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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
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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

STMA Announces its 2014 Slate of Candidates, Bylaws Amendment

THE STMA NOMINATING COMMITTEE has announced the association's Slate of Candidates for the 2014 Board of Directors election, which they will officially present to the membership in late November. In addition to voting for the Board candidates, the membership will also be asked to vote on a Bylaws change that will further clarify the membership category of a Sports Turf Manager.

The Slate of Candidates includes:

Officers

Immediate Past President, James Michael Goatley Jr., Ph.D., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

President, David Pinsonneault, CSFM, CPRP, Town of Lexington, Lexington, MA

President-Elect, Allen Johnson, CSFM, Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, WI

Commercial VP, James Graff, Graff's Turf Farms, Inc., Ft. Morgan, CO

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Tarantino, CSFM, Poway Unified School District, Poway, CA
or, Jeff Salmond, CSFM, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Directors

*Professional Facilities, Phil McQuade, Dick's Sporting Goods Park, Commerce City, CO

Higher Education, Tim Van Loo, CSFM, Iowa State University, Ames, IA or, David Schlotthauer, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

*Schools K-12, Andrew Gossel, Covenant Christian High School, Indianapolis, IN

Academic, Jeffrey Fowler, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Franklin, PA or, Brad Fresenburg, Ph.D., University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

Parks and Recreation, Sarah Martin, CSFM, City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ or, Brian Winka, CSFM, City of Chesterfield, Chesterfield, MO

Commercial Representative, vacant due to James Graff being slated for VP Commercial; (to be appointed by the President, per Bylaws)

At-Large (Elected), Brad Jakubowski, Doane College, Lincoln, NE or, Kevin Mercer, CSFM, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY

*in second year of 2-year term

The President also has one additional appointment to make, the Appointed At-Large position. Both the Appointed and the Elected At-Large positions are 1-year terms, as are the Officer Positions. Director positions are 2-year terms.

Go to STMA.org to read the bios of the candidates. Ballots will be sent electronically in late November.

Members of the Nominating Committee include: Chair, Immediate Past President Troy Smith, CSFM, Mike Andresen, CSFM, Chris Calcaterra, M. Ed., CSFM, CPRP, Darian Daily, Dale Getz, CSFM, CSE, Jody Gill, CSFM, Abby McNeal, CSFM, Andrew McNitt, Ph.D., Mary Owen, Don Savard, CSFM, Mike Trigg, CSFM, and Lynda Wightman.

Bylaws Amendment

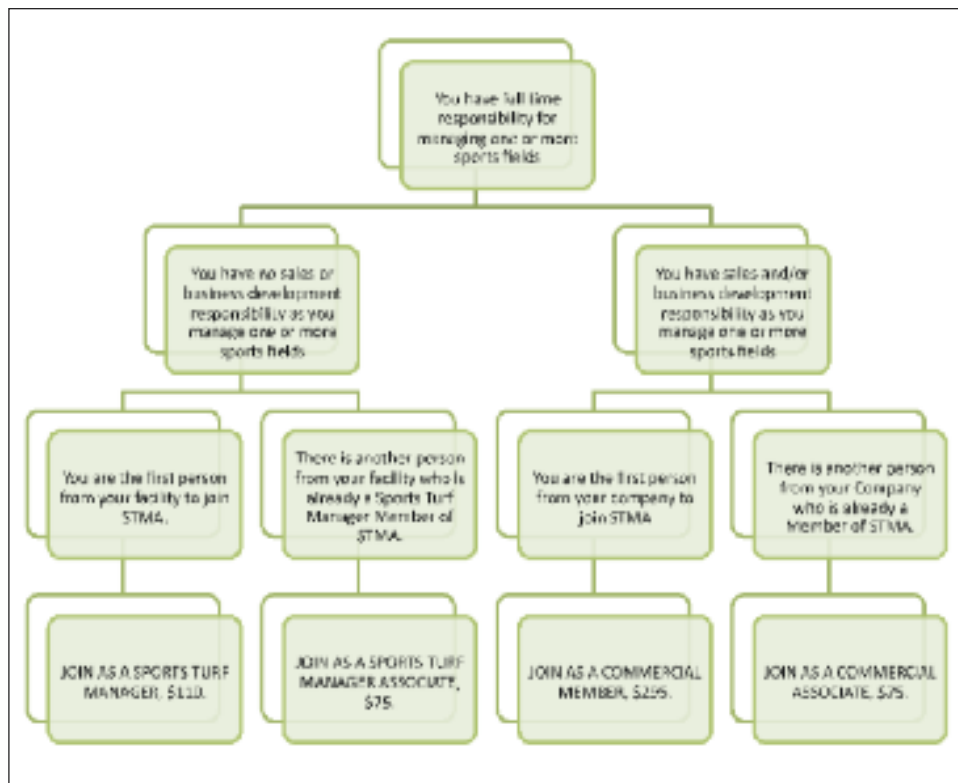
Early this year, the Bylaws Committee was asked to review membership categories 1 - Sports Turf Managers and 3 - Commercial, to be certain that they each clearly define who is eligible to be classified in each. After careful review, the Committee identified situations where there are gray areas in the current language. They presented to the Board at its summer meeting their recommendations on how to clarify the Sports Turf Manager category (1), which the Board supported. The Board subsequently took action on the recommendation at its fall Board meeting and is recommending the amendment noted below be made to the Category I description (addition is noted in BOLD). This amendment will be included with the Election ballot in November.

PROPOSED: 3.3.1 Category 1 - Sports Turf Manager: Person with primary responsibility of employment in the management/maintenance of sports field(s) and has no responsibility to sell or promote services and/or products, upon payment of dues and being accepted for membership, may become an active voting member in STMA and is eligible to hold elective office.

CURRENT: 3.3.1 Category I – Sports Turf Manager: Person with primary responsibility of employment in the management/maintenance of sports field(s) upon payment of dues and being accepted for membership, may become an active voting member in STMA and is eligible to hold elective office.

If approved, the amendment will be officially adopted on January 23, 2014, during the STMA annual meeting.

Members of the Bylaws Committee include: Chair Mike Trigg, CSFM, Chris Calcaterra, M.Ed., CSFM, CPRP, Jesse Driver, CSFM, Jody Gill, CSFM, Mary Owen, Troy Smith, CSFM, Scott Phippen, and Jay Warnick, CSFM.



◀ **THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE** developed a decision making tree to help membership determine the appropriate membership category.

SAFE's new initiative for 2014

THE FOUNDATION FOR SAFER ATHLETIC FIELDS FOR EVERYONE

(SAFE Foundation) seeks your support for a new initiative. In 2014, SAFE's focus will be to begin a crucial project of community education. This education will be provided to parents, coaches, players and volunteers, and it will teach them how to improve the safety of sports fields. This initiative kicks off in January 2014 in San Antonio. From there, it will expand throughout the US, focusing on the 33 geographic regions where the STMA has its local affiliated chapters. The training is being developed by industry experts, and your donation will help to insure a comprehensive train-the-trainer series as this program expands nationally.

STMA members collaboration and involvement is extremely important to help SAFE to continue to carry out its mission, which is to *enrich communities through championing safe, sustainable sports and recreation fields for all athletes.*

Through this new initiative, SAFE will actively contribute to the growth and enjoyment of outdoor sports activities, improve community health through physical activity and healthier living, and most importantly help to insure the safety of athletes on the playing field.

Please visit SAFE's new website, SafeFields.org, to learn more about this program. Your donation of as little as \$15 can help us protect young athletes from injury.

SAFE Board of Trustees:

Cathy Bradley, SAFE Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Jon Butler, Executive Director, Pop Warner Little Scholars

Ken Curry, Vice President, Covermaster, Inc.

Kim Heck, Executive Director and CEO, Sports Turf Managers Association

David B. Houseknecht, Sr. VP of Administration/CFO, Little League International

Allen Johnson, CSFM, SAFE Vice-Chairman and Fields Manager for the Green Bay Packers

Debra Kneeshaw, Lead Park Techni-

cian, City of Portland Parks & Recreation

Gil Landry, Jr., Ph.D., Retired Professor/Turfgrass Management, University of Georgia-Griffin Campus

Chad Price, CSFM, CFB, President, Carolina Green Corp.

Doug Schattinger, SAFE Treasurer and President of Pioneer Manufacturing

Paula Sliefert, Sr. Marketing Manager, The Toro Company

Jay Warnick, CSFM, Sports Turf Manager, The Kansas City Chiefs

Steve Wightman, SAFE Secretary and retired Sports Turf Manager

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 - FORMING - 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

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: sphillips4@unlnotes.unl.edu

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.sc-stma.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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November 2013 - Expires April 2014 - RS1311

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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Overseeding options

The price of perennial ryegrass seed seems high this year, should I overseed this fall with something else? With our warmer winters the past few years, is overseeding even necessary if the field will not get heavy use until spring?

North Carolina

At the end of each summer the North Carolina STMA has a meeting and the suggested topics always include “overseeding.” This year was no different. Overseeding is one of those annual rituals that many turf managers growing bermudagrass go through each fall. Some love it, but most do not. And nobody likes the added expense. With perennial ryegrass prices up 20 to 35% this year, turf managers are again wondering if they could do something different.

In a climate like North Carolina’s, a turf manager should expect their bermudagrass being dormant by late-November through early-March most years. I have seen green, actively growing bermudagrass the first week in March in central North Carolina, but generally I would not expect it to be fully out of dormancy until at least April. So, spring use of a bermudagrass field most often includes time on a dormant field.

Bermudagrass will suffer damage from too much play under harsh winters, especially during extended wet periods. Normally, overseeding a field can protect the bermudagrass turf and help maintain the field’s integrity by providing a wearable playing surface. Recent studies at University of Tennessee quantified a 12 to 56% increase in turf coverage after 20 events when a bermudagrass field was overseeded versus not overseeded.

Despite promising research results, there is still no guarantee that overseeding will prevent damage to the field surface. Events played during severe cold and wet conditions can still easily wear through over-

seeded turf and damage to bermudagrass crowns, stolons, and rhizomes.

Then there is the issue of overseeding competing with the bermudagrass in the spring. Perennial ryegrass can dramatically slow down green-up of bermudagrass. And with a cool spring many of the ryegrass plants may survive into summer, leaving clumpy ryegrass that result in poor uniformity (aka, ankle breakers) for field users. This has led to the popularity of chemical removal of perennial ryegrass stands, most often with an herbicide in the sulfonylurea family.

While chemical removal does have some downsides (primarily cost and determining the best time to spray), it does offer a great alternative to just taking a chance and hoping for a good natural transition. Most field managers have experienced at least one bad natural transition and would prefer to not have another.

Considering these issues, it is no wonder that turf managers seek alternative grasses for overseeding. The major cool-season grasses that have been mentioned as potential candidates include: annual ryegrass, roughstalk bluegrass, and tall fescue. While an extensive justification why someone would not want to use these could be written, in the end the only grass among these three that has seen appreciable use as an overseeding grass on tall-mown bermudagrass is annual ryegrass.

Annual ryegrass has enjoyed a rich history. There was a time that it was the go-to grass for all overseeding needs—even getting widespread use on golf greens. But new perennial ryegrass cultivars provided better color, more controlled growth, better density, and better tolerance to stresses resulted in its widespread acceptance. With these improved qualities, the use of annual ryegrass for overseeding dropped significantly.

Plant breeders responded with considerable development efforts towards produce better quality annual ryegrasses as well as intermediate ryegrasses. I’ve tested some of these grasses and they certainly have much better quality than the older annual ryegrass cultivars. In fact, many have early-season quality that is similar to good perennial ryegrasses. These annual and intermediate types also have the benefit of quicker transitioning. Some noted downsides have been these new grasses may cost as much as a perennial ryegrass, often have poor late-spring growth habits, and the sulfonylurea herbicides are not nearly as effective at removing them compared to perennial ryegrasses. Look for the gap between these ryegrass types to continue narrowing.

The new trend the last few years is to forego overseeding and just “paint” the turfgrass green. This can provide a nice color but offers only marginal improvement in wear tolerance (via encouraging growth later in the fall and earlier in the spring). This can be a great alternative if heavy traffic is not an issue, but it is certainly not a good option for every situation. With a mild winter and good spring growing conditions, a turf manager that painted rather than overseeding can really come out ahead. But too much traffic without any overseeding protection can result in field failure.

There are limited overseeding grass alternatives to perennial ryegrass. For high-use field for spring sports not overseeding is a risky option. As a turf manager you will have to base your overseeding decision on the past while considering the implications if things do not go as planned. If it were only a money decision, it would be easy. But the health of the existing turfgrass and the playability of the field are also part of the mix. ■

BY DR. GRADY MILLER

Professor, North Carolina State University

Questions?

Send them to
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Box 7620, Raleigh, NC 27695-
7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu

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