

Certification Committee Report

After over two years of concentrated effort, we're almost there.

The Certification Committee met on April 16 and 17, 1999 in Chicago. During that meeting several revisions and updates were made to the Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) Competency Outline, the CSFM Competency List, the CSFM Fee Schedule, the CSFM Industry Service Points and the Resource List for the Sports Turf Manager.

The revisions made at this meeting were included in master copies sent to the committee for further review. Following this review, final changes were made and these materials were submitted to the STMA Board for review prior to the June 18 and 19 Board

Meeting. The STMA Board discussed the items submitted for their review and voted to accept them as submitted. These materials will become part of the Certification Packet which will be sent to all those considering certification.

The Board also ratified the Certification Committee's recommendations on the issue of who can be certified, and some minor wording changes in the CSFM Acceptance and Rejection letters, the CSFM Application Form, the CSFM Education Requirements Worksheet, the list of CSFM forms needed, and the format of the Certification Test and the recommended testing procedures.

On June 25 and 26, 1999, the Certification Committee again met in Chicago. On the 25th, they reviewed

portions of the Credentialing Booklet that will become part of the Certification Packet and made recommendations for revisions that will again be reviewed before going to the STMA Board for review. They also discussed components of the CEU and qualification point criteria and reviewed and expanded the projected internal and external promotion venues. The main focus on the 25th was refining the procedures for the most effective evaluation of the draft test.

On the 26th, members of the committee and several individuals selected from the Chicago area "tested" a draft of the CSFM Certification Test. This was NOT a testing of the individuals, but rather an opportunity to take the draft test under simulated testing conditions and then to evaluate the test and the individual questions as to their content, clarity, acuteness, fairness, structure, and their relevance to the competencies and to sports field management.

The Certification Test will undergo one more review prior to the finalization of its multiple versions. In the meantime, the Certification Committee and STMA Headquarters are preparing for STMA Board review the remainder of the forms that will be included in the Certification Packet. Depending on the timing of these processes and the development and printing timetables of the final versions, these packets will be ready to send out in late summer or early fall. Testing will become available at approved proctored sites following the review and verification of the qualifying level of combined education and experience points of each applicant.

The first group testing is planned for Sunday, January 16, 2000, in conjunction with STMA's 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition in St. Louis, Missouri.

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