

# STA Questionnaire

The Sports Turf Association telephone questionnaire, which so many of you answered during 1997 and 1998, provided your Association with a wealth of reliable information and assisted in bringing names, addresses, and contact information up to date. Most members appeared satisfied with the overall workings of the Association and indicated that questions were answered promptly when phoned into the office.

Many of you were too far away to attend either the field day or the symposium. Those that did attend had some very useful suggestions for future topics of discussion (see below).

The majority of those surveyed described the quality of the *Sports Turf Manager* as excellent, retaining past copies for future use. Quite a few indicated they would write articles for the newsletter (we'll be in touch!). More, however, expressed interest in serving on the Board of Directors or as a committee member.

Most found the membership roster helpful and kept it close at hand for networking and supplier names.

With respect to funding research, most agreed to do so if the projects were relevant and not a duplication of past efforts.

In conclusion, we have listed your comments as they relate to articles or topics you would like to see addressed in the future either in the *Sports Turf Manager* or at symposia or field days.

## *Sports Turf Manager*

- ◆ new trend developments
- ◆ monthly bulletin on equipment tips
- ◆ technical articles by Bob Sheard
- ◆ do not allow it to become just a look at shiny new equipment

## *Administration*

- ◆ user fees (including formats for costs vs. user fees)
- ◆ liability updates
- ◆ how municipalities or public organizations handle the need for increasingly longer seasons
- ◆ survey of playing dates & policy

## *Professional Development*

- ◆ career and training opportunities for students, job postings, professional development opportunities
- ◆ every other year do a "hands on" field education day
- ◆ profile turf managers who have come up through the ranks - managerial skills

## *Turf Basics*

- ◆ improvements in root zone construction and root zone materials
- ◆ turf diseases and biological controls
- ◆ seed, fertilizer, chemicals
- ◆ alternatives to sand-based turf
- ◆ soils, drainage, irrigation

- ◆ pesticide/herbicide management
- ◆ plant/soil science
- ◆ how plants grow, grass response, botany, photosynthesis
- ◆ pesticide update (reductions vs. banning)
- ◆ crumb rubber - who else is using it, class 2 seed mix, culture practices
- ◆ research on real life fields
- ◆ turf trials
- ◆ irrigation, layers of soil, alternate green method
- ◆ how to correct turf problems, e.g. how to bring back old soccer fields
- ◆ use of composts

## *Facilities*

- ◆ work done at your facility
- ◆ renovation alternatives
- ◆ tender specs
- ◆ maintenance
- ◆ more info on golf courses

*Please Note: Topics that members wanted to see researched were very similar to those issues listed under the administration, turf basics, and facilities categories described above.*



**Thank-you to all  
our participants!**

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