

OF THE 2011

STMA Conference and Exhibition

January 11-15, 2010, Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Savard:

The Rutgers Turf Club would like to thank you and the members of SFMANJ for your donation of \$1,000 towards our attendance at the 2011 Sports Turf Managers Association Conference and participation in the Student Challenge in Austin, TX. We greatly appreciate your contribution to our club.

The Rutgers Turf Club is an organization comprised of four-year undergraduate and graduate students as well as students in the two-year Golf Management School. Our club's mission is to gather turfgrass students together to network, discuss and explore turf-related issues while working with faculty, alumni, students and turf-related businesses. SFMANJ's donation to our club allowed us to participate in the 2011 STMA Student Challenge. It covered many of our costs associated with traveling to and staying in Austin, TX for the STMA Conference and Student Challenge. While attending the conference we were able to make some great contacts with a lot of professionals in the sports field management industry. Our trip to Austin would not have been possible without your generous donation and we are sincerely grateful for your contribution.

Sincerely,



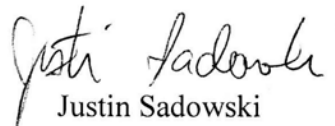
Jeff Antoniewicz



Eric O'Toole



Kevin Rundstrom



Justin Sadowski



Dr. Henry W. Indyk
Graduate Fellowship
in
Turfgrass Science

As many of you know, the turfgrass industry lost a dear friend and colleague in September 2005. We will all miss Henry very much and would like to insure that his legacy lives on. The Indyk family would like to establish a memorial fellowship to support graduate students interested in applied turfgrass science. This fellowship is being created to help assure that tomorrow's graduate students have the financial resources to get an advanced degree in turfgrass science at Rutgers University. To fund a full graduate assistantship each year in Henry's name, we will need to raise a total of \$400,000. Your generous support at this time will bring us closer to reaching this goal.

To make a tax-deductible contribution today, please send a check payable to the Rutgers University Foundation, 7 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Be sure to indicate "Indyk Fellowship, Turfgrass" in the memo portion of your check. If you desire, you may provide a donation in the form of a pledge payable over several years.

For information on other ways to support this fellowship, please contact

Dr. Bruce B. Clarke, Director – Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science
 (732) 932-9400, ext. 331; or clarke@aesop.rutgers.edu or

John Pearson, Director of Leadership Gifts at the Foundation, by calling
 (732) 932-7899 or email: pearson@winants.rutgers.edu



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**An SFMANJ Member's Prepared Testimony Concerning New Jersey's Proposed
 "Safe Playing Fields Act"**

The bottom line is we run a well rounded turf program in Pine Hill. It is not a pesticide program. The charge that schools are needlessly using lawn pesticides does not apply in our district. Synthetic pesticides are a very small part of our sports turf program. They are the last line of defense for the sports turf manager to keep their fields safe for the children using them. I know that weeds, insects, and fungi are not threats to human life. But, left unchecked they can be a considerable safety risk to the very children that are being protected by this proposed legislation.

I have been maintaining the athletic fields at Overbrook High School for over 20 years now. In 2009 the Philadelphia Inquirer named our football field "The Best in South Jersey". I am very proud of the progress that we have made. Our IPM program has worked so well that the Borough of Pine Hill has enlisted our help in turning around their municipal fields. This is not because

of our pesticide program, but rather because the mayor and council trust our judgment and respect our work. We in return, want to bring safe playing fields to the youngest athletes in Pine Hill also.

In closing, I would like to thank the committee again for allowing me to give you a hands on look at what is going on in sports turf management. Safe playing fields should be the goal for everyone. It is my hope that there can be some common ground found in regards to the judicious use of pesticides on sports fields. At this time I don't think the Safe Playing Fields Act will make our playing fields safer. Right now in NJ, there are many school and municipal fields in desperate need of renovation. I don't want to see more join this list. Please think carefully before considering this legislation.

Rich Watson is Grounds Supervisor, Pine Hill Public Schools; and a Member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors.

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TIME TO RE-REGISTER FOR 2011

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activities between
newsletters.



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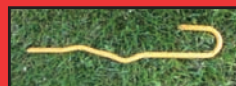
Paul Heron, Grounds Supervisor
Unionville-Chadds Ford School District, PA

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SFMANJ Field of the Year Contest 2011

ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be a current member of SFMANJ
- Only school and parks/recreation fields are eligible
- Must be a natural grass field/fields

AWARD WILL BE BASED ON:

- Playability and appearance of the playing surfaces
- Description of your maintenance program and what you did to improve your field
- Description of your yearly budget for this field
- (Sports groups may be used in your photos)



Sommerset County Parks Commission, Torpey Field
SFMANJ's Field of the Year 2010

AWARDS:

The winner will be honored with a plaque at the New Jersey Turfgrass and Landscape Conference & Expo in December 2011 and will be featured in an article in SFMANJ's *Update* newsletter.

The winner will also receive a stay at the Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City and free registration to education courses and trade show at Expo 2011.

SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY:

- All entries are to be submitted by mail or e-mail and must be received by September 30, 2011.
- Entries are limited to 10 color photos. Please include the name, location and owner of the facility, along with your name, position, and contact number.

Mail Entries to:

SFMANJ 2011 F.O.Y. Contest
P.O. Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070

OR E-mail to:
mail@sfmanj.org

Call for more info:
856-514-3179

website: sfmanj.org / e-mail: mail@sfmanj.org

Photos will not be returned and may be used on SFMANJ website and promotional settings

GROUNDS CARE BY THE ATHLETE

Continued from page 6

communication tool using Red, Green and Yellow flags for each of our fields along with updated emails of field conditions as they changed in status from one flag color to another. We established and implemented a more meaningful facility use policy for both outside and inside venues. We limited the amount of use by outside organizations on our high school athletic facilities so that we could reduce wear and minimize traffic to where we could manage the turf to maintain top quality facilities. Lastly, we developed and implemented rules and guidelines for all users; this included that all users be taught how to help in maintaining our facilities.

All of the items incorporated into the Athletic Strategic Plan are important and meaningful, yet the one we embraced was the last one. Teaching our users was, and still is, huge. Never in my dreams did I think that we could get users/athletes to help in maintaining the fields. In the past, most groups expected the best, yet would rarely help out. Every once in a while we would have a group dump dirt (yes, dirt; not topsoil, topdressing or soil) in a goal mouth and kick it around, sprinkle some cheap seed, and call it "helping us out" or "doing our job".

We actually began meeting with the Middle School teams as they were more receptive to what we wanted to do. The coaches

liked the fact that we weren't asking them. The coaches liked that we asked the students to participate in helping us out. Our promise to them was simple: Help us out with a few small items (filling holes after practice, using divot mix on the turf where needed, spreading some seed in the goal mouths before practice, etc) and we would provide them with game day facilities each day they took the field. The first season was about 70% participation from the middle school teams. Once the other coaches saw that some fields were exceptional, they quickly realized that they too needed to work along with us. As we went into the second season, the students began asking when we were coming to meet with them. This progressed to the point where they email us when they need seed, or if a rake or shovel is missing from its place.

Each season brings something new. We now teach our outside users by holding mandatory training sessions. All coaches must attend prior to their group being issued their permit which allows them to use our facilities. We began holding these in the spring and quickly realized that with the unpredictable spring weather in Pennsylvania, one-fourth of the spring season was over before we got everyone trained. Now we hold them in late-October when we are putting our fields to rest for the upcoming winter; this allows us to be more aggressive with our

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SPORTS FIELD IRRIGATION TIPS



By Kurt Marrone

When constructing an irrigation system for a sports field, whether it is football, soccer, or baseball, there are four steps that need to be followed to insure proper coverage.

Step 1: Get your Flow. Depending on the water source, you will need to determine the available gallons per minute (GPM) and at what pressure (pounds per square inch (PSI)) the water flows. If the source is city water you can contact the local municipal utilities authority to determine your flow. If the water source is a well, you will have to contact the well driller. Once the available water flow is determined, a series of pressure reductions will follow. All appliances (zone valves, back flows, etc.) will have a predetermined friction loss that must be deducted from the available flow. The resulting flow number will now be used to calculate the number and size of each head as well as the spacing between them. All major producers will supply flow charts for each respective head.

Step 2: Layout your system. Now that we know what sprinkler head to use and how far to space them apart, we can layout our system. Distance and spacing information comes from the sprinkler manufacturers specifications. An example of this might be that a certain head will spray 50 feet at 50 PSI flowing 14 GPM but may only spray 45 feet at 45 PSI. You must choose the appropriate head from the manufacturers catalog based on your available flow. Remember that each head should cover the next head (i.e. head to head coverage). The next step in layout is

having matched precipitation. A full circle head takes four times as long to cover an area as opposed to a quarter (1/4) circle. A full circle head will have a larger nozzle than that of a part circle head.

Step 3: Zone the system. The amount of heads per zone is determined by the size of the nozzles that were chosen in Step 2. A good rule of thumb is to not exceed more than 75% of the available flow. If the available flow is 100 GPM, then design each zone to use 75 GPM. This allows for fluctuations in the water supply. Layout your zones keeping in mind any environmental concerns. Examples include zones that are in shaded or low lying areas that might collect water.

Step 4: Choose your pipe wisely: The goal in this step is to flow the water to the heads as efficiently as possible. The job specifications will dictate what type of pipe to use in the system; however, it is your responsibility to choose the proper size. In the back of most irrigation specification books you will find pipe flow charts. Use these charts to choose the appropriate pipe size while taking into consideration the amount of flow required by each zone. Larger pipe will be gradually be adapted down in size depending on how many heads are being fed.

These four steps will serve as a good foundation in building an efficient sports field irrigation system. For more information contact your local dealer.

Kurt Marrone is President, Lawn Sprinkler Services LLC, Margate, NJ



Jeffery Antoniewicz, Rutgers Undergraduate Student (l) was awarded the 2010 SFMANJ Rutgers Student Scholarship by Don Savard, CSFM, CGM and President, SFMANJ (r) as part of the Rutgers Turfgrass Student Awards Banquet on Rutgers Cook Campus on November 6, 2010.

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SFMANJ SPRING FIELD DAY

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

Torpey Athletic Complex and TD Bank Ballpark • Bridgewater, NJ.

GROUNDS CARE BY THE ATHLETE

Continued from page 15

training. Each team member participates in one or more stations that we have set-up. We begin with a brief explanation of why we hold the training classes, dealing with trash at all our facilities and what responsibilities they have regarding trash, how to maintain the player bench and spectator areas, and lastly the care of our fence. Depending on how many are present, we either divide them up to the different stations or we work as a group from one to another. Our stations are natural turf areas where we explain using a field within a field, repairing divots with provided divot mix that we keep at each natural turf field, grass seed for the goal mouths and center of the field that we also keep on site; on to infields we have pitcher's mound care, repair and covering with provided tarp, home plate care and repair, base path care and how each of the provided tools are used, and how to deal with water puddles, wet infields, etc. We show them how we take care of these areas and allow them the opportunity to show us a different way, try our way, and we answer many questions that they come up.

Some organizations have committed 100% to our efforts while others have exceeded our expectations. We now have groups willing to mow fields (following our guidelines), handle the irrigation responsibilities (again, following our guidelines), provide manpower and equipment to help apply topdressing, turfgrass

seed, and infield mix - all materials that we provide so we control the materials used. All of this had initial costs (nothing is free); however, we quickly recovered these costs by saving man hours. We purchased tools for each field, buckets for divot and seed mix for each field, tarps for each home plate and mound area, and batter box jigs that the crew made for each baseball and softball field. We had metal storage boxes constructed to hold materials, hoses, quick dry materials, and many other minor things for teams to maintain the fields at no cost to the teams. Ironically, some of the groups have bought extra rakes, booms, hoses, tank sprayers for wetting down the mounds, bags for trash, and have finally taken an ownership in our facilities. A win-win for all involved!

So, when your frustration level reaches an all time high/low, look around at the resources available and don't turn the help away. Turn them around to be a team mate. In the end, the children and the athletes are winners, no matter the outcome of the game; provided the game can go on.

James Cornelius, CSFM is Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM); Formerly Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, West Chester Area School District, West Chester, PA; Currently Services Manager, Fisher & Son, Inc.; and member of Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO).

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2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SFMANJ Spring Field Day
Torpey Athletic Complex &
TD Bank Ballpark
Bridgewater, NJ
April 20, 2011
302.514.3179
www.sfmanj.org

Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club
May 2, 2011
NJ Turfgrass Assoc.
973.812.6467
www.njturfgrass.org

Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Days
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Rutgers Adelphia Farm - Adelphia, NJ
July 27, 2011
NJ Turfgrass Assoc.
973.812.6467
www.njturfgrass.org

New Jersey Green Expo
December 6-8, 2011
NJ Turfgrass Assoc.
Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ
973.812.6467
www.njturfgrass.org

STMA Annual Conference
January 10-14, 2012
Sports Turf Mgrs. Assoc.
Long Beach, CA
1-800-323-3875
www.stma.org

Sports Field
Managers Association of New Jersey

TOURNAMENT TIME . . .

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When the day of the tournament finally arrives, it's payday for all of the hard work. The day started with a light dragging of the infield, followed by another good soaking of the skinned areas. Next, foul lines and batters boxes were painted and chalked. At the last minute we decided to stencil the name of the tournament and the team names on the grass behind home plate. This was a nice touch that the teams and fans really seemed to appreciate. Finally, we painted the bases, pitching rubber, and home plate. It was game time.

The tournament was a great success. In between games we repaired the mound and plate, smoothed the infield with stiff drags, and touched up the chalk and paint. We wanted to make sure the second game played the same as the first. The coaches, players, and fans were very complimentary about our facility. That makes all the hard work worth it.

Putting together the maintenance end of a baseball tournament takes a lot of planning and hard work from a lot of people. My crew of Greg Bunting, Tom Crosby, and Kevin Shipman [now Sports Field Manager, Kingsway Regional School District and SFMANJ Board Member] were outstanding. Their professionalism and hard work really showed in the playing condition of the field. Also, I would like to thank Dave Lalena of Philadelphia Turf [Philadelphia Turf is now Turf Equipment & Supply] for letting us use a Toro Workman with a Rahn groomer and a Toro Groundsmaster 3505d for the tournament.

Tournament time is an opportunity to show off your field, while giving the teams a fair, competitive surface to play on. If you get the chance, step up to the plate and be remembered for the right reasons.

Rich Watson is Grounds Supervisor, Pine Hill Public Schools, Pine Hill, NJ; and a member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors

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SPORTS FIELDS BEYOND THE GARDEN STATE



Steele Field at Jackie Robinson Stadium; Home of the UCLA Bruins, Los Angeles, CA.
Photo by Brad Park, November 2010



Inside (Inner; $1 \frac{3}{16}$ miles) and outside (Widener; $1 \frac{5}{16}$ miles) Turf Course at Belmont Park, Elmont, NY.
Photo by Brad Park, May 2010