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**Sports Turf Managers Association Volunteers Celebrate 15th Anniversary  
at 2014 Little League World Series**

(LAWRENCE, Kan.) – [Sports Turf Managers Association](#) (STMA) – the professional organization for 2,600 men and women who manage sports fields worldwide – is celebrating its 20th anniversary of volunteering as the grounds crew for the Little League World Series (LLWS).

Seth Whitehill, Little League Baseball Groundskeeper and STMA member since 2011, will lead 40 STMA volunteers in preparing and managing the fields for 30 televised games on ESPN, ESPN 2, ESPN 3, ESPNU and WATCH ESPN over a 10-day period in late August.

The Williamsport, Pa. 88-acre complex features six fields, one full-size baseball field, two premier stadiums (Lamade, Volunteer), two practice fields and one practice in-field.

"Our number one goal is providing a safe playing surface for the athletes," says Whitehill. "It's always a thrill to host eight domestic and eight international teams from across the globe at our world-class facility."

The volunteers serving on this year's grounds crew represent multiple STMA regional chapters, traveling from as far as California to assist with the LLWS. Three members have assisted all 20 years for youth baseball's premier tournament.

Jeff Fowler, STMA Board Member, has helped the last 15 years as a volunteer and will coordinate logistics with Whitehill for the 40 volunteers. This year is more special than most as he will be joined by his father, Don, and son, Evan.

"It is an exciting year for our family as three generations will be represented," says Fowler, District Director for Penn State University's Cooperative Extension. "Sports turf has been a common bond for all of us and I look forward to sharing quality time with them."

The two premier stadiums, Lamade and Volunteer, feature Kentucky bluegrass. In addition to daily mowing and painting lines, the volunteer grounds team will carefully water each field, broom the edges and make necessary repairs to the clay in the home plate circle and pitcher's mound.

In addition to the STMA's milestone, this year marks the 75th anniversary of Little League Baseball and the 68th anniversary for the LLWS.

For more info on STMA: [www.stma.org](http://www.stma.org), [www.twitter.com/fieldexperts](https://www.twitter.com/fieldexperts), 800.323.3875.

### **About STMA**

STMA is the not-for-profit, professional association for men and women who manage sports fields worldwide. Since 1981, the association and its 34 local chapters have been providing education, information and sharing practical knowledge in the art and science of sports field management. Its more than 2,600 members oversee sports fields and facilities at schools, colleges and universities, parks and recreational facilities, and professional sports stadiums.

For more information: [www.stma.org](http://www.stma.org), 800.323.3875

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