



(Continued from page 29)

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STMA Presents Awards at Baseball Winter Meetings

STMA members Steve Horne, Dennis Klein, Greg Elliott, and Chad Olsen are the Sports Turf Managers of the Year for their classifications in Minor League Baseball (MLB). The awards are sponsored by STMA for MLB and were presented by STMA President Bob Campbell, CSFM, at the Baseball Winter Meetings in Anaheim at an awards ceremony on last December.

Horne of the Memphis Redbirds, (Pacific Coast League) is the Triple A winner; Klein of the Round Rock Express (Texas League) was selected as the Double-A winner; Elliott of the Lake County Captains (South Atlantic) won the Class A honor; and Olsen of the Aberdeen IronBirds (New York-Penn) is the winner from the short-season leagues.

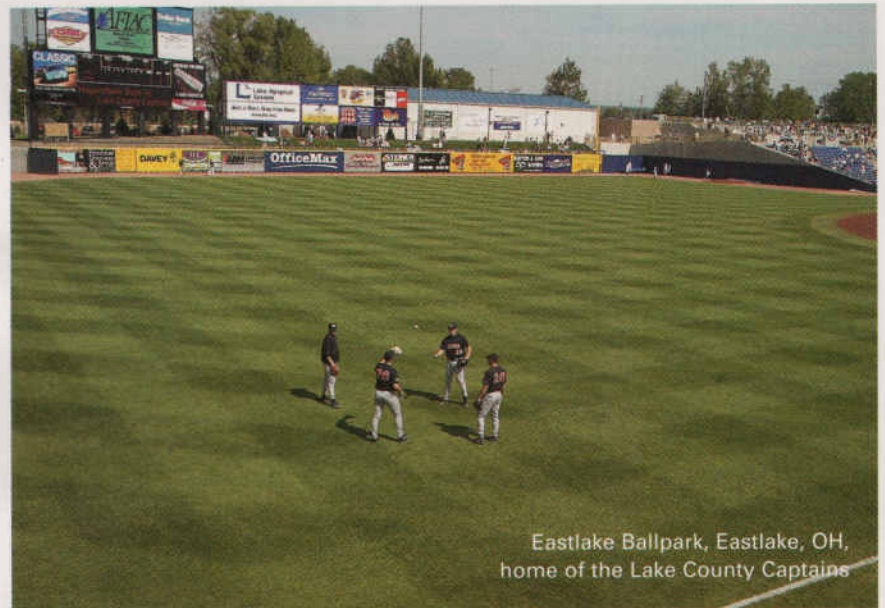
In recent years, all 16 leagues have selected a top sports turf manager for recognition by Major League and Minor League Baseball. STMA's four winners are selected from these league winners. In addition to being named Sports Turf Manager of the Year for their respective leagues, the winners were judged on criteria that includes: the playability, appearance, and use of the field; game day routine; personnel and budget management; career goals; support of the industry; letters of reference from the league president and general manager; and the development and implementation of a comprehensive, agronomically sound maintenance program.

STMA and the MLB have partnered to raise the visibility of the work of sports turf managers.

STMA and NIAAA Partner for Safer Athletic Fields

A partnership between the STMA and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA), the professional organization for high school, middle school, and junior high athletic directors, was officially adopted at the fall STMA Board meeting after a year of mutual interest and discussion.

That partnership grew from a desire to open educational and informational



Eastlake Ballpark, Eastlake, OH, home of the Lake County Captains

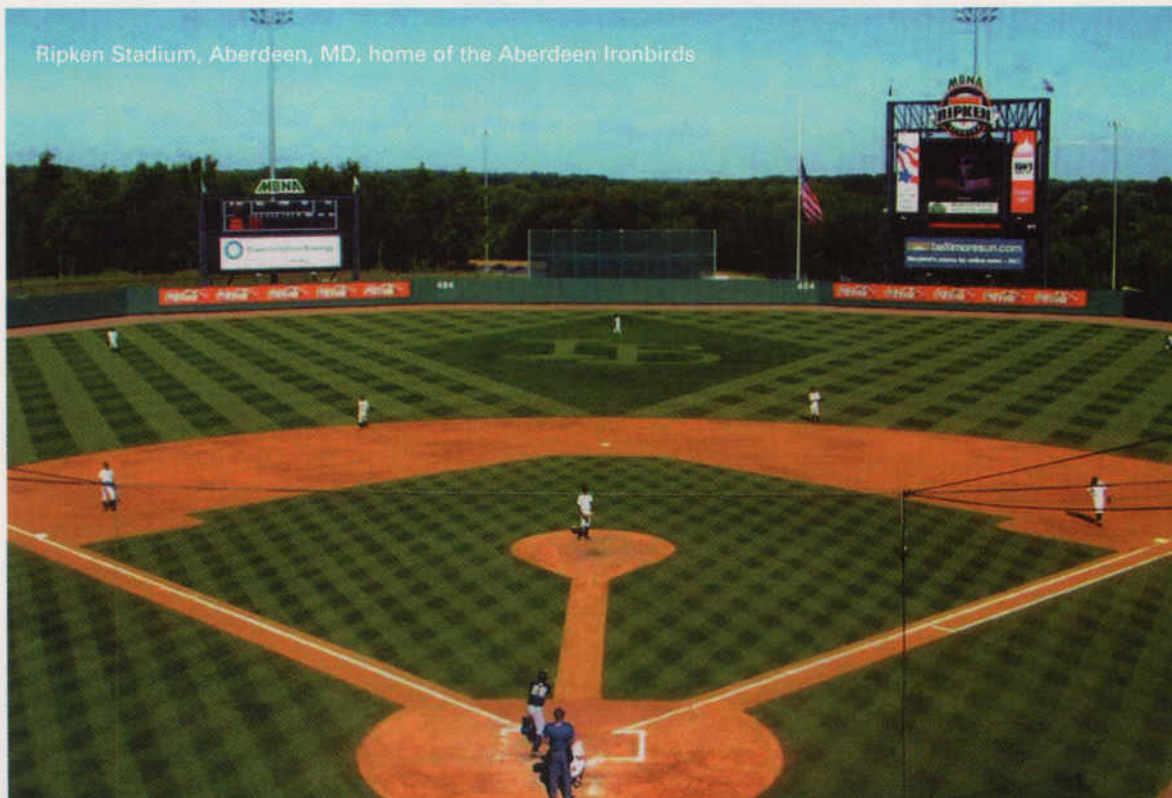
channels about safety and sports field management challenges facing NIAAA members. As an education partner, STMA offers to NIAAA members access to local sports field managers who can provide technical knowledge and advice. This will be helpful to those athletic directors who do not have an STMA member at their school.

NIAAA's mission to promote the growth and image of interscholastic athletic administrators and to develop state athletic administrator organizations to strengthen the interscholastic athletic program of each state. The organization is

closely aligned with the National Federation of State High School Associations and state athletic administrators' organizations as well as individual athletic administrators.

NIAAA members can contact STMA headquarters to be referred to a local member. Through this partnership, STMA members are also available to speak at NIAAA events. To further the networking, STMA will provide contact information for local school athletic directors to our chapters so that they can invite them to field days and other educational events throughout the year. This networking should help to further their understanding of local sports field management issues. NIAAA state education coordinators have been provided a complimentary subscription to *SPORTSTURF* magazine as another educational tool.]

In addition, each organization will share information and promote each other's events, such as attendance at their respective annual conferences. STMA participated at the NIAAA annual conference in December as an exhibitor and provided an instructor to co-teach "Athletic Administration: Athletic Field Management," a post-conference symposium. STMA is aggressively pursuing other partnerships to help advance the visibility and importance of its members to the sports world. **ST**



Ripken Stadium, Aberdeen, MD, home of the Aberdeen Ironbirds

New Chapter

A new chapter has joined STMA. The New England Sports Turf Managers Association brings the total to 27 chapters. This chapter will represent the New England states and provide strong local networking and educational opportunities for STMA members. Welcome to STMA!

Chapter Affiliation Agreement in Place

At the fall STMA Board meeting the Board approved the new Chapter Affiliation and Chapter Fee Agreements. All current STMA affiliated chapters have been asked to sign a copy of the agreement and return it to STMA headquarters by Feb. 7, 2005, to maintain their affiliation. This new agreement is a simplified version of the older one that can be found in the Chapter Compliance Handbook for comparison. If you have any questions please contact Abby McNeal, CSFM, Mike Andresen, CSFM, or STMA headquarters.

The new chapter bylaws and agreement means a totally different approach to how the STMA administers chapters. The chapter relations committee took a hard look at what chapters have been looking for from STMA and then formulated the new agreement. Please continue to forward comments and suggestions to Abby McNeal, CSFM or to STMA Headquarters.

The changes include:

- * Chapters will no longer be required to pay the \$10.00 dues per non-national member to STMA.
 - * Chapters will pay a flat fee to STMA for the services. This new fee structure equitably balances the chapters' payment responsibility, resulting in some chapters paying a slightly higher fee and others paying a slightly lower fee and still others paying approximately the same.
 - * Chapters can use Headquarters for chapter billings for an additional fee.
- Chapters can customize their needs/services from STMA headquarters. The agreement also assists newly forming chapters to gradually work toward the standard cost of an affiliated chapter, over 2 years.

Sports Turf Managers Association Affiliation Agreement

(Effective January 2005)

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to formally establish a working organization affiliation between the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) and Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association (Chapter). Both organizations are recognized leaders in strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing their member's competence and acknowledging their professionalism. The proposed

affiliation will benefit the members of both STMA and Chapter along with the entire sports turf industry.

Article 1: Chapters will be governed by their existing bylaws and board of directors. STMA will remain a separate organization from Chapter and will exist and operate per their existing bylaws. Any amendments to Chapter bylaws must be reported to STMA's Board of Directors prior to approval.

Article 2: As specified by Chapter bylaws, Chapter will operate with a President, Vice-President,

receive copies of all other STMA affiliated chapters newsletters as published. (Provided that the chapter produces a newsletter)

Article 7: Chapter agrees to be classified as an STMA affiliated chapter. This classification allows the Chapter to have the privileges of other existing STMA chapters such as: using the STMA logo in chapter advertising for your specific activities; STMA promotional marketing materials; use of the membership management system; chapter web site linking; participating in conference calls with other chapters; and one, 1-year complimentary STMA Membership to use as the organization (Chapter) sees fit.

Article 8: Chapter agrees to pay STMA the Chapter affiliation fee of \$550 that is determined by the STMA Board of Directors.

Article 9: Chapter shall provide a financial report at the end of each fiscal year April 15; a copy of which shall be sent to the STMA Treasurer. Chapter will comply with Tax laws requiring tax return filing yearly.

Article 10: Chapter will agree to be incorporated within the State that it is established within and will file any required State Tax reports.

Article 11: Chapter members, Chapter officers, and directors will be covered under the current STMA liability insurance coverage currently offered the other STMA affiliated Chapters.

Article 12: Chapter will agree to operate within the chapter compliance as stated below:

* A chapter found to be operating in conflict with the chapter procedures or bylaws will be notified in writing of its specific areas of non-compliance and will have a 90-day probationary period to come into compliance.

A. Probation

If a chapter meets the compliance requirements within a 90-day period, it will receive written notice that the probationary status been terminated.

B. Revocation

If a chapter does not come in to compliance within the 90-day period, its affiliation will be automatically revoked.

Article 13: In the event that the Chapter disbands all remaining funds shall be transferred to a STMA Board approved designated foundation that is in good standing with the IRS (501(c) 3 recommended).

Article 14: This agreement will commence on the date listed below and will be reviewed by Chapter and STMA boards and officers on an annual basis.

Chapter Events

For information on upcoming chapter events, go to www.sportsturfmanager.com and click on the chapters tab.



Treasurer, Secretary, and a Board of Directors. Chapter will maintain its existing committee structure with appropriate chairs. Elections of Chapter officers shall be held in accordance with the Chapter's bylaws.

Article 3: Chapter agrees to maintain a minimum of 25 active Chapter members. Chapter members that become STMA members will be entitled to all the benefits of current STMA members. Chapter will provide STMA headquarters with an updated membership list quarterly.

Article 4: Chapter will promote the benefits of becoming an STMA member to its membership.

* Chapter will promote STMA in the (newsletter), at the annual and at all workshops. STMA membership applications (provided by STMA) will be included to all Chapter members along with Chapter membership renewal information.

* STMA will promote Chapter to its membership, within the chapter news section, throughout the year via STMA website, SPORTSTURF magazine, and through its newsletter. Chapter President or representative will be included in Chapter Relations conference calls and at the annual Chapter Officer Training Session (held in conjunction with the annual STMA Conference and Trade Show).

Article 5: Chapter is encouraged to hold two member meetings per year, which will be determined by their current board of directors.

Article 6: Chapter agrees to exchange copies of its newsletters with STMA headquarters and all other STMA affiliated Chapters as published. Chapter will

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Recovering from "Waterworld"

Due to the hurricanes this year (2004) I had several fields that were either partially or fully submerged. After the water receded, most of my fields seem to look ok. I have some yellow turf, but it seems to be coming back. I have one field that will probably require replanting. My question relates to short term and long term damages: Should I be expecting some particular symptoms this winter as a result of the turf being under water?

East Central Florida

During the last active hurricane season, I had several phone calls and e-mails from Florida's turf managers with questions related to flooded turf areas. In general, the most heavily damaged areas from flooding were golf courses and home lawns along the Florida coast. The more severe turf damage was from the storm surge pounding turf with salty water. In many cases once the water subsided and the ground began to dry, the turf died from salt injury.

Luckily, most athletic fields are not immediately adjacent to the coast. But the high rainfall rate and the fact that the ground was already saturated from previous storms meant widespread flooding in many coastal and inland areas of Florida. Hurricane Ivan also brought similar damage to lower Alabama and southern Mississippi.

Over the years there have been several reports related to turf injury from submersion. The degree of injury depends on turfgrass species, water temperature, duration of submergence, and depth of submergence. Observations have indicated that turfgrass can withstand submersion for up to 60 days when water temperatures are below 50 degrees. On the other hand, turf can be killed in one day when water temperatures are in the high 80s or higher. Submersion injury also increases when the entire plant is submerged. If the plant is submerged for a more than a few days under water cloudy with silt, clay, and debris it is more damaging than if the water is clear.

In addition, floodwaters may contain toxic contaminants such as salts or petroleum. These may cause longer-term problems because the contaminant may linger in the soil, impeding regrowth. Even low levels of salts can indirectly affect plants by reducing water uptake or by causing an imbalance of plant nutrients. And while it may seem minor, the lack of oxygen to the roots brought on by saturated soils may cause turf loss.

Understanding the cause of your damage helps in developing a plan to renovate the turf. If the floodwaters deposited silts and clays on the surface, these

should be removed with shoveling, hosing, power washing, etc. In some cases debris and soil material can be blown off the surface with a blower. The airflow from the blower can also hasten the soil drying process. If the grass does not begin to green up by the time the soil begins to dry out, it may be a sign that the turf is dead or that it is so severely set back that regrowth is going to be very slow. Given enough time, Bermudagrass will grow back from almost any flooding damage. But if the damage is more than just a thin turf, and time is an issue, it may be better to start over completely.

If the damage is not too severe, begin aerification once the area can support a lightweight aerifier or tractor-mounted aerifier. Not only will this alleviate compaction, but also it will help break up the soil layers and get more oxygen into the rootzone. If the flooding was associated with a salt-water storm surge, then leaching the saltwater out of the rootzone may be necessary. It is not unusual for Florida to self-flush the rootzone with additional rainfall. In the absence of rainfall, the irrigation system may be used to dilute and move the salts below the rootzone.

Once the water has subsided and the rootzone begins to dry, initiate a normal grow-in fertilization and irrigation program appropriate for your grass and soil conditions. Do not expect much residual activity from previously applied preemergence herbicides. And the moving floodwaters may have replenished your weed seed bank. Plan on increasing your post-control weed program or if you are growing in a Bermudagrass you can apply an oxadiazon preemergence herbicide without any significant delay in grow-in. Remember to not apply a preemergence herbicide if you plan on overseeding with a ryegrass in the near future.

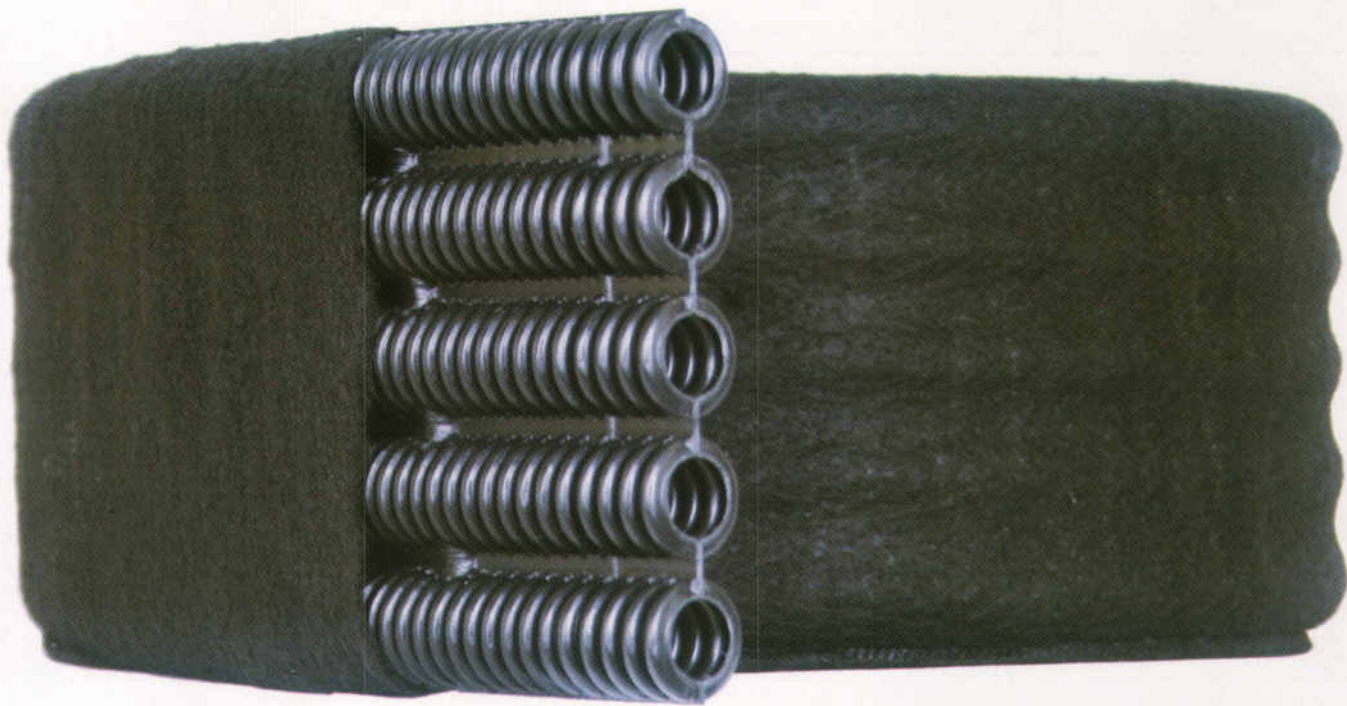
Long-term problems will also reflect the type of initial storm damage. With rainfall and irrigation, salt damage should be fairly short-term. If topsoil was eroded and replaced before renovation, there may be some long-term variation in turf growth and color due to differences in soil. Also, and silt and clay deposits that were not removed may result in long-term visual and performance differences. Regular aerification and topdressing should address these

problems over time. Let's hope that 2005's hurricane season does not add more salt to the wound. **ST**

QUESTIONS? Send them to Grady Miller at the University of Florida, PO Box 110670, Gainesville, FL 32611, or email gmliller@mail.ifas.ufl.edu. Or, send them to Dave Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011, or email dminner@iastate.edu.



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