

STMA Announces Formation of SAFE

The Sport Turf Managers Association (STMA) announces the formation of the Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE). This Foundation is being formed as a 501(c)(3) corporation for the purposes as outlined in the SAFE Mission Statement: "To support sports field specific research, educational programs and environmental concerns to promote user safety."

STMA is backing its commitment to SAFE with an initial contribution of \$100,000. These funds are the first endowment for the Foundation, and only the income from this contribution will be used by SAFE.

The first SAFE Board of Trustees has been elected. Bob Campbell, Dr. Tony Koski and Monty Montague were elected from the STMA Board of Directors. Don St. Denis, The Toro Company; Paul Pesci, Textron Turf Care; and Mike Scaletta, John Deere; were elected to represent the potential donor group category. To represent the "other" category, Bob Patt, Mike Schiller and Dr. James Watson were elected. According to the Bylaws, SAFE and STMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty, automatically serves on the Board of Trustees for the Foundation. One of the first duties of the Board of Trustees will be to elect officers and establish the Finance, Research, Scholarship and Education Committees.

STMA President, Rich Moffitt, says, "The STMA Strategic Planning initiative identified the need for sports specific research as one of our top priorities. I speak on behalf of the Association to note the formation of this Foundation as another positive

step forward in our continued focus on helping increase the level of professionalism throughout the sports turf industry."

Trusty adds, "The Foundation will be able to focus on the research needs of the industry, provide the methods for obtaining funds, and provide potential tax benefits to the donors. This is a broad reaching initiative as noted in SAFE's Vision Statement: 'To use science as the foundation to benefit

sports fields in areas of playability, user safety, and the environment.' The results of this Foundation's support will assist athletes at all levels with safer playing field environments. This is an excellent fit with STMA's Positioning Statement: 'Providing the best sports surfaces for all levels of play.'"

For information on SAFE, please contact STMA Headquarters.



Do you have items to contribute that could be included in the STMA silent and live auctions to be held at the STMA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Tampa in January of 2001? Proceeds of the auctions will continue to fund the STMA Scholarship Programs. With the formation of SAFE, the scholarship program will be administered through the Foundation, bringing tax benefits to those who make auction donations.

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