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Sports Turf Managers Association, Minor League Baseball Announce 2014 'Sports Turf Manager of the Year' Awards

Four Groundskeepers to Receive Highest Honor at Winter Meetings in San Diego

(**LAWRENCE, Kan.**) – [Sports Turf Managers Association](#) (STMA) – the professional association for 2,600 men and women who manage sports fields worldwide – and Minor League Baseball (MiLB) today announced the 2014 “Sports Turf Manager of the Year” awards.

Since 2004, STMA and MiLB have honored members who manage fields in Triple-A, Double-A, Single-A and Rookie divisions. Three of the four honorees are multi-year winners, showing continued excellence and loyalty to top-notch professional baseball facilities.

Award winners include:

- Triple-A - Joey Stevenson, Indianapolis Indians (Indianapolis, Ind.)
- Double-A - Brock Phipps, Springfield Cardinals (Springfield, Mo.)
- Single-A - Keith Winter, Ft. Wayne Tincaps (Fort Wayne, Ind.)
- Short Season or Rookie - David Yearout, Spokane Indians (Spokane, Wash.)

“The Minor League Baseball ‘Sports Turf Manager of the Year’ award is a dedication to our members who have an intense passion to provide the finest playing surfaces,” says Kim Heck, CEO of STMA. “Each day, they face new challenges and these devoted individuals consistently create novel solutions to provide pristine and safe sports fields.”

Stevenson is being honored for the third time, also winning in 2011 and 2012. Last year, he won *SportsTurf Magazine’s* first annual “Mowing Patterns” contest.

Phipps is also a two-time winner (2008, 2013). Winter will collect back-to-back awards, claiming his first in 2013. Yearout is a first-time recipient and joins an elite class of sports turf managers.

Winners are selected via a 15-member awards committee, compiled by STMA. Each nominee is independently scored on cultural practices, game day routine, resource utilization, staff management and the groundskeeper's involvement and support of the sports turf industry.

STMA will present awards to recipients at the annual Major League Baseball Winter Meetings awards luncheon in San Diego, Calif. on December 8.

For more information: www.stma.org, 800.323.3875.

About STMA

STMA is the not-for-profit, professional association for men and women who manage sports fields worldwide. Since 1981, the association and its 34 local chapters have been providing education, information and sharing practical knowledge in the art and science of sports field management. Its more than 2,600 members oversee sports fields and facilities at schools, colleges and universities, parks and recreational facilities, and professional sports stadiums.

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