



SPORTS TURF CHRISTMAS GIFTS ...



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*Athletic Field Managers' Guide for
Construction & Maintenance*

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latest publication: "Constructing The Sports
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Canadian Soccer Update

Canadian soccer is hurting as indicated in a report to the Canadian Soccer Association Board in October. The board endorsed recommendations suggested by Technical Director Holger Osieck and Vice President Andy Sharpe. The major change will be to turn over operations of its current four National Training Centres to the affiliated provincial soccer associations. They are located in Burnaby, B.C., as part of Simon Fraser University; in Edmonton, as part of the University of Alberta; and in Toronto and Montreal. A fifth training centre in Halifax is scheduled to be ready by 2000.

What does all this mean and why is this in the *Sports Turf Manager*? Simply put, the report states in part "rain-soaked shale, gravel fields, and gymnasium-type playing areas are not suitable to prepare our national team to compete against teams such as Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica, etc."

This means that monies will be made available for these centres to improve their playing fields. Several of our members across Canada are in a position to be able to influence decisions made and to either advise and/or be involved directly with the construction and maintenance thereafter.

Who knows—this may be the start of a national trend—a trend which recognizes that athletes no matter what the field sport or the age group, require both safe conditions and that the outcome of the game will not be influenced by the state of the field. Given that sufficient funds are made available for the fields at these centres, there could also be a filtering down effect to the local level. We as STA members need to continue to be out there selling better and safer sports turf, both with our words and more importantly, in our approach to our fields—whether it be maintenance or new construction. ♦

— M. Bladon

Did You Know?

The Grand Valley tornado in 1985 was the second longest tornado track on record anywhere, touching down in Arthur and continuing for 190 km!

Coming Events

January 4-6, 2000

Ontario Turfgrass Symposium
Tools for 2000, Toronto, ON
Information: (519) 767-5000

January 4

Sports Turf Association
Dinner/Annual General Meeting
Toronto, ON
Information: (519) 763-9431

January 11-13

Landscape Ontario
Congress 2000
Canada's International
Horticultural Trade Show &
Conference, Toronto, ON
Information: (905) 875-1805

January 12-16

Sports Turf Managers' Association
11th Annual Conference &
Exhibition, St. Louis, Missouri
Information: (800) 323-3875

January 31-February 25

University of Guelph - Office of
Open Learning, Turf Managers'
Short Course, Guelph, ON
Information: (519) 767-5000

February 1, 8, 15, 22 & March 7, 14

University of Guelph - Office of
Open Learning, Pesticide
Applicators Certification Exam
Preparation Course, Guelph, ON
Information: (519) 767-5000

March 8-9

Ontario Parks Association
44th Annual Educational Seminar
Protecting Tomorrow Today &
Explorations 2000 Trade Show
(March 8), Toronto, ON
Information: (416) 426-7157

March 22-26

Canada Blooms
Toronto, ON
Information: 1-800-730-1020

*See the back page for
details on the OTS -
Tools for 2000!*