



Stockholm August 2nd 2017

To current and potential future ITS members

Dear All,

As the new ITS President, I would like to introduce myself, remind you about the importance of International Turfgrass Society (ITS) www.turfsociety.com and International Turfgrass Research Conference (ITRC), ask for your help to further develop and improve ITS, and welcome all of you to the 14th ITRC in Copenhagen 2021.

For those of you who do not already know me, I would like to mention a few words about myself. I'm working as a director of Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation (STERF). STERF is a joint research body of the Nordic golf federations. Based on my initiative, STERF was set up sixteen years ago and has expanded rapidly during this period. For more information about STERF, please visit www.sterf.org. I have more than fifteen years of experience in working with golf and environment within the Swedish Golf Federation and I also serve on the boards of a number of international golf and research organisations. Before working for the turf and golf industry I was a lecturer and director of studies at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

I'm looking forward to serving as the ITS president for the coming four years, because I think arenas like ITS and ITRC are very important to meet the challenges we have to face, both global challenges and sector-specific challenges. These arenas give us opportunities to improve and further develop important international interdisciplinary collaboration, which I think is the only viable strategy to overcome current challenges and create a sustainable future. Platforms like ITS and ITRC, with the aim to promote dialogue and exchange of experience and knowledge among researchers, the industry and the society as whole, are also valuable to inspire us to identify gaps in knowledge and create new knowledge based on research and science. This is important to support the turfgrass industry to transform into a more sustainable sector.

One ambition for the coming four years is to further strengthen and improve ITS. To do so, input and feedback from current and potential future ITS members are very important. A questionnaire including a number of important issues will be sent out to you during this coming autumn and I would like to encourage you to answer the questionnaire. Increasing the number of ITS members is another important challenge. As a part of the membership campaign, I would like to ask for your help to recruit new ITS members, by recruiting one new member per person for the coming four years.

International Turfgrass Society

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Finally, I would like to welcome all of you to the 14th International Turfgrass Research Conference, in Copenhagen July 11-16, 2021. We will do our best to create an interesting scientific programme including many important topics, we will arrange inspiring technical tours focusing on development and sustainability and you will all get good opportunities to experience the very friendly atmosphere of Copenhagen. Please visit www.itrc2021.org to continually get information about the conference.

If you have any questions or any ideas of how to further strengthen and develop ITS, please feel free to contact me at maria.strandberg@golf.se

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maria Strandberg', written in a cursive style.

Maria Strandberg,
President, ITS