

SFMANJ CONGRATULATES OUR NEWEST CSFM

Don Savard, CSFM*

On February 1, 2006 Joe Warner became our newest Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM). Joe sat for the exam at the recent Sports Turf Managers Association conference in Orlando at Walt Disney World (January 17-22, 2006). I caught up with Joe for coffee soon after and we talked about the CSFM program.

D. Savard: *So, Joe, why did you become a CSFM?*

J. Warner: Because it was there! I always believed that it epitomized an ideal, and shows the industry that someone is on top of the newest things in our industry. Passing the testing procedure is an achievement.

D. Savard: *How long did you prepare?*

J. Warner: About thirty-five years (laughs). I spent 6 months reading all my books to help prepare, but really, the test was really the compilation of all my years of experience in the field. The hardest thing about the exam was sitting down and thinking about how I was going to answer the questions. The test asks practical questions about practical situations or problems. Somebody could be book smart and not pass; it truly was a test of my experience.

D. Savard: *How did you get into Sports Field Management?*

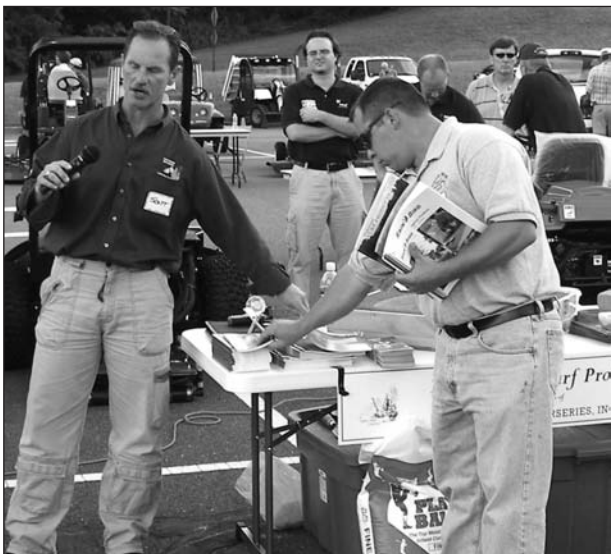
J. Warner: I was in my own landscape business for 25 years and got out. Somehow I was drawn back in and began working with the DVH Group. DVH was involved

with commercial and residential turf and we eventually got into sports fields. We knew turf care, but we found that sports fields were a horse of a different color. I found that there were lots of people in the landscape business bidding themselves out of business and on the sports field side there were few qualified people out there and lots of shoddy work. What I wanted to do was to distinguish our company from the rest; besides, I wanted to make a difference.

D. Savard: *How is that?*

J. Warner: By educating the public and becoming more professional, we can do a better job of creating safe, playable fields. It starts by having a professional attitude, acquiring knowledge and by delivering professional results. The CSFM program is an avenue for the professional to improve him or herself.

* Don Savard is a Certified Sports Field Manager; Director, Athletic Facilities and Grounds, Salesianum School; and SFMANJ Vice-President



A Field Day attendee picks-up literature on the turfgrass products described by Scott Bills, Northern Nurseries.



GEORGIA GOLF CONSTRUCTION, INC.

(Located in Tuckahoe, New Jersey)

Golf Course & Athletic Field Construction

Greens - Tees - Bunkers - Fairways
All Athletic Playing Fields
Shaping - Drainage - Irrigation - Grassing
Laser Leveling (1 day service available)
Earthworks Takeoff Estimating Software

Call 404-216-4445
www.georgiagolfconstruction.com

Excellent References