580-4026,  
John Mascaro, [john@turf-tec.com](mailto:john@turf-tec.com)

**Florida #3 Chapter (Central):** 407-518-2347,  
Scott Grace, [scott@sundome.org](mailto:scott@sundome.org)

**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).

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

**Illinois Chapter STMA:** [www.ILSTMA.org](http://www.ILSTMA.org).

**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).

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

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

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

**Mid Atlantic Sports Turf Managers Association (MASTMA) (formerly the Chesapeake Chapter STMA)** Ph. 410-704-2197  
[www.mastma.org](http://www.mastma.org)

**Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.mpstma.org](http://www.mpstma.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Oregon STMA Chapter:**  
[www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org](http://www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org)  
[oregonstma@gmail.com](mailto:oregonstma@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

**Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
[www.txstma.org](http://www.txstma.org)

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

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

## Chapter Sponsors



# STMA gets its share of 8.1 billion hours

**The Annual Volunteering America Report** for 2011 notes that Americans volunteer 8.1 billion hours! The Report was released this year by the Corporation for National and Community Service. STMA has nearly 200 people volunteering on 22 committees, and they give many hours of service to the association. The charge for each committee differs, but the results are very much alike. "Committees help guide the programs and the services that are important to our members, says CEO Kim Heck. "The ideas and feedback provided by these volunteers help to ensure that our staff is meeting the needs of our membership."

STMA's committee size averages 10 to 15 people, and virtually every committee meets via conference call. STMA's Awards Committee historically held a physical meeting to judge the Field of the Year and MiLB Sports Turf Manager of the Year awards. That process was re-engineered to an online system, so that committee now uses conference calls to complete its work. Depending upon the committee's charges for the year, they may meet via phone as few as twice during the year, or as frequently as twice a month for several months. These calls offer a great opportunity to meet and learn from each other while helping STMA. Appointments are for one year beginning on March 1.

In 2010, STMA created a forum at its annual conference for that year's committee members to attend, meet each other in person and continue any dialogue on projects. STMA is again holding that forum in Long Beach on Wednesday, January 11, 5:45-6:45 p.m. All current committee members will receive an invitation to attend.

Please consider committee service. Sign up using the form below or via [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org), even if you are currently serving on a committee. The deadline to volunteer for a committee is January 31. President Mike Goatley will be making the committee appointments by March 1.

Here is a short overview of the purpose of each committee:

- **Awards:** To judge the association's awards program applicants selecting the Field of the Year winners and the Minor League Baseball Sports Turf Manager of the Year; to develop strategies to enhance the programs.
- **Bylaws:** To develop association bylaws, which are fair and enforceable, and clearly define the expectations for membership, governance processes and board of directors' service.
- **Certification:** To develop strategies to grow the number of certified members; to consistently monitor the program and recommend enhancements to ensure that the program is the top achievement for sports turf managers.
- **Chapter Relations:** To create a chapter structure that is beneficial locally and nationally; to financially assist chapters with their administrative, operations and educational efforts; to facilitate the sharing of best practices.

- **Conference:** (Conference Education, Exhibition, and Tours subcommittees) To develop all content, sessions, workshops and off-site venues, and select speakers and moderators for the next year's conference that will make it a "must attend" event for members and nonmembers; to recommend strategies that will drive attendance to the exhibition and will add value to exhibitors.

- **Commercial Membership:** To recommend specific strategies to grow commercial membership and to develop benefits and value for our commercial members.

- **Editorial:** To insure that the STMA magazine contains information relevant to the sports turf manager; to provide ideas and contacts for articles for publication.

- **Environmental:** To develop environmental strategies that position STMA and its members as leaders in environmental stewardship and the related health and safety issues that impact fans and players.

- **Ethics:** To provide a fair and unbiased council to investigate claims of ethics violations, determine if the claim has merit, and shepherd the appeals process. (This Committee is called into operation only if there is an ethics violation claim).

- **Finance & Audit:** To provide oversight of the STMA's financial resources by reporting information to the Board of Directors.

- **Historical:** To preserve the history of the association and the profession.

- **Information Outreach:** To develop educational and informational opportunities for mem-

bers to enhance their personal and professional development.

- **International:** To position STMA as a global leader in sports facility management and make STMA the 'go-to' resource for those who work internationally in the industry.

- **Membership:** To develop initiatives to drive membership growth and retention; to recommend programs that add value for each member.

- **Past President's Advisory Council:** To advise the STMA Board on issues pertaining to the past, present and future of STMA. (Limited to STMA Past Presidents)

- **Scholarship:** To judge the recipients of the SAFE Scholarships, the Terry Mellor Educational Grant and the Gary Vanden Berg Internship Grant; to develop strategies to enhance these programs.

- **Student Challenge:** To develop the annual student challenge exam questions, answer key, and protocols; assist in proctoring the exam as needed.

- **Technical Standards:** To help determine standards and best management practices needed in the profession and to guide the work of the ASTM on developing sports field and facility standards.

- **Website:** To insure that the STMA website contains information relevant to members, prospects and the green industry in an easily accessible and consumable format.

STMA also has a Nominating Committee that is appointed directly by the Nominating Committee Chair. The chair is always the Immediate Past President, as defined by the Bylaws. Thus, Troy Smith, CSFM, will assume that role for 2012. ■

## STMA Committee Volunteer Form

*Committee appointments are for a one-year term of service beginning in March. Please fill out a new form annually.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### Facility/Industry Representation (check one)

☐ Facilities used by Professional Athletes ☐ Commercial ☐ Student ☐ Schools K-12 ☐ Parks & Recreation ☐ Higher Education ☐ Academic

Name of the Committee on which you are interested in serving: \_\_\_\_\_

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**1 What is your company's primary business? (check ONLY ONE)**

- F ☐ Sports Complex G ☐ Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer  
T ☐ School, College or University P ☐ Park  
H ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check ONLY ONE)**

- A ☐ EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director  
B ☐ MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor  
C ☐ GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official  
D ☐ SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist  
E ☐ COACH F ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?**

Y ☐ Yes N ☐ No

**4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)**

- F ☐ Over \$1 million C ☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000  
D ☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million B ☐ \$25,001 - \$50,000  
E ☐ \$100,001 - \$500,000 A ☐ \$25,000 and under

**5 Please also send a free subscription to the following people at the same location**

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**Continued from page 23**

Before starting this project, I explained what could be done to get the field ready for the fall season, and that it could be accomplished in 70 days. One administrator objected and insisted it couldn't be done. Why? He replied that a golf course superintendent told him it couldn't. I explained my proposal had been researched and sports fields use different grasses than golf courses. I explained the fundamentals and a few intricacies. In this case, my proposal was approved, and the duration of the project was June 23 to August 25 (63 days). The field was delivered on time, and we proved it could be done. Furthermore, I applied cutting edge research to the problem at hand.

See the article; the 20% part of growing grass was easy; turfgrass fundamentals, on-site data and implementing cutting edge research.

It was the 80% to get the approval that was the most challenging. Everyone in the conversation had a different opinion starting out and over a 6-week time frame, with continued conversation, the project received approval. That 80% was working with everybody to view the "grass situation" differently. The school ended up getting the product they wanted, they were pleased, especially the athletic director, and we all moved into a "New Dimension" after it was completed.

Today, NDT is involved with everything in turfgrass; residential lawn care to research to consulting about the best construction and management approaches for sports fields and golf courses. Within this gamut, we have been educating homeowners to decision makers about the fundamentals (and intricacies if they have a burning desire) of turfgrass and soil sci-

ence, and the most effective and efficient way to implement them. I have been blessed to have worked with extraordinary people on projects geared toward low maintenance sports fields to the 1994 World Cup with portable turfgrass inside the Pontiac Silverdome. And just recently my company was the architect and project manager for the new practice field for the Buffalo Bills. I am grateful for the turfgrass background that allows me to have this business and look forward to growing it. I'm here to help. ■

*Dr. J. Tim Vanini resides in Buffalo, NY. He is Founder and CEO of New Dimensions Turf and can be contacted at [tim@ndturf.com](mailto:tim@ndturf.com). You can also follow him at [www.ndturf.com](http://www.ndturf.com), Twitter @NDTurf and at <http://paper.li>, search New Dimensions Turf Clippings*



# Q&A

# Tears in the snow



BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

## Questions?

Send them to  
David Minner at  
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*What would be your thoughts on Snow Mold protection for our new soccer field? It is pure Kentucky bluegrass, grown on a 4 inch sand pad. Normally, I wouldn't worry about it, but I have lush growth from pushing it with 4 lbs N/1000 sq ft since its establishment on September 15. Should I use a fungicide; what do others do on their sand fields?—Neric Smith, landscape and turfgrass instructor, Indian Hills CC, Ottumwa, IA*

Most of the cool season athletic fields that I encounter in the northern United States do not use snow mold control. They may experience some injury from pink and/or gray snow mold, but once the grass begins to grow the damaged areas eventually recover. However, there are always circumstances that may warrant a fungicide application to prevent snow mold.

Iowa and the upper north central region mainly experience pink snow mold and only occasionally see gray snow mold with extended periods of snow cover. Gray snow mold always requires snow cover but pink snow mold can occur with or without snow cover, but it is always more severe under continuous snow cover. If you know you are going to have snow cover, especially wet snow with periods of intermittent melting, then you are likely to have snow mold that will cause some turf injury.

While you are rubbing that crystal ball could you also look me up a few good lottery numbers? Pushing a new field with nitrogen is typical and I do it myself because Kentucky bluegrass establishment is simply so slow; your rate of fall applied N seems fine to me given the circumstances. As you indicated however, it leaves you with plants that may be more lush and susceptible to disease.

Another factor that favors snow mold invasion in your situation arises from the fact that the field is brand new. You might think that a new sand media field may not have much disease inoculum present because thatch and previously infected tissue is not abundant. Even though the field is “new” there certainly could be sufficient spores disbursed in the area to initiate snow mold growth. Once more, the new sand media has probably not had enough time to build up beneficial organisms that keep diseases like pink snow mold in check.

Moving on to the non-agronomic part of the equation you should consider when the field will first be used and how tolerant the field users and administration will be toward some turf loss in the spring. You just spent a considerable amount of time and money to make a beautiful field so a fungicide application may be wise in the first year if you don't want to be explaining all those pink and white circles on the field in the spring. Severe snow mold has a devastating appearance on the turf during March and April and scarred areas can last into May. So spring sports like soccer, baseball, and softball may again favor a fungicide application. If you won't be using the field until next fall then it is very likely that any snow mold damage will likely heal after a summer of recovery growth.

Something else to consider are grow blankets and turf covers that act much like snow cover by producing a moist, damp, and shaded environment that favors snow mold. I use Evergreen covers for many projects to establish and protect grass during the fall and winter. They work great to reduce desiccation injury and always help speed establishment and turf recovery.

When I cover areas for the entire winter I usually apply a fungicide

like chlorothalonil and iprodione because I know I am creating an environment that favors snow mold. I just completed three native soil baseball infield renovations at local high schools this fall with my students. Like you, we are a little on the lush side going into the winter from pushing them to the max with nitrogen and seeding at a high rate to get them to cover fast.

We did two infields with Kentucky bluegrass, love the grass but hate the establishment rate, and one with turf type tall fescue. I didn't have the guts to do an infield with tall fescue until Rich Watson from the New Jersey STMA Chapter sent me pictures of his success with a tall fescue infield. I'd like to hear more about your good and bad experiences with tall fescue for baseball infields.

My situation was a sand amended practice field with no automatic irrigation so water may be lacking when the summer ball season ends and all the help leaves. The turf covers were crucial during the establishment and grow-in process. The covers were placed in September right after seeding and they helped retain moisture and modify temperature for rapid establishment. I also had to walk on the field every day for some hand watering and the covers kept me nicely out of the wet and sticky soil. Areas that were not covered simply didn't fill in during the fall.

OK, Doc, get back to the subject! My point is for under \$150 I can provide snow mold protection on three baseball infields that need to be ready for play by late April and the coaches don't want to hear excuses no matter what letters I put before my name.

To recap on the snow mold fungicide question: most don't, some do, so rub your crystal ball but don't cry boo hoo. ■

# Membership Application

## SportsTurf MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

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Or mail with payment to:  
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Employer/ Facility \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Supervisor Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category:

☐ Sports Turf Manager \$110

☐ Sports Turf Manager Associate\* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) \$75

Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:

☐ Professional Sports ☐ Higher Education ☐ Schools K-12 ☐ Parks and Recreation

☐ Academic \$95

☐ Student (verification of enrollment) \$25

☐ Commercial \$295

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☐ Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount)  
Chapter name) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Contribution To SAFE Foundation (research, education and scholarship): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Method:

☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Purchase Order #: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*There must already be a national sports turf manager from your facility or commercial member from your company before you may sign up in the Associate category.

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