

SFMANJ HOLDS 2ND ANNUAL SPRING FIELD DAY

By George Van Haasteren

It was a cold, windy and cloudy day but that did not deter over 150 people to attend the 2nd annual SFMANJ Spring Field Day that was held on April 10th at the Wall Township Athletic Complex in Monmouth County, New Jersey.

The educational portion of the field day covered several different areas that sports field managers from all across the state could relate to and learn how to best tackle each situation as it may occur.

Groups were divided into sections and brought to different areas outside where they were able to listen to Jim Hermann, CSFM demonstrate the proper way to build a pitcher's mound, Dr. James Murphy, Rutgers explained the benefits of using turf blankets. Dr. Steven Hart gave a presentation on weed identification. Dr. Henry Indyk, TurfCon explained the sight specific soil tests and how to use it. Bill Foelsch, Executive Director of NJRPA addressed playground safety. Indoor instruction included goose problems by Joseph B. Paulin, Rutgers, irrigation scheduling by Michael Pastori, Storr Tractor Co., as well as the latest update on pesticide regulations in the state for schools by Ann Waters and implementing an IPM program by Brad Park, Rutgers.

Due to the fickle weather a hot lunch was served inside where many were able to sit and network with others. After lunch the group headed outside once again where many vendors, who help support the chapter, discussed their products and equipment.

Better Materials, Partac Peat Corp., and United Horticultural Supply donated materials for the Field Day.

At the conclusion of the field day door prizes were donated by Cover Tech Fabricating, Fisher & Son Co, JDL, Lesco, Lord, Worrel & Richter, Inc., National Seed, Storr Tractor Co., Synthetic Textiles Co., Inc. The Terre Co., and Wilfred MacDonald Inc. Some of the prizes included eight tickets to the New York Yankees, (2) \$25 Home Depot certificates, sprayers, Honda 4 Cycle Weed Trimmer, seed and more. This is a great time to thank all the vendors who have so graciously supported SFMANJ. Also, a big thank you to Bryan Dempsey, Wall Township Recreation Director, and staff for working so hard to ensure that the Field Day was a great success.

The next field day for this year will be held in August at Paramus Catholic High School, Paramus, New Jersey. ▲

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