

Membership Application

SportsTurf MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

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Or mail with payment to:
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Managers Association
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Kansas City, MO 64141

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New Members*

As a new members, you receive a FREE conference registration, value \$375, to be used within 3 years! Just indicate your status on the conference registration form.

Did someone refer you to STMA? We would like to thank them, and reward them with an STMA \$100 voucher.

Person who referred you:

Facility name:

*Not been an STMA national member since 2000. New student and affiliate memberships do not qualify for the free conference registration. However, all members are eligible to receive the \$100 voucher for referring a new qualifying member.

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
 Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company) \$75
 Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) \$50
 Retired \$50
 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 #: _____

Credit Card: Mastercard Visa American Express Discover

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

Phone: 800-323-3875

www.STMA.org

THE STEWARD SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD

Richmond, VA

- **Category of Submission:** Schools/Parks Baseball
- **Sports Turf Manager:** Mark Roberts
- **Title:** Athletic Turf and Field Manager
- **Education:** Bachelors Degree in Agriculture from Ferrum College
- **Experience:** 1998-01: Luck Stone Fielder's Choice Infield Mix; 2002-06: Turf Products (Sports Turf only) Herod Seeds; 2006-09: Innovative Turf

Applications and Consulting (ITAC) – athletic fields maintenance and building; 2010-Present: Turf Manager of 11 acres of athletic fields at The Steward School.

- **Full-time staff:** Roberts is only full-timer
- **Part-time staff:** The varsity baseball team, head baseball coach Bruce Secret, and assistant to the athletic director Garrett Compton.
- **Original construction:** 2010

- **Rootzone:** Native soil
- **Turfgrass variety:** Patriot Bermudagrass
- **Overseed:** I overseed with a three-way blend of perennial ryegrass called Field General Maxx from Landscape Supply Inc., and it is applied twice during the fall. The first application in mid-September at a rate of 250 lbs/acre; the second application is in late October at a rate of 200lbs/acre.
- **Drainage:** No drainage system

WHY STMA SHOULD CONSIDER YOUR FIELD A WINNER?

From 2000 until 2010, I worked in sports turf sales and then as a sports turf contractor, covering the majority of the state of Virginia, viewing baseball fields from the Division I college level to parks & recreation fields. With the exception of Division I fields, most fields had a recurring theme. The small details, such as lips building in the grass, edging, and holes in the batters boxes and catching area were being missed; even in fields that were at the higher high school division levels, I found that the small every day details were being neglected.

When I joined The Steward School in 2010 as the athletic turf and field manager and we built the new baseball field, I focused on teaching and instilling the "art" of turf management to the varsity baseball team. I have focused on helping them become aware of the "little details" that make such a huge impact on the outcome of successful turf management. Thus, emphasizing the pride in dedication and "ownership" of their field and why we do what we do. I am al-



ways humbled by and have such a feeling of pride in not only myself, but those players who truly have come to understand the concept of what we do, in their comments on the consistency and play-ability of our field compared to others that they have played on. With our team playing high level travel ball,

they are on a lot of fields across many different states. Players compare our fields to Division I schools, like the University of Virginia and the University of South Carolina. Not to mention, the alumni who are now collegiate players return from college and comment that our field is nicer than most fields at their level of play. In conversation with Billy Wagner, head coach of the Miller School and former MLB player), he commented, "If you want a true playing surface, nicely groomed, major league-style park, Steward is the place."

In addition to working with players at practice, we have a program in which sophomores and juniors participate in a 1-week internship. For the past 2 years, I have had the opportunity to have one of the baseball players intern with me. This allows me to teach, discuss, and enlighten them to all of the aspects involved in the field of sports turf management and hopefully instill that desire in them. At the end of the week, I receive the same response: "There's a lot more to this than just mowing the grass." Yes, there most definitely is.



Equipment list

- Sand Pro with nail drag, mat drag, and drum roller
- Toro 5500-D Reelmaster for mowing
- Toro Greens Master 1600 for infield mowing
- Toro 3200 Workman for moving tarps and tools
- WonderEdger for field edging
- Northern Industrial tamper for mound and bullpens
- Toro MultiPro 5500 Sprayer for spraying ryegrass
- Kubota L2500 Tractor with a Lely 3pt. hitch spreader
- Prize lawn BF #300 Series Walk Behind spreader for spreading seed.
- Toro Edger

Why should our field win Field of the Year? Other than the fact that we have been truly blessed with a beautiful facility and a true playing surface, I have been given the opportunity to teach the art of grounds keeping to students who otherwise would not be exposed to all of the aspects involved in the profession, thus helping to ensure the future of the "art" of sports turf management.

SportsTurf: What channels of communication do you use to reach coaches, administrators, and users of your facility? Any tips for communicating well?

Roberts: I make my rounds every morning visiting with the director of athletics as well as all of the coaches that are in season. If there is an issue with a field, face to face is the best way to communicate that. I find email messages are sometimes misinterpreted or misunderstood. I feel that face to face takes that out of the equation, leaving little chance for error. I believe that an important part of being a good turf manager is having open communication and developing good relationships with your coaches. Email has its place and works well for outside user groups, but I still try to make time to speak with those contacts face to face, or at least by phone. I usually reserve email as a back-up for closed field notifications. I guess I am just "old school!"

ST: What are your specific responsibilities? What is your favorite task? Least favorite?

Roberts: My title is Athletic Field and Turf Manager. I manage and maintain 11 acres of bermudagrass, which consists of three rectangular fields and a baseball field. I have full responsibility for all of these fields, both agronomically and their playability. Our athletic facilities manager, Garrett Compton, and I work very closely on the rectangles. Garrett does most of the painting of the fields as well as game setup. I help with this when time allows. On the flip side, I do everything on the baseball field, and Garrett helps me when his time allows. In both spring and fall, we can have anywhere from two to five games a day. With only two of us, things can be a bit crazy at times. I could not do this without him! We also have a great administration team in our director of athletics and our coaches. They trust my judgment and adhere to my call of closing a field due to the weather and playability issues.

I find game days most enjoyable, especially baseball in late April when the ryegrass is striping nicely. It is quite a thrill to see op-

posing teams that visit our facilities for the first time. We are blessed with a very nice field, and some of the teams are more than impressed by what we have.

My least favorite task is a tie between canceling games and edging. I hate to cancel games due to bad weather that we experienced prior to game day, not at game time. I pride myself on getting games in when other teams have to cancel. (Did I mention we do not have an infield tarp?) Edging is very time consuming and a lot of work for a one-man crew, but the results are great, so it's worth it.

ST: How did you get your start in turf management? What was your first job?

Roberts: I received a General Agriculture degree in college and was working for a local co-op when Luck Stone, a Virginia-based, crushed stone producer, created a topsoil division. I was brought on as their salesman for this division. It didn't take long before we were mixing high quality infield mix, which is what brought me to the sports turf industry in the late 90s. From there, I went on to work as a salesman for a turf products supplier. The best part of that job was that I continued to work with the same athletic directors and coaches that I already knew. In 2006, Rodney Hopkins, (a friend and a customer) started up a company, ITAC (Innovative Turf Applications and Consulting). I was asked to join him to perform sales and hands-on turf maintenance, making ITAC my first true sports turf position. In 2010, I moved on to The Steward School. It's been a learning experience to get here, and I am very appreciative of those who mentored me along the way.

ST: What practices do you use to keep your infield skin in peak condition?

Roberts: The biggest challenge for the skinned area is getting the teams on the field in early February. In Virginia we can have freezing and frost until early April, as well as rain and snow. I spend a lot of my time drying dirt. I use a lot of Turface and a 500-pound roller. I add two tons of Turface (I like the Heritage Red) to the top of my skin in late January or early February and nail drag it into the top half inch. I continue to add Turface as needed throughout the season. I also roll the infield at least once a day in early season. I always keep the infield tight; it helps hard rains to sheet off and gets us back on the field sooner. I also add 20 tons of infield mix and have my skin laser graded every August. After a particularly tough weather

season, especially like the one we had in the spring of 2014, it really helps get things back in shape.

ST: What changes if any are you considering or implementing for the winning field in 2014?

Roberts: The Lord blessed our baseball program this past year. Along with Field of the Year, our baseball team won the state championship for our division. With that, our baseball parents and sports boosters (The Spartan Club) are providing us with a new logo-covered windscreen that will enclose the field and add to the overall aesthetics. I am also painting our school logo behind home plate and plan to do more for the upcoming season. I am field testing a new high clay infield mix for Luck Stone. It has only been down for a week at this point, but I am very excited about what I have seen so far. I constantly strive to add new things and tweak old ones. I do not ever want to become complacent.

ST: How do you see the Sports Turf Manager's job changing in the future?

Roberts: I feel we need to be advocates for our industry. It is our responsibility to let anyone who will listen know what we do and how technical and challenging a job it truly is. Educating the public should be ongoing. We need to stay on the cutting edge and not be afraid to try new techniques. I hosted the VSTMA Field Day in June and had fraze mowing demos done in the outfield. It was great for the industry to see. I have been monitoring it all summer and tweeting pictures. I can't wait to do the entire field next summer. I also feel we need to implement as many green practices as possible. We live in a time when everyone is more environmentally conscious, so staying on the front end of that is good for our industry.

I would also like to add that no one wins one of these awards alone. I would like to thank my wife, Sherry, and my sons, Wyatt and Jack, for understanding why Dad is at the ball field so much. I would also like to thank Bruce Secret, Steward's head baseball coach and my friend. I could not keep this field this nice without him and his team's help and cooperation. I am a truly blessed man to be able to do what I love every day! ■

STMA would like to thank Carolina Green, Ewing, Hunter Industries and World Class Athletic Surfaces for their continued support of the Field of the Year Awards Program.

For more on the latest news, please visit www.sportsturfonline.com and www.stma.org.

October brings open registration, brochures, deadlines & more!

October 1 saw the opening of online registration for STMA's 2015 Conference in Denver, CO. The event takes place January 13-16, 2015 and features hours of educational content you won't find anywhere else, including opportunities to get CEU credit from a wide variety of affiliate associations. CEUs will be available through ASBA, GCSAA, IA, NIAAA, NRPA, PGMS, and PLANET. Pesticide recertification credits will only be available for Colorado.

Also featured at STMA's annual conference are the trade show, featuring more than 160 companies with the latest technologies and contacts, as well as receptions, an awards banquet, silent/live auctions, career resources, networking opportunities and more.

Also, the hard copy conference brochure was mailed out to thousands of STMA members and non-members in late September. As mentioned in the brochure, this year STMA is moving to a largely all-digital registration process. All members are requested to register for the conference at stma.org unless your employer requires a hard copy for purchase order (PO) or other administrative purposes; a hard copy registration form will be made available online to those who require it.

STMA looks forward to seeing you in Denver January 13-16, 2015! ■

It's a Perfect Time to Take Advantage of STMA's New Member Promotion!

Join STMA as a new member* and get conference registration free. If you are not an STMA national member, you are eligible to receive a free conference registration to be used within three (3) years of joining STMA! This is an excellent way to experience conference education, peer-to-peer networking and access to the latest technology – the top three reasons members join STMA. Go online at www.stma.org for more information. Be sure to note if someone referred you so they get recognized.

**Must not have been a national member since 2000. Academic, affiliate and student memberships are not eligible.*

Become an STMA Member and raise your game

The knowledge, skills, abilities and best practices members encounter by networking with other professionals in the association only enhances their organizations. Additionally, STMA's advocacy with groups such as athletic directors, parks and recreation directors, coaches, and parents reduces risk for the facility by providing safer playing surfaces.

Time and again, the knowledge and skills unique to STMA and its members have benefitted facilities—and their bottom lines—nationally. Some examples:

Field Safety. One of STMA's chief mandates is ensuring members are well-versed in field safety: from professional stadiums to school districts, the association has members and educational resources standing ready to ensure your athletes are playing at the top of their game on the best fields possible. Our resources cover every type of field for virtually every sport.

Risk Management. By ensuring you have an STMA member on-staff well-versed in safety issues, you are likely to see your insurance premiums lowered, including liability insurance. Proactively protecting your assets with a sports turf manager is key.

Environmental Stewardship. Are your grounds crew members versed in proper environmental management techniques inclusive of waste reduction strategies, LEED certification, and pesticide run-off mitigation? STMA members possess a wealth of knowledge on these best practices to protect your players and the environment.

Industry-wide Best Practices. As the recognized association leader in the sports turf industry for more than 30 years, STMA provides members valuable tools and resources to save them time and money. Members can easily tap into a nationwide network of managers who readily share their best practices and advice.

Don't have an STMA member on staff? STMA offers a free job posting service for employers. Simply send the position description or ad to stmainfo@stma.org and it will be posted for the association's 2,600+ members to see.

Improve your value through certification

STMA offers its members the opportunity to take their professionalism, and their value to their facilities, to the next level with the Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) certification program. The CSFM program focuses on increased accountability for sports turf managers, as well as a dedication to cost effective facility management and field safety. The examination for certification covers four major areas of sports field management:

- Agronomics
- Pest Management
- Administration
- Sports Specific Field Management

"I'm sure most sports facilities are like our company, and receive dozens of résumés for positions. Those who are certified rise to the

top of the stack at Sodexho because those sports turf managers send the message that they are willing to go that extra step. You know that they will bring great value to the job.”

John Fik, CSFM, Grounds and Sports Fields Consultant, Sodexho Education Services, Vermontville, NY

What are some benefits to becoming a CSFM?

Benefits for members:

- Recognition of achievement
- Increased earnings potential
- Commitment to excellence

- Increased educational opportunities

Benefits for Employers:

- Increased professionalism for facilities
- Commitment to excellence
- Acknowledged accountability
- Dedication to cost effective facility management
- Commitment to field safety

Learn more about how STMA members can raise their game by becoming a CSFM and how you can support their efforts to become certified at stma.org. ■

STMA, Buffalo Communications Continue to Expand Social Media Reach



#FIFA commissioned survey of players shows 77% are in favor of natural grass. <http://sports.yahoo.com/news/attorneys-ask-support-world-cup-201440339--sow.html> ... #SportsTurf

Is artificial turf more expensive to manage than natural grass?

#SportsTurf http://www.ccenterdispatch.com/opinion/article_f36e8394-379f-11e4-8d0f-0017a43b2370.html ...

How one facility collects #water: <http://bit.ly/1pI1Nc8> . #SportsTurf

STMA member Jeff Salmond & his crew live for fall #football Saturdays. @NewsOK article: <http://bit.ly/1tYGDxO> . #SportsTurf @OU_Athletics

. @ColoradoRapids Phil McQuade reviews the #WorldCup's natural grass fields. <http://bit.ly/1tYHSG8> @fog_sports #SportsTurf @CSTMA_TURF



DOC'S DUGOUT

This photo comes from the Rose Bowl in 1985. This is before we had the availability of using thick cut sod and at the time, there was no such thing as large rolls either. Sod was harvested in traditional squares or rectangles. Worn areas like centers of fields were re-sodded using these small squares and a lot of prayer! Heavy organic or clay types of soil were best for short-term use because you could play on it after a week or two with good weather; however the heavy soil gave us lots of problems if rain occurred.

Bowl the Night Away with SAFE!

This year the **SAFE Board of Trustees is holding their** annual event with a little twist. Leave your golf clubs at home because this year the SAFE Foundation presents "A Night of Bowling" at the 2015 STMA conference in place of its annual golf tournament.

The Night of Bowling begins 6 pm Tuesday, January 13, and will include bowling, assorted games, prizes and more. Accompanied by cocktails and a custom menu, this will be a night you won't want to miss. Whether you're competitive or not, guests will have free range to form teams or bowl individually. We encourage guests to have some fun with it and form teams based on chapter, state, category or any other combination! There will be prizes for top team and individual bowler.

The event will take place at Elitch Lanes, which is a short drive from the Hyatt Regency. Continuous shuttle service will be provided from the hotel to the event.

Also, multiple sponsorship options exist for this unique event. Chapters might consider purchasing a sponsorship package to assist SAFE in its mission and help future sports field managers as they

pursue their educational goals. Sponsor opportunities include:
Night of Entertainment Title Sponsorship \$4,000 – Available

Exclusive naming rights to provided for this inaugural event. Package customizable to company's preferences. Logo placement, signage, press release mentions, lane signage all included.

Lane Sponsorship \$350 – Available

Signage included at lanes. Great idea for chapters to sponsor different lanes!

Drink Ticket Sponsorship \$500 – Claimed

Logo and small amount of information printed on drink tickets

Contact Shant Thomas at stthomas@stma.org or 800-323-3875 for more information or to sign up to be a sponsor. ■

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.org

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: www.cstma.org

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

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

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

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gatewaystma.org

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org

Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com

Illinois Chapter STMA: www.ILSTMA.org

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: <http://imstma.blogspot.com/>

Indiana - Contact Clayton Dame, Claytondame@hotmail.com or Brian Bornino, bornino@purdue.edu or Contact Joey Stevenson, jstevenson@indyindians.com

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: www.iowaturfgrass.org

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: www.kystma.org

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org

Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mpstma.org

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mokanstma.com

New England STMA (NESTMA): www.nestma.org

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfmanj.org

Sports Turf Managers of New York: www.stmony.org

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org

Oklahoma Chapter STMA: 405-744-5729;
Contact: Dr. Justin Moss okstma@gmail.com

Oregon STMA Chapter: www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org
oregonstma@gmail.com

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.scstma.org

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: www.txstma.org

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.vstma.org

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: www.wstma.org

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www.STMAsourcebook.com

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October 2014 - Expires February 2015 - RS1410

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
 F COACH
 E 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
 E \$500,001 - \$1 million B \$25,001 - \$50,000
 D \$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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 Name _____ Title _____

SportsTurf

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Q&A with Dr. David Minner

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions? Send them to David Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011 or email dminner@iastate.edu. Or, send your question to Grady Miller at North Carolina State University, Box 7620, Raleigh, NC 27695-7620, or emailgrady_miller@ncsu.edu.

'Tis the Season

My football and soccer coaches have asked me to determine which sport causes the most damage to the field they share in hopes that the athletic director will "kick one to the curb." Football argues that the field was fine until a spring soccer program started and soccer argues that their cleats are shorter and large divots are seldom removed like they are in football.

— You'll never get my name
Kentucky bluegrass Country

I do know who sent me this question and after a laugh we agreed to just answer the question like this. Most AD's I know would not kick either team to the curb since they realize the benefit that all competitive sports play in high school life. The net result from this type of dispute usually pushes an AD to replace natural grass with synthetic turf so that the problem of complaining coaches simply goes away; in fact, I suggest that in the past 10 years a major reason AD's have replaced grass fields with rubber infill fields has been to stop the complaining and make the problem associated with poor playing conditions simply go away.

other while digging those cleats dig deeper into my face. Thus, fall traffic thins out existing plants and additionally keeps new shoots from forming.

Even worse, right in the middle of the season frost sets in and my leaf blades no longer grow in length. By the end of the fall football season I'm ripped open in the middle with bare soil exposed. Even though the kindly sports turf manager tries to patch me up at season's end with a sprinkling of seed and dressing of sand, I will lay cold and dormant without an ounce of recovery until spring. Bless you if you cover me up and extend my growing season. If left alone, short days and

main point is that most cool-season grass football fields can recover by the following football season, if they are given reasonable care and are allowed to recover in the spring and summer.

Unfortunately, spring soccer starts in April just at the time when bluegrass plants are again starting their natural push for recovery through tiller production. Even though the nature of the traffic is less (less divoting with shorter cleats) it occurs at a time when new tillers will be damaged and when it is too cool for grass blades to outgrow the pace of treading. With both sports, about half of their seasons occur on grass that is growing very slowly. In fairness to the round ballers, if soccer alone were played from April through May with no football season, those fields would easily repair themselves with moderate care and a resting period during the summer and fall.

Another form of seasonal grass repair occurs when rhizomes begin to form in early summer. Spreading rhizomes grow underground during the summer filling in areas where grass has been thinned. Limiting irrigation during a summer recovery period will greatly reduce spread of rhizomes into areas void of turf, especially if summer dormancy is allowed to occur. Fall football, spring soccer, and summer turf dormancy is a formula for complete and utter failure of high school athletic fields. I'm not saying which sport causes more turf damage; just realize that "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven": love, war, football, soccer, rhizomes, tillers, traffic. Now go figure it out and share it with somebody when you do. ■

» This may sound a little crazy but sometimes I picture myself laying on my back as if **I were a field looking up at all the commotion occurring right on top of me.**

Whatever their reason I want to shed a little more light on how playing season and growing season impact turf injury from too much traffic. This may sound a little crazy but sometimes I picture myself laying on my back as if I were a field looking up at all the commotion occurring right on top of me. As long shanks start the football season near the beginning of September, shorter days and cooler temperatures are just starting to make my Kentucky bluegrass rhizomes turn toward the sky forming terminal shoots. This natural period of turf thickening is blindsided by fall football's bigger, heavier, longer-cleated players that just seem to mill around in the center of the field pushing and shoving on each

warming temperatures of spring again cause me to produce new tillers that help close the scars from autumn long cleats chasing the oblong orb.

Let us pause here and restate the obvious: a high school football field will usually recover from the traffic associated with a normal 10-game season provided there is a sufficient recovery period with no play in the spring and summer. Some sports turf managers are able to recover fields with 50 game fall schedules provided the fields are rested in the spring and summer. There are several extenuating factors such as muddy games, pest damage, and extra non-football activities that can cause field decline, but the