

Sports Turf Manager

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President's Desk

BY PAUL GILLEN

This was quite a year from a weather perspective – from a cold, wet spring to a hot, dry couple of summer months, to a very wet, yet pretty warm fall. It has made maintaining athletic turf challenging to say the least! Speaking of maintenance, the 2nd POSA Introduction to Synthetic Turf and Maintenance Workshop was held in Oshawa on November 10. For those of you who couldn't attend, you missed a great opportunity to network and learn. On the bright side, we have included an interesting perspective piece on maintaining synthetic turf by former NFL head groundskeeper Rob Anthony in this issue.

For a greater understanding of synthetic turf certifications and testing, plan to attend the supplementary session at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium. Grow Your Knowledge will be held February 22 & 23 at the University of Guelph. Special guest speaker is Dr. James Beard. I have worked in this industry for 30 years and Dr. Beard has always been known as the guru on the cutting edge of research, yet practical in his approach to application. OTS 2012 may be the only opportunity you will have to see and hear one of the truly great men of our generation in turfgrass science and I urge you to take advantage of it.



Dr. James Beard, Keynote Speaker, OTS 2012.

You won't want to miss Dr. James Beard, turf guru and keynote speaker at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium. Beard, President of the International Sports Turf Institute, is one of the world's leading authorities on turfgrasses and turf science.

Keeping with tradition, the STA Annual General Meeting will be held during the conference on February 22. As this is our 25th anniversary year, I encourage all of you who can possibly make it to attend this historic meeting. You will have received your call for nominations to the board of directors by the time you're reading this. Consider lending some of your time and giving back to the industry that supports you by volunteering as a director. It's a wonderful networking experience and can be very rewarding as you help to shape opportunities for the next generation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our hard working staff, I wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season and the very best for the New Year.

QUOTABLE QUOTE....

For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice. ~ T.S. Eliot