**UPDATE** November/December, 2007 • Vol. 7, No. 6 e-mail: hq@sfmanj.org • www.sfmanj.org

## A Busy December 2007 Awaits SFMANJ: EXPO 2007 & SFMANJ SYNTHETICS SYMPOSIUM

### The 32nd Annual Turf & Landscape Conference 2007 December 4-6, 2007 Trump Taj Mahal Casino-Resort, Atlantic City, NJ

By Brad Park (Adapted from NJTA promotional materials)

Billed as "A Conference and Expo Dedicated to the Green Industry Profession", the New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) and the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association (NJLCA) are proud to host this spectacular event! Now in its 32nd year, the New Jersey Green Expo has become an event you won't want to miss. The turfgrass and landscape industries continue to grow and prosper, so plan to attend the education sessions and trade show to learn what's new in your industry!

#### **The Educational Program**

The NJ Green Expo comprehensive Educational Program, with over forty speakers, is the source for the Green Industry to obtain cutting edge information for today's competitive economy. Programs deliver case studies, industry trends, "how to" applications and tactics to assist you and your operation to becoming more efficient.

The sports field managers program will begin Wednesday afternoon, December 5 at 1:00 pm with SFMANJ's Annual Business Meeting. We are pleased to have Dr. Mike Goatley from Virginia Tech speaking as part of the sports field managers program this year. Dr. Goatley will be addressing managing high traffic fields during this session and sports field construction during the Thursday morning session.

(continued on page 4)



Joel Taylor, Head Groundskeeper, Haddon Township Board of Education, addresses a large audience regarding the synthetic field he is responsible for maintaining at the SFMANJ District 4 Synthetic Infill Maintenance Demonstration Day held on September 19, 2007 at the Recchino Field Complex in Haddon Township, NJ

### SFMANJ Synthetics Symposium Rutgers' Cook Campus Center -Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 6:00 – 9:30 pm

Sports Field

By Scott Bills

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) will be hosting a 'Synthetics Symposium' on Wednesday evening, December 12, 2007 from 6:00 pm until 9:30 pm at the Rutgers' Cook Campus Center, New Brunswick, NJ.

The purpose of the symposium will be to provide a forum, whereby decision makers and other interested parties from municipalities, schools, parks, athletic associations and engineering/ architectural firms can hear presentations from several prominent synthetic turf companies in one evening. Each firm will be given up to 30 minutes to present their products and services, plus answer questions. In addition, each company will have a table and booth set up at the Cook Campus Center to meet with attendees and hand out literature.

All SFMANJ members are encouraged to attend and invite administrators, board members and other interested parties. Pre-registration costs are \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members. Registration at the door will be \$25.00.

The SFMANJ Board of Directors recognizes the impact synthetic turf has made on sports fields and is prepared to provide its members with all the information necessary, to keep up with this ever-changing industry.

To register, please contact SFMANJ Executive Secretary Kathleen Hopfel at 908-730-7770; email: hq@sfmanj.org; or go to www.sfmanj.org



Scott Bills is Sales Consultant, Northern Nurseries; and SFMANJ Secretary.

Joel Taylor (1) and Brad Park (r) assess surface hardness values generated by the Clegg Impact Soil Tester on the Recchino Field Complex synthetic infill field.



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#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

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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### Inside This Issue

This newsletter is the official bi-monthly publication of the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey.

For information regarding this newsletter, contact: SFMANJ at (908) 730-7770 or Brad Park at (732) 932-9711, x127

> Editor: Brad Park, Rutgers University Email: park@aesop.rutgers.edu

SFMANJ does not necessarily support the opinions of those reflected in the following articles.

### The 32nd Annual Turf & Landscape Conference 2007 \_

(continued from front page)

Kevin Trotta, North Rockland School District and recipient of STMA's President's Award for Leadership will be speaking Wednesday afternoon on Environmental Turfcraft for Sports Fields.

A morning sports field managers networking session has again been schedule for this year's Expo beginning at 7:00 am on Thursday, December 6. Education on synthetic fields will be presented on Thursday afternoon by Ken Mathis, Brick Township on Selecting a Synthetic Infill System and Kevin Malone, CSFM, Columbia University, on Management of Synthetic Infill Systems.

The entire Sports Field Managers Program is shown on Page 4 of this issue of SFMANJ Update.

#### **Trade Show**

The NJ Green Expo Trade Show is one of the largest Green Industry events in the tri-state area. With over two hundred projected exhibitors, you will have an opportunity see new products and services to help you make purchasing decisions and to develop important relationships in the Green Industry.

Make your plans now to come to Expo 2007!

Brad Park is Sports Turf Res. and Ed. Coor., Rutgers Univ.; SFMANJ Board Member; and Editor, SFMANJ Update Newsletter

### DID YOU KNOW?

A *dicot* is a plant having two cotyledons in the seed, as in broadleaf species.

### New Jersey Turf & Landscape Conference and Expo 2007: Sports Field Managers Program

December 4-6, 2007

Trump Taj Mahal Casino-Resort, Atlantic City, NJ

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007		THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007 THURSDAY PM		THURSDAY PM	
	SFMANJ Business Meeting Management strategies for high traffic fields Dr. Dr. Mike Goatley,	7:00-8:00 8:00-8:30	Early bird Sports Field Managers <i>Networking roundtable</i> Elements of Sports Field	12:00-12:30	Bermudagrass use for Sports Fields in the Mid-Atlantic <i>Mike Kelley, Poly Tech</i>
	Virginia Tech	0:00-0:00	Construction		High School, Delaware
2:15-2:45	A cost-based approach to asses task management		Dr. Mike Goatley, Virginia Tech	12:30-1:00	Selecting a synthetic infill system
	Don Savard, CSFM, CGM, Salesianum School	8:30-9:00	Renovation of a little league infield		Ken Mathis, Brick Township Parks
2:45-3:30	Environmental turfcraft for Sports Fields		Jim Hermann, CSFM, Total Control, Inc.	1:00-1:30	IPM at a NJ high school: Myth vs. reality
	Kevin Trotta, North Rockland School District	9:00-9:30	Grant writing: What you need to know		Rich Watson, Pine Hill School District
			Beth Richmond, Bedford Recreation	1:30-2:00	Management of synthetic infill systems
		9:30-10:00	Low-impact pesticides for turf		Kevin Malone, CSFM, Columbia University
			Brad Park, Rutgers University		





### A Look Back at the SFMANJ District 4 Synthetic Infill Maintenance Field Day

By Don Savard, CSFM, CGM

It was a beautiful, sunny day on September 19, 2007, a perfect day for the SFMANJ District 4 Synthetic Infill Maintenance Field Day at Recchino Field in Haddon Township, N.J. Over 70 members and guests participated in a discussion of real world synthetic infill sports field maintenance issues, problems and solutions hosted by Haddon Township Head Groundsman Joel Taylor and his capable crew consisting of Geoffrey Taylor and Tom Springer Jr. We were given a glimpse of the day-to-day challenges of a typical sports field management operation that includes a synthetic infill sports field. These guys also maintain natural grass sports fields in other locations town-wide as well as perform maintenance chores for the Board of Education that includes furniture moves and assisting the building custodians when necessary. It takes guite a bit of hustle, dedication and know-how to keep-up with their customer service demands and this group takes it all in stride, competently, and with a good attitude.

Although the program got off to a late start because of some traffic delays it gave the attendees an opportunity to visit, and enjoy refreshments sponsored by **Lawn and Golf Supply** as well as meet and greet our other sponsors, **Philadelphia Turf**, and the **Jim Gates and Co., Inc.** After the opening comments, Joel Taylor explained the reasons why Haddon Township chose to build a synthetic field, the installation of the underground storm water retention and storage and how the sub-base of the field was constructed. Joel went on to discuss the importance of the customer's representative personally overseeing the construction process to ensure that the work is done correctly.

Often, when a purchaser is considering a synthetic infill sports field system, the synthetic field salesman will promote the concept of "maintenance free" or "easy to maintain." We saw how acorns, leaves, trash, broken glass, weeds and sun flower seeds present ongoing maintenance problems. Normal field use contributes to rubber crumb migration and uneven distribution causing high and low spots. From this sports field manager's perspective, it seems that keeping up a synthetic sports field surface requires a different but equally time consuming maintenance protocol to maintain similar quality standards as on a natural grass sports field. A very good question and answer period followed.

**Brad Park, Rutgers University Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator** led a discussion of synthetic sports field safety and hardness testing. All sports field surfaces, whether natural grass or synthetic develop surface hardness over a period of time. Impact testing (commonly referred to as G-max testing) is used to measure the shock-absorbing properties of sports surfaces. The higher the G-max value, the lower the shock-absorbing properties of the surface. Gmax testing involves measuring the shock absorbing properties of a playing surface *in situ*, and comparing the results against a standard. The most commonly used standard is the one established by ASTM International. If the standard isn't met, the field is considered unsafe and remediation is required. Brad demonstrated a Clegg Impact Tester and measured surface hardness before and after field grooming.

We watched a demonstration of different synthetic field maintenance procedures and equipment. There were sweepers for trash and debris, a machine that loosened the infill material, topdressers for spreading the infill material and brushes to move the infill material into place and groom the field. It was an opportunity to see what works best in a particular situation.

The program concluded with lunch and an additional opportunity to meet the sponsors and further demonstrate the products shown. Our thanks go out to **Philadelphia Turf** for their generosity as our lunch sponsor.

Don Savard is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM); Certified Grounds Manager (CGM); Director, Athletic Facilities and Grounds, Salesianum School, Wilmington, DE; member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors; and much-appreciated frequent contributor to SFMANJ Update Newsletter



### 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 <u>clarke@aesop.rutgers.edu</u>) or John Pearson, Director of Leadership Gifts at the Foundation, by calling (732) 932-7899 or email: <u>pearson@winants.rutgers.edu</u>

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## Bermudagrass Athletic Fields By Sean Connell

Bermudagrass is being used and considered for use in the mid-Atlantic region more and more for athletic fields. The idea of bermudagrass in this region is not new. Golf courses have tried utilizing bermudagrass for fairways and tees only to discover that harsh winters resulting in winterkill, slow recovery and poor transitions in the spring made bermudagrass more trouble than benefit. New varieties of bermudagrass are giving turf managers new choices. Some considerations need to be made before making the decision to utilize bermudagrass for athletic fields. Of the new varieties, 'Patriot' is the most popular; 'Celebration' and 'Tifsport' are still close rivals. All the new grasses are evaluated on www.ntep.org (National Turfgrass Evaluation Program) - which is a great resource to view trials on turfgrasses.

The benefits of bermudagrass are many: heat and wear tolerance, recovery and overall playing surface are unparalleled with proper maintenance and sustained soil temperature. The reasons for consideration are well justified. After a stand of bermudagrass has developed a thatch layer, other than winterkill or physical damage, killing it is nearly impossible. The maintenance on bermudagrass is reduced by seasons; in the winter there is really no maintenance after a fall preemergence herbicide and fertilizer is applied. It overwinters nicely whether or not it has been overseeded. In the summer, bermudagrass is unstoppable under lots of heat, water and fertilizer. It reproduces/spreads with above and below ground runners. An existing stand can be thatched and sprigged into bare spots for the cost of labor. Simply cutting-in sprigs with a sprig cutter (flat solid discs pushing sprigs straight into loose soil) or even burying with loose soil, the sprigs will propagate growth with proper maintenance. You will have an acceptable stand of turf in 6 to 8 weeks. In the south, sodding is always the second choice. Considering '419' bermudagrass is \$0.09 per square foot without freight or \$3900 an acre without freight; 419 sprigs are \$0.60 per bushel and the recommended rate is 1000 bushels per acre; \$600 per acre to sprig is very paltry by any standards. Installation rates are not included in these figures. The price alone is the temptation. Of course the bermudgrass that is being marketed here is being priced at about double the rates quoted considering most bluegrass and fescue are cheaper. It can be hard choice.

Regarding the chance of winterkill or slow transition in the spring, the question is: Is it worth the trouble of transition? It is only going to be a mat for overseeding. The primary issue specific to the mid-Atlantic is: Will it survive the winters? Time will tell the truth on that issue. I did not notice any trials at www.ntep.org specific to the mid-Atlantic or northeast. Even in Atlanta, 600 miles south of Philadelphia, they have winterkill on bermudagrass on a large basis in 5 to 7 years cycles. Big Artic blasts from Canada with zero temperatures are rare but still happen in the south and can lead to winterkill. When conditions are perfect for winterkill, it is droughty in the fall which weakens the grass stand, there is not enough irrigation water to supplement, and the grass turns dormant in the heat further stressing the plant. Fertilizing and applying a preemergence herbicide to dormant bermudagrass with no water does not seem reasonable or beneficial to the turf or the turf manager.

By definition, bermudagrass is a warm-season turfgrass and its optimum growing temperature is 85-degrees and above. One inch (1.0") of water is a minimum per week to keep green turf. The nitrogen requirement for the growing season is around 5 lbs to 7 lbs per 1000 square feet; this is probably a smaller of amount in the mid-Atlantic region because of the shorter growing season. As with all turf, aerification is a must. The more air, water and nutrients you supply to the plant the healthy the plant is. Topdressing is not mandatory but it smoothes out the surface very well and helps draw higher soil temperatures which increases lateral growth. Mowing can be 3 or 4x per week job in the summer and is usually dependent on preference of mowing height and fertility. Bermudagrass is a sun-loving plant and can only survive in well drained surfaces. This plant typically does not grow at all in shade.

Being a construction contractor, I usually shy away from recommendations that involve choosing between warm-season and cool-season turfgrasses. I have planted one field in Philadelphia this year with Patriot bermudagrass as specified by the owner. I am interested in the outcome and hope my customer the best; but like a lot of others, I want to see how it goes before I tell my customers or potential customers to use warm season grasses. In my opinion, soil temperatures appear to be the biggest hurdle for bermudagrass to survive in the mid-Atlantic region.

> Sean Connell is Owner and Primary Project Manager, Georgia Golf Construction, Woodbine, NJ; and a member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors

### DID YOU KNOW?

A monocot is a plant having one cotyledon in the seed; grasses are an example.

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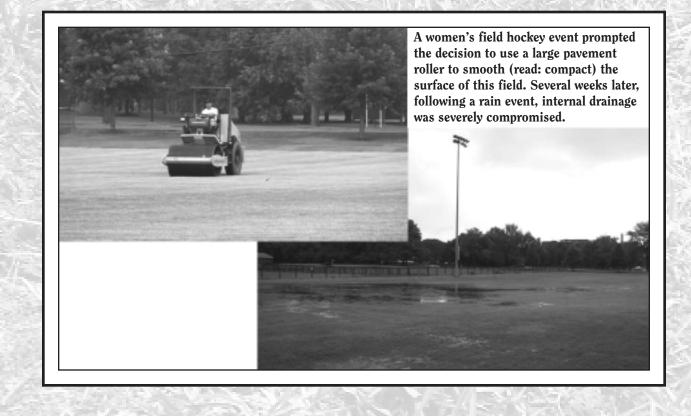
### Pictorially captured by Brad Park, Rutgers Uni

Meticulously maintained natural turfgrass in-front of The Alamo, San Antonio, TX. San Antonio was the site of the 2007 Sports Turf Managers Conference.

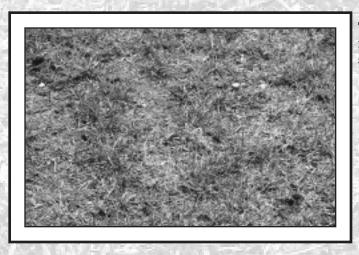


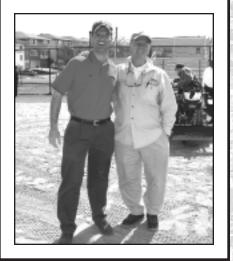


The Rutgers Turfgrass Club was given a tour of the Shea Stadium playing surface by Head Groundskeeper Bill Deacon in April 2007. Don't pout Mets fans, the Yanks didn't win the World Series in 2007 either...

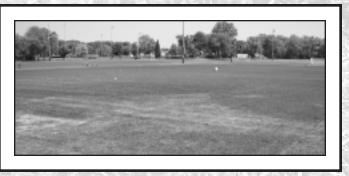


### view 2007~ <u>versity and Editor, SFMANJ</u> Update Newsletter





Brad Park, Rutgers University (1) and Floyd Perry, nationally-known speaker and sports turf guru (r) at a Storr Tractor sponsored-event in Bergen County, NJ in March 2007.



Has the crop circle phenomenon invaded the sports turf world? Even though you may "want to believe", don't attribute aliens to this one. A poorly operating irrigation system can be blamed for the circular patterns of wilting turf on this North Jersey sports field.

There has been a significant increase in the use of netted sod for sports field in New Jersey raising concerns over athletic safety and owner and sod grower liability.



A large crowd was on-hand to observe the latest sports turf equipment demonstrated at the Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Turf Research Field Day held at the Rutgers Adelphia Research Center, Adelphia, NJ on August 1, 2007.



The morning before a big game, the American flag flies proudly behind the baseball field at Spotswood High School, Spotswood, NJ.

### **Calendar of Events**

#### NJ Turf & Landscape Conference and Expo 2007

December 4-6, 2007 Trump Taj Mahal Casino-Resort Atlantic City, NJ www.njturfgrass.org

#### **SFMANJ Synthetic Turf Forum** December 12, 2007 Rutgers University - Cook Campus Center

New Brunswick, NJ www.sfmanj.org

#### Sports Turf Managers Association 19th Annual Conference and Exhibition

ual Conference and E January 15-19, 2008 Phoenix, AZ www.stma.org

### Three-Day Athletic Field

**Construction and Maintenance** February 19-21, 2008 Rutgers University - Office of Continuing Professional Education New Brunswick, NJ 732-932-9271

#### **Understanding Synthetic Fields**

March 6, 2008 Rutgers University - Office of Continuing Professional Education New Brunswick, NJ 732-932-9271

#### Baseball/Softball Infield Skin Construction and Management

March 12, 2008 Rutgers University - Office of Continuing Professional Education New Brunswick, NJ 732-932-9271





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## AERATION: The Root of all "Good"

By Jim Gates, Jim Gates & Co., Inc.

Webster defines aeration as supplying or impregnating the soil with air. As turf managers, we know it is much more than that. Aeration is the process that allows respiration for the roots. Without proper aeration, soil oxygen is depleted and a build-up of carbon dioxide and other toxic gasses occurs. Adequate soil aeration is needed to create a healthy environment for the turfgrass roots and plant – and the beneficial microbes living in the soil.

Soil compaction is one of the most serious problems turf managers must deal with. When the soil porosity is reduced, irrigation is not as effective, organic matter decomposition is slowed, and the nutrients are not used effectively.

What causes the compaction? Running turf maintenance equipment on fields and foot traffic are the main causes of compaction. A black layer develops in the soil profile that the root system cannot penetrate. There are a number of mechanical methods available to remove the black layer. Slicing machines such as the Groundbreaker or the Vertiquake put a vertical slice in the ground and then heave the ground horizontally which fractures the soil in another direction creating the needed air space for gas exchange drainage and efficient use of nutrients. Slicing machines allow for soil penetration up to about ten inches, allowing the root system to develop deeper to provide a healthier turf.

Instead of using blades for deep tine aeration, other machines use solid or coring tines. The solid tines are capable of penetrating regularly maintained turf up to 16 inches with a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch to a 1 inch hole. Most of these machines have a kick to fracture the soil further and allow for better drainage and gas and nutrient exchange.

Coring tines are another option. These are especially useful when you are trying to change the soil profile. Cores can be pulled and the soil recycled. Topdressing, then sweeping the new materi-

als into the core holes makes for an enhanced way to change the soil profile.

For optimum results, the deep tine aeration should be done early spring and late fall. These methods are more aggressive than other methods including slicing and use of pencil tines.

The slicing aeration can be used in between the deep tine aeration to stimulate the root growth and encourage the roots to go deeper. This aids the turf in the time of drought when the moisture is far below the surface. The latest innovation to enhance root growth is a system that actually injects air into the soil with hollow tines that have air holes on each side of the tine. This is the way the soil is penetrated from the top and then fractured side to side giving the roots new directions to spread.

There are so many good mechanical devices on the market for aeration which truly enhance the root growth and lead to healthier turf. All you need is the time and money to do it. By having a healthier root system you reduce the need for chemicals and water.

> Jim Gates is President, Jim Gates & Co., Inc.; and SFMANJ Treasurer

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

A *rhizome* is an underground elongated stem (or shoot) with scale leaves and adventitious roots arising from the nodes.



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### The Sports Turf Manager as a Crisis Communicator

Sports Turf Managers Association Editorial Staff

Perhaps you will never be faced with responding to a crisis. But, if you ever have an athlete get injured during play, an employee who gets hurt on the job, a disgruntled employee, a weather related disaster, or an environmental incident, you just might find yourself in the spotlight and under scrutiny.

As a manager of people, you may have to deal with an employee's death or illness, a sudden change in top management, or employee issues of sexual harassment. Each one of these can constitute a crisis. You must be prepared for that decisive moment when your response can lead the crisis to better or to worse. An initial negative perception is nearly impossible to reverse.

#### **Crisis Communication Response Tips**

- Respond within 24 hours.
- Don't point fingers.
- Always be available to the media.
- Be visible and on-site.
- Tell the absolute truth.
- Never say "no comment."

You are judged within the first 30 seconds of speaking if you and the information you are providing is trusted. Appearing empathetic and caring are the most importance characteristics you can exhibit to show "trustworthiness". Your audience will also assess your competence, your honesty and your commitment. Your goal as a communicator is to demonstrate these attributes.

It is important to recognize that the media is usually more interested in covering opposing viewpoints and that bad news and conflict are more newsworthy. Most reporters are working under a tight deadline, have limited scientific and technical knowledge and can be a bit cynical. When preparing to talk with the media, address the principal underlying concern of the audience/questioner/listener keeping your responses short and concise.

In many crisis situations it is important to bring in a third party and to tell the media who you have contacted.

#### **Crisis Communication Interviews**

- Take control early by educating the reporter and correcting misunderstandings.
- Clarify the questions.
- Prepare two to three main messages.
- Give facts: who, what, when, where, but don't give how and why.
- Express your concern. Safety is always the top priority.
- Avoid jargon and do not use humor.
- Frame your answers in the positive.
- Tell how fast you responded, how much has been done and what you will do about it in the future.
- Thank or give appreciation to any assistance.
- Avoid words with negative connotations such as lethal, risky, deaths, maimed, toxic.
- Do not repeat the "charges" or any negatives words, such as no, not, never.
- Be conscious of your body language. Do not place your hands in

a "fig leaf" in front or in back of you, but keep your hands/palms open and above the waist. Avoid touching your face, clasping or clenching your hands and pointing your fingers.

#### Remember these phrases.

You want to give a sense of more to come, which will help to establish your trustworthiness.

- "What I can tell you is ..."
- "So far, what we know is ..."
- "So far, what we have done is ...
- "What we are planning to do next is ..."
- "We will be able to tell you more when ..."
- "I'll be glad to talk with you again after we conduct ..." Source: Susan Santos, Ph.D., FOCUS GROUP, Medford, MA

#### **Crisis Example and Response**

**Situation**: You have a major event that is being hosted in your stadium the next day. As a set of temporary bleachers is being installed, they collapse and your assistant has been critically injured. A reporter is at the stadium asking what happened and why, and if the event is taking place.

Your first response must show concern for the worker and his family. "Our first concern is for Joe Smith and his family. Joe's safety and the safety of all of our workers is always our top priority. What we do know is that a temporary set of bleachers being installed here at King Stadium collapsed about an hour ago. Joe has been taken to Mercy Hospital."

So far, we have cordoned off the area to protect the public. A team of OSHA inspectors are on their way. We'll cooperate in any way to find out what happened. We have also called in a safety engineer to help. We will be able to tell you more about the accident after OSHA and our safety engineer has evaluated the situation.

Your response to whether or not the event will be held the next day depends upon your management teams' decision. If you are going ahead with it, you need to respond with how you are insuring fan safety: "We are going ahead with the concert tomorrow; however to insure the safety of our rock fans, we will be limiting the seating to the built-in seats in the stadium grandstands and offering on-the-floor seating in the end zone." If you are not going ahead, "We will not be holding the concert tomorrow. Fan safety is paramount and until we know why the bleachers collapsed, we will not be holding any events."

We appreciate the help of the city's emergency response team. I'll be glad to talk with you again when we know more.

Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), Lawrence, KS

### SFMANJ District 4 Synthetic Infill Maintenance Day Photo Recap September 19, 2007 - Recchino Field Complex, Haddon Township, NJ



Not exactly seamless. District 4 Meeting attendees observe a large, not-easily-repairable seam in the playing surface of this synthetic infill system.



Significant fiber deterioration was evident directly in-front of the girls' softball pitching rubber.

(More photos on page 18)



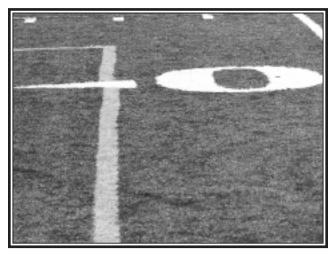
## **DID YOU KNOW?**

A stolon is an elongated stem (or shoot) that grows along the surface of the ground and from which leaves and adventitious roots develop at the nodes.

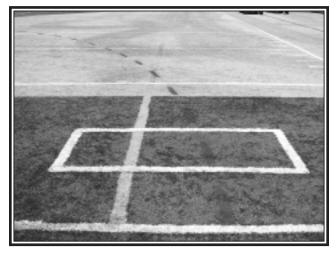


### SFMANJ District 4 Synthetic Infill Maintenance Day Photo Recap September 19, 2007 - Recchino Field Complex, Haddon Township, NJ

(more photos continued from page 17)



Crooked permanently in-laid lines could be found at various locations throughout this synthetic infill field.



A multitude of permanently in-laid lines designating the playing areas for several sports, painted lines, and use of skin infield-colored carpet for a softball field all in one area creates a visually confusing surface.



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