I trust all of you had a merry and meaningful Christmas.

Enthusiasm is defined as that "ecstasy of mind in which anything appears possible". This is the type of excitement that is being seen with our Association. We have had enquiries from almost every Province, as people look for ways to improve their generally overused facilities.

While in Ohio we met some of the speakers who will make presentations at the Conference, plus some potential ones. Planned this year are a field day, plus a seminar held in conjunction with the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and O.T.R.F. Please take advantage of these events as you will find them most worthwhile.

It's time to get out and view that equipment you need for this year, and to plan those Athletic Field programs. Start with a soil test — it will tell you all kinds of interesting things.

Does your staff need training on how sports turf care differs from turfgrass elsewhere in your jurisdiction? Do you need seed? Turf-type perennial ryes are in short supply due to drought where they are grown in the Williamette Valley of Oregon. So order soon for overseeding, or new fields.

Does your staff know why they aerate, how often, or how many passes across that same field?

These and other important subjects will be addressed at the Conference. Your collective enthusiasm will be infectious! SEE YOU THERE!

Sincerely yours,
Michael J. Bladon (President)
## GUIDELINES FOR SPORT-FIELD MAINTENANCE

### WORK PLAN FOR: SOCCER

by: Ron Dubyk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
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<th>COMMENTS</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Spring Clean-Up             | X | X |   |   |   |   |   |   | cleanup of winter debris
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | layout lines of play (use a transit) |
| Goal Posts                  | X | X |   |   |   |   |   | X | installed prior to May 15
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | remove after October 15
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | repaint / repair during the winter |
| Goal Nets / Corner Flags    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |   | check daily
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | repaint / replace as required |
| Field Use                   | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | by permit only May 15 - October 15
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | play suspended due to inclement weather;
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | determined by staff |
| Litter                      | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | inspected daily for rocks, glass & other debris |
| Benches / Bleachers         | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |   | inspect daily, repair as necessary
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | repaint in the off season |
| Weedspraying                | X | X | X |   | X |   |   |   | use of 2-4D (Killex) as per recommended rates.
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | Signs posted. |
| Insects/Disease             | X | X | X | X | X |   |   |   | as diagnosed. |
| Irrigation                  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | energize system & make necessary repairs by May.
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | winterize system in October |
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | maintain equivalent of 1" of rainfall |
| Mowing                      | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | mowing height of 1 3/4"
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | cut an average of 3 times every 2 weeks |
| Line Striping               | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | lines applied every week using white latex paint plus
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | water (1:1 ratio) |
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | Use Emabark every 2 months (add 2 oz. per 10 gal.
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | of paint/water mix) |
| Aerating                    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | use of core type aerator, break up & redistribute cores
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | (2 directions) |
| Soil testing                | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |   | end of season |
| Sod Repairs                 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |   | at end of season, usually goal mouth & centre field areas
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | snow fence for protection |
| Signage                     | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | prepare in the off season
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | secure in visible and vandal proof area |
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | inspect daily, when in use |
| Fencing                     | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | maintain / repair as necessary |
| Lighting                    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | inspect DAILY — replace/repair as required |
| Topdressing                 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | drag mat in two directions
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | mixture depends on existing field soil, drainage, use, etc.
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | recommend higher sand proportions |
| Overseeding                 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | watch fertilizer ratio, use 15-30-15 @ 12kgN/ha
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | (0.25 lbs/1000 sq. ft.) in each direction, when overseeding
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | use turf-type perennial ryegrass
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | spring seeding is recommended |
| Fertilizing                 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | based on annual soil samples
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | — apply 25-5-10 @ 12kgN/ha (0.25 lbs.N/1000 sq. ft.) in each
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | direction. At least 1/2 the nitrogen should be in slow release form
|                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | — see 'Overseeding' for fertilizer rates during the overseeding operation |
| Documentation               | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | ongoing, daily recording of all of the above noted items! |

NOTE: The above schedule represents only a guideline to be modified for each facility, as applicable. It should also be noted that the above maintenance programme represents a permitted facility, staffed on a seven day operational basis and a minor user fee is paid (not a full cost recovery). Should you require any further information or to have any additional comments or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the author at (416) 392-2550.

A guideline of field maintenance will appear in future issues for the following sports activities: rugby, field hockey, cricket and baseball.
# 1987 TURFGRASS EXTENSION REPORT

by: Annette Anderson, Turf Extension Specialist, OMAF

1987 was the first year extension services were made available to the turfgrass industry by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

What exactly does a Turfgrass Extension Specialist do? This was a very frequent question this season. My function is to provide information and advice on the production and management of turfgrass to those persons in Ontario involved in the golf course industry, lawn care industry, sod producers, municipal parks and recreation departments, cemeteries and others in the commercial turf industry.

Relaying information to the industry is achieved through individual consultations, newsletters, magazine articles, field days, meetings and conferences. Working closely with industry associations such as the Ontario Turf Research Foundation, the Canadian Golf Superintendent’s Association, Nursery Sod Growers Association, Landscape Ontario and the Sports Turf Associations assists in keeping up to date with industry activities and areas where extension efforts may be needed.

Co-operation with research personnel in Ontario and elsewhere contributes to being aware of the trials being conducted and possible practical applications of this research for the hands-on turf manager. In turn extension information may provide researchers with insight into problems encountered by turf managers and possible areas where future research may be needed. There are several diagnostic and analytical services available through OMAF to assist turf managers. I can assist with interpretations of these results as required.

## SERVICE

1. **SOIL TESTING**
   - no charge for basic test (N, P, K, Mg, pH); optional tests available
   - Fee for home and garden samples

## LOCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGRI-FOOD LABS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503 Imperial Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guelph, Ontario N1H 6T9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(519) 837-1600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(cont’d on page 4)
2. FOLIAR (Tissue) TESTING
fee based on elements tested

3. WATER TESTING
fee based on elements tested

4. PESTICIDE RESIDUE TESTING
eg. atrazine residues

5. PEST DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC
fee
disease diagnosis
weed / insect / grass I.D.

6. SAND ANALYSIS
(particle size)
fee

Problems encountered by turf managers in 1987 were mainly caused by unusual weather conditions throughout the entire season.

Winter injury including ice damage and variable snow mold control occurred on many courses. Renovation in the spring was complicated by poor over-seeding conditions and a shortage of bentgrass seed.

Weed control was a big concern for the lawn care industry. Poor spraying conditions and drought in the spring, resulted in reduced broadleaf weed control. Crabgrass control was a tremendous problem mainly due to timing of application and warm weather conditions that reduced the residual of the control products.

Grass growers experienced poor germination conditions in mid-summer resulting in uneven seedings and above average annual weed problems.

Insect problems were significant this year with grub type insects and chinch bug topping the list. Detection and control was difficult due to drought conditions and insect life cycles being approximately 2 weeks ahead of a normal year's development, making timing complicated.

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**NOTICE**

President Mike Bladon will be discussing the organization of the new Sports Turf Association:

- to the University of Saskatchewan the first week of February
- the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture Alumni Association at their 41st Annual Conference
- at the Ontario Parks Association 3-day Conference at Humber College in March 1988.

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**Argonaut's Smith injures his elbow**

VANCOUVER (CP) – Toronto Argonauts wide receiver Jeff Smith suffered a nasty gash to his elbow after hitting the artificial turf during football practice Thursday at B.C. Place Stadium.

Smith sustained the injury making an acrobatic catch that drew applause from his teammates. The six-foot-four, 180-pound flanker spiked the ball in mock celebration but then left the field a minute later holding his elbow in pain as a team doctor examined the crescent-shaped gash.

"He made a diving catch out there. Somehow he hit his elbow and had a real bad gash," Argonaut head coach Bob O'Brien said after practice. "I'll just have to wait and play it by ear until we see what it's like tomorrow (Friday)."

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**DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND**

**THE 1st ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

4:30 - 5:00 P.M.

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**A Final Note:**

We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this issue of the Sports Turf Association Newsletter. We invite comments and suggestions for future articles from all of our members.

Write to the following address:

**Sports Turf Association**

185 Edinburgh Road South
Guelph, Ontario
N1G 2H8

or Call

Bruce Calhoun – 247-7875
Ron Dubyk – 392-2550