



Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.

CODE OF ETHICS

As a member of the Sports Turf Managers Association, I accept and fully agree to abide by this Code of Ethics and pledge myself to:

1. Participate in Association activities and my daily sports turf job-related duties in a manner that brings credit to the Association and the profession.
2. Observe and exercise sound turf management and athletic field principles and practices during the performance of my job.
3. Strive to maintain the highest standards of professional conduct to credibly reflect upon, and to increase the stature of, the sports turf management profession.
4. Strive to improve my knowledge and effectiveness by freely sharing and exchanging information, experiences and ideas with fellow members and by availing myself of all opportunities for improvement.
5. Strive to maintain cordial and courteous relationships with employers, employees, peers and associates and to assure that all employees adhere to established standards and policies and take pride in the work they perform.
6. Assist my fellow sports turf managers in all ways consistent with my abilities, only when called upon to do so, and with my supervisors' knowledge, participation and acceptance.
7. Honor all requests for technical assistance from sports turf facilities only when channeled through the sports turf manager of the facility making the request.
8. Abstain from the debasement of or encroachment upon the professional reputation and/or practices of another sports turf manager.
9. Abstain from applying for or otherwise seeking employment in a dishonest manner. For the purpose of this section of the Code, a member seeks employment in a dishonest manner if he or she does one or more of the following in connection with prospective employment:
 - (a) provides false or misleading information to a prospective employer;
 - (b) makes false, slanderous or defamatory statements concerning a fellow sports turf manager;
 - (c) attempts to undermine or improperly influence the staff of a fellow sports turf manager;
 - (d) attempts to deceive, mislead or misinform a fellow sports turf manager's employer, supervisor or fellow employees;
 - (e) makes misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims about his or her professional qualifications, experience or performance; or
 - (f) makes misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims about a member sports turf manager's professional qualifications, experience or performance.

10. Refrain from accepting employment, as a consultant, in a dishonest manner. For the purpose of this section of the Code, a consultant accepts employment in a dishonest manner if he or she does one or more of the following in connection with such consulting:

- (a) provides false or misleading information to a prospective employer;
- (b) makes false, slanderous or defamatory statements concerning a fellow sports turf manager;
- (c) attempts to undermine or improperly influence the staff of a fellow sports turf manager;
- (d) attempts to deceive, mislead or misinform a fellow sports turf manager's employer, supervisor or fellow employees;
- (e) makes misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims about his or her professional qualifications, experience or performance; or
- (f) makes misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims about a member sports turf manager's professional qualifications, experience or performance.

11. Base endorsements of products, equipment or procedures strictly upon satisfactory personal experience with the specific item or procedure.

12. No member, board member or officer may, on behalf of the STMA, sell or promote a product or service or otherwise benefit personally on behalf of a commercial company unless directed by the Board of Directors to do so on behalf of the STMA

13. Uphold the integrity and dignity of the Sports Turf Managers Association in all internal and external activities and relationships, including the use of pictures and information in any form of print or broadcast media or product endorsement.

14. Support the STMA commercial affiliates and assist them in maintaining product integrity.

15. Express professional opinions on technical subjects publicly only when the opinion is founded upon adequate knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.

16. Abstain from conduct constituting a crime under federal, state, or local law, the penalty for which is, or may be imprisonment, including but not limited to, crimes of moral turpitude and dishonesty. For the purposes of the Code, a member's conviction of such a crime will be considered conclusive evidence that the member committed that crime.

17. Abstain from knowingly making false statements or knowingly failing to disclose a material fact requested in connection with application or renewal for STMA membership or membership in an affiliated chapter.

18. Members have the right to report and are urged to report all known or suspected violations of the Code of Ethics and to voluntarily participate as a witness and present information in all proceedings to determine the possibility of a violation of this Code of Ethics.