

# Sports Turf Manager

Volume 25, Issue 2, ISSN 1201-3765

is the official publication of the  
**SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION INC.**

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is published quarterly by the STA for  
free distribution to its membership.

An annual subscription may be  
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## CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT No. 40031883

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# President's Desk

BY PAUL GILLEN

**W**ell, we're a long way into the growing season after a mild winter and spring. How many of you are now paying the price trying to keep up with the growth? We're hearing a lot about the accelerated weed pressure and the limited resources available to deal with it. Safe and Playable is a tough mandate when the constraints are beyond your control, but we all have to keep trying.

We have at least one politician in Ontario who tried to do something about it. The Private Member's Bill sought to ease the restrictions on pesticide use allowing it with a licence of a prescribed class. Alas, politics took precedence

## SAFE AND PLAYABLE IS A TOUGH MANDATE WHEN CONSTRAINTS ARE BEYOND YOUR CONTROL

and the bill was defeated, but it did serve to bring the problem to the forefront. This is in contrast to the British Columbia situation where the standing committee examining the proposed ban in that province reported back to the legislature that there was no good scientific evidence to support a total ban. Common sense does exist out there; too bad

it doesn't cross provincial boundaries.

We are pleased to be able to bring you more highlights from the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium. This annual winter conference always produces the latest technology and research updates and we are proud to be a sponsoring partner.

As we move through our 25th anniversary year each magazine issue examines some of the highlights of your association from the past. The importance of sports turf in our communities has grown exponentially over the years, and we have been

there every step of the way. Mark your calendar for the 25th Annual Field Day, September 20 at The Soccer Centre in Vaughan, as well as the 25th Anniversary Banquet, October 25 at Victoria Park East Golf Club in Guelph. Details of both will be on the website soon.

The second edition of the *Athletic Field Construction Manual* is now available. This has been revised and updated with important supplemental information.

We have been working with our Atlantic Director Gord Horsman to offer the Sports Turf Management & Maintenance Course there this fall. The course is scheduled to run from October 29 to November 1 at the Moncton Coliseum, Moncton, New Brunswick. Stay tuned to the website for registration details.

Finally, a reminder that your 2012 membership invoices are now past due. If you haven't submitted your payment yet, please make this a priority – it's your association.●



**Non-Irrigated Soccer Field  
Castlebury Park, Guelph, ON  
Photo taken two days after mowing**

*Photo: Brian Scott, Lead Hand, Turf, City of Guelph*