On Wednesday, October 11, 2000 a joint educational workshop was held at the East Gwillimbury Sports Complex. The event represented yet another step in a proposed partnership between the Sports Turf Association and the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association.

Terry Piche chaired the event and introduced new ORFA President John Archibald and Executive Director John Milton to participants. Both spoke about the pending partnership and mentioned the benefits and their thoughts for the future as being extremely helpful to both parties.

The day went well with considerable information both imparted and exchanged between speakers and the audience. Four main topics were discussed. During the morning session, Michael Bladon covered “Risk Management” and Jane Arnett-Rivers and Dwayne McAllister spoke on “Maintenance of Athletic Fields and Putting Them to Bed for the Winter.” There was a lively exchange of ideas during the latter workshop.

There were two excellent sessions in the afternoon, the first by Gordon Dol of Dol Turf Restoration Ltd. who dealt with “Sports Field Drainage, Irrigation and General Construction.” The final speaker of the day was Pam Charbonneau, OMAFRA Turfgrass Specialist, who gave a very professional talk covering all the “Basics of Sports Turf Management.”

Several exhibitors had booths displaying their wares. Olympia, who manufactures the ice making equivalent of the Zamboni, donated several gifts to be included in a draw conducted by Terry Piche at the end of the afternoon.

The workshop attracted approximately 45 people for the day, some from as far away as Nepean, Ontario. Altogether a worthwhile event for all concerned and a great start for future information sharing between these two associations.

— Michael Bladon

Ontario Turfgrass Symposium
Education & Trade Show

January 3-5, 2001, Toronto, ON

When registering for the OTS, be sure to indicate you are a member of the Sports Turf Association, a sponsoring association of the symposium. On your registration form please check Sports Turf Association to ensure your membership credit is directed to us!

Save more money on the registration fees of others from your facility/organization who are not members of the STA. Non-members registered at the same time as a member qualify for the same lower association rates. Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register.

STAF Office Hours
Lee Huether is in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The office phone number is (519) 763-9431. At other times, a message may be left on the voice mail system. Please include a call back number and information on the issue. The office may be reached by faxing (519) 763-9431 or via e-mail.

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