

SPORTS TURF Manager

Volume 8
ISSUE 2

JUNE
1995

ISSN 1201-3765

... for better, safer Sports Turf

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fondest Spring Greetings to our membership! It seems we, in the industry, go from a slower winter pace to full speed ahead almost overnight as our athletic fields, ball diamonds, park areas, and school yards spring to life before our eyes. At this time of year even one lost day due to rain can cause anxiety and headaches for most turf managers. Thank goodness for longer daylight hours which can often be a saving grace.

While we are not at the point of an anxiety attack, your Executive and Board of Directors are hard at work planning upcoming events. Quickly approaching on the horizon is the annual Field Day slated for July 21 & 22 at Hamilton's Globe Park. This year's agenda reflects some exciting changes and the theme is **Ball Diamond Maintenance**. Besides the usual excellent speakers, and trade show, a slo-pitch softball tournament will be held beginning on the Friday evening and continuing all day Saturday. Whether you wish to enter a team, or just come along for some educational seminars, it plans to be a superb event. The Field Day committee chaired by Dave Smith has done a lot of work in planning this occasion. Please circle your calendars to attend. See the enclosed flyer in this edition of the Sports Turf Manager or contact the STA Office at (519) 763-9431.

A sub-committee has recently met to discuss the agenda for the 1996 Ontario Turfgrass Symposium. The venue has been changed from the Univ. of Guelph to

the Constellation Hotel near the Toronto International Airport due to classroom conflicts. In '96 everything will be under one roof so hang up your coat and enjoy yourself. We will be there as a sponsoring Association offering you an array of sports field and turf related seminars and discussions.

I was encouraged by the strong showing of STA members at the last OTS where we generated slightly more than \$9,000 in revenue for the Association. These funds will not only allow us to continue existing programs but also to expand to new initiatives. For example, your Directors are seriously considering producing the series entitled *Understanding Turf Management* in the form of book. These articles which have appeared in numerous *Newsletters* have received national acclaim for their practical and educational content and value.

Please refer to the enclosed Minutes of Directors Meetings for a more complete synopsis of the activities of your Association.

Our Executive Secretary is comfortably settling into her new duties and is busy renewing memberships and keeping close attention to an STA letter of introduction campaign to spread the *Safer Better Sports Turf* mission. Membership has increased significantly since she joined us and her marketing skills are yielding positive results. Having dedicated and published office hours seems to be paying dividends in allowing her to make much more personal contact with our members and potential members.

Until next time I wish all members much success with their sports field maintenance programs and a safe enjoyable sum-

mer. Please try and join us in Hamilton on July 21 & 22 where it will be my honour to present two (2) educational scholarships to recent graduates of the Turf managers Short Course. Please come out and help us extend congratulations to some dedicated and accomplished turf managers.

Lastly, my thanks for all who have renewed membership with the STA. If you have not returned the enclosed survey, please do so at your convenience. Hopefully it will be the subject for an upcoming "Manager". I am glad you are on board with one of the leading voices in the turf industry and remain committed to our mission and support for our network of colleagues.

Best wishes for better, safer sports turf.
Christopher Mark
President

SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION OFFICE HOURS

Mrs. Sonja Schneider will be in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The office phone number is (519) 763-9431. At other times a message may be left on the Voice Mail system. Please include the vital information of name, telephone number with area code, and time of calling. The office may also be reached at any time on FAX # (519) 766-1704.

In this Issue:

Dirty Dirt: A story about a sports field and some not-so-clean fill

2

Understanding Turf Management: Bluegrasses

3

Bench Tarps

4

Striping & Lining Soccer Fields

5

GTI Hillites

7

It pays to post signs

9

Big Brother is Watching: pesticide applicator inspections

10

Tribute to Bob Sheard

11

Coming Events

12