Sports Turf Manager

Volume 23, Issue 3, ISSN 1201-3765

is the official publication of the
SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION INC.
328 Victoria Road South
Guelph, ON N1L 0H2
Tel: (519) 763-9431
Fax: (519) 766-1704
E-mail: info@sportsturfassociation.com
Web: www.sportsturfassociation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PRESIDENT Paul Gillen
PAST-PRESIDENT Gord Dol
SECRETARY Andrew Gaydon
TREASURER Rick Lane
EXECUTIVE MANAGER Lee Huether

DIRECTORS
Murray Cameron, Bruce Carman, Dave Chapman, Bill Clausen, Bob Kennedy, Jason Inwood, Ken Pavely, Tennessee Propedo, Paul Turner, Ben Tymchyshyn & Dennis Wale

SPORTS TURF MANAGER
is published quarterly by the STA for free distribution to its membership. An annual subscription may be obtained for $60/year. Please direct advertising inquiries to Lee Huether at the STA office.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
Murray Cameron, Ken Pavely & Lee Huether

PUBLISHER
Joy Black
New Paradigm Communications
Tel. (519) 371-6818
E-mail: joy@npc-solutions.com

CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT No. 40031883

STA OFFICE HOURS
Lee Huether is in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. 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.

President's Desk

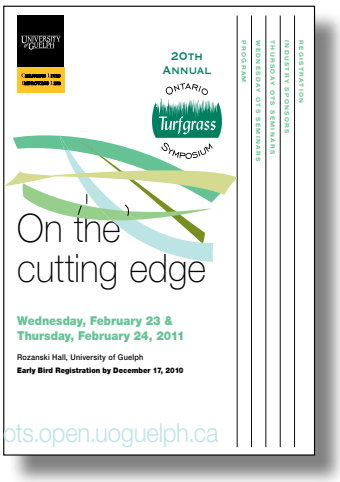
BY PAUL GILLEN

We are coming to the end of what has been the second warmest year on record here in southern Ontario. While that has been great for outdoor activities, it has provided challenges for those responsible for maintaining turf, especially in light of water restrictions and the first full year under the pesticides ban. That being said, watching the resilience and ingenuity of management and staff to get the best possible results under such challenging conditions is one of the reasons that I really enjoy this industry.

The Summer Operational Forum was held on June 23 in association with our Parks and Open Space Alliance (POSA) partners. With one in every seven Canadians living with some form of disability, our theme, Accessibility in Ontario's Parks and Open Spaces, was – and is – so very, very important. If you missed the event, there are some valuable resources available from the organizations that provided sessions: City of Toronto (www.toronto.ca), Ministry of Community and Social Services (www.AccessON.ca), Active Living Alliance and the All Abilities Welcome Campaign (www.allabilitieswelcome.ca), and Variety Village (www.varietyontario.ca).

Continuing with POSA events, we worked overtime to pull together the first POSA "Introduction to Synthetic Turf and Maintenance" training sessions held October 28 and 29 at the Hershey Sports Zone, Mississauga (just about the time you should be receiving this issue of Sports Turf Manager!). The workshops covered every aspect of synthetic turf from planning and budgeting to bid proposal preparation and evaluation, to construction, installation and maintenance considerations.

Our Annual Field Day was held on September 23 at the Hespeler Beehive Hall and Optimist Park in Cambridge. While there were some challenges for the committee this year, the day was an unqualified success. Our guest speakers, Dr. John Sorochan from the University of Tennessee, and Dr. Katerina Jordan and Dr. Eric Lyons from the University of Guelph, provided an array of insights into sports turf maintenance. Everyone in attendance seemed to take something new away from the day of seminars and field demonstrations. Our sincere thanks to the many sponsors and exhibitors for their continued support and to Paul Turner, Bob Kennedy and the rest of the committee for their efforts on behalf of the association.



Finally, the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium, On the Cutting Edge, is scheduled for February 23 and 24 at the University of Guelph. Watch your mail and visit www.ots.open.uoguelph.ca for all the details as they become available. We are especially pleased that this year Kim Heck, Executive Director of the Sports Turf Managers Association in the US, will be part of the program.

Winter will soon be upon us – a time to catch our breath and start preparations for next year. Until we chat again,