

Sports Turf Association Announces Scholarship Award Winners



STA President, Chris Mark, presents a Scholarship Cheque to Tommy Joe Coffey Jr., Superintendant of Chedoke Golf Course in Hamilton.

The Sports Turf Association is pleased to announce this year's educational scholarships have been awarded to Mr. Tommy Joe Coffey Jr. and Mr. Gordon Noble. Each year the STA makes available a \$200 scholarship and a one year subscription to the Sports Turf Manager to the student who achieves the highest proficiency in sports turf related courses at the Turf Managers Short Course held each February at the University of Guelph. The awards are based on the students standing in three courses, Soils and Nutrition, Turf Management, and Herbicides. This year, due to the slimmest of margins between the grades, it was decided to present two scholarship awards. STA President Christopher Mark was honoured to make the announcement and presentations at the recent Field Day in Hamilton.

Tommy Joe Coffey Jr. is Superintendent of Chedoke Golf Course and is actively involved in the lawn bowling operations with the City of Hamilton. Prior to this position he was the Sports Turf Manager of Mohawk Sports Park where, among other duties, he had responsibility for preparing the fields for the World University soccer matches. He has also hosted international rugby tournaments and worked at Ivor Wynne Stadium on their events.

Gordon Noble also is employed with the City of Hamilton where he is a member of the golf course maintenance staff at Kings Forest Municipal Golf Course. Gord is also involved in all facets

of turf maintenance at Roselawn Municipal Lawn Bowling Club. Prior to these duties, he was a Sports Groundsman at Mohawk Sports Park where he performed all aspects of sports field maintenance related to soccer, football, baseball, track and field. Gord's winter duties also have a turf flavour as he is involved in snow making and grooming the Chedoke Winter Sports Park.

The STA congratulates both these gentleman on their superb achievement and wishes them much success in all future endeavours.

EDITORIAL

The English language has been enriched lately by expressions such as the T-word (Tax), the H-word (Helicopter), etc. I would add another to that growing list - the D-word.

The D-word refers to DEDICATION.

Webster's dictionary defines a person who is dedicated as one who is devoted to, consecrated to or appropriated to a purpose.

For any organization to be progressive, particularly a non-profit organization, it must have people in the positions of Directors or Executive who have the D-word.

Some individuals allow their name to stand for nomination because the position looks important on their C.V. Others look for the per diem payment that the position provides; something most non-profit organizations cannot afford. Neither are reasons which provide the type of individual the organization requires.

A person who has the D-word must be the individual who is willing to make personal sacrifices in terms of personal and family time and finances without desire of any personal gain. The person who has the D-word must, in his or her own mind, be convinced that our Mission - TO PROMOTE BETTER AND SAFER SPORTS TURF - is worthy of his or her individual effort and the collective effort of the Board.

The By-Laws of the Association state that a Nominating Committee shall, not less than sixty days prior to the annual membership meeting, prepare a list of nominees for the positions of Directors and Officers that become vacant at the end of the current fiscal year.

The Sports Turf Association needs members who feel they have the D-word. If you are dedicated to our mission and wish to become a Director, please give this office a call.

