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How to recover from The Brutal Summer

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Annual KAFMO Athletic Field Conference is February 18th

The Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization in association with the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society, the Sports Turf Managers Association and Penn State, will present the 15th Annual Athletic Field Conference Friday, February 18, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey. The conference includes exhibitors with products and services specific to the sports turf industry.

Pam Sherratt, Sports Turf Extension Specialist at Ohio State, headlines the program of seminars. Jeff Borger from PSU will introduce new herbicides and explain how plant growth regulators can be used on sports turf to reduce mowing requirements and improve the turf quality. Jason Bowers will review the challenges he faced preparing his Bermuda/ryegrass surface at the new Philadelphia Union’s pitch. Dr. Andy McNitt, PSU, returns to review the maintenance required to keep synthetic surfaces safe.

The Athletic Field Conference is celebrating its 15th anniversary. To commemorate this accomplishment, short video highlighting KAFMO members over the years will be shown at the conference. Make sure you, your coworkers, and/or your facility is included in the video by sending photos to KAFMO@aol.com.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization
1431 Peter’s Mountain Road
Dauphin, PA 17018-8504
www.KAFMO.org
E-mail: KAFMO@aol.com

Contact: Linda Kulp, Executive Secretary
Phone: 717-921-8803 / Fax: 717-921-0135

Contact: Dan Douglas, President
Phone: 610-375-8469 x 212 / Fax: 610-373-5868

The Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization was formed in 1994 by a small group of individuals who were concerned about the quality of the athletic fields in Pennsylvania. In 1997, KAFMO became incorporated as a chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association. Today, KAFMO is over 300 members strong and each individual is committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers in the Keystone State.

Our goals are to improve the safety, playability and appearance of all athletic fields in Pennsylvania. As an organization we strive to accomplish our goals through seminars, field days, publications and networking with other professionals in the sports turf industry. Any individual, institution, organization, vendor or supplier who has sincere interest in athletic field maintenance is welcome to become a member. Our members represent a wide range of professionals in the sports turf industry. From high school, collegiate and professional athletic facilities, to parks and recreation departments, municipalities, educators, youth leagues, contractors, and commercial vendors, our membership base is made up of a broad range of individuals who pool their knowledge together for the good of our craft.

Annual Events include:
• Summer - Field Day(s)
• October - KAFMO Cup Open golf tournament – proceeds benefit the Awards Fund
• January - Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference
• January - Northeastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference
• February - Annual KAFMO conference featuring seminars, exhibits and the annual awards program
• February/March - Western Pennsylvania Turf Conference
• March - Northwestern Pennsylvania Turf Conference

Educational Grants and Research
KAFMO has donated over $47,000 for educational grants and sports turf research since 2001. KAFMO provides scholarships for sports turf education and sponsors collegiate teams in the Sports Turf Managers Association’s Collegiate Challenge at their annual national conference. Research beneficiaries include: Sports Turf Managers Association’s Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE); Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council’s fund for sports turf research at Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Research Fund, Inc.

On The Cover...

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Our brochure can be downloaded at: www.kafmo.org/membership.htm

The magazine will be free to KAFMO members.
Controlling Crabgrass in 2011
By Nancy Bosold

This summer was one of the hottest and driest in history. Cool season turfgrasses took a beating while high soil and air temperatures were perfect for the growth of many warm season weeds. Both crabgrass and prostrate knotweed are common on most athletic fields, and chances are you saw both on your fields last summer. Once hit by frost those annuals will be history, but here are some things to help defeat them next year:

Prostrate knotweed grows well in compacted soil, which is one of the reasons it is at home on athletic fields. Knotweed germinates in very early spring, even earlier than crabgrass. It gets a jump on fields wherever the turf is thin in early spring. It is a summer annual broadleaf weed, but newly sprouted knotweed can look like crabgrass seedlings.

Crabgrass is a summer annual grass that germinates in mid-spring and quickly overtakes thin turf or bare ground. Just one crabgrass plant can produce as many as 150,000 seeds. Those seeds can remain viable in the soil for 15 years. Remember all the crabgrass last summer? There’s a good bank of seed waiting for the opportunity to move in next year (and for years to come).

What can you do? The first defense against weed is to keep your cool season grasses healthy and competitive. Good cultural practices like mowing and aeration are always important. Soil test and make sure that the nutrients and pH are balanced, and follow a regular fertility program so that the grass can out-compete the weeds.

Review your overseeding program and make it a priority. Check your fields during the winter months and if there are bare spots, you may still be able to repair them. You could sod bare areas or dormant seed to get a jump on spring. Seed “on the honeycomb,” using the freeze-thaw activity common in late February/early March to work seed into the ground. You can also cover the seeded bare area with growth tarps to take advantage of warm winter days which speed up germination.

Next year during the playing season, overseed regularly on heavily used parts of the field. Perennial ryegrass is a good seed choice since it germinates quickly even in compacted soil and matures quickly to provide cover. Whatever you can do to increase the grass population will help reduce weed infestation.

Preemergent herbicides are very effective against crabgrass, but their use may not be practical on heavily used fields where the soil is constantly disturbed, or in areas that are overseeded. Most pre-emergence products restrict overseeding for 3 months or longer after application. However, products containing the active ingredient siduron (like TuperSan) can safely be applied the active ingredient siduron (like TuperSan) can safely be applied where you are planting new seed, and will help stop crabgrass from taking over.

The postemergence herbicide quinclorac (the active ingredient in Drive, among others) can be used to control emerged crabgrass, as well as clover, and some other weeds (but unfortunately not knotweed). It can be used on athletic fields where overseeding is done, but you really have to check the label for timing based on which species of grass is being planted. Quinclorac can be used a week or more before seeding tall fescue, perennial ryegrass, or Kentucky bluegrass. However, the label restricts applications within four weeks of seedling emergence of Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass.

There are many postemergence broadleaf herbicides that will control knotweed, but timing can be an issue with overseeding. Once again, check the product labels for restrictions about the length of time needed between seeding and application. Most broadleaf herbicides require the newly emerged grasses to reach a certain level of maturity before it is safe to use them. For example, the label may say that newly emerged turf must be mowed three times before application. Overseeding may be restricted for a period of time following application of broadleaf herbicides from 3 weeks to 3 months depending on the product.

Although there are many challenges to preventing weeds like crabgrass and knotweed from taking over your fields, plan ahead now to pick the tactics that will work best for your field schedule. One thing is certain: these are two weeds that will show up year after year, especially where turf was damaged last summer and fall. A good combination of cultural management, frequent overseeding, and careful herbicide selection can provide great results.

Nancy Bosold is the turfgrass management extension agent for Penn State in Berks County, nfb1@psu.edu.
Maximizing the Durability of Athletic Fields

By Dr. Grady Miller, North Carolina State

Durable athletic fields begin with sound construction and careful planning, and good management practices can increase a field’s durability. The basic concepts presented here can help field managers extend the usability of athletic fields.

Field managers are asked to maintain premier turf surfaces knowing that the field will be overused and likely not make it through the playing season. Athletic fields are being used to host more and more events and tournaments. The addition of lights is a major reason for this situation. In some cases, new sports such as lacrosse are being added to fields already overburdened with soccer events. Football fields need to double as general purpose fields for special events. Of course, at some point, a field will begin showing signs of wear. And at some point, the field can fail.

Because field wear is influenced by so many variables, no definitive equation exists to predict when a field will begin showing signs of wear or when it will fail. Such a prediction would be invaluable to schools and municipalities as they face increased legal questions and liability issues regarding injuries associated with poorly designed or constructed facilities, and/or mismanaged facilities. Field managers struggle to accommodate all participating groups without damaging the fields. If fields are overused, then the likelihood of a player becoming injured due to poor field conditions increases. What is a field manager to do?

Ideally, adequate numbers of fields would be available so use could be properly distributed. It is best to have specific game and practice fields dedicated only to one sport to eliminate compound wear from two or more sports. Additionally, sound turf maintenance program promotes turf growth and recovery. Unfortunately, budgets for field management are often the most limiting factor.

Good fields begin with a sound construction strategy, and careful planning is imperative for long-term success.

Ensure Adequate Drainage

Several construction strategies can maximize field durability. At the top of the list is adequate drainage. Wet fields are more prone to damage than dry fields. Adequate drainage not only prevents rainouts; it can also prolong a field’s life. Drainage can be achieved by using surface flow off fields that are crowned or by using subsurface drainage lines. Subsurface drainage depends on good water infiltration of the field. For this reason, a sand-based field will move the water from the field surface much more effectively than relying on surface flow alone. In addition, sand-based fields are less likely to compact. A compacted field generally has lower water infiltration rates, so the surface may remain wet for longer periods of time following a moderate rain.

How much use can a field withstand? This question is best answered using on-site field-use data from previous years. Field data collection requires some careful documentation of games, practices, and other events. As the demands on fields increase, more managers are starting to track field use. Probably the easiest data to track is the number of hours the fields are in use during the year.

Before a field is ever used, planners, designers, and managers should understand its expected level of use and performance. These expectations should be realistic. Those involved in planning and maintaining a field should consider the maintenance budget, available equipment, and labor. It is often helpful to have one field labeled as a “championship” field and the other fields labeled as “practice” fields. This can help everyone involved define how each field can be managed via maintenance inputs and controlled scheduling to maximize its condition. Often the higher quality championship fields can be used as examples to encourage the construction of new fields that alleviate use or to increase maintenance budgets of existing fields.

Baseball and softball should be evaluated differently because a large percentage of each game is played on a clay infield. The reality is that it takes only one extremely wet game to destroy a field. Practices can also cause appreciable damage due to their repetitive activity in particular areas of a field, so practices must also be put into the equation.

The number of events a field can handle will ultimately depend upon field construction, weather conditions during the season (especially just before and during games), maintenance practices, recuperative periods, and the time of year.

Restrict Field Use if Necessary

Obviously, the more traffic you put on the field, the faster the turf declines. Also, particular sports cause more severe field damage in localized areas. Football tends to cause extreme wear between the hash marks. Soccer wears the quickest in the middle of the field, in front of the goal mouths, along the sidelines (due to linesmen), and in the corner kick areas. Any repetitive action on the same area of the field accelerates wear. That is why practices and warm-up drills are often more damaging than games. But it is not just the athletes on the field who can cause wear problems. A marching band is extremely hard on a field because bands tend to march along the same lines all the time, both during a game and in practice. Cheerleaders and pep squads during games may also result in turf damage due to heavy use in a confined area. Some reduction in traffic damage can be avoided by doing the following:

• Restrict use when soil is very wet.
• Restrict use when soil is very dry and turf is wilted.
• Always have coaches rotate heavy play areas during practices.
• Use portable goals when possible, and move them around the field.
• If possible, move a soccer field’s sidelines during the year.
• If a space is large enough to accommodate field rotation (see Figure 1), periodically rotate the entire field.
• On game fields, restrict the number of practices to a minimum.
• Have a reduced game schedule when grass is dormant.
• Have regularly scheduled rest times that are used to repair minor damages.
• Do not allow unofficial play.
• Use tarps (covers) on bench areas to reduce severe wear by coaches and team members.
• Use tarps (covers) on sideline areas used by the cheerleaders.

In most cases, field users will need to be informed of potential wear problems. Most users do not understand the damage that they can cause.

(Continued on page 6)
Maximizing Durability...
(From page 5)

Although it may be obvious to a field manager that a field is too wet for play, it is not obvious to most field users. Close fields when necessary. If the field manager is not allowed to close the field, the decision-makers should be made aware of the potential short and long-term damage that may result from field use given the situation. Unfortunately, some fields are scheduled the same as basketball courts or hard-surface tennis courts, without consideration of the turf surface’s wearability. The field manager is in the best position to decide how much wear is too much.

Field managers can use a few practices that will maximize a field’s ability to handle wear.

First, make every effort to begin the sporting season with 100 percent turf coverage. At the beginning of the year, schedule recuperative times during the season, realizing that non-overseeded bermudagrass fields will not recuperate very quickly in the late fall or winter months. Overseeding can be used to protect dormant bermudagrass if excessive wear is expected during the cooler months. But remember, the overseeding grass often can be a significant competitor with the bermudagrass in late spring to early summer when the bermudagrass is trying to grow. If premier conditions are needed due to use in those months, the overseeded may need to be chemically removed to allow the bermudagrass to more easily re-establish.

Adjust maintenance practices to address the condition of the fields. Increase or decrease inputs (particularly irrigation and fertilization) as dictated by environmental conditions and the turf’s growth. Manage high wear areas differently than the rest of the field. This allows a manager to improve the entire field surface without dramatically increasing the budget. The most helpful practice along these lines is applying supplemental nitrogen fertilizer to the high wear areas to promote recuperation. The bermudagrass will respond to the added fertilization and promote more rapid growth, filling in divots and rip-outs quicker. The same can be done with aerification, soil amendments, and seeding. Think of a field as many parts, rather than just one field. The goal mouth of five fields in close proximity can be core cultivated in the same amount of time as one entire field. If the field routinely has localized standing water after a small shower, aerify those areas and backfill with an appropriate coarser textured soil amendment (such as sand or calcined clay). Spread seed (if appropriate) in wear areas before games and practices.

Some management practices that can reduce field wear may be more controversial. Advocate that less aggressive cleat patterns be worn by athletes. Studies have shown that cleat design can dramatically influence turf damage. In one study, a trainer shoe produced 37 percent less turf damage than a standard soccer cleat. A 6-stud replacement cleat was 34 percent more damaging than the standard soccer cleat. The numbers are more relative than absolute, but they illustrate the impact on turf damage from something as simple as a shoe. Shoes with a greater number of smaller cleats will cause less wear and compaction damage (more cleats displace weight better) than more traditional cleat design. Of course there is a trade-off—reduced traction by the user. The trainer shoe in the above-mentioned study required 47 percent less force to break traction than a standard soccer cleat. This difference may be unacceptable at certain levels of athletic competition.

To maximize field use and durability, there must be open communication among the field manager, the people responsible for scheduling the field, and the field users. Once excessive wear and field overuse results in hazardous and unsafe playing conditions, the field manager must request that the field be closed. Safety of the users is paramount. With good field design, construction, management, reasonable care and maintenance, and proper use, fields can continue to provide an acceptable playing surface.

Field managers can use a few practices that will maximize a field’s ability to handle wear.

For information see www.kafmo.org or call 717-924-8803
# REGISTRATION FORM

**Company Name or Club (Please print clearly or type)**

**Mailing Address**

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**State**

**Zip**

**Phone**

**Fax**

**Email**

**Web Address**

Please Check One:

- Golf Course
- Lawn Service
- Athletic Field
- Soc Industry
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- Grounds Maintenance
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- Mastercard

Yes, send me a receipt

Name on card (print)

Card Number

Expiration Date

3-Digit Security Code

Signature

**TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED FOR REGISTRATION** $_________

All cancellations must be received in writing. No Refunds will be issued for cancellations received after Monday, December 28, 2009.

## BY DECEMBER 17, 2010

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<th>Registrant Names</th>
<th>Full Conference Registration (per person)</th>
<th>One-Day Conference Registration</th>
<th>Mechanics Only One-Day Workshop</th>
<th>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. First &amp; Last Name for Name Badge</td>
<td>__ Full Conference Registration</td>
<td>__ Tuesday</td>
<td>Call the PTC office at 814-237-0767 to register.</td>
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## IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- To be eligible for the Multi-Member discount, all members must be from the same club/company. Attach additional Registration Forms as needed.
- Name badges are required for admission to the Educational Sessions and Exhibit areas and will be available on site.
- Although registration fees are waived for those over 65 years of age, for the spouses of paid attendees, and for students, these individuals must be registered to receive a name badge. Registrants whose fees are waived may purchase tickets for the lunch buffet for $35 per person per day.
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Winter brings its own set of challenges and thoughts. That’s right, equipment maintenance, budgeting, and those nasty four letter words snow, cold, and wind. But, it’s also a good time to review what has happened over the past year. If you’re not doing it already, start making a log or journal of what happened or what you did each month with your fields and how they responded.

Most fields in the east were covered with snow well into March this year and I’m sure not everyone will remember that fact, or how that affected the field for the rest of the season. There was also an abundance of weeds, especially crabgrass, unusually hot temperatures, and late summer drought. All of these combining factors left most scratching their heads more than once this year trying to keep fields green and growing. Do an inventory of materials and consider revamping your field maintenance schedule. Having this information on hand as a reference will make things easier to handle as the years pass.

Winter is a great time to get a jump on maintenance that will be waiting for you in the spring. When the temperatures start warming up and the grass starts to grow, everyone is ready to get out and leave the cold weather behind. Doing things now, will save you some time and aggravation later. Now is the time to get in that last core aeration, seed, fertilizer, and top dressing. This gives the field a chance to recover and store energy so when warmer temperatures finally arrive, it can jump into action. It also eases conflict from spring sport users trying to get outside and possible wet conditions.

There are also field edges, infield lips, batter’s boxes, and pitching mounds that can receive extra attention, as well as resetting or adjusting irrigation head heights. It is also time to address those problem wear areas. One thing to consider is sod, as long as the soil is able to be properly prepared. Laying sod in the cool weather takes away the worrying about keeping it moist. A grow cover will help with dry winter winds, keep away unwanted field use, and help the turf knit, providing a better surface once spring arrives.

So for now, take that deep breath and relax for a few minutes, it is well deserved for all of your hard work this year. Tomorrow starts another day and more things to be done. Come to think of it, that is one of the best things about athletic field care; it slows down from time to time, but never stops. Planning and being proactive eases the days, and there are plenty of them, where we need to be completely reactive.

### Baseball Late Fall Checklist

1. **Mound Work** – Fix the edge around mound, clay low spots, level the table on top, check and fix slope and topdress and cover
2. **Home Plate** – Edge the circle, clay boxes, check accuracy of home plate and topdress and cover
3. **Edging** – Measure and cut edges to all lines, backfill with infield mix to bring grade back
4. **Dirt** – Check grade and fill low spots with infield mix, topdress infield
5. **Bases** – Measure and make adjustments to bases, they do move over time
6. **Warning Track** – Measure and edge the grass line, check grade and fill low spots
7. **Bullpens** – Clay low spots, level table on top, check and fix slope, inspect rubber and top dress and cover
8. **Turf** – Aerate 4-5 times, top dress low and worn areas
9. **Irrigation** – Check all irrigation heads, blow out water and winterize system
10. **Off Field** – inspect dugouts, fence line and bleachers

Kevin Bevenour at work on the turf at Millersville University.

Kevin Bevenour is grounds supervisor at Millersville University; Keith Evans is stadium manager at Lebanon Valley College in Lebanon County.
**TIPS: Training, Ideas, Professionalism Solutions**

These tips are from Dave Anderson, grounds athletic field manager for Hempfield SD in Landisville, Lancaster County:

**Winter good time for safety check**

Winter will be over before we know it for Pennsylvania grounds managers and that means it’s time to be thinking of the spring sports season. However before we do that, we need to take the time to check over the field for safety concerns. A thorough walk through of each field is necessary to ensure that the fields are safe and playable. Things to look for would include but not limited to:

- Low spots or holes that could cause leg or ankle injuries.
- Nets and fencing are well fastened and free of holes.
- Goals are anchored properly.
- Base anchors are at the proper depth and well secured.

Reminder: Beginning in Spring 2011 fields used for PIAA girls’ softball will have to move back the pitching rubber from the current 40 feet to 43 feet. Check the PIAA website [www.PIAA.org](http://www.PIAA.org) for information on the reason for this field change.

**Book with field dimensions, layouts**

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) is the governing body for Pennsylvania high school athletics. However, the PIAA only administers schools, coaches, and officials. The National Federation of High School Sports (NFHS) governs High School interscholastic athletic rules. The jurisdiction of the NFHS includes official field layouts and dimensions. A helpful book put out by the NFHS is the “Court and Field Diagram Guide.” This book contains field dimensions for all PIAA sanctioned sports as well as many others. The book can be obtained through the NFHS website, [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org) for $20.20.

**KAFMO Conference set for Friday, February 18**

The 15th annual KAFMO Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Grantville, PA on Friday, February 18. The Conference continues to grow every year and is an excellent opportunity for grounds personal, athletic directors, and school administrators to find out more about the sports turf industry in Pennsylvania. One of the highlights of this year’s show will be informative discussion on synthetic field maintenance and construction. With more schools considering a synthetic field option this would a great time to find out more about synthetic fields. For more information and registration forms on KAFMO conference, please visit our website at [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org).

**Enter the Field of Distinction Award competition**

You have worked hard this year dealing with all the factors Mother Nature has thrown at us (heat, humidity, lack of rain, disease, insects, and a demanding and at times unsympathetic public) and through it all, your fields and you have survived. Congratulations! You deserve to be to be recognized for your efforts. Take the time to enter a field or fields in the KAFMO Field of Distinction competition. Each February at our annual KAFMO Conference (February 18, 2011), we recognize deserving fields and their grounds managers with the Field of Distinction award. It is important to KAFMO to honor deserving individuals who make their fields safe, playable, and aesthetically pleasing. The Field of Distinction honor does not always go to the most beautiful field, but to the field that has shown marked improvement through the use of innovation, inspiration, and imagination. We encourage all field managers to consider entering. Deadline for entering is December 10, 2010. More information can be found on our website at [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org).

**Useful things you can do before winter sets in**

With another busy season winding down, there are still some field maintenance issues to take care of before winter sets in.

Now is an excellent time to aerate and top-dress your fall athletic fields. Aerating helps relieve the compaction on fields allowing the grass roots to grow thicker and deeper. This helps improve the overall quality of the grass plant and improves the quality of the field. Topdressing helps level the playing surface filling in bare spots.

You may also want to overseed with perennial rye grass or Kentucky bluegrass. Keep in mind however that this is a dormant seeding and the seed for the most part will come up next spring. A late fall fertilization in the latter part of the month will help the turf over winter by storing carbohydrates. It will also promote a faster spring green up. If you fertilize now you should not have to fertilize until mid-May allowing you to get more things done in the early spring. If you have any questions check out our website at [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org).

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Fund Established for Injured Chalfin

Jake Chalfin of Laurel Valley Soils, a long-time supporter of KAFMO, is paralyzed from the chest down after a steeplechase competition accident in September. A fund has been set up to help with the significant, long-term expenses associated with his special needs. The KAFMO Board of Directors has made a donation to this fund on behalf of our members. To learn more about Jake and/or to make a personal donation, visit www.chasinforchalfin.com.

The injuries Jake sustained were life-altering. He suffered fractures of the C2,3,4,5,6,7 and T1,2,5,6,7,8,9 vertebrae, requiring seven hours of surgery to stabilize his spine. Although Jake’s spinal cord was not severed, it was severely damaged at C4, causing paralysis from the chest down. He has use of his arms and hands, but currently with significant limitations.

Jake is one of the most strong-willed, goal-oriented people you will ever meet. His energy level has always been off the charts and his spirit is indomitable. Right now, he is coping with considerable nerve pain. Still, he has that hallmark twinkle in his eye and he is eagerly engaged in every aspect of his rehab at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital.

Jake fully intends to return to his job as a sales manager and marketing director at Laurel Valley Soils as soon as possible. While this will enable him to pay for his normal living expenses, he will need our help to pay for the extraordinary expenses that he is now facing that will not be covered by his insurance.

A fundraising goal of $1 million has been set based on material published by Magee Rehabilitation Hospital which states that for the level of function that Jake has at the moment, long-term costs could exceed $1 million and the immediate cost not covered by insurance during the next 24 months could exceed $200,000. In the future, Jake may also need stem cell therapy, the cost of which cannot be currently determined. The immediate costs would include things like: a specially modified van for transportation (estimated at $80,000); renovations to his home to add ramps, widen doorways and modify the bathroom and kitchen (estimated at $50,000); physical therapy, home care services and other therapeutic healing modalities (estimated at $80,000).

There are two ways that you can make donations to help Jake. You can make a direct donation to the “Jake Chalfin Beneficiary Trust” or you can make a donation through the “American Steeplechase Injured Jockey’s Fund, Inc.”

Donations made to the “Jake Chalfin Beneficiary Trust” are not deductible for income tax purposes because the proceeds will be used for a specific individual rather than for a class of individuals. However, by making a donation to the “Jake Chalfin Beneficiary Trust,” you will be ensuring that 100% of your gift will be used exclusively to benefit Jake, helping to pay for the expenses mentioned here, as well as the costs associated with organizing fundraising activities.

We know that Jake’s great work ethic and incredible determination will serve him well in what will undoubtedly be the greatest challenge of his life. He is determined to walk again and is willing to do whatever it takes.

To kick things off, we’ll be Stealin’ the Start with an evening of great food, great music and great fun—with both a silent and live auction. The event will be held at The Stone Barn in Kennett Square, PA December 4, 2010.

To make a donation, checks should be made payable to the entity of your choice—the “Jake Chalfin Beneficiary Trust” or the “American Steeplechase Injured Jockey’s Fund, Inc.”—and for recordkeeping purposes, sent directly to: Chasin’ for Chalfin, 111 Spottswood Lane, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

For more information, contact donations@chasinforchalfin.com. Please reserve tickets by 11/19. Tickets will not be sold at the door as space is limited.

Upcoming Events...

Mark your Calendars!

2011 Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show
January 11-13, 2011
Crowne Plaza Valley Forge, King of Prussia

15th Annual KAFMO/PRPS Athletic Field Conference
Friday, February 18, 2011
Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey

2011 Western PA Turf Conference & Trade Show
February 22-24, 2011
Four Points by Sheraton Pittsburgh North

See www.paturf.org or call 814-237-0767 for more information.

Dr. Andy McNitt from Penn State addresses attendees at STMA’s regional conference in Seattle this summer.
The 2010 KAFMO CUP golf tournament was held at Dauphin Highlands Golf Club in Harrisburg Monday October 11. Congratulations to the 2010 KAFMO CUP Champions James Wian III, Tom Kinzer, Kevin Bevenour and Sean Cooper. This year’s event raised more than $2,000 for the Waddington/Harper Awards Fund and provided a great day of golf, food and beverages for the 80 players and volunteers who attended. The day included golf, dinner, awards and lots of raffle prizes, as well as challenge contests. It was a great fall day that helped to make this year’s event enjoyable and challenging for all who participated. I would like to thank all of our sponsors, players and volunteers who helped make the 2010 KAFMO CUP a success and I hope to see everyone again next year Oct.10, 2011.

Bobby Picollo, Tournament Chairman
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Membership Information

What is KAFMO?
The Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization is a group of individuals committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers in Pennsylvania. The organization's main goals include:

- Improving the Safety, Playability, and Appearance of all athletic fields in the state.

These goals will be achieved through seminars, field days, publications, and networking with others in the sports turf industry.

Who should be a member of KAFMO?
Any individual, institution, organization, or vendor/supplier who has sincere interest in athletic field maintenance. Members of K.A.F.M.O. represent high school, college, and professional facilities, parks, and recreation departments, educators, youth leagues, contractors, and commercial vendors.

Subjects Addressed by KAFMO
- Grass species selection
- Fertilization
- Pesticide use
- Soil amendments
- Baseball infield mixes
- Pitcher's mound/runner's box repair
- Grass cuttings
- Drainage
- Irrigation
- Aeration
- Top dressing
- Equipment demonstration
- Various other management techniques which improve playability, safety and appearance of athletic fields.

Annual KAFMO events include:
- Athletic Field Conference in February
- Sports Turf School in June
- and the KAFMO Cup Golf Tournament in October

Various other KAFMO sponsored events are conducted throughout the year.

Member Benefits
Each new KAFMO member will receive a 3-ring binder which includes: technical materials, a vendor resource guide, and a membership roster. Scholarships and Meeting Grants are available. New members also receive a subscription to SPORTSTURF magazine and KAFMO’s quarterly newsletter.

Annual KAFMO Awards
“Field of Distinction” and “Towler Founder” awards along with scholarships to turf students and funds for sports turf research are presented each year at the annual conference.

What is STMA?
KAFMO is the Pennsylvania Chapter of the national organization known as the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), www.sports turfmanager.org.

Annual Membership Dues

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