



SPORTS FIELD

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

10 Tips for Preparing Your SFMA Field of the Year Application

1. Start now. Even though the application is on-line, now is the time to start the process of documenting your good work.
2. Submit a customized application for each field, if you are entering more than one field. Each of your fields has a customized program, so be certain to relay that information.
3. Pictures really are worth 1,000 words. You have an opportunity to present up to 30 photos. Use them. The judges especially are interested in seeing “before” and “after” photos, so do not submit just beauty shots.
4. Budget information is extremely important; your goal is to make the judges understand your effective use of resources. Winners seldom are the ones who have the most resources.
5. Successful submittals use the PCI to the fullest extent. Field use statistics can help you show the judges how much play is taking place on your field and the corresponding results.
6. Be sure to fully express innovative solutions to any of the problems you encounter in managing the field.
7. Consider submitting your oldest field. (Must be a minimum of 2 seasons of play old). The key is to showcase your field management savvy, and your skills can really show through on older fields.
8. Give credit to your staff. Be sure to outline the personnel you have on your staff.
9. Highlight all of the components of your monthly maintenance program. Include why you are doing something, and don't forget to call attention to the ways you are protecting the environment.
10. Proofread your application before hitting “submit”. Catch those spelling and grammar errors that can classify the submittal as subpar.