



2012 Fact Sheet

STMA Field of the Year Award

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Background: The STMA Field of the Year Award program began in 1992. There are five field types for which awards may be given: Baseball, Football, Soccer, Softball and Sporting Grounds. For each field type, awards may be given in three categories: Professional, College and University, and Schools and Parks. This year there were a total of eleven awards presented.

Judging criteria: A panel of 11 judges independently scored each entry based on the playability and appearance of the playing surfaces, innovative solutions employed, effective use of budget, and the development and implementation of a comprehensive, sound agronomic program. The STMA Awards Committee includes Chair Allen Johnson, CSFM; Patrick Coakley, CSFM; Brad Garrison; Stephen Horne; Joe Kovolyan, CSFM; Alec Kowalewski; Sarah Martin, CSFM; Ben Polimer; Mike Schiller, CSFM; George Trivett, CSFM; and Charlie Vestal. These judges come from all segments of STMA membership and represent some of the finest facilities in all of America.

Recognition: Each Field of the Year winner receives complimentary registration to the 2013 STMA Conference and Exhibition, three nights lodging, and signature clothing for the award winners and their staff. The winning fields will also be featured in a 2013 article in *SportsTurf Magazine*, the industry's premier publication.

Presentation of the Award: Award winners will be presented with their award during the Annual Awards Banquet on Fri., Jan. 18, 2013, which is held every year at the Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition. The 24th Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition is Jan. 15-18, 2013, at the Ocean Center and the Hilton Daytona Beach in Daytona Beach, Fla.

STMA Awards Program Sponsors: The 2012 STMA Field of the Year Awards are sponsored by Carolina Green Corporation, Ewing Irrigation, Hunter Industries, and World Class Athletic Surfaces. The support of these important STMA Commercial Members is necessary to provide our industry with a robust, prestigious awards program; one that recognizes the hard work of each STMA member and rewards those who excel.

2012 Field of the Year Award Winners

Baseball

- ◆ Schools and Parks – Don Gaebelein Field, Wesleyan School, Norcross, GA
- ◆ College and University – TD Ameritrade Park, Omaha, NE
- ◆ Professional – Fluor Field at the West End, Greenville Drive, Greenville, SC

Football

- ◆ Schools and Parks – Panther Stadium, Oregon USD, Oregon, WI
- ◆ College and University – Jack Trice Stadium, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Soccer

- ◆ Schools and Parks – Waukegan SportsPark Field #2, Waukegan Park Dist., Waukegan, IL
- ◆ College and University – Gordon Field, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY
- ◆ Professional – Dicks Sporting Goods Park, Commerce City, CO

Softball

- ◆ Schools and Parks – Alpenrose Stadium, Little League Softball World Series, Portland, OR
- ◆ College – Tiger Park, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Sporting Grounds

- ◆ Schools and Parks – Infinity Park, City of Glendale, CO

Quotes: “Each year, evaluating the applicant pool is very difficult,” says Allen Johnson, CSFM, STMA Awards Committee Chairman. “The quality of the applicants continues to improve and this year’s winners truly deserved the award.”

(Personalize as Indicated) “The Field of the Year Award validates the intense dedication of our members,” says Kim Heck, CEO of the Sports Turf Managers Association, the sponsoring organization of the award. “The challenges that *(sports turf manager’s name)* faces and the innovative solutions *he/she* employs are truly amazing and award worthy. He/She and his/her crew are very deserving of this prestigious award for *(field name)*,” says Heck.

STMA information: STMA is the not-for-profit, professional association for the men and women who manage sports fields. Its more than 2,500 members oversee sports fields and facilities at schools, colleges and universities, parks and recreational facilities, and professional sports stadiums. Their goal is to manage natural turf and synthetic surfaces to produce safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces for athletes at all levels of playing abilities. Since 1981, the association and its dozens of local chapters have been providing education, information and sharing practical knowledge in the art and science of sports field management. Visit STMA’s website at www.stma.org to learn more.