



SIDELINES

**Texas Sports Turf
Managers
Association**

txstma.org

Spring 2018

Providing education and training for safer and healthier sports turf facilities

For my first official President message I would like to start off thanking our Past President, Kevin Lebanik, for his service the last two years and working hard to make TXSTMA bigger and stronger.

I am honored to be named President of TXSTMA, and hope to continue growing TXSTMA as we move into the future. I believe that what makes our organization strong is the willingness of each person to share ideas and information to help each other garner success. With social media on the rise, there are massive amounts of information being shared locally as well as internationally. It was through social media, Facebook, that TXSTMA got involved with the City of Rockport.

Through the herculean efforts of Weston Floyd, the idea to fix two little league fields for the City of Rockport, Texas began to take shape. Mr. Floyd was able to garner help and supplies from TXSTMA vendors and members alike. TXSTMA members came from all over the state and some national STMA members showed up to help as well. At the end of the day Rockport had two playable fields with which to begin their season. Having so many volunteers show up and help speaks to the core values that we, as Texans, have.

Our Texas hospitality was on point when the national STMA convention was held in Fort Worth. Several of the classes that I attended were full, indicating high attendance numbers by industry professionals. Vendors from all over the world were set up in the convention center showcasing their wares. It was great to visit with old friends and meet some of the younger professional beginning their career. The friendships that are formed at these conventions are extremely valuable and helpful as we all try to navigate down that smooth, and sometimes bumpy, road called athletic field maintenance. We all experience quandaries that occasionally stump us, but having the ability to discuss these challenges with other professionals typically yields creative solutions.

STMA offers many different avenues in which to gain knowledge. One of the best local opportunities, with which to gain helpful insights, is by attending our TXSTMA field days. Our first field day was in College Station on Tuesday, March 27th. This was an amazing opportunity to see multiple athletic venues, and how the Aggie field maintenance team rises to the occasion each and every day to manicure some of the most amazing

athletic fields in the nation. Thanks to Craig Potts and Nick McKenna for hosting such a great event. You can read all about the event and see photos in this newsletter.



Troy Crawford
Moneygram Soccer
Park
TXSTMA President

TXSTMA President's Message



SIDELINES

We love our Sponsors!



2018 Three Star Sponsor

Thank you to our 2018 Star Sponsors.
Your generous support is greatly appreciated.



2018 Two Star Sponsor



2018 Star Sponsor





March 27, 2018

Region 3 Spring Field Day -Texas A&M University

A great day at Aggieland !

The TXSTMA Region 3 Spring Field Day was held on the campus of Texas A&M University on March 27th, 2018. Our hosts for this special day were Texas A&M Athletic Field managers, Nick McKenna CSFM and Craig Potts CSFM. Nick and Craig did an outstanding job of organizing and planning the Field Day and treated their peers to an insiders look at the awesome facilities they maintain.

The day started out with tours of Blue Bell Park at Olson Field - home of the Texas A&M Baseball team. Nick McKenna provided insight into the maintenance practices and nuances of the historic park. TXSTMA members were able to view equipment and product demonstrations by our sponsors.

The tour continued at the Aggie Football practice facility where Craig Potts spoke about the spring turf transition and their plans for the upcoming growing season. It was very useful to learn about the specific cultivars used on the football fields and the benefits of each. What a great experience for our members to head onto Kyle Field and discuss specific fertility programs as well as insect and weed control.

Continued on Next Page



Nick McKenna CSFM and Craig Potts CSFM





After the morning tours, the group went over to the Softball and Soccer complex to discuss the unique maintenance practices at these venues. It was very interesting to hear the advantages of the AirField construction compared to a more traditional USGA construction techniques. Our members were able to discuss the challenges of maintaining high traffic practice fields and the specific programs utilized to optimize playing conditions on these sports fields.



HUNTER IS A PROUD STAR SPONSOR OF



Scott Long
Austin
West Texas
(512) 695-6950

Ron Shelton
Dallas/Fort Worth
Wichita Falls
(817) 456-7953

Charley Huston
Dallas/Fort Worth
East Texas
(214) 577-4168

Jeff Trahan
Houston
(832) 998-1048

Ronnie Alaniz
San Antonio
Rio Grande Valley
(956) 254-3625



Thank you to all our vendors that made the lunch and trade show portion of the event such a success. The Scotts Miracle-Gro facility was a great venue for our lunch event. What a treat for our members to hear from Dr. Baltensperger, Department Head of Soil and Crop Sciences, during the luncheon. The TXSTMA greatly appreciates the department's hospitality during the event.

After lunch, our members were able to tour the turf plots outside of the Miracle-Gro facility and hear from Texas A&M faculty and staff about the current turf studies that are being conducted. Professor Dr. Ben Wherley described the shade analysis study being conducted. It was very interesting to compare the data that had been gathered and visually inspect the different cultivars and how they were responding to varied shade conditions.





We were able to see the different effects of traffic and drought tolerance on varied soil base structures. Graduate student Reagan Hejl walked our members through the different cultivars that were being used by the University to study drought tolerance levels for many types of Zoysia, St. Augustine, and Bermudagrasses.

We had a great turnout for the event and our hosts provided informational tours that will benefit our members greatly. We thank Texas A&M University and our hosts Nick McKenna and Craig Potts for their amazing hospitality. We look forward to the opportunity to visit this great Field Day site in the future!



Aggie Turf
AgrLife Extension Locate Your County Agent Soil & Crop Soil & Water Testing Lab Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab

Are you accessing the latest Turfgrass news and information available from Texas A&M?

Visit and bookmark aggieturf.tamu.edu

HOME Turfgrass Faculty Turfgrass Research Turfgrass Program Events Useful Links For Agrilife Extension Agents

- Texas Turfgrasses
- Turfgrass Weeds
- Turfgrass Insects
- Glossary
- Publications

Field Day Sponsors

Home

Howdy and welcome to the Aggie Turf website!

Aggieturf.tamu.edu has been designed to provide information on Texas turfgrasses and the role they play in the lives of millions of Texans. Turfgrasses often serve as the backbone for residential and commercial landscapes, athletic fields, recreational areas, and golf courses while also playing a vital role in the Texas Green Industry that includes:

- 1.6 million acres of lawns and landscapes
- \$9.3 billion and 444,000 jobs in the green industry



The Texas Sports Turf Managers Association

is proud to partner with these great individuals and companies to be a part of a great day in Rockport!

Air2G2 ● All Season Turf ● Barenbrug ● Bayer ● City of Grapvine
Corpus Christi Hooks ● Diamond Pro ● Ewing Irrigation ● Harrell's
Pioneer Athletics ● PTP ● RS3 - Nolan Ryan - and the Round Rock Express
San Marcos Academy ● Sports Field Solutions ● Syngenta
Winfield Solutions

Thank you for your generous support!

On January 13, 2018, the TXSTMA led by President Elect Weston Floyd gave back to the community in a Texas sized way. TXSTMA members, sponsors and local community members joined forces to rebuild the baseball and softball fields in Rockport that were ravaged by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

The banner above lists the sponsors who donated product, time and money to make the event a great success. Many more helped in so many ways and we really appreciate the outpouring of generosity and selflessness.

The effort was covered by many news outlets in the state. Below are links to some of the news stories and the next two pages include photos from the special day. Way to go TXSTMA members!!! You rock!

[Baseball Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan donates to Rockport](#)

[Longhorn Volunteers lead way in Rockport Little League rebuild](#)

[Charlie Robison and Nolan Ryan help rebuild Rockport-Fulton Memorial Park Ball Fields](#)

STMA @FieldExperts Following

#MemberOfTheWeek is Weston Floyd, Athletic Field and Turf Specialist, @UTAustin. Weston and other @TXSTMA members will be rebuilding baseball and softball fields in Rockport, Texas on Saturday as part of a Field Rebuild Day event. #SportsTurf #TurfExpert

TXSTMA Field Repair for Rockport TX

- ▶ Please join us on January 13, 2018 to help repair the little league fields that were effected by the hurricane in Rockport Texas.
- ▶ We have had several people and vendors who have graciously donated their time and products to help us get the kids of Rockport ready for their season.
- ▶ We will start at 10:00 am and work till it is done. For More information please contact Weston Floyd wfloyd@athletics.utexas.edu or Scott Grego with PTP sgregos@prsturf.com



TXSTMA Field Repair for Rockport, TX



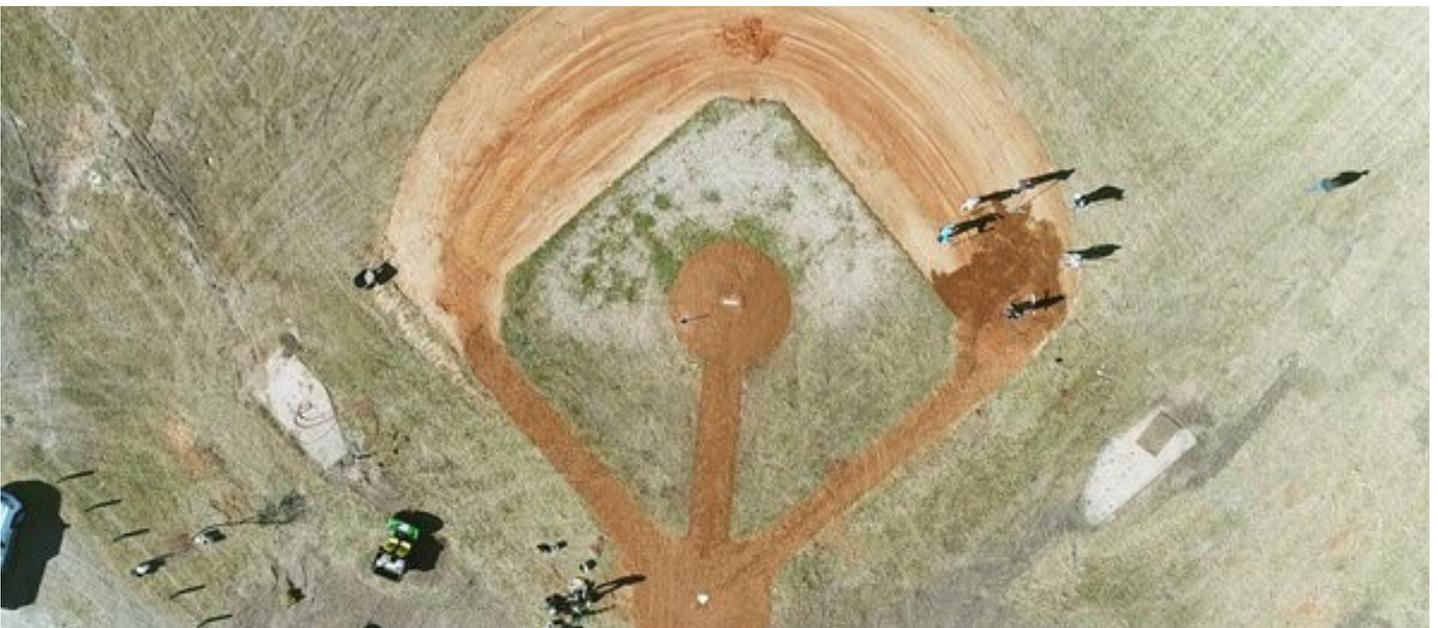
Click the video link below to view a terrific video produced by Texas Longhorn Athletics covering the event.

Longhorn staffer volunteers time to rebuild little league field



WESTON FLOYD
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
ATHLETIC FIELD AND TURF SPECIALIST





To the members of the Texas Sports Turf Managers Association and its vendors:

I wanted to THANK everyone who was able to come out and help our efforts in Rockport last Saturday. The work that you completed that day was a tremendous show of compassion and skill by all our members involved for people that none of you knew. As a member of TXSTMA, I am so thankful that we as an organization could find a day, and help others that have been thru so much pain and heartbreak. It would not have happened without you the members and the different organizations that allowed you to participate.

To the vendors that supplied materials and goods I thank you as well. Your generosity for this project was overwhelming. With the help of your products, we were able to start a solid foundation in Rockport that will help them this year and beyond. They were so overjoyed to have some of the things we take for granted. At the end of the day one parent was so happy that the softball infield was flat. The little things like that are what made this project so fulfilling. We were able to leave them with materials that will help them during their season and make it a little safer.



When we started this project, the town of Rockport was not going to be able to play their little league season. However, after all of your hard work that night they opened up the website for registration. You helped that town, you helped those kids have a season, and without you that would not have happened. I am forever grateful and proud to be in an organization that is able to give back as we did.

Thank You All, Weston Floyd



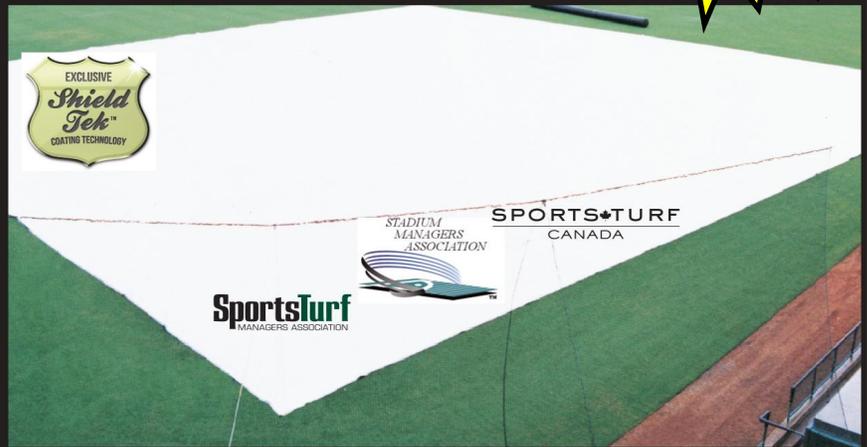
Avoid Costly Rainouts...

COVERMASTER™ RAINCOVERS

Click Ad

The COVERMASTER® Advantage...

- Lighter weight, superior strength, easier to handle
- Shield Tek™ coating technology for greater durability
- Outstanding heat reflective properties
- Raincover graphics available
- Largest choice of weights and colors



TARP MACHINE VIDEO!

TARPMACHINE™ makes light of handling your raincover.

WATCH THE ACTION ON LINE AT:

covermaster.com/tarpmachine/



Covers for football and soccer fields are also readily available.



TARP MACHINE™ lets you roll the cover on and off in minutes.



TARPMATE™ roller comes in 3 lengths with safety end caps.

 **COVERMASTER®**
NO ONE COVERS IT BETTER

Call Toll Free: 1-800-387-5808
Int'l: +1-416-745-1811 • FAX: 416-742-6837
E-mail: info@covermaster.com
www.covermaster.com
© 2017 Covermaster Inc.



covermaster.com/rcad/



MoneyGram Soccer Park
Named Field of the Year
by SportsTurf Magazine
Posted on
www.fcdallas.com



Troy Crawford
"So thankful for the honor of being named professional soccer field of the year from STMA. No great feat is ever done alone! My Moneygram team is amazing! Benjamin Louis and Jonathan Figueroa. You guys are the best! Awesome and amazing! Thank you"

Call us biased no more! We like to claim that we have the best grounds crew in pro sports. Now the experts agree. The Sports Turf Managers Association has named MoneyGram Soccer Park Field 8 Professional Soccer Field of the Year for 2017.

FC Dallas manages MoneyGram Soccer Park in partnership with the city of Dallas. The park itself sits on a 120-acre site that was formally a landfill. Because of that, that ground is constantly moving which makes maintaining a level playing surface a remarkable challenge.

"This is a testament to never giving up no matter how difficult the challenge," said Tom Jones, Vice President of Complex Management for Toyota Stadium who oversees management of MoneyGram Soccer Park. "The grounds crew adapted, developed a plan with limited resources and executed that plan to perfection. Very proud of the boys!"

The field was renovated in mid-2017 to alleviate the challenge of watering soil and roots underneath a one inch layer of thick clay sod and a six-inch sand cap. The field, which featured TifTuf bermuda grass now has just a six-inch sand cap that can withstand almost double the field usage hours of other fields and shows few signs of wear and tear.

A panel of 13 judges scored the entries based on playability, surface appearance, utilization of innovation solutions, effective use of budget and implementation of a comprehensive agronomic program.

Field 8 groundskeeper Troy Crawford and his team were honored at the 29th annual STMA Conference in Fort Worth, Texas January 16-19, 2018.





Wednesday May 9

3001 South Congress
Austin, Texas 78704-6489

Region 2 Spring Field Day St. Edwards University, Austin



Facility Tours, Product and Equipment Demos, Education,
Tabletop Tradeshow, Lunch and Networking Opportunities

SportsTurf

MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.

WHY AREN'T YOU AN STMA MEMBER?

\$130. That's the annual cost of membership in the national STMA organization; it's even less if someone else in your organization is already a member (\$85), or if you're a student (\$30), athletic director, coach—someone not directly responsible for managing or maintaining a sports field (\$60).

\$130 is not nothing of course but let's compare that to what you might spend on something else of value to you, say a new driver in your golf bag, \$500. How about a more-than-respectable separate rod and reel at Bass Pro, \$200?

Ask your employer if they will pay; a few clicks through the STMA website or the pages of this magazine might be enough to convince them it's worth it to your facility or organization.

There's a long list of member benefits and it starts with:

Networking: join the ultimate group of peers willing to share their best practices.

Continuing education: content that is timely, relevant and cost effective to help you do your job better. These educational resources are created in a variety of formats including educational bulletins, podcasts, webinars, videos, DVDs and in-person conference presentations. You'll learn from leading academics, practitioners and commercial innovators.

Easily accessible information: quickly find resources to help you save time, e.g., access to Michigan State's Turfgrass Information File, the green industry's greatest resource for up-to-date technical information, which would cost you \$100 to access on your own.

[Click here for more reasons to be an STMA member!](#)

The Air2G2 Story Running Down A Dream

It was more than 40 years ago, but Glen Black remembers it like it was yesterday. It was the day he transformed his experience from a part-time job at a local golf course into a lifelong pursuit to develop a revolutionary machine for the turf industry, the Air2G2.

Glen, then a student at Western State College in Gunnison, CO, would occasionally help at a local golf course that was owned by Ollie Woods, a professor at the college. One day that work involved “aerating” the greens. Looking at all the holes in the greens that were previously pristine, Glen told Ollie “I don’t get this, what are we doing?” Ollie explained to Glen that aeration reduced compaction and helped the roots breathe. Glen also recalls Ollie saying, “If someone could figure out how to truly ‘aerate’ the soil -- how to infuse or inject air into it -- they’d really have something.”

That was all the inspiration Glen needed. He sketched out a design for an air injection tool that night and within days had fabricated a device that he could use for testing. Glen took an archery tip and glued it to a piece of pipe into which he had drilled holes. He connected the pipe and a valve stem to a portable air tank and, viola, his first air injection tool was born.

The greens at Ollie’s course were severely undulated. A high spot on one of the greens was particularly troublesome and lacked color. Ollie told Glen that this mounded section of turf would never be dark green because water ran off the slope and didn’t penetrate into the soil. Glen took his fabricated air tool and faithfully treated this area of the green 3-4 times per week. [CLICK HERE FOR THE ENTIRE STORY](#)



Balancing Innovation and Sound Agronomics



Call Today to See The Equipment Sports Turf Professionals Trust

Jeff Kadlec (210) 413-3045

Rick Kadlec (314) 744-0379

Sales, Contract Service, and Rental Options Available





Notes from the TXSTMA Communications Director Dan Bergstrom, CSFM

Houston Dynamo Grounds Crew welcomes Texas A&M graduate Russell Rafter to our team in the position of Assistant Groundskeeper in January 2018. Russell comes to us with a great MLB internship and previous golf experience in addition to his Turfgrass degree.



Many people have asked us about how we fared through the Harvey floods this past Aug/Sept. We are happy to report that our last remaining displaced

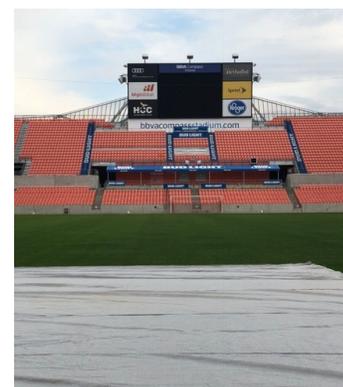
grounds crew member has been able to move back into his home as renovations have reached the point where his home is livable again. New flooring and new drywall have been installed in his home so far, finishes still to come.



JoseLuis Villatoro mowing the Stadium field on a cold January morning!!!

This photo is of our stadium field as we were removing the grow blankets Friday, January 19. We were

thrilled that after the two consecutive nights below 25 degrees, we still have green ryegrass, and even our Bermuda was still holding green color under those blankets. We are actively mowing ryegrass 3 times per week now as the sun has come back out and the temps have warmed into the mid 60's lately.



Dan Bergstrom, CSFM
BBVA Compass Stadium

Congratulations Dan Bergstrom! Terrific Recognition by the STMA!

The George Toma Golden Rake Award is known as the “and then some” award, because this honor goes to an individual who goes above and beyond what is required. Dan was cited by his peers as someone who has always been willing to give time and expertise to the industry. He has given and continues to give numerous presentations — locally, regionally and nationally — and host events at his facility. In a career that is primarily in baseball, Dan has led field rebuilds at inner-city facilities and assisted many sports field managers in their careers at minor league facilities and in the Dominican Republic. His vision for the association exemplifies the George Toma philosophy.

UPDATED STMA *Playing Condition Index* NOW AVAILABLE

With the help of Dr. Brad Fresenburg, STMA has updated the Playing Conditions Index (PCI) to conduct a Field Performance Study to investigate if it is possible to determine when a field becomes unsafe for athletes.

The PCI is now available in a digital format for both natural grass fields and synthetic turf fields. It is a protected Excel spreadsheet and users can only enter information in the cells that allow entry.

The spreadsheet can be saved under different file names by the field manager to maintain records

for each field. Not only does the spreadsheet automatically generate a PCI for the field being tested, but it also provides immediate feedback to sports turf managers about areas of the field that need attention if unsafe conditions are present. The digital format allows the spreadsheet to be used as many times as needed to maintain records for all fields. Over the course of time, STMA hopes to develop a database that will help bring us closer to making informed decisions about when fields become unsafe by identifying trends with field usage. Once you collect field data using the spreadsheet, please send the results to kalt-house@stma.org. The spreadsheet can be used as many times as necessary and may act as a recordkeeping tool for your fields. Please send your results any time you enter data to help us further the mission of keeping fields safe and playable for our athletes.

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.

[Access the updated PCI spreadsheets here.](#) (STMA Members Only)

BARENBRUG

MONACO
BERMUDAGRASS

CONTINUING THE LEGACY.
INTRODUCING MONACO
SEEDED BERMUDAGRASS!

CONTINUING THE LEGACY FOUNDED BY RIVIERA

Monaco is a superior seeded bermudagrass that is excellent for use on golf courses, sports turf, and higher quality lawns. It has excellent density and wear tolerance. Bred for a genetically darker green color, it also has quicker spring green-up, high fall color retention, and winter hardiness, Monaco will make a great addition to your landscape!

Let us help you build your legacy. Contact: Ckearns@barusa.com • 903 278 2678

Thomas Turf Services

Soil Analysis and Turf Management

Down here in the South, the temperatures are warming up and the spring rains have arrived. For many turf managers it is time to start thinking about verifying and/or topdressing your facilities.

To avoid layering problems your topdressing sand should be as similar as possible to the original sand used to build your facility.

If you want to check the compatibility of your current, or possibly a new topdressing sand, to the original construction sand, send a gallon sample of each to the lab.

Confirmation that you have selected a compatible sand will give you a good night's sleep and let you focus on other pressing matters.

Best wishes for a successful 2018.

Jim Thomas

SUCCESS IN FORT WORTH!

STMA recently hosted its 29th annual Conference & Exhibition in Fort Worth, Texas. With more than 200 exhibitors and 1,200 attendees from 14 countries. A “Seminar on Wheels Tour” at professional, collegiate and youth sports complexes in Dallas-Fort Worth complemented nearly 50 education sessions, sports turf exhibits and networking with environmental science leaders.

SAFE, the association’s charitable foundation, raised more than \$23,000 through an outing at Topgolf, a “Night of Bowling” and silent and live auctions. Proceeds benefit educational programs, scholarships and grants enriching communities through safe, sustainable sports and recreation fields.

This year’s prestigious Founders Awards were given to the following:

Paul Burgess, CSFM, of the Real Madrid and Estadio Santiago Bernabeu received the 2017 Dick Ericson Award.



Paul is known for a strong work ethic and commitment to the sports turf industry, and the results are what his peers call, “world class” playing surfaces. As head groundskeeper for one of the largest sports clubs in the world, Paul has taken his position and used it to promote our industry. He achieved three certifications in 2017. He became a Certified Sports Field Manager and had two sports facilities achieve Environmental Facility Certification. All three are a first for STMA — the first time that certifications have been achieved by a European Sports Field Manager.

James Brosnan, Ph.D., from the University of Tennessee received the 2017 William H. Daniel Award.

Speaking to the mentoring capacity of Dr. Brosnan, three Ph.D. students who studied under him are now faculty members at land-grant universities specializing in turfgrass. He has authored many peer-reviewed journal articles, frequently contributes to SportsTurf magazine, and annually speaks at the STMA conference. As an Associate Professor with an appointment in turfgrass weed science, his research and extension activities span all turfgrass specialties, but a significant portion of his efforts focus on athletic field research. He has completed multiple projects to quantify the effects of weed infestations on playability, and he works proactively to educate athletic field managers on the importance of herbicide rotations. He developed the Mobile Weed Manual, a free application for mobile devices.



STMA’s highest honor, the Harry C. Gill Award, was awarded to Tim Moore, CSFM, of GCA Services.



Cited as one of the most influential professionals in our business, Tim’s involvement in the profession has been immeasurable: committee service, chapter involvement, serving on the STMA Board of Directors and much more. Tim has been a champion for the Certification Program, becoming one of the first group of members to receive the CSFM designation. He has written articles that have advanced the professionalism of the industry, was a board member for the Mid-Atlantic chapter as well as the STMA Board and served on STMA’s Awards Committee and helped that program to mature to the level it is today.

Since 1989, STMA hosted its annual convention in major cities across America. The 2019 and 2020 editions will be in Phoenix and West Palm Beach, Fla., respectively.

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.



Summer Conference & Equipment Rodeo

July 15-17, 2018

Hyatt Lost Pines
Resort



Annual Conference & Trade Show

December 11-13, 2018

San Antonio Convention
Center & Grand Hyatt



Texas Turfgrass Association News

Congratulations and Good Luck to the new TTA Executive Director Katie Flowers (left). She follows TTA Legend Mrs. Shirley Duble who retired in December.

WINNING THE GAME, FROM THE GROUND UP

PRO LEAGUE® INFIELD CONDITIONERS



Choose Turf Athletic® to:

- Prevent rainouts and improve sliding surface
- Optimize playability and player safety
- Reduce maintenance time
- Create professional look with vivid color options

The #1 Conditioner for Safe & Playable Fields

Visit Turf.com to check out our winning product lineup!



**TURFACE
ATHLETICS**

Your Home Field Advantage™

2018 Board of Directors

SIDELINES



Executive Directors:

President: Troy Crawford - Moneygram Soccer Park, tcrawford@fcdallas.com

Past President: Kevin Lebanik—Harrell's, Klebanik@harrells.com

President Elect: Weston Floyd, University of Texas, wfloyd@athletics.utexas.edu

1st Commercial Vice Pres: Mike Estlinbaum - Ewing Irr., mestlinbaum@ewingirrigation.com

2nd Commercial Vice Pres: Jeff Kadlec, GLK Turf Solutions, jeff.kadlec@glkturfsolutions.com

Treasurer: Nick McKenna, CSFM— Texas A&M University, nmckenna@athletics.tamu.edu

Committee Directors:

Advertising: Scott Greggo - Professional Turf Products, greggos@proturf.com

Communication: Dan Bergstrom, CSFM — BBVA Compass, dbergstrom@bbvacompassstadium.com

Region I (DFW): Russell Coe, Sports Field Solutions, russell,@sportsfieldsolutions.com

Region II (Austin/San Antonio): Garrett Reddehase, RS3 Sports, greddehase@rs3sports.com

Region III (Houston): Kevin Hansen, Houston Texans, kevinhanden09@gmail.com

Membership: Greg Carroll

Scholarship: Chris Pitts, Clear Creek ISD, chpitts@ccisd.net

Chapter Executive: Carol Cloud, txstmainfo@yahoo.com, (817) 368-3002

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association

*Providing education and training for
safer and healthier sports turf
facilities*

Txstma.org

txstmainfo@
yahoo.com

(817) 736-0727

5552 Plata Lane
Benbrook, TX 76126

Fall 2017 Issue

Follow us @TXSTMA

twitter 

For all the latest association news and information!

facebook