

UPDATE Sports Field



Summer 2018

Vol. 18, No. 2

Managers Association of New Jersey

P.O. Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070 • 856-514-3179 • www.sfmanj.org • e-mail: mail@sfmanj.org

RUTGERS

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Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018

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Photo Recap: SFMANJ Spring Field Day

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Currently we have 205 new & renewed members. Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey mailed invoices for 2018 membership dues to all current members. If you did not receive an invoice, please contact us at 856.514.3179 or download the membership form available at www.sfmanj.org. Mail membership dues direct to SFMANJ, PO Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070.

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Committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers by improving the safety, playability and appearance of athletic fields at all levels through seminars, field days, publications and networking with those in the sports turf industry.

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This newsletter is the official quarterly publication of the
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SFMANJ does not necessarily support the opinions of those reflected in the following articles.

A Message from the President

Holy Cow!

By Bernard Luongo



We all know that cliché – Hoping a good summer is shaping up. But really! Wow – what a spring. Waiting for Mother Nature to deliver this puppy would have been a disaster who ever performed the c-section. Thank you.

This has easily been the most challenging spring start of a sports season since I have been a groundskeeper. Four Nor'easters that knocked you on your keisters in one month. It wasn't the fact that there were four, but that they were perfectly spaced apart so that the entire month was non-existent – for sports preparation. Throw in one of the coldest April's on record and you have the paradise of Hell. As I am writing this, I look back and say to myself, how did we do it – get the fields respectable, get the games-in – Luck? How about absolute dedication and pride – you all went through it, you know that. Then Boom – it's all over. It really felt like it never started.

But all of that aside, things could have been worse. You could have been an evergreen. I could swear when I was inspecting the property after the second Nor'easter they were whispering to each other – if there's another one I don't think some of us are going to make it. Look at Ralph – two over. I'm not sure he can take another flake. Well the third one hit and that was it. Grant you, these fellows are pretty limber, but in the same breath, it was timber. The ones that survived were in some pretty unnatural positions. I believe it would have made a yoga instructor proud. So let's give these fellows their just due. How about a new Latin name – Limberus Gumbylea.

New paragraph, new thought. SFMANJ held its annual Spring Field Day at the Red Bulls Training Facility in Whippany, New Jersey. Another great event at a beautiful, well maintained facility. Another

great turnout – and for the most part, the weather held. Reese, Zack, Dan and the rest of the Red Bulls crew – you are a class operation. Chef Don Savard did another masterful job serving up breakfast and lunch, which was followed by a tour of the Jet's Practice Facility.

Everything flowed seamlessly throughout the day, thanks to Debbie Savard. I would also like to thank all of the Board Members that attended and pitched in and a special thanks to the 50/50 seller with the booming voice.

If you didn't attend, you missed another educational, entertaining day. Over the years, these events have not stagnated, but have gotten better. Membership should be proud of their Board of Directors for not stagnating, but coming up with new and innovated ideas. As the months go by, what always amazes me is that an idea is brought up at a meeting and morphs into many things through communication to come up with something innovative. Great job gentlemen and ladies!!!

So, if someone is actually reading this mess and is on the sidelines debating with themselves whether to hop aboard nor not, come on out. Your ideas could possibly be the next innovative solution.

Until next time, keep picking up the garbage that the piggy's leave behind.

Bernard Luongo is Lead Groundsperson, Northern Burlington County Regional School District, Columbus, NJ; and SFMANJ President



**Don't forget to register for the Rutgers Lawn, Landscape And Sports Turf Field Day
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RUTGERS LAWN, LANDSCAPE AND SPORTS TURF FIELD DAY Including SFMANJ-Sponsored Trade Show & Equipment Demonstrations, Adelpia Research Farm, Freehold, NJ

SAVE THE DATE – Wednesday, August 1, 2018

by Brad Park

In what has become an annual tradition, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA), Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ), and Rutgers University will once again collaborate to hold the Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Turf Field Day. This year's event will be held at Rutgers Adelpia Research Farm, Freehold, NJ on Wednesday, August 1, 2018.

A top trade show will be sponsored and administered by SFMANJ and is open to all vendors who sell products and services to the Green Industry. Coffee, bagels, Danish pastries, etc. will be served during the trade show. The trade show provides a great opportunity for attendees to network with other Green Industry professionals and examine the latest product offerings from Industry-supporting vendors.

After opening remarks, the education portion of the program will begin at 9:00 am. Groups will rotate between three 20-minute tour stops per hour. There will be four 3-stop rotations between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm; two of these stops will consist of vendor-sponsored equipment demonstrations administered by SFMANJ.

Turfgrass species/variety, fungicide, and herbicide trials are annually conducted by Rutgers Faculty at the Adelpia Research and will be included as educational tour stops. Stark contrasts between effective and ineffective varieties and treatments are often visually apparent in these trials providing attendees with useful information

on turfgrass selection, product selection, application timings, and application rates.

Following the turfgrass education and equipment demonstrations, a fine lunch will be served to all of those in attendance. The trade show will also be open during this time. Following lunch, New Jersey DEP pesticide recertification credits, and credits from neighboring states per approval, will be available to attendees.

SEE YOU AT ADELPHIA ON AUGUST 1!

Please note the following:

Attendees may register online by visiting the NJTA website: www.njturfgrass.org; (o) 973.812.6467; (email) execdirector@njturfgrass.org

Those vendors interested in reserving trade show space as well as demonstrating turf equipment are encouraged to contact SFMANJ for more information and appropriate paperwork (website) www.sfmanj.org; (o) 856.514.3179; (email) mail@sfmanj.org

Brad Park is Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator, Rutgers University; Editor, SFMANJ Update newsletter; and a member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors since 2003.

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A Behind the Scenes Look at EXPO 2017

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in Clippings (Issue No. 1 – 2018), a publication of New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA). Expo 2018 will be held during December 4-6, 2018 at The Borgata, Atlantic City, NJ.

By Chris Carson

The Expo Committee and the NJTA Board spend a very busy week in early December putting on our conference, meeting and greeting our members and friends, and, in general, trying our best to make your experience at Expo valuable, fun and educational. Like the proverbial duck swimming calmly across a pond, there is a lot of paddling taking place under the water that makes Expo happen, and I thought I'd give you a glimpse of the paddling so that you may have a fuller understanding about what it takes to pull a conference of our magnitude off.

The planning committee begins its discussions about format, location, timing and education in February every year. The education committee alone involves more than 20 people, including the entire Rutgers Turf faculty, and the process involves accumulating hundreds of topics, themes and speaker ideas, discussing the pluses and minuses of each, and then making an initial cut of possibilities. This method, and the subsequent adjustments and fine tuning, takes 3-4 in person and virtual meetings, and about 15 hours to complete. From there, initial contacts are made to speakers, modifications are made according to availability, and then the emails start flying. Literally hundreds of hours are spent going back and forth between the original discussions and the printing of our brochures and on site programs, and critical details and changes are made all along the way.

As to the venue, our Borgata partners have done a great job of partnering with us to ensure we have adequate room availability, excellent meeting space, and just the right set up for our trade show. Menus are reviewed and adjusted, parties are planned, and discussions about hotel check-in flow and valet parking all take place. It's quite a process, one that the committee enjoys, but also one that challenges our ability to also take care of our professional responsibilities as a lot of work is done in the summer. Did you know that, with the exception of our executive director Cece Peabody and her able assistant Angela, every single facet of presenting Expo is done by volunteers? This incredibly hard working volunteer force provides well over \$100,000 of value, and enables us to generate the funds that ultimately are passed on to the Center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers to help them run the scientific experiments that we all rely on to make our jobs better.

Our audio/visual team must certainly be the highest trained and least paid in the nation, as is evidenced by the presence of turf faculty, farm managers and people of professional renown running our projectors and setting up computers. Volunteers, all!

Along the way, Cece and others are handling the wave of requests coming from our business partners and their trade show needs: a

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larger booth, extra space, relocation and many more questions are handled promptly and efficiently, and it isn't rare for us to make 5 or 6 changes to the trade show floor layout before we are satisfied.

Printing, mailing, and then dealing with a flood of registrations comes next, followed by printing of nametags and assembly of attendee packets. It's a lot of work, and it all magically gets done in time. But that doesn't mean that the registration work is over; not by a long shot... Cece and her team, supplemented by a number of interns who love helping and learning about running a conference, handle the onsite registrations, the many questions and the occasional problem. They also have to deal with their Expo Chairman (that's me) asking questions about traffic flow and registration numbers and how many lunches to guarantee. I have a tendency to stick my nose in at the exact wrong time, but I've always been met with smiles and the answers that I need to keep things moving.

You might think that dealing with pesticide and fertilizer application credits is simple, but it is exactly the opposite. Forms must be sent to all of the local state authorities months ahead of time, on site forms need to be signed and attested and then, for New Jersey, we have to input every single name into the NJDEP computer ourselves, a task that takes 4-5 days and must be done promptly, finished the week after Expo ends when the team is exhausted. This is a DEP rule, a reflection of the limited funds available in Trenton, and it costs us time and money... but it's all just a hidden part of the service we provide.

Along the way we have to deal with discussing food and beverage counts, an important part of keeping expenses in line while also providing our attendees with the food and beverage on the show floor and at lunch on Tuesday, which we feel are a tremendous value to all.

A speaker no-show? We are always ready for travel problems by having our talented Rutgers friends prepare backup options. Making sure the speakers are treated well and want to come back? The

Continued on page 15



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The Intelligent Use of Water

By Heath Traver

It's game day. The head groundskeeper walks down the first base line, admiring his or her perfectly tended turf. But there's a problem. Although the grass appears to be perfect, his feet, seasoned by years of experience, can sense that the infield ground is too hard. The groundskeeper knows that this can lead to less predictable bounces which can cause injury and decides to run a quick irrigation cycle in order to soften the infield playing surface. He or she pulls out their phone to start the cycle. After a couple of clicks the rotary heads are up and water is flying. But how? What's happening in the background? What processes and technologies are enabling the system to operate properly?

Let's start with the phone. Many modern irrigation controllers have the ability to be operated remotely. Due to their cloud-based architecture, they are accessible from anywhere that the internet is available. Irrigation end users can utilize their computer, smartphone or any other web-enabled device to set programming, run the system manually and have real-time visibility to what is happening with the system from just about anywhere. This functionality gives the end user flexibility and allows them to be more efficient than ever before.

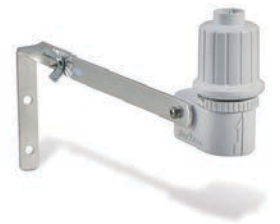
Once the irrigation controller has its marching orders from the end user, it sends a 24-volt signal through the wires to the valve which will operate the intended zone. Many systems also employ a master valve near the point of connection which acts as a safety net. It remains closed whenever the system is not running. When the system is running, it also receives a 24-volt signal which holds the valve open.



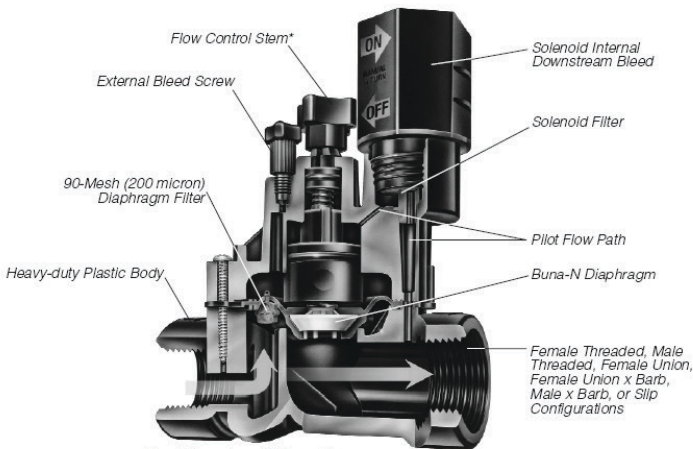
Water is fed into the head at the base. Water pressure turns a small turbine in the base of the head, which drives a series of gears. These gears enable the head to rotate. The 2 main types of gear-driven sports turf rotors are "full circle" and "part circle". "Full circle" rotors continue to rotate in the same direction, while the arc in "part circle" rotors is adjustable. There are a few heads in the market with a feature that allows heads to switch back and forth between the two. Other features that can be found in certain rotary heads are pressure regulation, a check valve in the base of the head and a stainless steel stem.

The rain sensor is another component in the anatomy of an irrigation system which helps the system operate properly. Typically, these sensors emulate the moisture in the soil by collecting and holding water in absorbent discs.

The rain sensor is typically wired back to the controller. Under normal circumstances, voltage is constantly being sent from the controller to the sensor. However, when the sensor gets wet, the absorbent discs expand. When they expand to a certain amount (the threshold is set by the



Continued on page 15



When the valve is closed, water is present on the inlet side of the valve, in the chamber on top of the diaphragm and in the solenoid. The solenoid is essentially a hollow chamber with copper wire spooled around it. When a 24-volt signal is sent through the spooled wire, an electromagnetic field is created, pulling up the metal rod that is holding the water back. When the rod lifts off of the orifice, water is allowed to pass into the chamber below the diaphragm. This balances the pressure between the chambers above and below the diaphragm, and the diaphragm is allowed to lift. Water is then permitted to flow freely past the valve and downstream to the irrigation heads.

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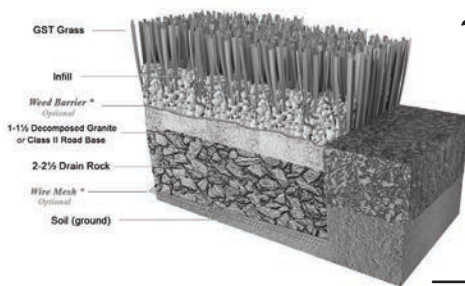
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The Basics of Maintaining Synthetic Turf

By Jim Cornelius, CSFM

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in the Summer 2012 issue of Between the Lines, the official publication of Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization

Let's begin by acknowledging that synthetic infill fields are NOT maintenance free. No matter what anyone says, these fields require routine maintenance. Secondly, what comes out of these fields must be replaced, meaning that the infill material disappears from the field as it is carried off by players, wind, rain, snow, snow removal, routine maintenance, etc.; being that the infill material is the supporting substance of these fields, it will need to be replaced.

When we service a field we typically find that most fields are lacking infill material whether it's all crumb rubber or rubber/sand mix; we also find the turf fibers are laid over with minimal support causing them to prematurely break-off. The worst enemy of the fibers on a synthetic turf field is the sun's ultra violet rays that the field must endure day after day. By maintaining a proper amount of crumb rubber and allowing only approximately a 1/2 to 3/4-inch of fiber exposed you are preventing the fibers from folding over and lessening the amount of material breakdown due to ultra violet rays.

On average an athlete or end user will carry off 3 to 4 pounds of infill material during a playing season. This needs to be replaced annually to support the fibers and provide longevity for the playing surface. To calculate your needs, you need to measure the amount of crumb rubber in a variety of locations within the synthetic field boundaries (we measure 10 locations using the ASTM 1936-10 guidelines for Gmax testing as our test points) to determine what you have. If your turf is 2 1/4 inches tall and you have less than 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inches of infill, you need to add more. Most crumb rubber infill calculates to 0.55 pounds per square foot for a 1/4-inch lift. Most rubber/sand infill systems will not need additional sand as it tends to stay stable within the turf. There are rare occasions when the sand is removed due to operations (snow plowing) or torrential down pours that cause flooding; if this happens, sand will need to be added to the mix.

Grooming the field is an essential maintenance task that needs to be understood. It is highly recommended to use a good groomer designed for synthetic turf. When using any groomer, the best results will be achieved by adjusting it so that it lightly touches the fibers. Do not lower the entire weight of the groomer onto the turf unless you are trying to level out the crumb rubber or fill an area such as a lacrosse goal crease. When tickling the fibers with the groomer's brushes, the intent is to stand the fibers up to minimize lay over from resulting from field use.

Often I am asked how much or how often should I groom a field. There is no true, exact answer, but from my experience I recommend that the field be groomed every 300 to 350 hours of use. There are articles on the web that will say 400 to 500 or more hours and much depends on the manpower available. At minimum it should be groomed several times during the highest use periods and less during the down times (if there is such a thing).

Trash and debris removal is another constant nuisance and needs to be done whenever it exists. Timely removal is important to keep the trash and debris from becoming ground into the infill material, which causes problems later on. Sunflower seeds, chewing gum, candy wrappers, cigarette butts, wire ties from nets, and broken sand bags or stone bags used for weighting down goals are some of the typical items we see when deep-cleaning a field. Water, Gatorade, juice, and soda bottles are unsightly and need to be removed when present.

Removal of chewing gum is largely overlooked and needs to be addressed as soon as possible; most chewing gums today never harden and with the intense heat in the field it becomes gooey and eventually spreads across the turf surface. To remove use either ice cubes or a freezing spray agent to harden the gum, chip it off and remove it.

Weeds can exist and thrive in synthetic turf. Be prepared if your synthetic fields is surrounded by bermudagrass or any other creeping stolon-producing grass! These grasses tend to seek their way into and under the synthetic turf and since temperatures on these fields reach optimal growing peaks before the surrounding turf, once they start spreading beneath they will find the drainage holes and send their shoots upwards for the sun light. These plants become very hard to remove due to their sewing machine effect and in most cases will need to be treated chemically (as approved by the turf manufacturer) to control. It is best to prevent these grasses from growing under from the beginning. Look for it and act quickly when discovered.

Pay attention to heavy wear areas. These fields wear just like natural turf with the exception that you can't grow it back in once it is gone; so, don't let it wear out. Common sports specific high wear areas include Football: center of the field between the hash marks; Soccer: penalty kick area, corner kick, goal crease; Field Hockey: goal crease, penalty arc; Lacrosse: goal crease areas, center of the field where face offs take place. Men's or Women's Lacrosse has the ability to destroy a goal crease in as little as one year if not maintained. The infill material gets kicked or shuffled out. The fibers take a beating and break-off quickly without the support of the infill material. Before you know it you have a big black area that is the backing of the turf and now it's time to patch it or replace the area with either the pieces you saved from installation or maybe cut it out from outside the playing area so that it matches in color and type. Even after one year it won't be a perfect match (even if left on a roof top to sun burn like the turf on the field) because the surrounding fibers in the field will have seen use and started to mat out or break down and if you are patching it must have worn out. Contact the manufacturer or a reputable service company to save

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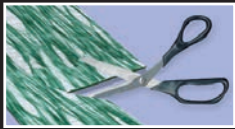
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PHOTO RE-CAP

SFMANJ SPRING FIELD DAY

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

New York Red Bulls and the New York Jets Training Facilities

Photos by Debbie Savard



← Eleanora Murfitt, Ken Mathis and Don Savard preparing breakfast



SFMANJ Trade Show



Brad Park sells 50/50 tickets



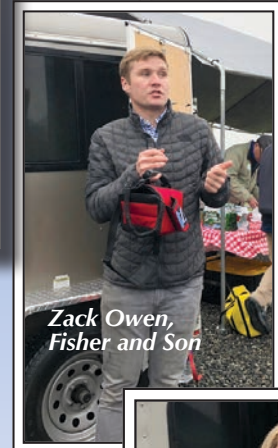
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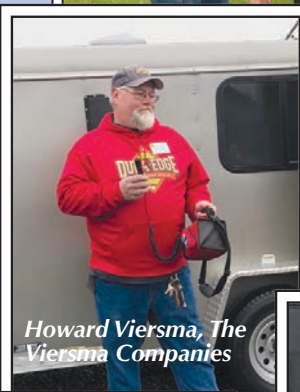
Bernard Luongo and Rich Watson



More Trade Show



Zack Owen, Fisher and Son



Howard Viersma, The Viersma Companies



← Fred Castenschild, Storr Tractor



Corey Angelo, Soil and Water Consulting

Jessica Phillips, The Turf Trade →



Randy Heller, Bly Goat



Tom Pepe, Plant Food Co.



Jimmy Sammaro, NE Sweeper



Heath Traver, Rain Bird

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Spring Field Day continued from page 10

Awards

Photos by Debbie Savard



Eleanora Murfitt accepts the 2017 Indyk Award presented by Fred Castenschild with SFMANJ President, Bernard Luongo



Bernard Luongo presents Zack Holm, CSFM, SFMANJ Treasurer and Red Bulls Grounds with a Plaque as Host of the Spring Field Day.



Brad Park, SFMANJ Newsletter Editor presents Plaque of Appreciation for hosting the Spring Field Day to Blake Hoerr, Director of Athletic Fields and Grounds for the NY Jets.



Steve Badley and Fred Castenschild, Storr Tractor



Speaker, Dan Shemesh, NY Red Bulls Director of Grounds



Jessica Phillips, Turf Trade



On tour with the Red Bulls



Jimmy Sammaro, NE Sweepers



Speaker, Ryan Hillert, NY City Parks



Jaques Pereira, Merlin Smoker, Peter Channel and Rich Watson, Laurel Lawnmower



NY Jets Training Field

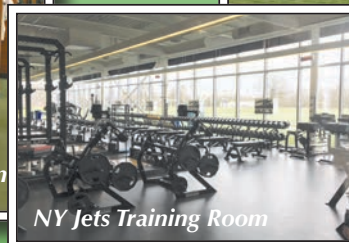


Debbie Savard and "Broadway Joe"

← Photo by Fred Castenschild



Jets Locker Room



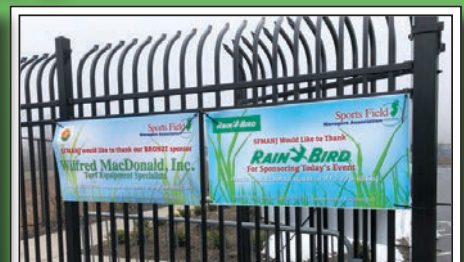
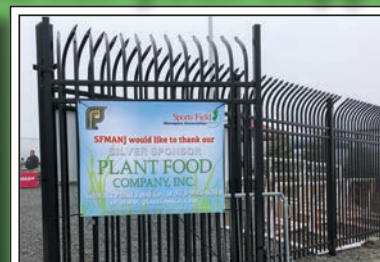
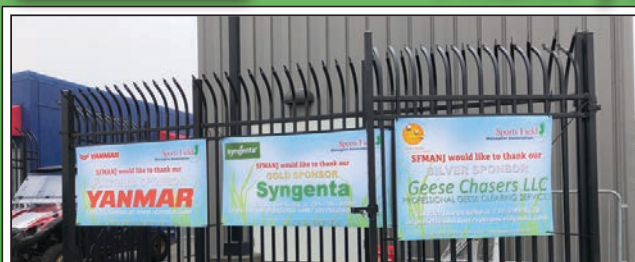
NY Jets Training Room



Jets Indoor Field

Be sure to attend Rutgers Lawn, Landscape and Sports Turf Field Day Wed. Aug. 1, 2018

Sponsors for our 2018 Spring Field Day
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Field Renovation with Sod is a Natural Fit on this Busy Sports Field

by Don Savard, CSFM, CGM

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the Summer 2012 Edition of SFMANJ Update

Someone once described Salesianum School in Wilmington Delaware as a sports program with a high school attached. With over 117 State Championship banners hanging in our gym, this private college preparatory school for young men trains very hard. The 8.5 acre outdoor athletic field complex features two native soil, cool-season multipurpose sports fields. Primarily a practice facility, 6 of the 14 sports programs offered by the school call these fields home. Baseball, soccer and lacrosse teams (at all 3 levels) play their home games here, as do the freshman and junior varsity football teams. The Varsity football team plays their home games offsite.

This location hosts over 850 events annually which include practices, games, camps, winter intramurals and physical education. On any afternoon in the spring or fall, there are 6 teams outside practicing on the fields. High trafficked areas get worn out and damaged. But safety and playability are important at this school. Post season usually means renovation, and renovation means new sod. Truck loads of new sod!

Our decision to re-sod is a matter of necessity. For example, in late November when the football season is over, the roughly 2.5 acre upper field practice football area is worn down to bare soil from our three football teams that practice on it daily. In the spring, this area will transform to a baseball infield and outfield with a lacrosse field configured on it. We need the quick turn-around that sod provides.

The lower field has just over 5 acres of multipurpose sports turf. In the springtime, the field is configured with a varsity baseball infield, the outfield serving 2 lacrosse fields in both right and left field. We re-sod the worn lacrosse goal creases just after Memorial Day as these areas also serve as a soccer pitch in the fall. Depending upon the amount of wear, we might install up to an acre of sod on the lower field. In a school with a successful soccer program, a smooth turfgrass surface means better ball handling!

Sports field renovation requires specialized equipment and people with the know-how to get the job done, especially when timelines are tight. Soil preparation begins by stripping off the worn surface and hauling off the debris. Next, the area is laser graded to plane off the high spots and fill in the low spots. Often, additional soil is brought in to improve the grade. The surface is decompacted and fertilized to enhance rooting. The trucks arrive with sod and a crew skillfully installs it. The size and shape of the area determines whether we use big rolls or slabs. Freshly cut sod is perishable so it must be installed quickly whether it is the first week of December or the first week of June. For these reasons, we hire an experienced sports field construction contractor to renovate our fields. Sean Connell, owner of Georgia Golf Construction of Woodbine New Jersey has been our renovation contractor since 2006.

We choose a turf type tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass mixture sod because it adapts well to our site. We overseed with Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass around Labor Day through late

October, skipping the completely bare, heavily worn areas that result from teams constantly running drills in the same spots (there really is nowhere for teams to move around to). Completely worn areas usually require additional topsoil and laser grading at the end of the playing season as the soil has become displaced and the surface is uneven.

To some, the thought of using sod may seem like an expensive luxury. Compared to growing a sod quality stand of turf from seed, the cost of "purchased" sod is reasonable. For one thing, how many of us work at a facility which has available space for an in-house sod nursery? I would guess very few. Then, there is the problem of time; sod farms can produce a crop of marketable turf in 12-18 months. During that "grow in" time, no sports team is trying to use the sod farm for a warm up, practice or a game. Consider all of the components- seed, irrigation, fertilizer, pesticides (to optimize plant health) as well as frequent mowing, harvest and delivery. All of these material, equipment and labor inputs cost money; the sod farms have a better economy of scale, and a lower unit cost. If you want to produce sod farm quality turfgrass, you have to do what the sod farms do. For most of us this is impractical. But, if you decide that sod might be a strong option, please be aware that you must consider the aftercare. Freshly installed sod requires water, the sooner the better. I always have a hose and a sprinkler ready to go during and after the installation.

Renovating sports fields with sod keeps our student athletes healthy and promotes better playability on the field. Did I mention that it also looks great to our spectators and guests?

Don Savard, CSFM, CGM is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM); Certified Grounds Manager (CGM), Sports Turf Manager, Salesianum School, Wilmington Delaware; Past-President, SFMANJ; and current Advisor to the SFMANJ Board of Directors





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SIMPLIFYING WOMEN'S LACROSSE FIELD LAYOUT

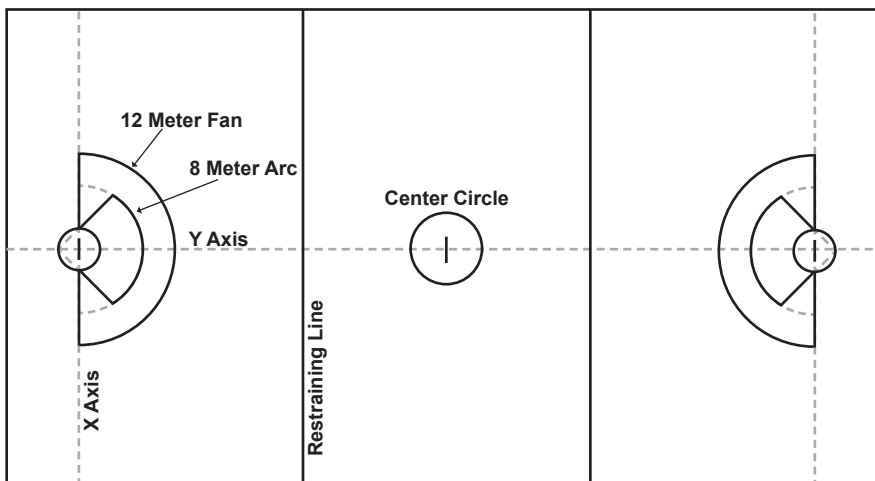
by Don Savard, CSFM, CGM



Let's face it, marking out a Women's Lacrosse pitch can be confusing. The rulebook describes a field where the units of measurement are expressed in feet and inches, yards and meters. There are straight lines, arcs, circles and 45° angles as well as hash marks that appear to float in space, it is no wonder that many sports field managers struggle with the layout, especially the first few times attempted. Here are some suggestions that might simplify the process for you.

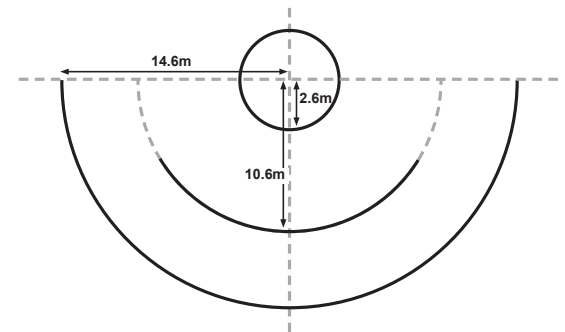
- Make it easy on yourself, go metric! Most of the measurements are expressed in meters, so avoid feet and inches and yards. You will need a double sided tape measure with feet on one side and meters on the other. Use the metric side.
- Read the Official 2018-2019 NCAA Rulebook first. Starting on page 11, it has diagrams and precisely explains where all of the field marking features are and what they are called. You will need to know the size of the area where you will site the field. The rules allow some variance on the size of the field, and you will need to know in advance the distances where your lines and creases will be in relationship to each other. Sketch this out on paper before you start pulling string lines.
- Get some spray paint—both white and a colored paint and a wand. The rule book suggests the game lines be white or a single contrasting color. I sketch out the goal circle, arc, fan and other marks using a paint can and wand with a colored paint, usually dark blue (or green or brown) to make “invisible” lines and curves. I can paint over the “invisible” lines with white field marking paint and the remaining “invisible” markings will blend into the playing surface and soon fade (the idea here is, if you make a mistake, it is “invisible”).
- Mark out your rectangular field of play, the 2 restraining lines, the center circle and the center line inside the circle
- From the center of each end line, run a string that extends down the middle along the length of the field. This will be the “Y” axis.
- Determine where the crease and the goal line will be located. Run another string line parallel to the restraining line and intersecting the Y axis string, this will be your “X” axis and where your goal line will be.

Invisible lines are dashed lines

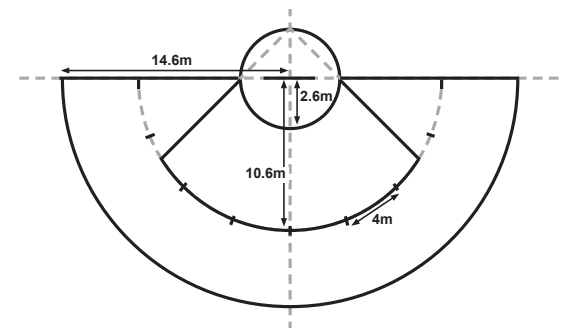


Now, the fun begins!

The goal circle, the 8-Meter Arc and the 12-Meter Fan are concentric to each other.



1. Start by making the goal circle. From the intersection of the strings (X and Y axis), measure a 2.6 meter radius from the intersection of the X and Y axis and paint a circle with the colored paint. Then, paint a 1.83 meter (.92 radius) goal line inside the circle along the string line.
2. Next, with the colored paint making (your “invisible” lines) mark out the 8-Meter Arc. This arc is 8 meters from the edge of the goal circle. Measure a 10.6 meter radius from the center of the goal circle (8 meter plus 2.6 meter circle radius). Starting at the X axis string line, paint a 180° semicircle arc with colored paint.
3. Now mark the 12-Meter fan. This fan is an arc 12 meters from the edge of the goal circle. Measure a 14.6 meter radius from the center of the goal circle (12 meters plus 2.6 meter circle radius). Starting at the X axis string line, paint a 180° semicircle arc with colored paint.



Continued on page 18

Continued from page 6

A Behind the Scenes Look at EXPO 2017

speakers' dinner on Wednesday night is quite the affair, lots of fun and great conversation, and a place where, this year anyway, your correspondent let his hair down a bit. There wasn't a hangover the next morning, mind you, but there were a few laughs made possible by yours truly being voluble at the tail end of the GCSANJ Hospitality party after the speakers' dinner ended...

Negotiations for future shows happened along the way, input from attendees was filtered and noted (there is a developing discussion about changing the Tuesday night trade show closing to 7:30 from 8:00 to allow after-show dining and customer entertaining; what do you think about that idea? Let me know at echolakecc@aol.com), and new ideas and tweaks were noted for the next Expo, planning for which will have begun by the time you read this report.

The show was a great success, we received a lot of plaudits and a few new ideas and concerns, and we are working hard to ensure that Expo 2018 is bigger and better than ever. Do you have an idea, or would you like to be a part of the energetic team of good friends that make it happen? Let me know, and I'll be happy to include you in the group, where you will make or strengthen friendships that, for me, have lasted decades.

Thanks to our many sponsors for helping us present a terrific show and raise money for Rutgers, thanks to our speakers for providing exceptional education, and thanks to you for attending and for your input. Expo 2017 was a lot of fun and a lot of work, and the entire committee can't wait to make next year even better!

Chris Carson is Golf Course Superintendent, Echo Lake Country Club, and NJ Green Expo Chairman


Continued from page 7

The Intelligent Use of Water

end user), the circuit is broken. When this circuit gets broken, the controller interprets this condition as a wet rain sensor and overrides the system, not allowing it to run. Once the rain sensor dries out enough, the circuit is reestablished. The controller will then go back to its normal programming and water during the next scheduled cycle.


The controller is the brain of the irrigation system. It's also the most visible part of the system. Most of the other components are intentionally difficult to see. But just because they are nearly invisible does not mean that they are not critical to the operation of the system. If any single component fails to do its respective job, the system will not run properly. Everything must work in harmony to ensure that our fields stay green on game day.

Heath Traver, CIC, CLIA (htraver@rainbird.com) is a Specification Manager for Rain Bird in the Northeast US.



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The Basics of Maintaining Synthetic Turf

you the pains of having to deal with the patch. There are special materials that you will need and the local or big box hardware store does not carry them. Do not use a Gorilla glue-type product, liquid nails, styrene bonding agents, and/or drywall screws or framing nails for repairs. These are not designed for synthetic turf and may become a liability nightmare later down the road.

Painting may or may not have to be performed on these fields depending on whether or not everything was inlaid during installation. If you have to paint use only paint that is approved for synthetic turf field. It seems that every year some company announces that they have synthetic turf paint. Do your homework and look at a company history and get recommendations. If you need to remove the paint ask the supplier if it can be performed, and if so, how it is done and what will it cost and how long will it take. Will you need special equipment and chemicals? Have their products been endorsed by any manufacturers and is your turf manufacturer one of them? If you have to paint try to do it at times other than the heat of the day. If you are removing lines it works much better to do this at night or early in the morning when the turf is the coolest. Chemicals used during the heat of the day will evaporate long before they start to work and this will only cost you more time and materials.

Dust, dirt, pollen, body skin cells, screws, nails, track spikes, bobby pins and human hair; just to name a few, do not break down in these fields. They remain for much of the life of the field and it is truly amazing how much exists. Special equipment with hepa-filter vacuums will be able to clear this out and remove it from within the turf. Rain, snow sleet and hosing do not help.

Static is common and can increase with humidity and sometimes age. If you need to combat static, you can use several household

products. Liquid Tide washing machine soap and/or the use of a softener (Snuggles) both work well when sprayed on the turf.

Eventually someone will ask if these fields need to be disinfected. My suggestion is to review Dr. Andrew McNitt's research pages to obtain the best answer (<http://cropsoil.psu.edu/ssrc/sportsturf-scoop>). Information can also be found by visiting the website of the Synthetic Turf Council (<http://syntheticturfcouncil.org/>)

Lastly, unlike natural turf, we can't see what is going on with these fields beneath their surface. ASTM has recommended that these fields be tested annually to determine their hardness (Gmax). There are those who do not believe this is necessary; but I can tell you that it is an important tool, much like soil testing. If you do not perform testing for one, two, four or six years then you have no history data to determine what has been happening to surface hardness. I have tested two-year fields and eleven-year-old fields with less than 3/4-inch of fibers remaining and almost no infill and yet the newer one tests harder than the older. Does this mean we are no longer testing the turf and we are now testing the stone base beneath? Good question. Since we do not have eleven years of historic Gmax testing, we can only imagine we are now testing the Gmax of the stone base.

Hopefully I haven't scared you and you haven't run away from your synthetic field. These fields are a great tool and if properly maintained will provide years of play for all users. What you have just read is only the tip of the iceberg and there is much to learn about these fields. Don't be afraid to ask your peers or contactor if you don't know; it may prevent you from making a huge mistake.

Jim Cornelius is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM); and Services Manager, Pro. Services Division, Fisher & Son Co., Inc.

UPDATE

Update is published quarterly, Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. The Newsletter is edited by Brad Park., Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator, at Rutgers University and SFMANJ Board Member. The design, layout, distribution, and advertising sales are currently managed by Debra Savard, SFMANJ Executive Secretary.

Past issues of Update, dating back to 2001, can be assessed through the Michigan State University Libraries.

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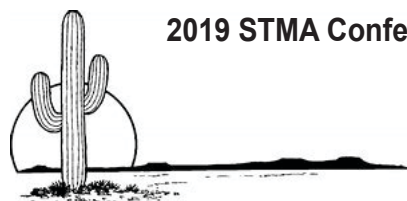
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The Titans of Turf

I am a grounds guy, but politically correct, a grounds person
But make no mistake about it, we spend a lot of time cursin'.

What's up with the Titans of Turf you might say?
That they go out and work each and every day.

They are always there with the passion and desire
To protect the property, to support and inspire.

Why do they stand apart? What makes them a different
breed?

Is it some unwritten mythical creed?

Or is it just that they have passion and professional care
To keep something alive that is so fragile and dear?

To be stewards of their property – the Good Mother Earth.
Nurturing and caring as if we were there from birth.

Always struggling with Bureaucracy, budgets and the
weather
Broken down equipment and Geese that drop more than a
feather.

Weeding, seeding and aerating and such,
There is no end in sight, at times the work load is too much.

Do they give up? No. Not a chance.
They draw a line in the soil and take a stance.

The Titans of Turf mind you are a hardy bunch.
They've been known to skip break and work through lunch.

They work in the sun, the work in the rain
They work when they should be home nursing a strain.

But that's what they do on a daily basis
When out in their fields, they have smiling faces.

So let's give these Titans of Turf their due.
It is every year the fields they renew.

So thank you Titans of Turf for a job well done.
Tomorrow will be here – Let's hope for sun.

*Bernard Luongo is Lead Groundsperson, Northern Burlington
County Regional School District, Columbus, NJ; SFMANJ President
and Poet Laureate.*

SIMPLIFYING WOMEN'S LACROSSE FIELD LAYOUT



4. With the circles and curved lines in place, mark out the "legs" of the arc. Starting at the top of the goal circle where the Y axis string intersects, run a new string line through the intersection of the goal circle and the X axis string and continue to the 8-Meter semicircle. Pull the string tight and paint a straight line (using the colored paint) from the semicircle back to the goal circle. Do not paint inside the goal circle. Repeat this on the other side from the goal circle to the semicircle.
5. Hash marks are next. Where the Y axis string line intersects the 8 meter fan semicircle, make a 30 centimeter hash mark perpendicular to the curvature of the semicircle. Repeat this on either side of this hash mark. The other hash marks will be measured 4, 8 and 12 meters respectively from either side of the center hash mark along the semicircle. Two additional 30.5 centimeter hash marks will be made 8 meters from the goal circle, perpendicular to the goal line extended. Two small circles ("dots") 15 centimeters in diameter must be added to the field behind each goal. The circles shall mirror each other 4.57 meters straight back from the hash marks behind the crease.
6. Repeat this for the goal crease on the opposite side of the field. Paint over the invisible lines with the game lines in white or other contrasting color.

*Don Savard, CSFM, CGM is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM);
Certified Grounds Manager (CGM), Sports Turf Manager, Salesianum
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