

SPORTS TURF NEWSLETTER

September, 1987
Volume I, No. 1

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President's Message

First of all, a very sincere welcome to our new members. We will be sending information on the conference which is scheduled for March, and we will also be producing more newsletters. We thank you for your support of this fledgling organization.

We will be pleased to answer any queries you may have, information you may require, or any problems with your sports turf.

Annette Anderson, OMAF's Turf Extension Specialist has been working with the CGSA for an excellent first conference program. Dr. Clayton Switzer, Deputy Minister of Agriculture has already agreed to be our Keynote Speaker. James Watson, Vice President of Toro will also be in attendance.

Our board members have been working hard to get this fledgling association off the ground. Our secretary, Ron Dubyk is co-ordinating the production of the Newsletter. Bruce Calhoun is working on

a membership strategy, and Bob Allen as Treasurer is keeping after the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation to obtain some help to keep us moving and solvent. John Watson is assisting with conference arrangements. You can appreciate that starting an association is a BIG job, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the board members for their hard work.

As summer draws to a close, the students have returned to school and will be using the sports fields for their practices. Hopefully yours is in good shape, as injuries can happen so quickly! When did you last inspect them? A week ago? A month ago? Do you have accurate records of the maintenance you performed this year? Will you be able to tell the insurance adjustor precisely what has been done to ensure safe playing conditions?

THE TIME IS NOW!

*Sincerely yours,
Michael Bladon*

Report on the Athletic Turf Field Day

(Held at the University of Guelph,
Alumni Stadium, June 18, 1987.)

There were 145 delegates and 12 distributors in attendance for this field day. They listened to talks on athletic turf maintenance programs and liability insurance and its problems. The distributors then demonstrated the different types of turf maintenance equipment now available.

After a box lunch it was time to head over to the Cambridge Research Station where turf type perennial ryegrasses were used for athletic field situations. Dr. Chris Hall

indicated uses of different types of herbicides at different strengths for growth regulation. Lastly, delegates were shown Dr. Lee Burpee's work in trying to isolate a natural fungus as an environmentally safe way to kill dandelions. (See also the article "Natural Fungus..." appearing on page 4 of this issue.)

Along with the distributors, your Sports Turf Association had a booth where delegates could pick up a brochure or membership application, a news release, and a questionnaire on different facets of Sports Turf.

All in all, this was a very useful and worthwhile day. See also "Guidelines for Sports Field Management" which appears on the next page of this issue.