

tended goals. Proper storage when goals are not in use can help prevent these problems.

Here are some suggestions to keep unattended goals safe and secure:

- Remove nets when goals are not in use.
- Place goal frames face to face and secure them at each goal post with chains and locks.
- Chain and lock goals to fixed structures such as permanent fences.
- Lock goals in secure storage rooms after each use.
- Fully disassemble goals for seasonal storage.
- Fold goal faces down and lock them to the base.

### Safety tips

The following tips help further promote soccer goal safety:

- Check goal bars and connections for structural integrity before and after each use. Replace damaged or missing parts immediately.
- Never allow anyone to climb on goal frames or nets.
- Apply safety/warning labels where they will be clearly visible.
- Exercise extreme caution when moving goals. Movable soccer goals should only be moved by authorized and trained personnel.
- Instruct players on safe goal handling, and warn them of potential dangers.
- Use movable soccer goals only on level fields.



## Soccer Organizations

**Federation Internationale De Football Association**  
Hitzigweg 11, 8030  
Zurich, Switzerland  
(41) 1-384-9595

**National Federation of State High School Associations**  
11724 NW Plaza Circle  
Box 20626  
Kansas City, MO 64195  
(816) 464-5400

**National Collegiate Athletic Association**  
6201 College Blvd.  
Overland Park, KS 66211  
(913) 339-1906

*The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is an independent regulatory agency charged with reducing unreasonable risks of injury associated with consumer products. For more information, write: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Office of Information and Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20207.*

### Information

For further information on soccer goal anchors and/or to obtain free soccer goal warning labels, contact:

The Coalition to Promote Soccer Goal Safety  
c/o Soccer Industry Council of America  
200 Castlewood Dr.  
North Palm Beach, FL 33408  
(800) 527-7510, (800) 334-4625  
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2. Geographic location (city and state).
3. Description of maintenance program.
4. Operating budget for baseball diamond.
5. Irrigation. None \_\_\_ Manual \_\_\_ Automatic \_\_\_
6. Total number of maintenance staff for field.
7. Does baseball field have lighting for night games?
8. Number of events on baseball diamond per year.
9. Types and number of events on diamond other than baseball.
10. How many months during the year is the field used?
11. Why do you think this field is one of the best?
12. **IMPORTANT:** Send two copies of entry and two identical sets of color photos.

**Deadline for entries:** Entries must be postmarked no later than October 30. Selection of winners will be made by the Awards Committee of Four Major League Head Groundskeepers.

Mail entries to:  
**Beam Clay Awards**  
Kelsey Park  
Great Meadows, NJ  
07838



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**J**une 23, Tennessee Valley STMA held its first Annual Conference and Educational Seminar at the University of Tennessee. Sixty attendees turned out to hear presentations by the best turf people in the Southeast.

Every topic was packed with infor-

# TVSTMA Brings Out the Southeast's Best



mation, clearly explained, and easy to understand. A friendly atmosphere and great camaraderie allowed questions and answers to flow freely throughout the day.

• Bob Campbell, sports turf manager for the University of Tennessee, spoke on football field preparation. He's had plenty of experience in high-pressure situations, especially as 1998 TV coverage focused on the Volunteers' climb to num-

ber one in college football.

Campbell later received the Tennessee Turfgrass Association Turf Manager of the Year award from Association President Lynn Day and Executive Director Andy Brennan.

• Dr. Gil Landry, extension crop and soil science specialist from the University of Georgia, followed with the topic, "What's Wrong with My Field?" Dr. Landry focused on diag-

nostic steps needed to follow field symptoms to their causes.

• Dr. Coleman Ward, professor emeritus of Auburn University, addressed the topic: "Fall Overseeding of Bermudagrass Sports Fields and Handling the Spring Transition."

• Dr. A. J. Powell of the University of Kentucky hit the basics in practical terms with "A Dummies Guide to Turf Management." He offered workable solutions to common problems.

• The lunch break gave attendees good food and great networking opportunities. Following lunch, attendees checked out displays, met with vendors, and walked the field at the University of Tennessee's Neyland Stadium.

• Dr. James McAfee of Texas A&M kicked off afternoon educational sessions with his presentation, "Maximizing Bermudagrass for Sports Use."

• Dr. Tom Samples of the University of Tennessee addressed the topic, "Establishing Sports Turf in the Transition Zone," the toughest area in which to grow turfgrass.

• Tim Nielson, Director of Grounds for the Chattanooga Lookouts, wrapped up the formal educational portion of the program with his presentation, "Preparing Baseball Fields for Game Days."

• Events concluded with a guided tour of University of Tennessee sports facilities.

## Chapter news

Mark your calendars now for STMA's 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition, "Gateway to the 21st Century," January 12-16, 2000, Regal Riverfront Hotel, St. Louis, MO.

For information, contact STMA Headquarters by e-mail: SportsTMgr@aol.com, or by phone: (800) 323-3875.

**Indiana Chapter:** The Indiana

*Continued on pg. 47*

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Continued from pg. 42

Chapter is planning an October event. Details will be announced soon.

For information, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer: (219) 356-8424, or Pat Hickner: (800) 672-4273.

**Florida Chapter #1:** The Florida Chapter will hold a meeting in Ft. Lauderdale Nov. 19. The focus will be "Sports Turf Equipment Demonstrations for Maintaining Athletic Fields." It will include education by Dr. Phil Busey on athletic field weed control.

For information, contact John Mascaro: (954) 341-3115.

**Midwest Chapter:** The Midwest Chapter is one of the allied co-sponsoring organizations participating in the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's (ITF) 16th Annual North Central Turfgrass Exposition Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL. Dec. 1, Dr. Paul Rieke of Michigan State University will present "Construction and Installation of Sports Facilities." Special focus seminars, including those on sports turf topics, will be featured Dec. 2. For more information on this event, contact ITF by e-mail: [association-headquarters@csi.com](mailto:association-headquarters@csi.com).

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

**Great Lakes Chapter:** GLSTMA will hold its second Annual Awards Presentation and Meeting Dec. 7 at the Hyatt Regency, Columbus.

For information, contact Joe Zelinko: (800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery: (419) 885-1982, or visit the chapter Web site: <http://members.tripod.com/~glstma>.

**Colorado Chapter:** The Colorado Chapter will again participate in the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Annual Conference Dec. 8-10 at Currihan Hall in Denver.

For information, visit the chapter Web site: [www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org), or call the hotline: (303) 346-8954.

**Minnesota Chapter:** The Minnesota Chapter will again participate in the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Conference and Trade Show Dec. 8-10. The theme will be "Beyond the Millennium: Education for the 21st Century." Several conference sessions will focus on sports turf management.

For information, contact Connie Rudolph: (651) 646-1679.



Left to right: Tom Nielson; Bob Hogan, TVSTMA secretary/treasurer; Tom McAfee, TVSTMA president; Dr. Coleman Ward; Dr. A. J. Powell; Dr. Gil Landry; Stan Thomas; Dr. James McAfee; and Bill Marbet, TVSTMA president elect. Courtesy: STMA

**North Texas Chapter:** The North Texas Chapter will hold its annual meeting Dec. 14, in conjunction with the Texas Turfgrass Association meeting in San Antonio. The day's events begin with a breakfast meeting.

For information, contact Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987; or Tom Welch, CSM, Central Garden and Pet: (800) 788-9581; or visit the Web site: [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org).

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**Wisconsin Chapter:** WSTMA will join the Wisconsin Turf Association to present the annual Winter Expo Jan. 11-12 at the Marriott West in Madison, WI.

For information, contact Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc.: (715) 341-2633.

**KAFMO Chapter:** The Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show will be held January 11-13 at the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA. The Western PA Turf Conference and Trade Show will be held Feb. 9-11 at the ExpoMart/Radisson Hotel in Monroeville, PA.

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

**Iowa Chapter:** The Chapter will participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show Jan. 24-26 at the Convention Center in Des Moines, IA. A special sports turf track will again be offered. More details will be announced soon.

For information, contact Lori Westrum at the Turf Office: (515) 232-8222, or fax: (515) 232-8228.

**MAFMO Chapter:** For information,



Left to right: Andy Brennan, Tennessee Turfgrass Association (TTA) executive director; STMA Board Member Bob Campbell; and Lynn Rey, TTA president. Courtesy: STMA

contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

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

**Mid-South Chapter:** For information, contact Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305, or Robert Bodi: (901) 383-2414.

**Northern California Chapter:** For information, contact Janet Gift: (530) 758-4200.

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

**Tennessee Valley Chapter:** For information, contact Tom McAfee,

Nashville Sounds: (615) 242-4371, or Bob Hogan: (888) 224-6426.

#### Chapters on the grow

**Arizona Chapter:** The Arizona Chapter will team with the City of Yuma for the 7th Annual Sports Turf & Equipment Show, 8 am-3 pm, Fri., Dec. 3. A \$10 registration fee includes lunch and a t-shirt. For event information, contact Larry Munoz, City of Yuma: (520) 329-2824.

The 4th Annual Sports Turf Golf Tournament will be held Thurs., Dec. 2, at the Desert Hills Golf Course.

For information, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 312-7954; or Kris Kircher, City of Chandler Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 786-2728.

**Kansas City, MO/KS Chapter:** For information on this forming chapter, contact Trevor Vance: (816) 504-4271, John Cundiff: (816) 525-7600, Bill Tritt: (816) 941-4424, Jody Gill: (913) 681-4121, Gary Custis: (816) 468-6215, or Jay Sutton: (816) 795-8873.

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



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# Zoysia Sports Fields

Have questions? Send them to Dave at:  
ISU, Hort. Dept., Ames, IA 50011.



by Dr. Dave Minner

**W**e have a local school district that is interested in using Meyer zoysiagrass for football, soccer, and baseball. The football field will be sand capped and used for games only. The native-soil soccer and baseball fields will serve as practice areas for football.

Football is played in the fall and soccer and baseball are played in the spring. All fields will have drainage and irrigation. I have no first-hand information on how zoysia might perform for this use in Arkansas. What do you recommend?

- David Seargent  
Athletic Director  
Cathedral School  
Little Rock, AR

**Z**oysiagrass is one of my favorite grasses for the transition zone and further south. It has been successfully used in residential areas and golf courses.

In terms of recommending zoysia, though, you hit the nail on the head. There are very few, if any, athletic fields that use zoysia in the United States. That makes it difficult to give you first-hand information on how it may perform at your facility.

I personally think that zoysia will be a very suitable grass for low-traffic sports such as baseball and softball. It provides a good, stable surface for soccer and football, but there are just not enough fields out there to help determine how it will stand up to sports that are played in fall or spring, when zoysia is less actively growing.

Once established and actively growing, zoysia is a tough grass that is slower to wear down than most cool- or warm-season grasses. Its dense mat of vegetation often separates players from the soil below. This reduces muddy games and subsequent compaction.

In China, Korea, and Japan

zoysia is widely used for many turf areas, including athletic fields. It has been successfully used for soccer, and some of the 2002 World Cup soccer matches held in Korea will be played on zoysia.

## Zoysia vs. bermuda

Bermudagrass has long been the standard grass for athletic fields. A comparison between zoysia and bermudagrass may help with your decision.

• **Adaptation:** Zoysia has better cold tolerance, and winterkill is seldom a problem. It will grow and survive as far north as Chicago, but will only be green and actively growing June through August in northern climates.

In Arkansas, zoysia will begin to green-up in March and then go dormant in November. However the period of greatest active growth and recovery will come in summer, between May and September.

• **Mowing:** Both grasses can be mowed between 0.75 and 2.0 inches. Reel mowers will be needed for mowing below 1.0 inch.

Zoysia is more prone to scalp at mowing heights greater than 1.0 inch. It has a slower vertical growth rate, and you should anticipate mowing about 10 fewer times per year compared to bermudagrass. Zoysia has tough blades and seed head stalks that will require more conditioning to keep blades sharp.

• **Water:** Bermudagrass has better drought tolerance, but also requires slightly more water to keep it actively growing. Don't expect one grass to significantly reduce your water bill compared to the other.

• **Fertility:** Plan on using about half as much nitrogen and potassium to manage zoysia. Phosphorous and micronutrients will be about the same for both grasses.

• **Establishment cost:** Zoysia sod is more expensive than bermudagrass sod. Winrock Grass Farm in Arkansas markets a product called Z-net, which places zoysia sprigs between two layers of

biodegradable cotton netting. The netted material is rolled onto a prepared soil surface and topdressed. The company claims faster establishment compared to conventional zoysia sprigging. The cost of Z-net is about half that of zoysia sod, and it's similar to bermudagrass.

• **Traffic tolerance:** Zoysia wears down more slowly than bermudagrass, but bermudagrass is quicker to recover. Either grass will be able to withstand modest traffic conditions associated with baseball and softball.

Since the stadium football field receives game play only, the zoysia should perform well once fully established. It should also recover sufficiently with no activities in the spring and summer.

On the other hand, you should anticipate severely worn areas on the soccer and baseball fields that will be used for spring soccer and baseball, as well as for football practice in the fall. Using fields in the spring, summer, and fall would be difficult for both zoysia and bermudagrass.

In limited- or non-traffic areas of the field, zoysia will provide a good playing surface with some benefit of reduced maintenance. Like most fields, high-traffic areas will require sufficient time to recover and additional inputs to reestablish grass.

If there are others out there that know of any zoysiagrass athletic fields or have personal experiences with them, I would sure like to hear from you.



David D. Minner, Ph.D., is an associate professor with the Department of Horticulture at Iowa State University. He serves on STMA's Certification Committee. Send your questions to Dave at: ISU, Hort. Dept., Ames, IA 50011; or call: (515) 294-2751, fax: (515) 294-0730, or e-mail: [dminner@iastate.edu](mailto:dminner@iastate.edu).