SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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328 Victoria Rd. S., RR 2, Guelph, ON N1H 6H8 Tel: (519) 763-9431, Fax: (519) 766-1704 E-mail: info@sportsturfassociation.com Web: www.sportsturfassociation.com

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Jane Arnett-Rivers, Andrew Gaydon, Lee Huether and Paul Turner

PUBLISHER

New Paradigm Communications R.R. #8, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5W4 Tel. (519) 371-6818, Fax: (519) 371-5789 E-mail: joy@npc-solutions.com

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STA OFFICE HOURS

Lee Huether is in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through 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 be reached at any time by faxing (519) 766-1704 or via e-mail.

The President's Desk



Will the Rain Ever End?

inter is fast approaching. The time has come when we all can sit back (a little) and reflect on another busy season in sports turf. And certainly, the talk of the industry has been the extremely wet fall. The month of September saw 18 rain days. October had 21 days of rain, and November was not much better until the end of the month. Combining the rainy days with the subsequent ones needed to dry out did not leave much time to get work done. Furthermore, with all the wet conditions, any field that was used continually will likely be in the condition referred to as a MUD BOWL.

Gearing Up For Winter Activities

At this time of year, many families are constructing their backyard rinks in hopes of a cold winter. In addition to being a longheld Canadian tradition, backyard rinks also serve to keep kids occupied instead of spending hours in front of the TV (and what parent doesn't relish that idea!). Arenas are also a buzz of activity with hockey, figure skating and endless hours of public skating scheduled. What is also good to see is that a number of municipalities are installing outdoor rinks complete with cover and boards. These facilities are being well used for ball hockey, etc. in the warm season and skating and hockey when ice conditions permit.

OTS 2007

With winter approaching, there is another event that everyone in the sports turf industry should be planning to attend. The Ontario Turfgrass Symposium once again promises to be the premier turf event of the year. Another great slate of speakers has been confirmed. Mark February 19 & 20, 2007 on your calendars and I'll see you at the University of Guelph.

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During the OTS, the Sports Turf Association will also be hosting our Annual General Meeting. All members are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend. You will receive your invitation early in the new year. The AGM will be held Tuesday, February 20 from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of Johnson Hall. Note that over the past year we have restruc-

Mark your calendars. OTS 2007 will be February 19 & 20, 2007 at the University of Guelph. This year's theme is *Keeping it Green*.

tured the STA scholarship program. Applications have been received and the recipient will be announced at the AGM. Lastly, we are now accepting nominations for various board positions. You will have recently received a nomination form by mail. If you would like to be part of a great team, please contact Lee Huether or any board member for more information. Deadline for nominations is December 22, 2006.

Celebrating Two Decades

In 2007, your Sports Turf Association will be 20 years-old. Plans are now underway to commemorate this event. Stay tuned, we will keep you posted. We hope that all members, past and present, will join us as we celebrate this anniversary year.

On behalf of the STA Board, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.