



# ITF Board of Directors

*Change is upon us, and if we are to succeed, we acknowledge its existence and embrace it. We are assured in this life we don't know what tomorrow will bring. In order to stay abreast of this unstoppable metamorphosis we must adapt to this evolution. It is what separates us from less civilized cultures and inspires us to seek out solutions for problems we face. As you are all obviously aware the golf business is changing as well. The "golfing boom" we had the pleasure of experiencing at the turn of the century has long since passed. This is forcing our profession, (along with much of corporate America), to provide more, with less. And yet, at the same time demands and pressures for year round quality playing conditions continue to rise.*

We want to adjust, improve, and grow both personally and professionally with these changes. Our organizational associations we belong to continue to try to do the same. The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF) is one such organization trying to stay at pace with this evolution curve. The ITF was founded almost 50 years ago as a way to establish and maintain turfgrass research in the state of Illinois. The ITF has evolved into the largest turf principal organization in the state. Through the years, the ITF has contributed a total nearing 2 million dollars to the University of Illinois (U of I), Southern Illinois University (SIU), and the Chicago District Golf Association (CDGA). And we as a board whole heartedly thank you the membership for a revenue stream that has supported our efforts for all these years.

This year the ITF/MAGCS will once again be co-hosting the Spring Golf Day. This event will be held on May 12th, 2008 at St. Charles Country Club, with Jim Keith, CGCS as our gracious host. For the past decade or so the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF) has partnered with MAGCS on this event and the MAGCS College Scramble each fall. This year, however the ITF will join forces with MAGCS for only the Spring Golf Day in hopes to focus all efforts entirely on this one event. The College Scramble will still be hosted by MAGCS, this year at Joliet Country Club, Mark Kowaliczko host.

The thought process behind this decision is simple. The ITF desires to host one really, really outstanding event rather than hosting two events which have evolved into regular monthly meetings with the proceeds to benefit the ITF. The ITF believes your time is very valuable and committing to two fundraising events a year can be burdensome when we can accomplish the same success with one fantastic event. In order for this event to be successful, we ask your help:

- You attend this event and invite another club official, owner or manager from your facility.
- If you are not able to attend, participate by having your club or company sponsor a tee.

The ITF's mission is to provide *turfgrass research and education*, and this takes resource. We as professionals along with the integrity of our profession directly benefit from this goodwill.

As our organization and profession evolves and new generations of professionals become engaged, we must and will adapt to fit needs of our industry now, and for the future. The ITF will continue its mission with you, the golf course superintendent, at the forefront of the thought process. Thank you for your support in the past, as we look to the future. See you in May at St. Charles Country Club. **-OC**



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