

2010 Field of the Year Awards Application STMA Awards Program

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) recognizes that you make personal and professional contributions to our industry and to the organization you serve. Therefore, the STMA distinguishes fields from around the country with the Field of the Year Program. Through our Field of the Year Program we are able to greatly further one main element of our mission: To gain acknowledgement for the professionalism of our members.

This year, based on the results of the judging, the following awards may be presented at the **STMA Annual Awards Banquet, Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, in Austin, Texas:**

- STMA Baseball Field of the Year in the Schools and Parks, College and University, and Professional Categories
- STMA Softball Field of the Year in the Schools and Parks, College and University Categories
- STMA Football Field of the Year in the Schools and Parks, College and University, and Professional Categories
- STMA Soccer Field of the Year in the Schools and Parks, College and University, and Professional Categories
- STMA Sporting Grounds of the Year in the Schools and Parks, College and University, and Professional Categories

In addition to being featured in *SportsTurf* Magazine winning fields will also receive:

- A plaque recognizing the field and the Sports Turf Manager
- Registration to the STMA Conference
- Up to \$500 towards travel/lodging at the STMA Conference
- STMA signature apparel for the winning sports turf manager and their crew

All entry materials must be submitted according to the procedures outlined in this document. The awards committee, consisting of highly-regarded STMA professionals, will independently judge the entries. Winners will be notified in November 2010.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 2010.

Please send entries to:

STMA Awards Program
805 New Hampshire, Suite E
Lawrence, KS 66044

Questions? Contact STMA Headquarters:

Phone: 800.323.3875
Fax: 800.366.0391 or 785.843.2549
Email: stmainfo@stma.org or pallen@stma.org

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2010

Field Name (Fill In):

Sports Turf Manager:

Level of Submission:

- ☐ Professional
- ☐ College
- ☐ Schools/Parks

Category of Submission:

- ☐ Baseball
- ☐ Football
- ☐ Softball
- ☐ Soccer
- ☐ Sporting Grounds (see page 3 for more information)

Please note the Complex of the Year Category no longer exists.

A separate application must be submitted for each category or level a field is entered in.

STMA Sporting Grounds of the Year

In order to better serve the STMA membership and provide the most opportunities for members to apply, the STMA Awards Committee eliminated the Complex of the Year category and replaced it with the new STMA Sporting Grounds of the Year category.

In establishing the STMA Sporting Grounds of the Year, the Awards Committee has targeted athletic fields which host “unique” sports outside of STMA’s big four sports (football, baseball, softball, soccer) such as field hockey, lacrosse, rugby, cricket, tennis, and horse tracks. For a field to apply under the new category, it must host the “unique” sport for a majority of the play on a natural grass playing surface.

The new STMA Sporting Grounds of the Year applicants must follow the same guidelines and rules as STMA Field of the Year applicants, and winners receive the same recognition. Please fill out the application completely before sending it in to STMA. Feel free to contact STMA if you have questions about the new category or the STMA Field of the Year program in general.

STMA Awards Program

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Lawrence, KS 66044

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READ THIS PAGE BEFORE PROCEEDING

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

The following criteria must be met to submit for the STMA Field of the Year Awards Program:

1. For the purposes of this program, a “field” constitutes ONE natural grass playing surface
2. To be considered, a field must have had two full seasons of play (may be concurrent, i.e. football and soccer on the same field in the fall, etc.)
3. The Sports Turf Manager submitting entry must be a national member of STMA
4. All materials must be submitted in one application packet to be considered

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION

- **This form is designed to assess ONE FIELD, not a complex. Please answer the questions as such.**
- Type or neatly print application
- All photo criteria must be met, including dates each photo was taken
- Captions on all photos are encouraged
- Feel free to use your own word processor and/or spreadsheet, but questions must be answered in the same order that they appear in the application.
- Answer all questions as fully as possible. Include extra sheets or diagrams if you wish.
- Certain questions are to be answered in narrative form. These questions **MUST BE TYPED** in a 12 pt. font and double spaced. Please limit your answer to Question 9 to no more than 500 words.
- You may package your entry in any manner you wish (notebook, folder, binder, etc.), but STMA must receive a physical copy of your application.

NEW FOR 2010

- The STMA PCI© is now required to submit for the STMA Field of the Year Awards
 - A total of four separate, completed PCI Worksheets must be submitted with this application
 - Three or four conducted in season of the individual field’s primary sport (depending on whether an off season PCI was conducted, see next point)
 - One conducted in the off season of the individual field’s primary sport (if applicable in the 2010 Application Cycle ONLY)
 - The STMA PCI© may be found on the Members Only side of the STMA website, www.STMA.org or you may contact STMA at 800.323.3875 to obtain a copy. Membership is required to obtain the PCI *and* to apply for the STMA Field of the Year Awards.

1. **Sports Turf Manager Name:** _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Education/ Type of Degree: _____

Highest Level Achieved: _____

A brief summary of Sports Turf Management experience:

Names of Full-Time Staff Dedicated to Field:

Include these names on an award should you win? YES NO

Names of Part-Time and Seasonal Staff Dedicated to Field:

Include these names on an award should you win? YES NO

Names of Volunteers Dedicated to Field: _____

Include these names on an award should you win? YES NO

2. **What is the original construction date of the facility?**

Has your field been renovated in the last 2 years? YES NO

If so, what was done? _____

Why was the field renovated? _____

Year of renovation: _____ Total cost of renovation: _____

What was the soil composition of the field before renovation?

What was the soil composition of the field after renovation?

Other notes on renovation: _____

3. **What is the square footage/acreage of the field?** _____

4. **How many hours was the field in use for its primary activity?** _____

5. What other activities was the field used for? _____

Number of hours in use: _____

6. What variety(s) of turfgrass(es) does the field have? _____

If you oversee, please provide additional information:

7. What is the root zone composition of your field?

Native soil	YES	NO
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Type (Circle)	Clay	Sandy	Sandy Loam
	Loamy Sand		Loam

	YES	NO
100% sand		

Sand mix	YES	NO
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Mix composition _____% Sand
 _____% Other

List other mix _____

Soil amendment(s) used (Calcined clay, etc)

Percentage _____%

List any other soil amendment(s) used: _____

Soil Stabilizer	YES	NO

List stabilizer(s) _____

Soil Heating System	YES	NO

Type of system _____

Drainage System	YES	NO
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Type of system _____

8. **Please provide a breakdown of the budget for the ONE FIELD for which you are submitting the Field of the Year application for both 2009 and 2010. These numbers should be attributed to one playing surface:**

- a. Please provide a cost per acre for the following categories for each year (spreadsheet format accepted). Note that Labor should be in man hours/acre:

Labor (man hours/acre) 2009_____2010_____

Materials (cost/acre) (fertilizer, fungicide, herbicide, insecticide, conditioners, amendments, seed, other turf maintenance products)
2009_____2010_____

Equipment maintenance (cost/acre)
2009_____2010_____

- b. In addition, please provide an approximate breakdown of the percentage of man hours spent on each of the following categories (spreadsheet format accepted):

Field Maintenance (mowing, dragging, lining, etc.)_____%

Irrigation _____%

Landscape (indicate any major areas other than the field)
_____%

Building Maintenance (other than field maintenance)
_____%

Other Maintenance (please explain)

9. In 500 words or less, explain any special challenges faced by you and/or your team. These challenges may include weather, drought, event preparations/conversions, or anything else that you feel the judges should know about the field. Include anything unusual or new that you have done to overcome these challenges. The judges are looking for innovative solutions to playing surface problems. Please type your answer. Use a standard 12 pt. font and please double space your answer.

9a. FOR NEW SPORTING GROUNDS OF THE YEAR CATEGORY ONLY:

Please provide the judges with a paragraph explaining unique maintenance challenges or other issues related specifically your sport. If the sport that is played on your field is not listed on page 3, you may also want to include a short description of the sport.

10. Please outline your monthly maintenance and fertility programs. You may use a separate spreadsheet, chart, or other document, or you may type your program in the space provided.
11. Please list all equipment used. Include borrowed, leased, and owned equipment. A separate spreadsheet, chart, or other document may be included or you may type your answer in the space provided.
12. Please provide an organizational chart/diagram of all full-time, part-time, and seasonal staff dedicated to the field. A separate spreadsheet, chart, or other document may be included or you may type your answer in the space provided.
13. A total of four, separate, completed PCI Worksheets must be submitted
- a. Three or four conducted in season of the individual field's primary sport (depending on whether an off season PCI was conducted, see next point)
 - b. One conducted in the off season of the individual field's primary sport (if applicable in the 2010 Application Cycle ONLY)

14. Please provide no more than 30 quality, un-retouched photographs or digital images (see Attachment A) for the committee to review.

Applicants submitting more than 30 photos may be heavily penalized or disqualified at the discretion of the STMA Awards Committee.

THE PHOTOGRAPHS MUST INCLUDE PHOTOS FROM ALL SEASONS OF THE YEAR AND MUST BE DATED.

Suggestions from the Awards Committee:

The committee encourages creative photos, photos that show the versatility of the field, display unique characteristics of the field, and photos that show the unique talents of the crew. Focus on issues specific to your field which tell the story; issues such as drainage, traffic, weather, etc. Provide before and after shots. Do not simply provide ‘beauty shots’ of your field, as they do not reflect the true struggles and triumphs of you and your crew.

REQUIRED FOR ALL FIELD ENTRIES:

- Pictures of the sidelines and other wear areas
- Pictures of the center of the fields (between the hash marks, center field, etc.)
- Pictures of the field from behind the goalmouth, goalposts, or home plate
- Pictures of the field in use
- Pictures of field in all seasons
- Pictures of field renovation or unique issues (if applicable)

REQUIRED FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL ONLY

- Pictures of the dugouts and bullpens

15. **The Copyright Assignment Form (see Attachment B) - and if any individual is identifiable in any picture(s), the Model Release Form (see Attachment C) – must be signed and submitted.**

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the sports turf industry and good luck!

If you have any questions about the STMA Field of the Year

Program, please contact STMA Headquarters at:

Phone: 800.323.3875

Email: stmainfo@stma.org

ATTACHMENT A
PHOTOGRAPHY CRITERIA
FOR JUDGING PURPOSES:

Photos:

- Preferred photo size: 4 x 6 inches or larger, color, high quality
- Please send no photo larger than 8 x 10 inches for judging consideration.
- **All photos must include the date when the photo was taken.**
- **Please do not send loose photographs.**

Digital Images:

Please submit high quality, digital photos (.jpg, .tif) (300 dpi or higher) on a CD. Please note that digital photos not meeting the above criteria will not be suitable for publication should your entry be named Field of the Year, so please make sure your digital images do fit the specs listed for *SportsTurf* below.

- As you photograph your field, take some vertical shots for potential magazine cover consideration.
- Send two CDs and/or two sets of color printouts in sleeves
- Please send no printout larger than 8 x 10 inches for judging consideration.

If selected as a Field of the Year Winner, STMA and/or *SportsTurf* Magazine will contact you for an interview and photo(s) of you, your crew, your field, and your facility.

Please note: If photos are printed from a digital image, the resolution of that original digital image must be no smaller than 300 dpi. Photos printed from images pulled off a website, at a resolution of 72 dpi, will not produce a quality print, and will most likely be rejected for magazine/association use. They cannot correct the quality of a pixilated photo once it has been printed.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE **COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT FORM**, AND – IF AN INDIVIDUAL IS IDENTIFIABLE IN ANY PHOTO - **THE MODEL RELEASE FORM**

**ATTACHMENT B
COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, _____, (Assignor), owns certain copyrights in and to certain photographs described as illustrations of _____ [description of photo(s)] (collectively, the Works); and

WHEREAS, Assignor has agreed to assign the Works to Sports Turf Managers Association, 805 New Hampshire, Suite E, Lawrence, KS 66044, a Colorado corporation (Assignee), and Assignee wishes to acquire certain rights, title and interest in order to publish the Works.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignor does hereby assign to Assignee, part of Assignor's right (i.e. non-exclusive license) to publish the Works in any and all of Assignee's marketing collateral which may be used for sales and marketing purposes with no further consideration due to Assignor.

This Assignment is made effective as of _____, 2010.

ASSIGNOR:

Sign _____

Print _____

Address _____

WITNESS:

Sign _____

Print _____

ATTACHMENT C
MODEL RELEASE FORM

For and in consideration of my appearance as a model by _____, hereafter referred to as the photographer, I give the photographer, his legal representatives and assigns, those for whom the photographer is acting, and those acting with his permission, or his employees, the right and permission to copyright and/or use, reuse and/or publish, and republish photographic pictures or portraits of me, in color, or black and white, made through any media by the photographer at his studio or elsewhere, for any purpose whatsoever; including the use of any printed matter in conjunction therewith.

I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photograph or advertising copy or printed matter in which the photography may be used. I further waive any claim for violations to my rights to privacy.

I hereby warrant that I am over eighteen years of age, and competent to contract in my own name insofar as the above is concerned.

I have read the above release, authorization and agreement, before affixing my signature below, and warrant that I fully understand the contents thereof.

Name _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Street Address

I hereby certify that I am the parent and/or guardian of _____

a child under the age of eighteen years, and I hereby consent that any photographs which have been or are about to be taken by the photographers may be used by him for the purposes set forth in the original release above.

Name _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____