

Meet Your New Board Members

Name: Eric Adkins, CSFM

Title: Athletic Turf Manager

Facility: Michigan State University/ Spartan Stadium

STMA Offices held: First national office

STMA Member since 11/24/97

Educational Background: 1978 Graduate of the 2-year Turfgrass Management Program Michigan State University.

Professional Experience: January 2002 to present, Athletic Turf Manager Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan; September 1997 to January 2002, Agronomist Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois; August 1994 to September 1997, Assistant Groundskeeper, Soldier Field, Chicago, Illinois; March 1989 to August 1994, Assistant Director of Golf, Chicago Park District, Chicago, Illinois

Honors/Awards: Certified Sports Field Manager, CSFM, 02/01/2000; College Football Field of the Year in 2000; Midwest Chapter STMA, Presidents Award, Presented in December 2001; Midwest Chapter Secretary for the years 1999 to 2001; MiSTMA Chapter Board of Directors 2002; STMA Certification Committee 2000 to present; STMA Marketing Committee - 2001 to present; STMA 2002 Founders Award; The Dick Ericson Award presented in January 2003



Hobbies: Golf, Traveling, Auto racing, relaxing in the off-season

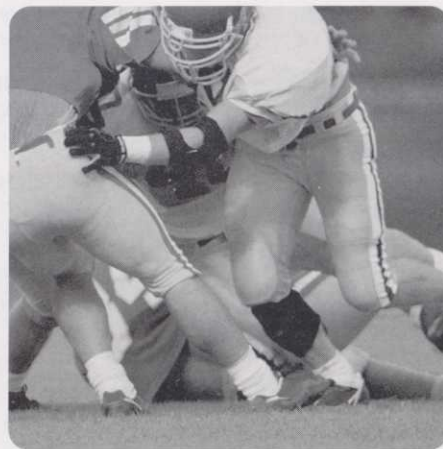
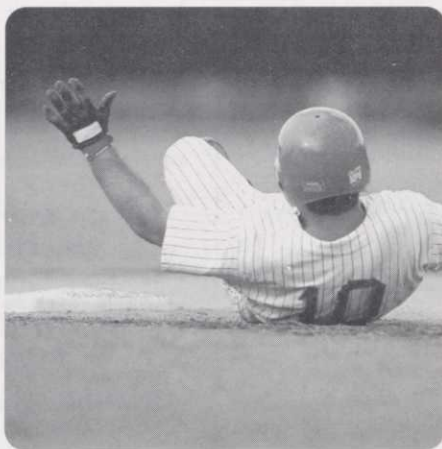
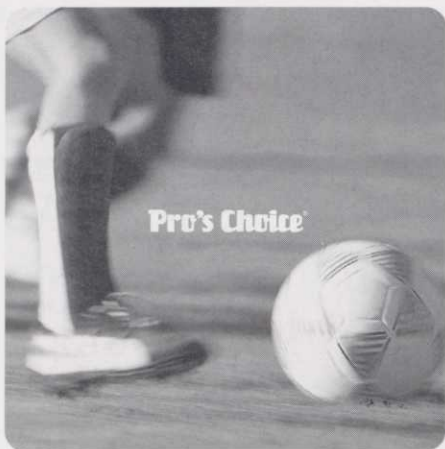
Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA? I became a member of the STMA to further my knowledge in the Sports Turf Industry. I knew that I didn't have all the answers to my sports turf problems and found out that I wasn't alone. By attending conferences and networking with other sports

turf professionals, I was able to work with others to find solutions to turf management problems. Also, I am now a part of a professional organization striving for better and safer fields for all.

What do you feel are the major issues facing the sports turf industry today? One of the biggest issues is that of the new in-fill systems of artificial turf, what their role will be in the future and how they will impact our industry. Another issue is that of the perception of the Sports Turf Manager and how we address the issue of professionalism and marketing ourselves to our administrators, and to the general public. That Sports Turf Manager should be the recognized leader and authority in this profession.

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American Falls, ID

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Texas Rangers Baseball
Arlington, TX

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Waldo Terrell

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Athens, GA

Jeanne S. Tomlinson

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Martin Vasquez

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Rick Walker

Lowell Spinners Baseball
Lowell, MA

Mike Welfring

Turf Supply Company
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Jon Willow

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Jason Baron Rolf

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Casey Scheidel

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Ames, IA

Ryan Schutt

Tacoma Rainiers Baseball
Tacoma, WA

Keith Siler

Univ. of N. Carolina/Greensboro
Greensboro, NC

Cheyne Solesbee

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Todd Whipple

Capital Sports Foundation
Lincoln, NE

Chad Yeomans

Student/Michigan State Univ.
Lansing, MI

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What would you do to resolve some of these issues? I feel that education is what's needed most to resolve most of today's issues facing the Sports Turf Manager. With a well-educated Sports Turf Manger we can overcome many of the problems out there today. As field quality improves so does our image. As our image improves so do the salaries we can expect to receive. Another way is certification, being a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) shows that you are knowledgeable in the aspects of field management and willing to accept the challenges in the future.

Do you have any words of wisdom for your peers in the STMA? Over my short stint as a member in the STMA I have come to realize that this organization will have one of the greatest impacts on the green industry. What organization can say they are a part of one's life from childhood to adulthood - from the

park and recreation fields we all played on, to high school activities and sporting events, to the professional and collegiate fields and events, that are watched every day by millions of people? Every time my fields are used I know that I made a small impact in somebody's life, that's why I want to do the best I can.

Name: Abby L. McNeal, CSFM

Title: Assistant Turfgrass Manager

Facility: INVESCO Field at Mile High

Years associated with STMA: 10 years

STMA Offices held: Chapter Relations Chair for 6 years

Educational Background: B.S. Landscape Horticulture concentration in Turfgrass Management from Colorado State

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University, graduation in 1994; Certification from University of Georgia, 1998; Certified Sports Field Manager, 2001.

Professional Experience: 1994 City of Westminster Parks and Libraries; 1995-1999 City of Boulder Parks and Recreation, Pleasant View Sports Complex; 1999-2001 University of Colorado, Athletic Turfgrass Manager; 2001-present INVESCO Field at Mile High, Assistant Turfgrass Manager.

Honors and Awards: 1993 STMA Scholarship recipient; 1997 STMA College Soccer Field of the Year; 2000 Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Turfgrass Manager of the Year; 2001 member of the Denver Broncos Turf Team that received the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Professional Turfgrass Manager of the Year.

Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA? To meet and create a working relationship with fellow sports

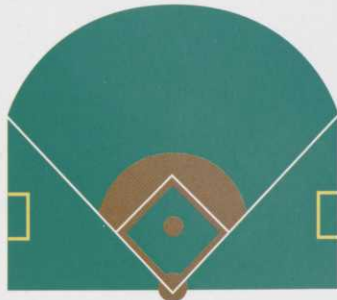


turf managers throughout the country.

What do you feel are the major issues facing the sports turf industry today? The overuse of the fields throughout all levels of the sports turf industry creating great opportunities for the newer style of artificial fields is one of the major issues facing the industry today. I believe that through better education and better turf management we, as sports turf managers, can help promote the industry and reduce the overuse of our fields.

What would you do to resolve some of these issues? To help solve some of the issues that are facing the industry today, I would push for better means of educating the field user and the public on the consequences of over-using the facilities. In addition, we need better methods of promoting the sports turf manager as the resource for education and training in regards to maintaining their athletic fields.

Do you have any words of wisdom for you peers in the STMA? Try your best to educate your immediate officials and field users about the limits of your field(s) and help them recognize there is a point of overuse that affects the player safety.



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