

# Dr. R.W.(BOB) Sheard, P.Ag.

**STA Executive Secretary  
1990-1994**

After four very busy and successful years, Bob Sheard has resigned his position as Executive Secretary of the Sports Turf Association. At the Jan. 5, 1995, General Meeting of the Association, STA President, Chris Mark, presented Bob with an Appreciation Award for his efforts and dedication during his years as Executive Secretary. Bob has stepped down to fulfil his duties with the Masonic Order of Ontario. However, he has agreed to accept a position as Director of the STA and serve as our Newsletter Editor.

During his term as Executive Secretary, Bob Sheard has made an impressive and lasting impact on the Association. Initially he was hired to be responsible for office management and ensuring the efficient running of the day-to-day affairs of the Association. While Bob never dazzled us with his typing speed or computer prowess, he certainly vaulted the STA into becoming one of the finest turf organizations in Canada through his dedication to education and professionalism. Many dreams and aspirations of the Executive came to fruition when Bob came on board

in August, 1990 when the STA finally had an employee fully dedicated to the affairs of the Association. Mike Bladon's convincing one of the foremost and respected soil scientists from the Department of Land Resource Science at the University of Guelph to join the STA, was to pay large dividends for the Association and its members.

As Executive Secretary Bob has played a vital role in many, many projects. He was instrumental in producing and editing the Athletic Field Managers Guide, assisted with writing the text and editing the series of three Video Tapes on Turf Management. He spearheaded the production of the membership directory and member plaques. Bob has represented the Association on the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium planning committee since 1990 and was really one of the visionaries who felt the need for an educational conference involving all turf associations and turf managers in Ontario. One of the less known, but outstanding achievements during his tenure was negotiating the office rental agreement between the STA and Guelph Turfgrass Institute and the Management Board Secretariat of Ontario. Bob spent many hours which finally resulted in an

agreement which was fair and equitable for the Association and its members and provided the Association with a permanent home.

Since arriving as Executive Secretary, Bob has been a regular and major contributor to the Newsletter. One of the primary goals of the STA is education and disseminating information to our members. Bob's series of articles entitled "Understanding Turf Management" represent this focus on education at its finest. His articles have been reprinted by numerous other turf publications and several Colleges have requested using the articles as part of their curriculum. Besides writing articles, Bob has also been responsible for producing and distributing the Newsletter. If the Newsletter has been late, its been well worth the wait.

In closing we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the effort Bob Sheard has put forth on behalf of the Association as Executive Secretary. Since 1990 Bob has represented professionalism, credibility, and a profound desire to improve athletic fields and assist turf managers in providing **better, safer, sports turf**. On behalf of all members, Thank You.



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