

Election time!

A ballot on the proposed changes to STMA's bylaws will be sent next month to all voting members of STMA. Please take the time to review the ballot and vote to approve the work of the Membership and Bylaws Committees.

Bylaws are a very important tool that govern the association's business. They are used as a procedural manual to define the qualifications for membership, who is entitled to vote, how meetings are called, how board members are elected, their responsibilities, and much more.

Associations that represent thriving industries need to examine their bylaws on a regular basis to make certain they keep pace with the needs of the industry. The STMA Membership Committee has been studying industry and STMA membership trends. They observed that there are multiple sports turf managers in varying capacities at sports facilities, yet only a small percentage of those facilities have multiple members. The committee developed a classification in the proposed Bylaws that makes it easy for these members to join. Pending membership approval of the Bylaws, the Board has set these dues at a lower rate to encourage multiple members from the same facility to join.

The Membership Committee also analyzed the partnerships STMA has developed with employer groups. They considered the National Interscholastic Athletic Association of Administrators (NIAAA) and realized that STMA could offer so much more as that association's Educational Partner. They see an opportunity for STMA to provide more information and education to high school athletic directors. Thus, they created an Affiliate classification that allows this group to join and learn from STMA, but not vote or hold office, and the Board has set the dues at less than half the cost of a professional membership. Again, this is subject to membership approval.

To review the proposed Bylaws in its entirety, go to the Members Only area of the STMA web site, www.sportsturfmanager.org, and click on Bylaws.

Enclosed with the Bylaws revisions, will be the proposed Slate of Candidates for the STMA annual election of the Board of Directors. Please review the slate and cast your vote. All ballots are due at STMA headquarters by midnight December 22. The results of the election and bylaws changes will be announced at the STMA Annual Meeting, Friday, January 18, in San Antonio, at the STMA Conference and Exhibition.

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Membership Renewal Time!

October 1 marked the beginning of our Membership renewal process. You can renew 3 ways:

- 1) On-line (www.sportsturfmanager.org)
- 2) Mail (STMA, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044)
- 3) Fax (785-843-2977)

A renewal invoice will be mailed to you in November, but you can also easily renew with your conference registration form. As always, you can write one check for your conference registration, national dues, and local chapter dues.

STMA will be raising its dues slightly for the student and sports turf manager categories. These categories have not had an increase in more than 4 years and during that time benefits have been enhanced and the cost of doing business has increased. However, the primary reason for the dues increase is to provide more programs and services to you, our members. From the STMA membership survey conducted earlier this year, STMA learned that members want more education and informa-

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tion to help them do their jobs better. In 2007, look for more technical and practical information in an easy-to-access format on-line. For students, dues will increase from \$20 to \$25, and sports turf managers will pay \$110, up from \$95. Commercial dues will remain unchanged at \$295 and commercial associate dues at \$75. Dues for academia and researchers will stay the same at \$95. ■

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz



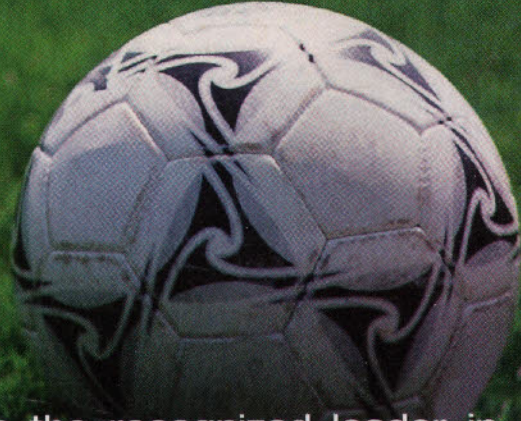
If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro's Photo Quiz please send it to John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Suite 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted will become property of SportsTurf magazine.

Answer: from page 16

The brown hard area is actually the top of a large chunk of concrete that somehow and miraculously made it through the rototilling and laser grading process and is near a hash mark directly on an athletic field playing surface. This concrete chunk first showed up as a small brown circle in October 2005 during fall football practice and as the players wore off the grass in this particular area with repetitive work, it became a bald dome as the concrete slowly revealed itself. The athletic field was built in August of 2004 with native soils that were once part of a golf course. The initial field contractor for rough grading was a typical soils excavation contractor hired by the building construction contractor, then UNT bid out the laser grading and sod work to sports field contractors to finish the work. The inset photo shows the size of the concrete chunk and since this part of the country was in severe drought conditions last year, one may assume the fields clay base shrank, pushing or floating the concrete chunk to the surface.

Photo submitted by Lanse Fullinwider, MCPTM, Grounds Manager, University of North Texas in Denton. ■

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The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) is the recognized leader in championing the sports turf industry and its professionals. STMA members combine the science of growing turfgrasses and the art of maintaining fields to produce safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces.

The three most important reasons for you to join STMA:

1. Job security

Take advantage of STMA's programs and services, and you proactively enhance your value to your employer.

2. Career success

The knowledge, skills and abilities you gain by accessing STMA's education and information can help you to prepare to take that next step in your career.

3. Recognition of your professionalism

STMA's advocacy with groups such as athletic directors, parks and recreation directors, coaches, and parents enhances the image of the entire profession.

The top three benefits you will receive as an STMA member:

1. A network of peers who are willing to share their best practices.
2. Opportunities for education to help you do your job better.
3. Quick access to information and resources to help you save time.

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Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: For info contact David Oropeza, by e-mail at doropeza@cityofnogalez.net or 520/285-5781 or Felipe Garcia by e-mail at fgarcia@ci.flagstaff.az.us or at 520/774-2868.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA): For info contact Glenn Sweet at glenn_sweet@london.net or call 301/495-5522.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, please contact Richard Buelter at 303/233-2922 or dbuelter@jeffco.k12.co.us. For more info visit www.cstma.org or call the Chapter Hotline at 303/346-8954 or President Dick Buelter at 303/233-2922, or email dbuelter@jeffco.k12.co.us.

Florida #1 Chapter: We will be having a chapter meeting Nov. 7 at the Orange Bowl in Miami. For more info visit the Florida #1 Chapter page on STMA's website or contact Tom Curran by e-mail at tcomsell@aol.com or at 954/786-4138 or Bud Nolder at 954/797-2560.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: The Gateway chapter's 4th Annual Educational Golf Fund Raiser will be held Oct. 18 at Berry Hill Golf Course in Bridgeton, MO. For more info contact Mark Vessell at 636/940-7776 or e-mail vessell@slysa.org or Frank Schaffer at 636/940-7776.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For

info contact Skip Kirby at 770/928-1580 or by e-mail at skip@sportsturfmanagement.com.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For more info call Carol Gundlach, CSFM, at 909/594-5611 ext. 5174 or e-mail cgundlach@mtsac.edu.

Illinois Chapter (formerly Midwest Chapter) STMA: For info call chapter secretary Libby Baker at 847/263-7603 or e-mail Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: For info contact Jeff Wendel, CGCS of The Turf Office at 515/232-8222 or fax 515/232-8228 or e-mail Jeff@iowaturfgrass.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): The 6th Annual KAFMO Cup Open is Monday, Oct. 16. It will be held at a new location, the Iron Valley Golf Club, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. For info contact Dan Douglas at 610/375-8469 ext. 212 or email to KAFMO@aol.com.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: The 2006 KTC Conference and Trade Show will be held Oct. 22-26, 2006 at the Holiday Inn University Plaza Hotel and Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green. For info go to www.kystma.org or contact Tom Nielsen at 502/212-2287 or by email at tnielsen@batsbaseball.com or Aaron Boggs at Aboggs@batsbaseball.com.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): MiSTMA will have monthly Board of Directors

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Meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 AM in the Hancock Turfgrass Center at Michigan State. For info visit www.mistma.org or contact Chad Follis at 269/377-3340 or 269/381-0596 or by email at chadfollis@farmngarden.com.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: For info visit www.mstma.org or contact chapter President Tom Adamini at 952/953-2420 or by e-mail at tadamini@ci.applevalley.mn.us.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: The annual KTF (Kansas Turfgrass Foundation) Conference will be held Nov. 28-30, 2006 in Topeka. For more info contact Jody Gill at 913/239-4121 or by e-mail at jgill@bluevalleyk12.org.

New England STMA (NESTMA): The NESTMA Fall Workshop will be October 12, 2006 at Dartmouth College. More details to come. For info contact David Pinsonneault at 781/861-2757 or e-mail dpinson@ci.lexington.ma.us or Nick Caggiano at 603/589-3370 or e-mail caggianon@ci.nashua.nh.us.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: For info contact Jennifer Roeber at 402/441-4425 or by e-mail at jenr@saltdogs.com.

Sports Turf Managers of New York: For info contact Mike Albino at 315/468-6225 or (c) 315/427-1214 or mikealbino@earthlink.net or Kevin Meredith at 607/287-6609 or kimeredith@earthlink.net.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: The 91st Annual New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference will be held Nov. 13-16, 2006 at the Atlantic City Convention Center. For more info call SFMANJ at 908/730-7770, e-mail HQ@sfmanj.org or visit the Chapter website at www.sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): For info contact OSTMA headquarters at 614/354-1196 or Ostma@aol.com. You can also visit our new website at www.ostma.org. The new OSTMA address is PO Box 3426 Dublin, OH 43016.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: For info contact Matt Johns at 253/445-4538 or mjjohns@puyallup.wsu.edu.

Southern California Chapter: For info contact Michael Tarantino at 858/679-2526 or by e-mail at MTarantino@powayusd.com.

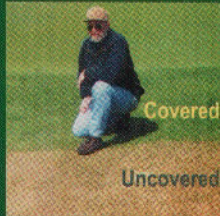
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STMA Chapter News

meeting will be the Annual Business Meeting, to be held in December in Columbia. For info contact Bruce Suddeth at 864/503-5514 or by e-mail at bsuddeth@uscupstate.edu or visit our website at www.scstma.org.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: The TXSTMA Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held October 11 at Tangle Ridge Golf Course in Grand Prairie. There will be an 8:00 am start with lunch following play. For info contact T. J. Thompson, President-Elect at txturfmanager@lscm.net or 972/670-2138 (m).

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): The TVSTMA will have its next meeting Nov. 9 at Finley Stadium in Chattanooga. For info call Chapter President Al Ray at 931/388-0303 or by e-mail at ARay@maurycounty-tn.gov.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For info contact President Bob Studholme of the Fairfax County Park Authority at 703/324-8590 or robert.studholme@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: For

info visit the chapter website at www.wstma.org or contact Audra Anderson by e-mail at ajander2@wiscmail.wisc.edu or 608/845-6536 or Brett Grams by e-mail at brett@waupacasand.com or 715/258-8566 ext. 135.

FORMING CHAPTERS:

North Florida STMA Chapter: For information on the newly forming North Florida Chapter, contact Mark Clay at 904/633-6116 or Jay McCord at 904/448-2583.


Idaho STMA: For information, contact Greg Liggett, at 208/496-

2421 or email him at liggett@byu.i.edu.

Nevada STMA Chapter: For information, contact Corey Angelo at 702/433-3113 or by e-mail at sls654ASCM@lesco.com.

Quad-State STMA Chapter: Notice of interest in forming a chapter covering SW Missouri, SE Kansas, NW Arkansas, and NE Oklahoma is in the works. For information and to let the group know if you are interested, contact Leroy Spriggs, Grounds Foreman at Missouri State University, by phone at 417/836-5963 or by e-mail at lspriggs@missouristate.edu. ■


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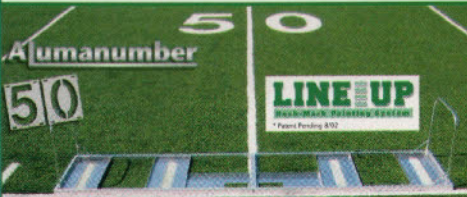
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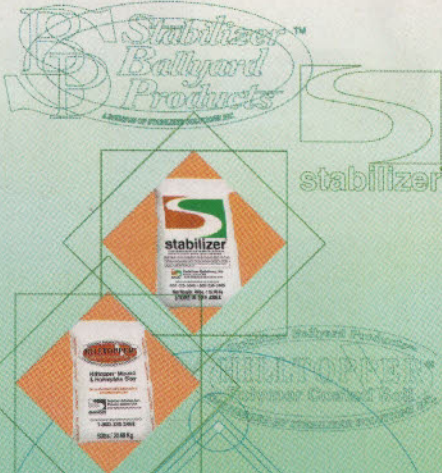
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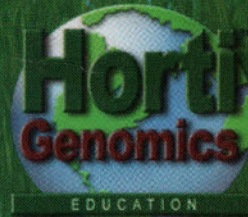
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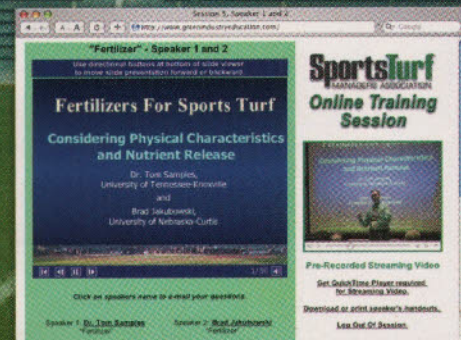
Speaker 1 - Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
 Speaker 2 - Dr. Grady Miller, University of Florida
 Speaker 3 - John Mascaro, Turf-Tec International
 Speaker 4 - Dr. John Cisar, University of Florida

Session OC02 - Parks & Recreation

Speaker 1 - Preston Courtney, Disney Wide World of Sports
 Speaker 2 - Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
 Speaker 3 - Bill Berry, City of Rock Hill
 Speaker 4 - Richard Sanger, Sarasota County

Workshop OC03 - Developing A Master Plan

Speaker 1 - Francois Hebert, Consultant



Workshop OC04 - Building Athletic Fields

Speaker 1 - Dr. Chuck Darrach, CLC Labs
 Speaker 2 - Boyd R. Montgomery II, The Toro Company
 Speaker 3 - Mark Heinlein, The Motz Group

Workshop OC05 - Fertilizer

Speaker 1 - Brad Jakubowski, University of Nebraska
 Speaker 2 - Dr. Tom Samples, University of Tennessee

Demonstration OC06 - Outdoor Demonstrations

Speaker 1 - Dr. Roch Gaussoin
 Speaker 2 - Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
 Speaker 3 - Preston Courtney, Disney Wide World of Sports

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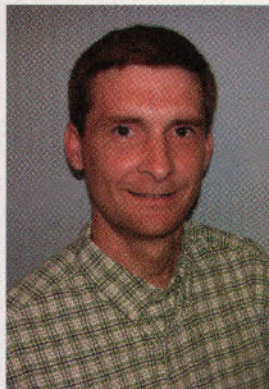
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BY DR. GRADY MILLER
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just came from a meeting on renovating our high school's baseball field. The initial plans were to build a new field but now plans are to renovate the old one. Can you advise us on a plan that can get this done ASAP? We need the field ready for the first of the year. Our budget is ok and should be at least adequate to do the project relatively easily. Please let me know what you think is possible.

Thanks for your e-mail. To efficiently help you, I may need more information. While your request may seem simple enough, without some indication of "where you are at" and "where you want to go" it is a little difficult to reply. "Renovate" is a relative term. If all the field needs is some weed control and fertilizer, it is a lot different than turf removal, drainage installation, earth movement, re-establishment, etc., required for other renovations.

I don't know why you want to renovate, so I'm just going to address the steps as they relate to issues. You said ASAP, but no indication of timeline for the work or when it would begin or even who is doing the work (in-house or a contractor). Saying a "good budget" is also pretty relative to how extensive a "re-build" you need and the desired end result.

Off the top of my head:

1. Spray out any living vegetation with Glyphosate (e.g., Roundup applied at 4 pounds of active ingredient per acre). I suggest three applications at 3-week intervals to remove common bermudagrass. I realize this will delay the project 9 weeks, but this will help minimize a reoccurrence of common bermudagrass after the field is renovated. Since it is nearly September as I write this, try to get the first application out as soon as possible to beat the cooler weather. If you delay getting the turf sprayed too much longer, it may be better to wait until spring/summer for renovation. If the field is not bermudagrass, less extensive herbicide applications or alternative products may be more appropriate.

2. Scrape the surface to remove debris. If the vegetation has decayed and you have a sandy soil, then a box blade on a tractor is usually sufficient. If not, go to the next step and come back to this step as needed.

3. Alleviate compaction of field via rototilling or other aggressive soil cultivation (as needed).

4. Have the field surveyed to re-establish proper drainage (you may have to address sideline fences or other structures as well as soil buildup during this step). Have a well-thought out drainage plan; otherwise drainage problems may forever haunt you.

5. Consider infield drainage, leveling etc., with above step if water movement has been a significant problem. You may have to add or remove clay as necessary. You

may also consider replacing infield clay if the existing material is not performing as desired.

6. Determine the appropriate grass for your area. Assuming you are from the Deep South, find a reputable supplier of a quality hybrid bermudagrass (e.g., Tifway, TifSport, Celebration, etc). Often local golf course superintendents are knowledgeable on the better local sod producers. Your local extension service may also have good advice on sod growers. An alternative would be planting one of the new seeded cultivars (Princess, Riviera, etc). The seed can usually be obtained from local distributors. Check your yellow pages under the titles "seed," "farm supply," or "sod."

Generally, the suggested way to establish hybrid bermudagrasses for sports fields is to sprig, but planting sprigs in September or later is generally not suggested. Bermudagrass grows best with nighttime temperatures in the 60s. You could sod but it would be costly. During the late fall and winter you do not have much of an option if you need the field in the spring. Your best bet in the fall/winter months is to get sod that is still green and hope for some warm temperatures. If you are not in the south, then an alternative grass (fescue, bluegrass, etc) may be more appropriate.

7. After planting grass (I am assuming the irrigation system is sufficient), follow good grow-in practices (irrigation, fertilization, soil amelioration, and pest control). There are several good publications available from our University as well as other sources that cover athletic field management practices once the turf is established.

Without more information, I am not sure how much information to share with you. If the school needs extensive help through the process, I would suggest you hire either a knowledgeable contractor for the construction or an experienced consultant. Either can spend the time to write out detailed plans and/or direct the work required to fully renovate a site.

Response from School Representative: Thank you so much for your prompt reply. Yes, my e-mail was vague. Our school is in central Florida and I'm afraid we're faced with "turf removal, drainage installation, earth movement, re-establishment, etc." As you very well know, budgets come and go like the tides. Yes, it would be so much better in the growing season. However, we are subject to lose the funds if we don't use them right now.

Your notes were very helpful; we sprayed the field today. We have a local company that can do the earth movement and is familiar with golf course construction. We have contacted a turfgrass company that is giving us a good price on one of the grasses you mentioned. Thanks again! ■