

# History of the International Turfgrass Society and International Turfgrass Research Conference

Dr. James B. Beard<sup>★†</sup> and Dr. Richard Gibbs<sup>★†</sup>

International communications among turfgrass educators and researchers was almost non-existent prior to 1969, even within Europe. In 1965 Dr. J. B. Beard initiated enquires to several international scientific societies regarding the addition of a turfgrass science section. The USA representatives to the International Grassland Society were very supportive, but the European and Australian contingents rejected the proposal. Similarly the horticulturists were not encouraging.

Thus at the August 1966 annual meeting of the C-5 Turfgrass Management Division of the Crop Science Society of America in Stillwater, OK, USA, Dr. J. B. Beard presented a proposal regarding the need for enhanced communications among international turfgrass scientists. Considerable discussion followed, with the C-5 members deciding to pursue organization of a non-affiliated international conference. A motion was made and passed charging Dr. Beard to lead a committee in “forming an international turfgrass organization.”

In September, 1966 Dr. J. Beard hosted Mr. B. Langvad of Sweden at his home in Okemos, MI, USA. The concept of an international turfgrass research organization and conference was discussed. Mr. Langvad was very encouraging as to the need and potential for such an organization. It was indicated that the conference should be held in Europe in order to attract the most participants.

Subsequently, Dr. Beard contacted Mr. John Escritt of England and Dr. James Watson of USA to serve with Mr. Langvad on an Organizing Committee for the First International Turfgrass Research Conference (ITRC). Dr. Beard expended over \$700 USD of personal funds in the many activities needed to organize the first conference.

The initial projection was that if 20 turfgrass scientists participated in an international turfgrass research conference it would be deemed a successful start. The response was impressive with 78 participants from 12 countries. There were 99 papers presented. Many of the presentations were information oriented regarding turfgrass research

and education activities in the represented countries. This approach had the objective of furthering an understanding of the turfgrass industry, problems, research, and education activities in the various countries. The first ITRC resulted in the European representatives organizing a regional research conference. Subsequent ITRC events have focused on an exchange of research findings, plus a set of invited keynote presentations on current topics.

At a business meeting at the first ITRC in Harrogate, England, UK, the participants discussed and voted to form “The International Turfgrass Society” (ITS) and to hold an International Turfgrass Research Conference at four-year intervals.

The progress, participation, and improvements in the ITRC have been significant, as illustrated in Tables 1 through 6. Charter members of the ITS are shown in Table 7. A chronological summary of ITRC/ITS history is presented in Table 8. We should be thankful for the dedication of those who contributed to furthering the goals ITS during the first ten ITRC events. All members have gained knowledge through this shared learning experience.

J.B. Beard, Director and Chief Scientist of the International Sports Turf Institute, Inc., College Station, TX, and Professor Emeritus of Turfgrass Science, Texas A&M University; R. Gibbs, Head of Sports Surface Design at STRI (Sports Turf Research Institute), St Ives Estate, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU, UK. †J.B. Beard authored report for 1969–2005; R. Gibbs authored report for 2006–2013. Received 20 June 2016. <sup>★</sup>Corresponding authors (isti@tamu.edu; richard.gibbs@strigroup.com).

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**Table 1. Summary of executive committee members serving the International Turfgrass Society from 1969 to 2013.**

Conference - Year - Country					
Executive Committee Position	First 1969 Harrogate, UK	Second 1973 Blacksburg, USA	Third 1977 Munich, W. Germany	Fourth 1981 Guelph, Canada	Fifth 1985 Avignon, France
President	J.B. Beard	R.R. Davis	P. Boeker	C.M. Switzer	P. Mansat
Vice-President	B. Langvad	B. Langvad	J.P. van der Horst	H. Vos	H. Vos
Secretary	J.R. Watson	J.F. Shoulders	F.B. Ledeboer	F.B. Ledeboer	J.F. Shoulders
Treasurer	J.R. Escritt	R.E. Schmidt	R.E. Schmidt	R.E. Schmidt	R.E. Schmidt
Past President	--	J.B. Beard	R.R. Davis	P. Boeker	C.M. Switzer
Directors	--	W.H. Daniel C.M. Switzer J.P. van der Horst	K. Ehara R.E. Engel A.C. Ferguson R.L. Morris W. Skirde	W.A. Adams K. Ehara W.W. Huffine P. Mansat D.K. Taylor	W.A. Adams Y. Maki R.W. Sheard T.R. Siviour J.R. Watson
Historian	--	--	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard
Conference - Year - Country					
Executive Committee Position	Sixth 1989 Japan	Seventh 1993 USA	Eighth 1997 Australia	Ninth 2001 Canada	Tenth 2005 Wales, UK
President	Y. Maki	J.R. Watson	P. McMaugh	P. Charbonneau	W. A. Adams
Vice-President	W.A. Adams	W.A. Adams	R.N. Carrow	R.N. Carrow	R.N. Carrow
Secretary	J.F. Shoulders	J.R. Hall III	J.R. Hall III	T. Yamada	K. Carey
Treasurer	R.E. Schmidt	R.E. Schmidt	G.H. Snyder	G.H. Snyder	J. L. Cisar
Past President	P. Monsat	Y. Maki	J.R. Watson	P. McMaugh	P. Carbonneau
Elected Directors	F. Lemaire P. McMaugh R.W. Sheard A.J.P. van Wijk J.R. Watson	F. Lemaire P. McMaugh W.A. Meyer A.J.P. van Wijk H. Yanagi	B. Bourgoin P.M. Canaway P. Charbonneau J.L. Cisar K.W. McAuliffe W.A. Meyer M. Peterson H. Yanagi	W.A. Adams B. Bourgoin M.P. Canaway J. Choi J.L. Cisar S. Dahlsson J.M. DiPaola B. Holl K. McAuliffe I.C. McIver Y. Noma M. Peterson H. Richter	W.A. Adams S.W. Baker K. Carey R.N. Carrow I. Chivers J.S. Choi J.L. Cisar B.B. Clarke S.O. Dahlsson J.M. DiPaola M. Engelsjord R.J. Gibbs J.P. Lebourcher L. Han K.G. Mueller-Beck C.P. Muller-Turina J. Neylan Y. Noma H. Richter D. Thorogood
Historian	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard	J.B. Beard

*(continued on next page)*

**Table 1. Continued.**

Executive Committee Position	Conference - Year – Country	
	Eleventh 2009 Santiago, Chile	Twelfth 2013 Beijing, China
President	C. Müller-Turina	L. Han
Vice-President	R. Gibbs	R. Gibbs
Secretary	K. Carey	J. Murphy
Treasurer	J. Cisar	J. Cisar
Past President	W. Adams	C. Müller-Turina
President Elect	L. Han	B. Clarke
Directors	I. Chivers	D. Loch
	A. Richter	A. Richter
	K. Carey	T. Hsiang
	C. Müller-Turina	Z. Wang
	L. Han	H. Zhou
	R. Dorbeau	R. Dorbeau
	K. Mueller-Beck	W. Praemässing
	P. Nektarios	P. Nektarios
	M. Volterrani	S. Magni
	S. Kimura	S. Kimura
	M. Engelsjord	R. Gibbs
	R. Gibbs	T. Aamlid
	D. Thorogood	M. Strandberg
	S. Baker	O. Weilenmann
	B. Clarke	I. James
K. Danneberger	J. Murphy	K. Danneberger
Historian	J. Beard (2005-2007) S. Baker (2007-2009)	S. Baker
Non-executive positions		
Website editor	K. Carey	T. Hsiang
Newsletter editor	D. Thorogood	D. Thorogood (2009-2010) N. Walker (2010-2013)

Table 2. Summary of participation at the International Turfgrass Research Conferences from 1969 to 2013.

Category	First 1969 Harrogate, England, UK	Second 1973 Blacksburg, VA, USA	Third 1977 Munich, W. Germany	Fourth 1981 Guelph, Ontario, Canada	Fifth 1985 Avignon, France	Sixth 1989 Tokyo, Japan	Seventh 1993 Palm Beach, FL, USA	Eighth 1997 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia	Ninth 2001 Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Tenth 2005 Llandudno, Wales, UK	Eleventh 2009 Chile*	Twelfth 2013 China
No. of registrants	78	248	265	240	266	814	368	242	340	262**	155	156
No. of countries represented	12	15	19	18	21	18	23	22	26	25**	19	19
No. of papers presented	99	80	91	81	86 (76 oral) (10 poster)	98	149 (109 oral) (40 poster)	168 (76 oral) (92 poster)	224 (118 oral) (105 poster)	175 (89 oral) (86 poster)	54 (oral) 57 (poster) 25 (poster)**	54 (oral) 65 (poster)
No. of peer-reviewed papers published in Journal	99	71	59	62	84	98	149	144	163	175	111 27**	97 23**
No. of pages in the Journal	610	602	530	564	870	458	1,035	1,432*	1,061*	1,261*	1245	848
ITRC Supplement pages	—	—	—	61	110	163	83	—	—	109***	70	—

\*Published in two parts.

\*\*Pre-registered.

\*\*\*Non-reviewed papers.

Table 3A. Summary of participation at the International Turfgrass Research Conference by country from 1969 - 2005.

Country	Conference - Year - Country										Total
	First 1969 UK	Second 1973 USA	Third 1977 W. Germany	Fourth 1981 Canada	Fifth 1985 France	Sixth 1989 Japan	Seventh 1993 USA	Eighth 1997 Australia	Ninth 2001 Canada*	Tenth 2005 Wales, UK*	
Argentina	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Australia	-	1	2	3	5	6	15	67	14	15	128
Austria	-	1	3	3	2	2	-	1	2	1	15
Belgium	-	2	1	-	3	-	3	-	2	1	12
Canada	1	12	5	35	4	1	5	7	34	13	117
Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	4
China	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	5	6	19
Czechoslovakia	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	5
Denmark	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	3	6	20
Egypt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Finland	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
France	-	12	29	17	95	8	20	4	7	5	197
Germany	7	11	75	9	8	2	9	4	6	2	133
Greece	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	4
Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
India	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Israel	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Italy	-	-	2	2	5	-	2	3	7	11	32
Japan	2	8	20	16	21	711	23	11	7	9	828
Netherlands	10	12	21	11	16	2	4	-	-	5	81
New Zealand	1	1	1	-	-	4	3	11	4	5	30
Norway	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	2	4	9
Philippines	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Poland	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Russia	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	6
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
South Africa	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	1	7
South Korea	-	-	-	1	-	13	6	3	6	2	31
Spain	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sweden	4	2	4	4	3	2	2	2	4	6	33
Switzerland	2	1	7	1	5	1	1	1	2	4	25
Taiwan	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	3
Thailand	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Turks and Caicos Is.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
United Kingdom	17	8	13	6	13	4	14	4	11	30	119
United States	31	175	76	125	77	30	249	111	215	126	1,235
Venezuela	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Yugoslavia	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Grand Total	78	248	265	240	266	814	368	242	339	262	3,122

\*Pre-registered.

**Table 3B. Summary of participation at the International Turf-grass Research Conference by country from 2009 and 2013.**

Country	Conference - Year - Country	
	Eleventh 2009 Chile	Twelfth 2013 China
Argentina	2	-
Australia	12	16
Austria	1	-
Barbados	1	-
Belgium	1	-
Canada	7	2
Chile	6	2
China	5	43
Czechoslovakia	-	-
Denmark	-	1
Ecuador	1	-
Egypt	-	-
Finland	-	-
France	-	-
Germany	2	1
Greece	-	2
Hong Kong	-	2
India	-	-
Ireland	-	-
Israel	-	-
Italy	2	3
Japan	1	4
Netherlands	-	-
New Zealand	1	2
Norway	2	1
Philippines	-	-
Poland	-	-
Portugal	-	-
Russia	-	-
Saudi Arabia	-	-
Singapore	-	1
South Africa	2	-
South Korea	-	5
Spain	-	1
Sweden	2	1
Switzerland	3	1
Taiwan	-	-
Thailand	-	-
Tunisia	-	-
Turkey	-	-
Turks and Caicos Is.	-	-
United Kingdom	1	2
United States	103	66
Venezuela	-	-
Yugoslavia	-	-
Grand Total	155	156

**Table 4A. Summary of local organizing committee members for the International Turfgrass Research Conferences from 1969 through 1985.**

Committee Activity	First 1969 Harrogate, England, UK	Second 1973 Blacksburg, Virginia, USA	Third 1977 Munich, West Germany	Fourth 1981 Guelph, Ontario Canada	Fifth 1985 Avignon, France
Chair	J.R. Escritt	J.F. Shoulders	P. Boeker	R.W. Sheard	P. Mansat
Vice-Chair	J.P. Shildrick	—	—	—	R. Thomas
Program	J.B. Beard (Ch.) W.F.P. Bishop R.S. Taylor	S.W. Bingham R.E. Blaser H.B. Couch A.J. Powell, Jr.	R. Brunner Chr. Eisele E. Grundler R. Hansey C. Mehnert W. Opitz von Boberfeld R. Pietsch W. Skirde G. Voigtlander W. Weber	J.L. Eggens S.G. Fushtey M. Sears	F. Lemaire (Ch.) M. Arnaud J. O'Sullivan C. Pottier R. Thomas
Finance	B.M. Wood	R.E. Schmidt	—	D.J. Bod	B. de Pontevés
Publicity	J.B. Beard	R.R. Davis	—	C.M. Switzer	—
Tour(s)	J.B. Beard (Ch.) P. Boeker B. Langvad R.L. Morris G.J. Ruychaver	J.B. Beard (Ch.) W.H. Daniel D.T. Duff R.E. Engel R.W. Miller P.E. Rieke J.A. Simmons	P. Mansat J.P. van der Horst	W.F. Cordukes D.K. Taylor	J. D'Amonville Y. De Chevigny C. Famechon V. Negri A. Panella F. Vernesi
Spouse	—	Mrs. R.Shoulders	—	Mrs. Sheard	Mrs. Thomas

**Table 4B. Summary of local organizing committee members for the International Turfgrass Research Conferences from 1989 through 2005.**

Committee Activity	Sixth 1989 Tokyo, Japan	Seventh 1993 Florida, USA	Eighth 1997 Sydney, Australia	Ninth 2001 Toronto, Canada	Tenth 2005 Wales, UK
Chair(s)	F. Kitamura	G.H. Snyder J.L. Cisar	P. McMaugh	R. Witherspoon T. Ostler	W.A. Adams
Vice-Chair(s)	H. Ide S. Kakuda Y. Maki K. Ueki	—	I.C. McIver	—	—
Program	H. Ide (Ch.) K. Ebara K. Fujisaki F. Kitamura Y. Maki A. Misawa	R. Carrow (Ch.) P. Busey G. Landry J. Rogers III R. Shearman D. Waddington T. Watschke	P. Martin P. McMaugh	T. Yamada (Ch.) M. Jones S. Baker K. Karnok N. Christians M. Kenna B. Clarke J. Murphy R. Duncan P. Stangel T. Hsiang D. Stubbs M. Volterrani	W.A. Adams S. Baker G. McKillop D. Thorogood
Finance	T. Katagiri (Ch.) M. Abe S. Kakuda Y. Maki H. Mori K. Nakayama T. Onishi J. Shiba T. Shoji S. Yamamoto H. Yanagi	W. Meyer (Ch.) R. Hurley M. Jackson M. Kemp-Fraser B. Rehberg V. Waddill	M. Eade P. McMaugh I. McIver D. Worrad	C. Switzer (Ch.) G. Allan R. Craig D. Goudy R. Kowalski T. Sawyer	M. Jones R. Young

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**Table 4B. Continued.**

<b>Committee Activity</b>	<b>Sixth 1989 Tokyo, Japan</b>	<b>Seventh 1993 Florida, USA</b>	<b>Eighth 1997 Sydney, Australia</b>	<b>Ninth 2001 Toronto, Canada</b>	<b>Tenth 2005 Wales, UK</b>
Publicity	T. Onishi (Ch.) N. Kondoh Y. Maki T. Sasaki S. Yamashita S. Yoshia	M. Welterlen (Ch.) M. Bailey P. Hayes D. Jones F. Lemaire P. McMaugh J. Shilling A. van Wijk H. Yanagi	I.C. McIver	P. Charbonneau	—
Tour(s)	Y. Maki (Ch.) H. Yanagi	B. McCarty (Ch.) S. Braun M. Engelke B. Johnson G. Landry C. Peacock	K.W. McAuliffe	Y. Desjardins J. Dionne B. Holl B. Wick	A. Richter B. Robinson A. Vichers M. Volterrani
Spouse	K. Fujisaki (Ch.)	Mrs. T. Cisar (Ch.) Mrs. C. Snyder Ms. K. Williams	Mrs. F. McIver	Mrs. C. Charters	Ms. L. Burton Ms. L. Clegg

**Table 4C. Summary of local organizing committee members for the International Turfgrass Research Conferences from 2009 and 2013.**

<b>Committee Activity</b>	<b>Eleventh 2009 Santiago, Chile</b>	<b>Twelfth 2013 Beijing, China</b>
Chair(s)	C. Müller-Turina	L. Han
Vice-Chair(s)	R. Pertuzé	S. Yin
Program	C. Müller-Turina R. Pertuzé P. Marchant V. Diaz	S. Yin D. Li C. Chung
Finance	A. Sastre Universidad de Chile, Facultad de Ciencias Agronómicas, Depto. de Producción Agrícola	S. Yin
Publicity	A. Sastre	Z. Chang
Tour(s)	J.P. Velasco P. Marchant C. Müller-Turina	G. Song
Spouse	V. Díaz	L. Xu
Interpreter	-	D. Li



**Table 5. Summary of editors and associate editors for the International Turfgrass Research Conference proceedings/journal from 1969-2013.**

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>First 1969 UK</b>	<b>Second 1973 USA</b>	<b>Third 1977 W. Germany</b>	<b>Fourth 1981 Canada</b>	<b>Fifth 1985 France</b>	
Editor(s)	J.R. Escritt	E.C. Roberts	J.B. Beard	R.W. Sheard	F. Lemaire	
Associate Editor(s)	J.B. Beard B. Langvad J.R. Watson	J.B. Beard R.E. Blaser N.R. Goetze W.W. Huffine W.R. Kneebone O.R. Lunt J.R. Watson V.B. Youngner	S.W. Bingham R.L. Goss W.W. Huffine W.R. Kneebone P.E. Rieke R.W. Schery R.E. Schmidt J.M. Vargas, Jr. J.R. Watson		B. Bourgoin M. Courtillot C. Denninger J. Dujardin J. Guern M. Masson E. Szymczak	
<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Sixth 1989 Japan</b>	<b>Seventh 1993 USA</b>	<b>Eighth 1997 Australia</b>	<b>Ninth 2001 Canada</b>	<b>Tenth 2005 Wales, UK</b>	
Editor(s)	H. Takatoh	R.N. Carrow N.E. Christians R.C. Shearman	P.M. Martin	K. Carey	D. Thorogood J.A. Lovatt, Editorial Assistant	
Associate Editor(s)	K. Fujisaki N. Hagiwara M. Hatsukade T. Katsuno M. Kondo H. Koshimizu T. Ohkubo T. Okinaka S. Watanabe	M.S. Welterlen		S.W. Baker J.B. Beard R.N. Carrow T.K. Danneberger R.R. Duncan R.E. Gaussoin R.J. Gibbs T. Hsiang M.P. Kenna P. Landschoot G. Stephenson A.J. Turgeon P. Vittum	W.A. Adams P.A. Nektarios D.E. Aldous A.J. Newell S.W. Baker F.S. Rossi J.B. Beard R.E. Schmidt S.A. Bonos A.S. Schoeman L.A. Brilman J. Scullion	R.N. Carrow R.C. Shearman T.K. Danneberger J.M. van Huylen- broek M.A. Fidanza A.W. Vickers R.E. Gaussoin P. Vittum R.J. Gibbs G.W. Griffith M.P. Kenna R.L. Mann
<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Eleventh 2009 Santiago, Chile</b>	<b>Twelfth 2013 Beijing, China</b>				
Editor-in-Chief	G. Stahnke	M. Fidanza				
Assistant Editors	M. Senter A. Mack R. Bembenek	D. Li D. Loch J. Murphy				
Associate Editors	S. Bonos L. Brilman M. DaCosta M. Fidanza D. Han T. Hsian B. Huang D. Karcher H. Liu J. Kaminski J. McElroy E. Miltner G. Munshaw R. Shearman P. Vittum F. Waltz	T. Aamlid J.C. Chong P. Johnson N. Mitkowski D. Aldous M. DaCosta K. Jordan C. Peacock S. Askew J.S. Ebdon J. Kaminski B. Schwartz C. Bigelow E. Ervin K. Kopp D. Soldat D. Bowman S. Hejduk S. Kostka M. Volterrani	D. Bremer J. Henderson C. Lambrides Z. Wang L. Brilman G. Henry H. Liu S. Warnke J. Brosnan B. Horgan R. Mann H. Wetzl R. Brown J. Inguagiato J.S. McElroy R.C. Williamson M. Carroll Y. Jiang D. Minner			

**Table 6. Summary of standing committees of the International Turfgrass Society from 1985 through 2013.**

<b>Committee Activity</b>	<b>Fifth 1985 France</b>	<b>Sixth 1989 Japan</b>	<b>Seventh 1993 USA</b>	<b>Eighth 1997 Australia</b>	<b>Ninth 2001 Canada</b>	<b>Tenth 2005 Wales, UK</b>
Nominating	C. Cenci (Ch.) J. Shoulders H. Vos	J. Shoulders (Ch.) B. Bourgoin S. Dahlsson I. Mclvor Y. Maki	Y. Maki (Ch.) B. Bourgoin K. McAuliffe J. Neylan J. Watson	J. Watson (Ch.) P. McMaugh W. Meyer P. Rieke J. Shoulders H. Yanagi	P. McMaugh (Ch.) W. Adams P. Charbonneau J. DiPaola K. McAuliffe H. Richter	P. Charbonneau (Ch.) W. Adams J. DiPaola R. Gibbs K. Mueller-Beck
By-Laws			J. Shoulders (Ch.) J. Beard S. Dahlsson P. Hayes F. Lemaire J. Kaufman Y. Maki P. McMaugh J. Vargas, Jr.			J. Beard (Ch.) S. Baker R. Carrow R. Gibbs
Publications	F. Lemaire (Ch.)	H. Takatah (Ch.)	R. Carrow (Ch.) N. Christians R. Shearman M. S. Welterlen	P. Martin (Ch.)	K. Carey	D. Thorogood
Resolutions	W. Adams (Ch.) M. Petersen J. Shoulders	W. Adams (Ch.) H. Koshimizu A. Misawa M. Petersen J. Watson	W. Adams (Ch.) I. Mclver R. Rieke A. van Wijk	J. Hall (Ch.)	—	—
Historian	J. Beard	J. Beard	J. Beard	J. Beard	J. Beard	J. Beard
<b>Committee Activity</b>	<b>Eleventh 2009 Santiago, Chile</b>	<b>Twelfth 2013 Beijing, China</b>				
Nominating	W. Adams (Ch.) C. Muller-Turina B. Clarke P. Nektarios I. Chivers	C. Muller-Turina (Ch.) L. Han A. Richter K. Danneberger R. Gibbs				
By-Laws	R. Gibbs (Ch.) J. Beard S. Baker	R. Gibbs				
Publications (Newsletter)	D. Thorogood	D. Thorogood (2009-2010) N. Walker (2010-2013)				
Journal/editorial standards	D. Loch (Ch.) L. Han J. Murphy B. Clarke	D. Loch (Ch.) T. Aamlid J. Cisar J. Murphy				
Historian	J. Beard (2005-2007) S. Baker (2007-2009)	S. Baker				

**Table 7. Charter members of International Turfgrass Society – 1969.**

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Dr. William A. Adams, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK	Dipl. Ing. Bretislav Komicek, Kormornicka, Czechoslovakia
Mr. G. Akesson, Hammenhog, Sweden	Dr. L.H.J. Korsten, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Mr. D.T.A. Aldrich, Cambridge, UK	Mr. Bjarne Langvad, Landskrona, Sweden
Mr. J. Andringa, Scheemda, Holland, The Netherlands	Dr. John H. Madison, California, USA
Dr. James B Beard, Michigan, USA	Dr. Robert W. Miller, Ohio, USA
Mr. William H. Bengueyfield, California, USA	Mr. Wayne C. Morgan, California, USA
Dr. S. Wayne Bingham, Virginia, USA	Mr. Robert L. Morris, Ipswich, Suffolk, UK
Prof. Peter Boeker, Bonn, West Germany	Dr. Lowell E. Moser, Ohio, USA
Mr. A.V. Bogdan, Maidenhead, Berks., UK	Mr. Robert C. O'Knefski, New York, USA
Mr. P. Bowen, Ipswich, Suffolk, UK.	Mr. R.W. Palin, Reading, Berks., UK
Dr. John F. Corman, New York, USA	Dr. A. Pap, Witham, Essex, UK
Dr. William H. Daniel, Indiana, USA	Mr. Martin Petersen, Odense, Denmark
Dr. Richard R. Davis, Ohio, USA	Mr. K. Potter, Witham, Essex, UK
Mr. J.L. Dawson, Newbridge, Midlothian, UK	Dr. Paul E. Rieke, Michigan, USA
Miss M.L. Denecke, Munchen, West Germany	Mr. G.S. Robinson, Palmerston North, New Zealand
Dr. Edith Ebert-Jehle, Basle, Switzerland	Ir. G.J. Ruychaver, Gravenhage, The Netherlands
Dr. T. Eggers, Hamburg, West Germany	Dr. C.W.H.M. Schaepman, Arnhem, The Netherlands
Dr. Kaoru Ehara, Fukuoka, Japan	Dr. Robert W. Schery, Ohio, USA
Mr. C. Eisele, Darmstadt, West Germany	Dr. Richard E. Schmidt, Virginia, USA
Dr. Ralph E. Engel, New Jersey, USA	Dipl. Ing. Edgar W. Schweizer, Thun, Switzerland
Dr. Ernst L. Entrup, Lippstadt, West Germany	Mr. John P. Shildrick, Bingley, Yorkshire, USA
Ir. W.A. Eschauzier, Vlijmen, The Netherlands	Mr. John F. Shoulders, Virginia, USA
Mr. John R. Escritt, Bingley, Yorkshire, UK	Mr. James A. Simmons, Ohio, USA
Mr. G.G. Fisher, Cambridge, UK	Mr. Derek Soper, Ongar, Essex, UK
Dr. T. Edward Freeman, Florida, USA	Dr. V.I. Stewart, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK
Dr. William B. Gilbert, North Carolina, USA	Dr. J. Stubbs, Nr. Haslemere, Surrey, UK
Mr. D.J. Glas, Rilland-Bath, The Netherlands	Dr. Clayton M. Switzer, Guelph, Ontario, Canada
Dr. Roy L. Goss, Washington, USA	Dr. Joseph Troll, Massachusetts, USA
Mr. E. Helmbring, Malmoe, Sweden	Mr. R. Vijn, Vlijmen, The Netherlands
Dr. Paul R. Henderlong, Ohio, USA	Ir. H. Vos, Wageningen, The Netherlands
Dr. Granville C. Horn, Florida, USA	Dr. James R. Watson, Minnesota, USA
Ir. J.P. van der Horst, Gravenhage, The Netherlands	Dr. Bernhard Werminghausen, Limburgerhof, West Germany
Dr. Joseph E. Howland, Nevada, USA	Dr. Donald B. White, Minnesota, USA
Dr. Wayne W. Huffine, Oklahoma, USA	Dr. H. Hamilton Williams, California, USA
Dr. Lars-Eric Janson, Stockholm, Sweden	Dr. Glen M. Wood, Vermont, USA
Ir. M. Kamps, Vlijmen, The Netherlands	Mr. M.A. Wood, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK
Dr. Ray A. Keen, Kansas, USA	Dr. Charles E. Wright, Armagh, Northern Ireland, UK
Mr. Jack L. Kidwell, Virginia, USA	Dr. Isao Yoshikawa, Takarazuka, Hyogo Pref., Japan
Mr. Jurgen C. Knolle, Postfach, West Germany	

**Table 8A. Chronology of ITRC/ITS history (1969–2005).**

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July, 1969	<p>First International Turfgrass Research Conference held at Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate, England, UK. The host organization was the Sports Turf Research Institute. Post-conference tour was to Scotland, England, Sweden, West Germany, and The Netherlands.</p> <p>Attendees voted to form an International Turfgrass Society and to hold a quadrennial conference.</p>
July, 1973	<p>Second International Turfgrass Research Conference held on the campus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, USA. The host organization was the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.</p> <p>A Constitution and Bylaws for the International Turfgrass Society was presented, amended, and adopted by vote of the participants in attendance.</p> <p>ITS Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Dr. James B Beard and Mr. John R. Escritt.</p> <p>As funds were lacking, ITS sought a sponsor to publish the papers presented at ITRC. The American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America agreed to jointly publish the Proceedings of the Second and Third ITRC, with the understanding that the publication schedule would depend on when their staff had free time.</p>
July, 1977	<p>Third International Turfgrass Research Conference held at the Penta Hotel in Munich, West Germany.</p> <p>This was the first ITRC at which translation between two languages was organized.</p> <p>ITS membership dues were initiated.</p>
July, 1981	<p>Fourth International Turfgrass Research Conference held on the campus of the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. The host organization was The Ontario Agricultural College.</p> <p>A new feature of the ITRC were a series of keynote papers that headline each subject area. The invited presentations were by W.A. Adams, J.B Beard, C.R. Funk, R.L. Goss, and A.J. Turgeon.</p> <p>This was the first ITRC at which poster presentations were offered.</p> <p>Revisions to the ITS Constitution and Bylaws were presented, amended, and adopted by vote of the members in attendance.</p>
July, 1984	<p>Fifth International Turfgrass Research Conference held in a former Popes Palace inside the walled city of Avignon, France. The host organization was the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA).</p> <p>A new approach at this ITRC was a series of six special topic workshops organized as a discussion group interaction.</p> <p>Invited keynote papers were presented by J.B Beard, B. Bourgoïn, P.M. Canaway, P. Daget, M. Masson, N. O'Neill, and T.L. Watschke.</p>
August, 1989	<p>Sixth International Turfgrass Research Conference held in Takanawa Prince Hotel in Tokyo, Japan.</p> <p>The host organization was the Japanese Society of Turfgrass Science.</p> <p>A format for selecting host sites was established involving an 8-year advance plan.</p> <p>Initiated a procedure for the ITS Executive Committee to meet midway or 2 years before the upcoming ITRC at the host site.</p>
July, 1993	<p>Seventh International Turfgrass Research Conference held at The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida, USA. The host organization was the C-5 Turfgrass Division of the Crop Science Society of America.</p> <p>The International Turfgrass Society was incorporated in Minnesota, USA and received a 501 (C-3) tax exemption.</p> <p>New ITS Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws were proposed and adopted by vote of the members present.</p> <p>An ITS Newsletter entitled "International Turfgrass" was initiated with 8 issues published in the past 4 years. Dr. J. R. Hall III is serving as editor.</p> <p>A computerized data base of members was established.</p> <p>The Proceeding name was changed to the International Turfgrass Society Research Journal.</p> <p>A format document for the peer-review of scientific papers to be published in the ITS Research Journal was prepared.</p>
July, 1997	<p>The Eighth International Turfgrass Research Conference was held at the University of Sydney in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.</p> <p>The ITS Research Journal was published in two separate parts.</p> <p>The pre-conference was focused on New Zealand.</p> <p>Dr. John Cisar assumed editorship of International Turfgrass - the Newsletter of ITS.</p>
July, 2001	<p>The Ninth International Turfgrass Research Conference was held at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The host organization was the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.</p> <p>An ITRC web site was established by the Institute.</p> <p>ITS NETNOTES was established by Dr. Joseph DiPaola.</p>
July, 2005	<p>The Tenth International Turfgrass Research Conference was held at the North Wales Conference Center in Llandudno, Wales, UK.</p> <p>ITS Constitution and Bylaws updated after undertaking comprehensive legal review.</p> <p>Digitization process of back issues of ITRC Proceedings and ITS Research Journal continues through Peter Cookingham of Michigan State University Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) - ITS members have free access to the Journal and Proceedings online where authors have given permission.</p>

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**Table 8B. Chronology of ITRC/ITS history (2009-2013).**

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July, 2009	<p>The Eleventh International Turfgrass Research Conference was held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Santiago, Chile. The host organization was the Universidad de Chile, Facultad de Ciencias Agronómicas, Depto. de Producción Agrícola.</p> <p>On-going requests by ITS members to develop a robust review of the paper refereeing and publication process (on-going since publication changed its name from the ITRC Proceedings to the ITS Research Journal) results in setting up of an editorial sub-committee.</p> <p>Digitization process becomes easier with future ITS Research Journals as permission to digitize is built into the publication process for 2009 and beyond.</p>
July, 2013	<p>The Twelfth International Turfgrass Research Conference was held at the Yulong International Hotel, Beijing, China. The host organization was the Institute of Turfgrass Science, Beijing Forestry University.</p> <p>Concepts and guidelines for ITRC sponsorship formalized.</p> <p>New home set up for ITS website.</p> <p>Publication standards and guidelines formalized for the 12th volume of the ITSRJ.</p> <p>Discussion around forming a partnership with a major publishing house.</p> <p>Poster/presentation competition organized for graduate students.</p> <p>Online membership registration/renewal and online payment of membership fees for the 2010-2013 cycle is implemented.</p> <p>Survey of ITS membership carried out to assess the value of an impact factor for the ITS Research Journal.</p> <p>Members express preference for digital version of the ITS Research Journal over printed version.</p> <p>ITS flag presented by L. Han and passed on for use by future ITS presidents.</p>