



Softball News

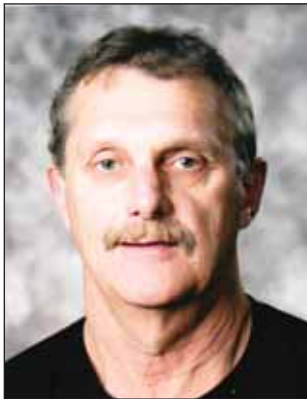
Volume 29, Number 3

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2011



Randy Anderson



Ray Brew



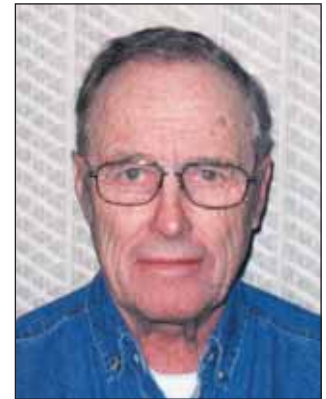
Paul "Otto" Ferrie



Rick Fryhling



Gail Ingwalson



Harold Wilkens

Six Elected to Softball Hall of Fame

Veterans selected from slow pitch, fast pitch, umpires, sponsors and administrator ranks

Six veteran softball enthusiasts were elected as the latest to be added to the North Dakota Amateur Softball Hall of Fame. The inductees will be honored at a formal induction ceremony and banquet held in conjunction with the annual Spring meeting of the NDASA on Saturday, April 16, 2011.

This year's inductees cover the entire range of participation in amateur softball with the selection of slow pitch players, an outstanding fast pitch player, an umpire, a sponsor and an administrator who also played for many years.

Selected were Randy Anderson of Turtle Lake, Ray Brew of Dickinson, Paul "Otto" Ferrie of Fargo, Gail Ingwalson of Grand Forks, Rick Fryhling of Fargo and Harold Wilkens of Center.

Randy Anderson

A resident of Turtle Lake, Anderson has played in that city since he began his playing career at age 14. His career, mainly at shortstop has continued for 36 years. He has always been an outstanding hitter and defensive player. He has played for three sponsors in his home town including Marv's Bar

which he has managed for the past 22 years. His teams have won three state tournaments and played in one national. In addition to his years as a player, Randy began umpiring in 1976 and has been a registered ASA umpire for over 30 years with most of his umpiring done in his local area. He is credited with keeping softball alive and flourishing in the Turtle Lake community and area.

He was instrumental in developing the four diamond complex in his home town which is heavily used during the season. Randy spends many hours performing maintenance and upkeep of this facility and has also acted as Tournament Manager for many invitational tournaments held in the area. He also started a program for young girls softball in his home town.

Ray Brew

Ray Brew of Dickinson began his long career in 1972 playing for several different sponsors over a 38 year career. Playing in the outfield and as a catcher he has played in 40 state tournaments and two regionals.

Three state titles for teams on which he starred are the Class AA in 1978 with Liberty

National Bank; Class D in 2004 with Logo Magic and in Rec II in 2008 with Simonson's. He was selected as an all tournament player in several of these tournaments, MVP in others and as a Homerun Derby Champ.

Early in his softball career, Brew was noted as a feared power hitter who could also hit for average and as a good defensive outfielder with some of the best teams in the state. Later he transformed himself into an excellent base hitter who could hit the ball to all fields.

Known for his passion for the game, Brew would never let his teammates down no matter what the score. He was a fierce competitor while at the same time he remained a gentleman on and off the field. His lifetime batting average is estimated conservatively at .575 and he estimates that he has hit over 800 homeruns in his long career.

Paul "Otto" Ferrie

Ferrie came from a family of softball pitchers. Both his father Paul and his uncle Roger are in the South Dakota Softball Hall of Fame. He started pitching fast pitch softball when he was eleven years old in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His teams were

highly successful at the junior level. In 1962 he played in both the Youth League and the Men's City league. Before the season ended, his family moved to Wahpeton, North Dakota where his dad organized a team so he had the opportunity to play with his dad. In 1965 and 1967 he pitched his team to the state title in Class B fast pitch softball.

His longest service as a pitcher and his best years were in the Twin City League in Fargo where he starred as a pitcher and played first base when not on the mound. He was an outstanding left handed pitcher for Josefs of Fargo winning their first state tournament in 1977 and again in 1978. It was the first time in 25 years that a team had managed to win back to back state titles in the very competitive fast pitch which was played in North Dakota softball at that time.

Ferrie had 25 no hit ball games in his 29 year career along with 40 one hit games and a career total of 650 wins against 190 losses. He was also a dangerous power hitter with an average of approximately .275.

HALL OF FAME continued on page 5



Red Willow Lake Resort



Off Hwy #1, 25 miles North of Cooperstown • 30 miles south of Lakota

ATTENTION! Coaches, Mom's n' Dad's: Yup, we're attempting to keep kids having fun by physically enjoying life - so bring all your 15 & Under, 12 & Under, 9 & Under boys & girls teams to RWR for fun, and attention - another reason - who will furnish us all those "Super Special" softball players we've enjoyed the past 65 years? They're going to disappear completely!

Umpire Clinic

Friday, May 6th • 7 p.m. • Haines residence
We need Umps!

Coed Tourneys

3 Game Guarantee

33rd Annual Spring Reunion

May 29 & 30 - Open16 teams

July 3 & 4 - Open16 teams

Aug. 21 & 22 - Open16 teams

**Gals, find 6 guys - no problem
- they will be ready!**

Girls' 16 & Under RR

June 245 teams

**Win individual engraved medals, trophies,
M.V.P. awards, 14 & 22 oz. Neon mugs,
Super Bats for home runs and a few surprises!!**

Men's Tourneys

3 Game Guarantee or RR

June 5 - Early Bird RR5 teams

July 23 & 24 - III & IV24 teams

July 30 & 31 - III & IV16 teams

Aug. 27 & 28 - Open16 teams

37th Annual Fall Funerama

Sept. 3-5 - Open24 teams

"Reiles Transfer" from Fargo won last year!

Bring your tents, trailers, motorhomes, barbecue grills, motor boats, friends and family for a fun-filled weekend.

Restaurant open 12 hours a day, groceries, softball supplies and game machines. Go fishing, swimming, boating, skiing, rollerskating or play volleyball. Showers on the grounds. Don't go home without a Red Willow sweatshirt, cap or T-shirt for loved ones.

OPENINGS IN ALL TOURNAMENTS

3 game guarantee for all.

Welcome Canadians and Minnesotans every tourney!!

Baseball

3 Game Guarantee or RR

June 11 & 12 - 52nd Early Bird Babe Ruth

June 18 & 19 - 12 & Under Cal Ripken

June 24 - 9 & Under T-Ball

June 25 & 26 - 12 & Under Cal Ripken

July 8 - 9 & Under T-Ball

July 9 & 10 - 15 & Under Babe Ruth

July 16 & 17 - 12 & Under Cal Ripken



**For Information call:
Vernis Haines - 676-2061**

Guys & Gals, God loves you and so do I!

President's Report

Welcome again to another softball season in North Dakota. Rules clinics will be held throughout the State in April and the season will begin shortly thereafter.

I attended the ASA National Council meeting this past November with Commissioner Hanley, Mike Wolf, Walt Stack, and Bill Butterfield. The Council meeting was very productive and informative. A

SA Rule and Code changes are printed in this newspaper as well as the NDASA Web site. Just a few highlights of the rule changes are 1) 70' Bases Men's A & B Slow Pitch; 2) Approved bats shall be considered altered if they are rolled, shaved, repainted, weighted or modified to change their characteristics from that produced by the manufacturer; 3) E/Rec uniform requirement will be matching shirts with numbers; 4) One and One count will now be used in Masters Slow Pitch Classification; 5) Approval of an additional 12" softball for Slow Pitch Classification of play. The new additional ball certification is a 52/300 which is less temperature sensitive, reduces batted ball speed, and increases player reaction time.

The ASA Equipment Testing and Certification Committee has done extensive lab and field testing on the 52/300 and are encouraged by the results. I would encourage leagues and tournaments to give this ball a try. The ball should be

available by all ball manufacturers by June or July of this year.

Other good news from the ASA Council meeting is that Bismarck and Minot received the James Ferrell award of Excellence for holding two of the highest rated National Tournaments in the country. Bismarck held the Men's E/Rec and Minot the Women's C&D. Congrats to both cities and their tremendous volunteer base. The city of Mandan was also successful at the council meeting in Shreveport securing the bid to hold the ASA Men's Master's 35 Slow Pitch National Championship in 2012. North Dakota has held this Championship in the past with much success.

ASA National Tournaments in our region during the 2011 season are: MSP C Slow Pitch in Bismarck/Labor Day weekend, WSP C&D in Bloomington, Mn./Labor Day weekend, Coed Open, C & D in Bloomington/ 8/25-28, JO Slow Pitch 10U-18U in Watertown, SD/7/28-31, JO 10U A/B, and 18B in Rochester, Mn. 8/4-7. These ASA National Tournaments provide tremendous opportunity for youth and adult in our program, please take advantage. Every city listed has experience running national tournaments and will provide players and fans with unforgettable moments.

The NDASA Executive Board made several appointments at the mid-winter meeting that will enhance the day to day operation of our program in North Dakota.

Mary Hager of Harvey and Sue Lachenmier of Bismarck were appointed to the NDASA Executive Board. Roger Weigel of Bismarck was appointed NDASA Tournament Coordinator replacing long time NDASA volunteer Kathy Stefonek.

Mike Peterson of Fargo was appointed Asst. Tournament Coordinator and will chair the new Player Classification committee which includes Roger Weigel of Bismarck, and Scott Brahms of Mandan. Scott Schafer of Jamestown was also appointed JO Slow Pitch Commissioner. Each of these appointments are important to the NDASA program and I thank each of you for stepping forward.

In the last two years, ASA has established a National Player Classification Data Base Slow Pitch. Previously all players who have participated in National Play the last few years have been placed in the data base of the class they participated in. This data base is an attempt by ASA to provide more uniformity in the classification system, by classifying players who make up ASA teams.

This past winter, Jack Jones of Mandan was so kind as to input all players from B through Rec II in North Dakota into the national data base. Rec I & II players were placed in the E/Rec division. A player may appeal his classification by going to the ASA web site. The new Player Classification Com-

mittee Chaired by Mike Peterson of Fargo will assist Commissioner Hanley in this process. The Player Classification process was changed slightly at the Council meeting whereby a player can hold a + to his or her player classification. For instance, if a player was reclassified from C to D+, that player could not play in the E/Rec classification in Championship play. Normally, an E/Rec team could have three (3) D players. So, the new rule allows the C player to go to D+ and play D, but not slide to E/Rec as one of the allowable three D's.

I think we are all learning along the way and the system will continue to be tweaked and improved.

I would like to thank Gary and Connie Tharaldson and Tharaldson Enterprises for again sponsoring the trophies and banners for all State & National Tournaments in North Dakota in 2011. This is a significant donation to our program and helps keep the entry fees at an affordable level for our teams. Be sure to thank Gary and Connie when you see them.

See changes in this newspaper to allow later roster dates and roster change dates for NDASA play this year. Also for the first time we are allowing two (2) pick up players for State Tournaments. Both of these changes approved by the Executive Board with input from the Women's and Men's program will assist teams and opportunity for participation in the NDASA



Dick Gulmon

program in 2011.

Congratulations to the NDASA Hall of Fame Class of 2011. Randal Anderson of Turtle Lake, Ray Brew of Dickinson, Paul (Otto) Ferrie of Moorhead, Gail Ingwalson of Grand Forks, Harold Wilkens of Center, and a long time friend of NDASA Softball, awarded posthumously, Rick Fryling.

A special thanks to the Commissioner Hanley, the NDASA Executive Board, NDASA Advisory Board, League Reps, Umpires, Tournament Directors, and the hundreds of volunteers who make it possible to run our program in North Dakota. We couldn't do it without you. Keep up the good work and have a great softball season in 2011.

From Behind the Catcher

Just the middle of February as I write this but I'm thinking of Spring and softball already. We have had a brutal winter and we still have several weeks to put up with it, not to mention the probability of Spring flooding in many areas of the state.

Despite that I am working on this issue of the Softball News and I feel much better about the weather. I also went to Oklahoma City the first weekend in February for the bi-annual UIC Workshop and clinic. I was hoping that Oklahoma would greet us with some decent weather but they had a gigantic snow storm the day before I flew in with 12 inches of snow. It was pretty obvious that they don't know how to handle that amount of snow and my guess is that the city only has one snow plow.

The streets were snow packed and some of the entrances to the motel were blocked with snow. Our motel had some problems with water pipes and there was no hot water in my room the first day. The featured speaker was snowbound in Dallas and didn't get to the meeting at all.

Despite all those problems, over 400 ASA umpires were there for the workshops and presentations by members of the National Staff. It was great to talk about softball again and think about the upcoming season.

ing season.

One of the exciting aspects of the workshop was the introduction of the new instructional DVD's developed by the National Staff. These include umpire mechanics featuring base umpire mechanics for fast pitch within the two umpire system and base mechanics for slow pitch within the one umpire system and the two umpire system. A third DVD was not available due to shipping difficulties caused by the weather. That one will feature the three umpire system in both fast pitch and slow pitch.

I hope that each of you has had a chance to view the first umpire DVD which was released two years ago and that you will also get to a clinic where the new ones will be available. Each of us who attended the Oklahoma workshop got a copy of each and Mike Wolf, state UIC, has ordered copies for each of his deputies so they will be available at local clinics held around the state. ASA has produced a quality teaching product and it will be a benefit to every umpire who watches it.

I also got my 2011 ASA rule book, umpire edition and while paging through it I found a very useful tool on pages 109 and 110. It is called "The Penalty Page" and it lists the various penalties for most of the common problems an umpire

will encounter and must be able to apply the correct penalty. Instead of having to page through the book to find the right rule and section number which sets out the penalties, they are listed for us. Great tool and one that will help all of us.

Another new development which was discussed at the workshop was the new softball which has been approved for use in all ASA ball for this season. It has characteristics which slow down the batted ball speed, which make the ball less harmful if it does hit a defensive player and is not as sensitive to hot and cold weather. It is described in Rule 3, Section 3. Dick Gulmon, NDASA President and Chairman of the national Equipment Rules Committee has an article in this issue better describing the ball.

In my opinion, this ball MAY be the solution to our problems and may reduce or eliminate the list of Non-Approved bats.

The ball is available for this season but not required until the 2012 season.

There have been some changes to the Executive Committee of NDASA and there are a couple of new people in positions long held by others but the profiles on these people will be detailed in the Summer issue of this newspaper due to space requirements.

My congratulations to the six new members of the NDASA Hall of Fame. They are Randy Anderson of Turtle Lake, Ray Brew of Dickinson, Rick Fryhling of Fargo, Paul "Otto" Ferrie, Jr. of Fargo, Gail Ingwalson of Grand Forks and Harold Wilkens of Center.

They will be inducted at a banquet and induction ceremony on Saturday evening, April 16. The ceremony is held in conjunction with the annual Spring meeting of NDASA to enable those people involved in NDASA to stay for the evening. All are invited to help honor these softball veterans.

Last, but certainly not least, I want to congratulate Mike Wolf

of Bismarck who is the NDASA umpire in chief. Mike received the Regional Umpire Award of Excellence for the Northern Region at the UIC Workshop and Clinic in Oklahoma City.

Unfortunately, due to work considerations, Mike was unable to attend this event but was recognized by his peers as the Outstanding Umpire in the Region. This award is made by the Regional Umpire in Chief every two years. There is a separate story and photo of Mike elsewhere in this issue but I want to express my admiration for Mike and all that he accomplishes as state UIC as well as his other activities including recruiting and scheduling all the umpires for the massive McQuade Tournament and his involvement in church and school activities. My wife and I



Walt Stack

often marvel at all his gets done. Good Work, Mike.

See you around the diamonds.



Walt Stack of Bismarck and Regional Umpire in Chief Steve Riswold of Sioux Falls, South Dakota admire the crystal vase given to Stack by the remaining members of the National Umpire Staff in recognition for his six years as Regional Umpire in Chief for the Northern Region.

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Commissioner's Column

With the advent of spring training it means many are thinking of outdoor activities in North Dakota. If you plan on playing softball in 2011, it would now be a good time to have your team and league organization meeting.

NDASA softball has made some changes, those following ASA and some to make softball better in North Dakota. Changes have been made to our executive board. Long time members, Kathy Stefonek and Kathy Corbett and have resigned and been replaced by Women's Commissioner, Mary Hager, and Women's State President, Sue Lachenmeier.

Wayne Beyer has filled the vacant position. Scott Schafer has been named GSP Commissioner and Roster coordinator for all adult and GSP. Roger Weigel has assumed a new position, Adult Tournament Coordinator, working in conjunction with Mike Peterson as Assistant Tournament Coordinator. Mike will be in charge of all MSP classification change requests. He will be assisted by Scott Brahms and Roger Weigle.

He will also work with marketing and research activities for tournament and game management pos-

sibilities. These appointments are welcomed and will make NDASA more transparent. Hopefully your inquiries and information requests can be handled to satisfaction and in a very short time.

The Northern Region of ASA, consisting of Minneapolis, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota, will host five national tournaments in 2011. JO GSP (10U—18U) 7/28-31 in Watertown, JO GFP (10U-18U) 8/4-7 in Rochester, Coed Open, C & D 8/25-28 in Bloomington, WSP C & D (Labor Day weekend) in Bloomington and MSP C Northern (Labor Day Weekend) in Bismarck.

To participate in the adult tournaments teams must play in their NDASA state tournament and be registered with North Dakota ASA. Coed teams can be made up due to their state tournament falling in September. For JO participation the requirements are the same as adults plus GFP must be individually registered (contact Bill Butterfield) and for GSP teams must be individually registered after their state tournament (contact Scott Schafer). Individual registration fee remains the same as last year (\$8.00/player) NDASA will pay the national entry

fee to the state champion in all divisions of play or the next highest finisher.

A major change involves pickup players for state tournaments. In the past there was no pick up players allowed for state tournaments. This has been changed: "Teams entering state tournaments for all men's and women's division of play can pick-up a maximum of two players. Maximum number of players including pick-up players is 12. Pick-up players must come from your team classification or lower, and from teams not drawn into the state tournament brackets.

The pick-up player classification is from their highest team classification or player data base, whichever classification is greater. Pick-up player form must be signed by league rep and submitted to tournament director prior to first game. If form is not signed by league rep, form is not valid. Pick-up players must wear their own team uniform. This form will be available from your league rep or the state office.

Other changes include:

Umpire fees for adult and GSP state tournaments increased to \$20.00/game while GFP increased to \$30.00/game.

Every umpire must have a background check (every year) and must be conducted through ASA only.

Background checks in GSP and GFP must be conducted for everyone who is on the field of play.

Team registration deadline is 6/1/11. Late registration will have an assessment fee of \$10.00.

Rosters must be due in the NDASA state office by 6/17/11—after 6/17/11 a late fee of \$25.00 will be added.

Roster change date deadline is now 7/1/11. Mail changes to Scott Schafer until 6/25/11. After that date fax or e-mail to Scott.

Roster changes after the July 1st date must come to the MSP or WSP Commissioners. Final approval must be accepted by the state commissioner, state president and state tournament coordinator.

A very special congratulations to Mr. Gary Tharaldson who was elected to the National ASA Hall of Fame in the sponsor category. Gary will be inducted at the national meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC in November 2011.

I would also like to congratulate the new inductees into the NDASA Hall of Fame. They are: Randy A Anderson, Ray Brew, Paul (Otto)



Jim Hanley

Ferrie, Rick Fryhling, Gail Ingwalson and Harold Wilkens. Induction ceremonies will take place in Jamestown during the evening of April 16, 2011. Plan to attend and support our new inductees.

If you need information about our association the first place to look is our website: www.ndasa.org.

Welcome to NDASA softball 2011.

Ump Chat

Hello softball fans—the time is near. Let's keep our fingers crossed that flooding doesn't affect our plans to get softball going on schedule this spring! The upcoming season comes with minimal new rule changes. I am sure Dick Gulmon will talk about the upcoming changes with the softball, so I will leave that up to him to cover in his article.

The base distance for all levels to move to 70 feet was narrowly defeated. Parks and Rec districts and softball leagues throughout North Dakota should be preparing themselves for this change because it is only a matter of time before this rule change passes. The 70 foot base distance did pass for Men's Class A & B, and I am currently working with Bismarck Parks and Rec to get this change implemented in time for the McQuade Tournament.

A great rule change which I was an advocate from the start came in the form of allowing teams that play in the Men's E/Rec Nationals will now only have to have jerseys that match instead of having full uniforms. Also, umpires, gray ball bags with ASA lettering may now be worn with gray pants. Another good rule change was that in the Master's Divisions, the one and one count will now be used in state and national tournaments.

Even though we don't all like it—including me, the ten foot arc will remain in effect for 2011. Overall, I think umpires and players adapted fairly well to the ten foot arc rule. However, I witnessed a lot of inconsistencies in calling the ten foot arc from umpire to umpire and that is the biggest issue with players—especially pitchers that had to continually adjust to it. I have visited with hundreds of players on this issue we will continue to work with umpires to be consistent in calling illegal pitches that exceed ten feet. A rule change to put the arc back at twelve feet was proposed at the national meeting which I voted for, but unfortunately it was defeated.

We will be holding several field clinics for umpires throughout the state that everyone is invited to attend. At past field clinics we have stretched a string ten feet high and

another string six feet high between the pitchers mound and home plate to use as a training tool for umpires to see where the ten foot limit is and where the six foot minimum is.

I highly recommend that pitchers, players, and managers take the time to attend the portion of the field clinic at the beginning where we cover the pitching height to get a true feel of where the ten foot arc limit really is. Last year we had a lot of players attend our field clinics and a lot of eyes were opened at our field clinics by players and umpires alike when we stretch the string and start throwing pitches. So, please consider attending a field clinic and take a look at the pitching arc. There is a complete listing of field clinics listed elsewhere in this issue.

I was fortunate enough to attend the ASA National Conference in Shreveport, LA in November. It was great to see some old friends and also meet some new people. Besides making playing rule changes and code changes, cities from across the country come to bid on hosting national tournaments. We were able to secure the Men's 35 & Over National Tournament for Mandan in 2012. I was fortunate enough to be able to be a voting delegate at the national conference and it was a great experience.

We will have a lot of opportunities for umpires from ND to work national tournaments this summer. Bismarck will be hosting the Men's C National Tournament over Labor Day Weekend. Other opportunities for our umpires and teams within our region include the Girl's 16U National in Rochester, MN and the Girls 16U Slowpitch in Watertown, SD. I am also working on some umpire exchanges for national tournaments outside our region.

It is also time for my annual plea to recruit more umpires. Leagues around the state are growing, and some umpires retire, and some just don't come back, so we are always in need of new umpires. Every city in North Dakota will need more umpires. Players can make good umpires because they have a keen knowledge of the rules and a feel for the game. Plus, where else can you find a part-time job—outdoors, where you can make around twenty

dollars and hour?

If you have any interest at all to umpire, please contact me and I can put you in touch with someone from your area of the state. Or, check out the listing of the field and classroom clinics in this issue and you can show up and register. If you have any questions or concerns about umpiring, please contact me and I'd be happy to visit with you. Umpiring only one night a week can make a huge difference in helping out your local league.

I would like to let you know who our Deputy UIC's are throughout the state and I would also like thank all of my Deputy UIC's throughout the state for the great job they do for NDASA. They all bring a vast amount of knowledge and experience and are a valuable asset to NDASA. Our DUIC's are: Lyle Rader—Wahpeton, Naomi Erdahl—Bismarck, Don Daniel—Williston, Tom Harty—Jamestown, Elliott Gerhardt—Bismarck, Rom Smith—Minot, Pat "Rock" Healey—Grand Forks, Mike Lien—Fargo, Mike Nider—Bismarck, Randy Olson—West Fargo, and Al Ziemann—Bismarck. I have

also added a new DUIC in the Bismarck region and that is Terry O'Clair. Terry is a veteran umpire with several years of experience and several national tournaments under his belt. He will be a great addition to our current DUIC staff! Welcome aboard Terry!!! I have been informed that Gerald "Shorty" Payne has been appointed as the UIC for the Grand Forks men's and women's leagues. Shorty is also a veteran umpire and will do a great job for the Grand Forks leagues!

I enjoy visiting with a lot of you throughout the state during the year on various issues. I appreciate each and every question or concern I receive. As always, I am here to help in any way that I can to make softball more enjoyable for players, umpires, and fans. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please let me know. Drop me an email or give me a call and please know that I will be happy to assist you in any way that I can! You can reach me at wolfdn8993@yahoo.com or my home number 701-222-0478, or my cell 701-400-2100.

And by the way—don't hesitate getting in your McQuade registra-



Mike Wolf

tion. Some divisions are almost full already and others are filling fast. Check out the article on McQuade Tournament elsewhere in this issue.

Here's hoping snow and water issues won't be a concern or factor throughout the state when it comes time to start the 2011 season.

Have an enjoyable, fun, and safe summer!

JO Fastpitch comments

Greetings from the Junior Olympic (JO) Fastpitch. We are looking forward to a great softball season. As the rest of the country is in full swing we are only wishing we were! But as we all know the closer we get to June the closer we get to ASA Fastpitch. I am looking forward to the best season ever as we are an up and coming sport in ND. We had approximately 1000 registrations last year which is astounding!

We had 31 teams play in the state tournament last year. Pat Johnson and staff in West Fargo hosted last years state, Kudos! WOW fastpitch continues to grow every year. Girls are finding out how fun and exciting it is. We have girls 10yrs and under pitching. Everybody said no way. I say, come watch, they are doing great.

Let me introduce myself---My name is Bill Butterfield. I grew up

and attended school in southwest-ern North Dakota. My family spent 10 yrs in AZ and 8yrs in TX. While living in Texas I was introduced to Fastpitch softball. It is there that I developed a passion for the sport.

After moving back to the Dakotas I saw the need to develop JO girl's fastpitch statewide. I became involved and was appointed JO Fastpitch Commissioner for NDASA. I also have been appointed as the northern region JO. Our commissioner Jim Hanley has been very involved and very supportive of getting this program rolling. I would like to extend a special thanks to Brian Newhart for being involved; his leadership and experience have been very helpful to the ASA program.

The 2011 State tourney will be hosted by Bismarck. All ND tournaments are listed on the website.

I urge all teams in ND to make playing in the state tournament this year a priority for your program. Whether you have a 10U or an 18U team, whether you are a first year team or a 4th year team, everybody is encouraged to participate. We all need to support the state tourney in order for our sport to continue to grow. I hope you all develop a passion for this game and introduce our youth to this GREAT sport!

Get your program started today. Everyday you wait is a day you get behind! Don't wait for a pitcher to develop. Please do not hesitate to call, email, or text with questions for assistance.

Yours in fastpitch,
Bill Butterfield
NDASA JO Fastpitch Commissioner

"What makes a routine ground ball exactly that?-Practice"

Bismarck/Mandan gearing up for McQuade Tournament

By Michael Wolf

The 36th annual Sam McQuade Sr. Budweiser Charity Softball Tournament is rapidly approaching and will be held June 24, 25, and 26. As of March 1st, we already have over 180 teams registered compared to 125 teams at the same time last year. To celebrate our 36th anniversary, we are in the process of making arrangements to bring in the Men's Team USA to play two exhibition games on Friday night.

This is a very expensive venture and we are in the process of trying to raise \$15,000 to bring in Team USA. We WILL NOT be using any of the monies we raise to give to our charities, so we need to raise these funds outside the normal scope of our tournament. If you would or someone you know would like to donate to this worthy cause, please contact me or send your donation to the McQuade Tournament, Team USA Sponsorship, P.O. Box 1196, Bismarck, ND, 58502. We will have some additional softball vendors at the tournament this year and one of those vendors is planning to bring in a former major league baseball player who is a spokesperson for their company.

Team USA will be playing two exhibition games on Friday night and we will be assembling two teams to compete against Team USA. One team will be made up of players exclusively from North Dakota and one team will be made up of players who are playing in the McQuade Men's A/B division. A committee will be set up to determine which players will be selected to participate against Team USA. This year we are losing a few

diamonds in Mandan that are being converted into baseball diamonds and last year we lost a couple diamonds in Bismarck for the same reasons and therefore, we need to be creative in finding a way to allow as many teams as possible to compete in the McQuade tournament.

As a result, for the time being, we will continue to keep the men's D as a two game guarantee division. We are also scaling back the women's D division from a double elimination tournament to a two game guarantee division. The teams in these divisions should be aware that with only 24 teams, these divisions fill VERY fast so please do not hesitate to get your tournament entry in ASAP!

Last year, we combined the men's Rec 3 and Rec 4 divisions. That decision worked out very well, so this year, we will continue to have a separate forty-eight team Rec 4 division and two sixty-four team Rec 3 divisions. This is a great opportunity for Rec 4 teams to compete for a trophy against teams of their own caliber. Once the Rec 4 division is filled, overflow teams will be placed into one of the Rec 3 divisions. These divisions fill VERY fast as well, fast so please do not hesitate in getting your tournament entry in ASAP!

We also plan on having a Girl's Fastpitch Division again this year. It has been a big success the last couple of years. The fastpitch divisions will begin play on Friday morning and conclude prior to the adult games starting Friday evening. An anonymous donor has offered the tournament \$5,000, with \$3,000 to be used as a cash payout to the two top teams in the Men's

A/B division and \$2,000 is being donated directly to the McQuade Tournament to benefit our many charities. ASA is also offering \$2,000 to the winner to travel to the Men's A National Tournament in Oklahoma City. Last year's A/B division was a huge success and we are hoping once again that this division will fill.

This year's tournament will feature a double elimination bracket for the Women's C, Men's A/B, and the Men's C divisions. The change we made to the Men's Master's 35 & Over division last year was well received. Instead of a three game guarantee, we will be seeding the teams into two separate tournaments. The state Men's Master's Committee will assist us in seeding the teams properly. It also looks like we will have another "family" team entered in the tournament this year.

Be sure and get your registration form and payment in ASAP. PLEASE, don't procrastinate as the tournament fills very quickly. Last year we turned away over 100 teams. Don't be that manager that has to explain to their team that you forgot to send in the registration. We are hoping to match or exceed last year's record of 477 teams.

Registration forms have been mailed to all non Bismarck teams who were in last year's tournament. Bismarck managers received registration forms at their January meeting. If you missed that meeting or didn't play in the tournament last year and want to this year, or haven't received a registration form in the mail, you can print a registration form off the McQuade website which is www.mcquades.com and click on the softball link.

At this year's tournament, we will once again offer each team an opportunity to purchase an extra home run. This has been a popular feature at past tournaments. Last year we raised over \$3,000 for local charities from those teams that purchased an extra home run. More information will be included on the website and in the tournament program.

A record \$77,000 from last year's tournament was distributed to charitable organizations throughout the state and with your help and generosity we hope to be able to surpass that amount with this year's tournament. If you were a part of last year's tournament in some way, you were an important part of the tournament being able to donate all of that money to local charities and organizations—for that—Thank You So Much!

The silent auction we have during the tournament is also an area that raises a considerable amount of money for the charities. If you really want to contribute to the tournament in another way, I would like to challenge anyone to provide an item for the silent auction or contact a local business in your area to donate an item and explain the benefits of the silent auction and the advertising exposure to them. We estimate that close to 20,000 people will look through the silent auction items throughout the course of the weekend!

If you have any items that you

would like to donate to the silent auction, please contact me. Any item that is new, gift certificates, or sports memorabilia make great items for the silent auction. Businesses or individuals can donate and all donations are tax deductible! Anyone who can secure an item from a local business in your area or donate an item to the silent auction will be entered into a drawing to receive a prize!!

In addition to our other duties on the Board of Directors, Jack Jones and myself will once again serve as Co-Tournament Directors. Thank you also to our other Board of Director members who contribute their talents effectively in so many ways—Deb Marback, Eldie Ulmer, Cheryl Jones, Sam McQuade Jr., and Shannon McQuade-Ehly.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Jack or myself. The McQuade cell phone number is 701-400-2255, my cell phone is 701-400-2100, and Jack's phone number is 701-426-8700. I can be reached via email at wolfden8993@yahoo.com and Jack can be reached at jack@btinet.net or contact us a www.mcquadesoftball@yahoo.com

Here is one more reminder to get your team registration in early. We wouldn't want your team to miss out on all of the fun and excitement of the premiere softball event of the summer—the 36th Annual Sam McQuade Sr. Budweiser Charity Softball Tournament!



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- The ASA Team Liability Insurance Plan provides your team with \$5,000,000 in protection for bodily injury or property damage claims arising out of your team's games, practices or fundraising activities.

2011 ASA Junior Olympic Team Insurance Plans				
Package Plan (Includes Accident and Liability Insurance)	League Rates*		Single Team Rates	
Accident Deductible	12 & Under	13 – 19 yrs	12 & Under	13 – 19 yrs
\$250	\$97	\$141	\$184	\$223
\$100	\$124	\$155	\$230	\$257
\$0	\$175	\$196	\$270	\$315

2011 ASA Adult Team Insurance Plans			
Package Plan (Includes Accident and Liability Insurance)	League Rates*		Single Team Rates
Accident Deductible	w/Waivers	No Waiver	
\$500	\$260	\$281	\$478
\$250	\$325	\$348	\$568
\$100	\$366	\$383	\$618
Liability Only	\$136	\$151	\$247

*To qualify for discounted League Rates, ALL TEAMS in your league must purchase the insurance plan (minimum of four teams) and apply on one enrollment form.

Note: Many ASA Associations are requiring Individual Registration for their Junior Olympic teams. One benefit of Individual Registration is that Liability and Accident Insurance are automatically provided as part of the ASA membership fee. If your local ASA Commissioner is using Individual Registration, you do not need to purchase the ASA Team Insurance Plan. Contact your ASA Commissioner or Bollinger for more information.



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**Dickinson Softball League Contact:
Eric Kittelson**

I'll remember the fastpitch game

By Mike Lyman

Men's fastpitch softball history in the Fargo-Moorhead area dates back to a four-team Red River Valley tournament in 1927, won by the Crookston, MN, All Stars. The RRV was a fixture for nearly sixty years until the late 1980's when it became an ASA Class B National Qualifier. Along the way, the number of participating teams peaked at fifty during the 1963, 64, 67 and 1970 seasons. The RRV died in the mid-1990's when the number of eastern North Dakota and Western Minnesota "town teams" dwindled rapidly.

The inaugural Eugene Holm Memorial Classic Tournament was hosted in 1973 and has continued through 2010, when four teams participated.

It certainly appears our game has gone full circle during the past eight decades or so. Men's fastpitch in North Dakota and nationally has been on life support for the past several seasons and appears to be destined for extinction. A couple years ago, Minot wasn't able to attract a bus load of teams for an ASA men's 40-over National Tournament. Sure, the economy has been a factor. But the fact remains, the teams are few and far between.

At the same time, slowpitch has cornered about 99% of the players and their game appears to be flourishing. When I started playing in the West Fargo league in the mid-sixties, we were the only game in town. Slowpitch, since first appearing on the landscape in the early 1970's, is to be complemented for the rise in popularity of their game.

The focus of this article is not a debate about the demise and rise of the men's softball games, but rather to share more than a few reflections, memories and observations gathered from hundreds of hours around the diamond during the past forty years.

I'll Remember...

- The wooden "Hall of Fame Row" bleachers at the Fargo Mickelson Field;
- The antics of the late Bob McMenany and his sidekick Dempsey;
- The "from the heels" swings of Fargo Hall of Fame players Lee Holschuh and John Lindstrom;
- Ray Clark's 20-strikeout perfect game and three no-hitters during a span of three days in 1976;
- Bob Grund, who grew up in the

shadow of Mickelson Field, returning from being seriously wounded in Vietnam, including the loss of an eye, pitching West Fargo Lepird Drywall to a State Class B ASA Championship in 1978;

- Gary Nielson, the longtime popular player and coach with the Fargo KC's, losing his battle with cancer after being exposed to Agent Orange in the jungles of Vietnam and being elected to the NDASA Hall of Fame before he passed away in 2005;

- Grand Fork's Matt's Tavern and Minot Young America advancing to the ASA Men's Major National Tournament.

- The very competitive Jamestown Tomahawk Lounge, Prairiewood Inn and Hillview Bar Teams;

- Jim Baum's late inning clutch hitting;

- The hours spent by the Lybeck family at Mickelson Park;

- Player of the 1960's decade and Hall of Fame pitching and hitting legend Tom "Rabbit" Engh;

- The late Grand Forks Hall of Fame catcher Jerry Ackerman;

- Ollie Fiddler's changeup;

- The dominance of Fargo Pitcher Paul "Otto" Ferrie during the 1974 season and decade of the 1970's;

- The demise of NDASA "town teams" including Horace, Argusville, Buxton, Christine, Grandin, Hickson, Wild Rice, Edgeley, Southam, Selz, Harvey, Enderlin and Sabin, Comstock, Rustad and Wolverton, MN;

- Lepird Drywall outfielder Jim Thoreson's three home runs in the Commissioner Jim Hanley managed 1977 Grand Forks North Valley Championship against Steinbach, MB;

- The late umpire and friend Bobby Larson of Minot;

- Personalities of the game including Don Siverson, Jerry Day, Ken Schwinden, Jack Peterson, Rich Carrier and Doug Jacobson;

- Hall of Fame pitcher Larry "Honker" Zeadow;

- The Minot International Tournament that attracted top teams from both Canada and Montana;

- The slugging display by Winnipeg, MB, catcher Randy Dutiaume at the 1984 Fargo Holm Classic. Dutiaume had 21 hits in 30 at bats (.700) including six home runs. Dutiaume homered in three consecutive at bats against the Fargo Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Baum.



Jamestown Hall of Fame pitcher Pat Stockert shut down the Winnipeg team 7-0 in the first round and forced the Manitoba Provincial Champions to play ten games en route to the Holm Classic title;

- The transition from wooden to aircraft aluminum bats during the late 1970s and early 1980's;

- The slick fielding of Bismarck's Hall of Fame infielder Evan Lips;

- The best team nickname: "James Gang" of St. James, MN;

- Scott Johnson's six home runs

and twelve RBI's in leading Christine, ND, to the 1982 Red River Valley Championship;

- Winnipeg, MB, pitcher Cliff Bishop's first appearance at the Holm Classic in 1977;

- The ASA Class B domination by the Devils Lake KC's;

- The 1991 ASA 40-over National runner up finish by the Bismarck-Fargo Fronteer Yellow Pages. Fronteer, armed with six pitchers: Jim Baum, Bill Keller, Pat Stockert, Otto Ferrie, Steve Wiyatt and Jim

Kapp, were the first NDASA team to reach a National Championship game. Baum and John Lindstrom were both first team All-American selections;

- My late teammates and friends, Jim "Flapper" Kapp, Mike "Mad Dog" McLeod, Loren Thompson, Bob "Wheels" Rath and Rick "Rookie" Johnson;

- The opportunity to play and coach State, Regional and National Tournament games with my two sons.

HALL OF FAME from page 1

Rick Fryhling

Rick Fryhling was truly a man for all seasons in North Dakota softball. He played slow pitch softball for 30 years, umpired for 20 years, managed teams for 20 years and sponsored teams for 15 to 20 years.

He also served as a player representative for the Fargo leagues and as the city Umpire in Chief and Deputy State Umpire in Chief for Southeastern North Dakota.

In his early years as a player, Rick played fast pitch softball in Minot and for a couple of years in Fargo before founding the Gateway Builders slow pitch team which he managed and for which he played. He was a great utility player who could and did play virtually every position. He also was an excellent hitter who had the ability to place the ball for base hits but also could hit for extra bases when the situation demanded. A good base runner who was exceptionally fast it was not uncommon for him to hit an inside the park homer. In addition to his softball activities, he also coached little league baseball and softball teams. Rick was active in the Fargo Church League as well serving on the Board of Directors and as president of the league for many years.

As a registered ASA umpire, he worked a number of state tournaments and was selected to umpire in three national championship tournaments in 1996, 1998 and 2000.

Gail Ingwalson

Another of the many softball enthusiasts who involve themselves in several aspects of the game, Ingwalson played the game for 40 years, has been a long time coach and manager and served on the Grand Forks Board of Directors and as Supervisor of the Youth Softball program in Grand Forks.

Her playing career began at the age of 12 when she and her dad started a girl's team in Buxton which competed at the Class B level.

After high school graduation, Gail played basketball and fast pitch softball for the University of North Dakota. Her freshman years she was the starting shortstop and played that position or first base throughout her four year career. Her approximate batting average was .300. She was the team captain her junior and senior year and the teams most valuable player her senior year.

Gail has played and coached at the state level throughout her 40 year career from Class A through Class D level. She estimates her lifetime batting average at about .375 which is extremely conservative. She has competed in 78 state tournaments as a player (45 women's 15 Co-Ed and 18 Old Pro)

Gail has also coached Junior Olympic teams and in 1979 was hired to coach in the youth softball program in Grand Forks. In 1980 she was promoted to supervisor of

the Grand Forks Park District youth softball program and she continued in that capacity until 1998. She also served on the Board for the Grand Forks Softball Association for 20 years and was the president of that group for nine years.

Harold Wilkens

Nominated and considered primarily as a team sponsor, Harold Wilkens also played the game of softball for many years. As sponsor and team manager, he would be called on to fill in many times and at various positions. His teams Harold's Skelly of Center were well known and respected in the softball community around the state.

Harold started sponsoring his team in 1973 when he owned the Skelly gas station in Center. He sold his business in 1984 but because of his love of the game of softball continued to sponsor his team until 1999 when he turned 70 years of age.

His teams won the state championship in 1985 in the Old Pro 35 and Over category and in 1997 as the Class D West champion. His team also competed in one regional tournament in Pierre, South Dakota finishing in third place in the Men's Division IV Class.

Without dedicated sponsors like Harold Wilkens the great sport of softball could not exist and flourish as it has over the past many years. His dedication to his teams and to the game are unmatched.



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2011 Umpire and Managers Rules Clinics Schedule

March 29	Bismarck Fastpitch Umpires	St. Mary's Grade School	7:00	Gerhardt
March 29	Grand Forks Managers	Muddy Rivers	7:00	Healey
March 30	Bismarck Umpires	St. Mary's Grade School	6:30	Wolf
March 31	Wahpeton Umpires	Community Center	6:30	Rader
March 31	West Fargo Umpires	VFW Club	6:30	Olson
April 2	Deputy UIC Clinic	Gladstone—Jamestown	10:00	Wolf
April 3	Jamestown Umpires	IDK Bar & Grill	2:00	Harty
April 3	West Fargo Fastpitch Umpires	TBA	6:30	Rader
April 4	Wahpeton Men's Managers	Community Center	6:30	Rader
April 4	Bismarck Men's Managers	Amvet's Club	6:30	Wolf
April 5	Wahpeton Women's Managers	Community Center	7:30	Rader
April 5	Devils Lake Umpires/Managers	Burdick Arena	7:00	Harty
April 6	Valley City Umpires/Managers	American Legion Club	7:00	Harty
April 6	Mandan Umpires	Community Center	6:30	Wolf
April 6	Fargo Umpires	Bowler	6:30	Lien
April 6	Minot Umpires/Managers	Minot Auditorium	7:00	Smith
April 7	Bismarck Umpires	St. Mary's Grade School	6:30	Wolf
April 11	Minot AFB	Community Center	4:30	Smith
April 11	Bismarck Umpires	St. Mary's Grade School	6:30	Wolf
April 13	Mandan Managers	City Hall	7:00	Wolf
April 13	LaMoure Umpires/Managers	Legion	7:00	Harty
April 13	May/Port Managers & Umpires	Floyd's—Portland	7:00	Healey
April 13	Fargo Umpires	Bowler	6:30	Lien
April 14	Fargo Umpires	Bowler	6:30	Lien
April 14	Bismarck Umpires	St. Mary's Grade School	6:30	Wolf
April 16	State Meeting—Rules & Registration	Gladstone—Jamestown	9:00 a.m.	Wolf
April 17	Jamestown Umpires Field Clinic	Hillcrest Softball Complex	2:00	Harty
April 18	Dickinson Managers/Umpires	Recreation Center	6:30 MT	Wolf
April 18	Dickinson Fastpitch Managers/Umps	Recreation Center	6:30 MT	Gerhardt
April 18	Minot Umpires	Planet Pizza	7:00	Smith
April 19	Bismarck Umpires Field Clinic	16th Street Diamonds	6:00	Wolf
April 19	Grand Forks Umpires	Kelly School	7:00	Healey
April 19	Fargo Umpires	Bowler	6:30	Lien
April 20	Grafton Managers/Umpires	Generations	7:00	Healey
April 20	Fargo Umpires	Fargo Parks 701 Main Ave	6:30	Lien
April 20	Bismarck Umpires Field Clinic	16th Street Diamonds	6:00	Wolf
April 21	Bismarck Umpires Field Clinic	16th Street Diamonds	6:00	O'Clair
April 21	Beulah Umpires/Managers	Alibi's Bar	6:00 MT	Gerhardt
April 25	Bismarck Make-Up at Men's Meeting	Amvet's Club	6:30	Wolf
April 25	Grand Forks Umpires	Kelly School	7:00	Healey
April 25	Fargo Field Clinic	RD Johnson Rec Center	6:30	Lien
April 26	Williston Umpires/Managers	Recreation Center	5:30	Daniel
April 27	Bismarck Umpires Field Clinic	16th Street Diamonds	6:00	Wolf
April 27	Wahpeton Umpires Field Clinic	Diamond 2	6:30	Rader
April 27	Grand Forks Field Clinic	Ulland Park	6:30	Healey
April 27	Fargo Field Clinic	RD Johnson Rec Center	6:30	Lien
April 28	West Fargo Managers	VFW Club	7:00	Olson
April 30	Watertown SD—National School	2 Day School	9:00 a.m.	Wolf/Stack
May 1	West Fargo Slowpitch Field Clinic	North Elmwood Park #1	6:30	Olson
May 2	Grand Forks Field Clinic	Ulland Park	6:30	Healey
May 2	Minot Umpires Test Night	Planet Pizza	7:00	Smith
May 3	Fargo Umpires Test Night	Bowler	6:00	Lien
May 3	Minot Field Clinic	South Complex	6:00	Smith
May 6	Red Willow	Red Willow Resort	7:00	Harty
May 9	Grand Forks Test Night	Kelly School	7:00	Healey
May 22	West Fargo JO Fastpitch Clinic	West Fargo High School	6.30	Olson

*****Please note that before or after most of the manager's clinics and before or after at most of the field clinics, teams will be able to get stickers put on their bats. We suggest that managers bring bats to their rules clinics or a field clinic to get them stickered before the season starts. If you bring your bats to get stickered, please bring them before the session starts or after the session ends so as not to interrupt the field clinics or rules clinics. If you have questions concerning stickers or rules clinics in general, please contact UIC Mike Wolf at 222-0478 or 400-2100 or contact your local DUIC. You can find out phone numbers for all DUIC's by logging on to www.ndasa.org and clicking on "Administrators" and then click on umpires.



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Minot Legend and ASA Hall of Famer dies

Rueben Ookie Hammond, 93, Minot, and former director of the Minot Recreation Commission died on Wednesday, December 29, 2010 in a Minot hospital.

Rueben Edward Ookie Hammond was born on May 3, 1917 in Westhope, North Dakota. He was adopted at an early age by John Tucker J.T. and Gina (Nickelson) Hammond. He was raised in Westhope and in Minot where he and his adoptive mother moved in 1920 following his adoptive fathers death in 1918. His mother was an immigrant from Norway who supported her son by washing clothes and house cleaning. She became employed as a custodian at Harrison School on the campus of Minot State University in 1929 and continued in that capacity until her retirement in 1953. She lived to be more than 100 years old and was a widow for 76 of those years. Her strong faith in God and her work ethic left an indelible image on Ookie.

Ookie attended school at Minot State University Lab School and graduated from Minot Model High School in 1936 and from Minot State University in 1940 with a bachelor of arts degree in secondary education. As a student he was a district and region honoree in basketball as well as a football player at Model High School and four year letter winner, all conference and captain of the MSU basketball team. He was a member of the ND Amateur Basketball All State team in 1941. He was employed by the Great Northern Railroad from 1941 until 1948.

Rueben married Viola Fornes on November 27, 1947 in Sidney, MT.



Rueben "Ookie" Hammond

They made their home in Minot whre he served as the director of the Minot Recreation Commission from 1948 until he retired in 1977. In addition, he was employed by the Old Republic Company as a farm program disaster official from 1980 until 1990. Vi died on July 15, 1998. Ookie had been a resident of Trinity Homes since 2002.

Ookie was a member of the Protestant faith. He especially enjoyed officiating, fishing, promoting Minot and volunteer for city projects. He was co-chairman of the Roosevelt Park swimming pool restoration project, and chairman of the committee that established the south Hill Softball/Youth Baseball Complex and Spring Lake Park (now Hammond Park). He served as President of the ND Officials

Association, ND Parks and Recreation Association, MSU Beaver Boosters, Minot Elks Quarterbacks Club and was a 50 year member of the Minot Elks Lodge.

He is a member of the Halls of Fame of the ND officials Assn., ND Softball Assn., ND Parks and Recreation Organization, Minot State University Athletics, and Minot Baseball and was honored by the Minot Eagles Aerie with a Community Service Award and by the Dakota Eagles with Home Builders and Community Service Awards. The Knights of Columbus honored him with an Americanism award, Minot Chamber of Commerce with the Genie award and the Minot Recreation Commission named the International Fastpitch Softball Tourney in his honor. In addition, he had received commendations from the Minot Air Force Base, Mary College, Bishop Ryan High School and the City of Minot.

His passion for people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds earned him many lifelong friendships. He was a very loving son, husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a wonderful man who will be missed by many.

Survivors include his daughters: Patricia (Wesley) Johnson of Edina, MN and Bonita Jo Bonny (Dennis) Berryman of Minot; Grandchildren: Jolene (Andy) Tucker of Edina, MN, Wes Jr. (Kumaree) Johnson of St. Cloud, MN, Briana Jo Berryman of Scottsdale, AZ, and Brett Berryman of Scottsdale, AZ; Great-Grandchildren: Ben, Brooke and John Tucker of Edina, MN and Raj Johnson of St. Cloud, MN.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife: Viola.

Annual spring meeting set for April 16

Hall of Fame Banquet and induction on same date

State softball Commissioner Jim Hanley of Grand Forks has announced that the annual Spring meeting of the North Dakota Amateur Softball Association will be held on Saturday, April 16 at the Gladstone Inn in downtown Jamestown. Coffee and rolls will be served starting at 8:30 a.m. followed by a general meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Separate meetings of the vari-

ous divisions will follow before the group meets again to hear reports from the Men's Slow pitch Division, the Women's Slow pitch Division, the Fast pitch Division including Junior Olympic fast pitch and umpires.

Also scheduled for Saturday the 16th is the induction banquet for the Hall of Fame inductees who were elected in January. The banquet will begin at 5:30 p.m. so that attendees

at the state meeting will be able to stay for dinner and the induction ceremony and still get home that evening. A cash bar will open at 4:30 p.m. with the dinner to follow and the induction ceremony will wrap up the evening.

All Hall of Fame members have been invited and anyone may feel free to attend. Tickets may be obtained by contacting the NDASA state office in Jamestown..

Teams to Move Up in 2011

Women's

From Class D to Class C:

- Beulah Let's Do It Again

From Rec I to Class D:

- Fargo Sperle/Spitfire
- Fargo Rita's

From Rec II East to Rec I:

- Harvey Gloves
- Mayville J Strand/Woodard Financial

From Rec II West to Rec I:

- Minot Paradiso
- Bismarck Best Western Doublewood Inn

From Rec III to Rec. II East

- Grand Forks Diamond Lounge/Bud
- Grafton Extra End

From Rec III to Rec. II West:

- Bismarck Edsons Construction

Men's

From Rec I to D:

- West Fargo VFW (2nd at E/Rec Nationals)
- Minot Carlson Well Service (3rd at E/Rec Nationals)
- Bismarck Challenger Industries (5th at E/Rec Nationals)
- Bismarck Jerome's/Paramount/Just-in Glass
- Fargo Chub's Pub #1/Tubs of Fun
- Wahpeton Driftwood
- Bismarck K&L Homes

From Rec II to Rec I:

- Minot Taco John's
- Bismarck Mariner Construction
- Wahpeton MDI
- Fullerton
- Fargo Ultimate Trasportation
- Valley City Merchants

From Rec III to Rec II:

- Mayport Insurance

- Fargo Doolittle's/Bottle Bar
- Grand Forks Kelly's Ruffnecks
- Fargo G & T Plumbing
- West Fargo Sport City
- Wahpeton Sportsman Lounge
- Mandan AmeriPride
- LaMoure Gentzkow Trucking
- Mandan Vicky's/Colin Welding
- Dickinson TC/ACC
- Bismarck Great Northern Energy
- Jamestown Tom's Electric
- Flasher My Place Bar/Bammers
- Bismarck Miller High Life/Duffy's
- Bismarck Comfort Inn/Hangman Drywall
- Bismarck MCS Appraisal/Becker

From Rec IV to Rec III:

- Dickinson Bud Light
- Beulah Dakota Westmoreland/Sports
- Turtle Lake Anderson Cabinets
- Dickinson Taylor Crane
- New Town Sveen's Construction
- Hunter Insurance/Verwest Contracting
- Grand Forks Taco John's
- Grand Forks Crosstown Shockers
- Fargo Striver Chiropractic
- West Fargo Cabinet Makers
- Lisbon Gordy's Grill & Fill
- Oakes Nutec
- Fargo Loaf & Jug
- Wahpeton Red River Agency
- Petersburg Town Pump II
- West Fargo FM Mortgage
- Fargo JSPK Childcare/Playmakers
- Gackle
- Mandan Last Call/Miller Lite

Rochester to host National Umpire School

The Region Eleven (Northern) National Umpire School will be hosted this Spring by Rochester, Minnesota on April 15 through April 17. National Schools sponsored by ASA are regularly held in the fifteen regions of the U.S.

The schools are staffed by members of the National Umpire Staff, all of whom bring a wealth of experience and expertise to be shared with students attending.

An instructor to student ratio of one instructor per each 25 students insures that individuals will receive personalized instruction and advice.

The school in Rochester is hosted

by the Rochester Amateur Sports Commission and the coordinator of the event is Ed Hruska, who is the Executive Director of the Sports Commission.

He may be contacted at Rochester Amateur Sports Commission, 30 Civic Center Drive S.E. Suite 200, Rochester, Minnesota 55904 or by email at ehruska@rochsports.com or by telephone at 507-280-4701.

North Dakota umpires are reminded that they must attend a National Umpire School every five years to stay eligible to umpire in ASA National tournaments.

2011

Wahpeton, North Dakota

Slowpitch Softball Tournaments

MEN'S	Check	Date	Tourney	Teams/Class	Format	Fee
	_____	Sun. May 1st	Special Olympics Classic	5 Class B,C,D 5 Rec I, II 5 Rec III, IV	RR	\$90
	_____	Fri. May 20th	Poet's Classic	8 Rec III or IV	3 GG	\$90
	_____	Fri. July 22nd	Randy Metcalf Memorial	8 Rec III-IV	3 GG	\$85

WOMEN'S

_____ Fri. July 15th Deb Christopher Memorial Open Single Elim \$85

Team Name: _____ Classification: _____

Coach's Name: _____

Coach's Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Payment guarantees your team a place in the tournament

Send to: Wahp-Breck Softball
304 5th St. South
Wahpeton, ND 58075

Phone: (701) 642-2811
Fax: (701) 642-5053
E-mail: woppark@702com.net

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- Next to Area's Largest Mall
- Indoor Spa & Exercise Room

Fargo, ND

877-239-4303

1-94 Exit 348 to 45th St. to 17th Ave. & 43rd St.

- Free Hot Breakfast
- Mini Water Park
- Next to Area's Largest Mall

Grand Forks Softball Association

JULY CLASSIC

July 9-10, 2011
Grand Forks



MEN'S DIVISION
OPEN/BCD
REC I • REC II
REC III • REC IV
NORTH STAR QUALIFIER

WOMEN'S DIVISION
OPEN/CD • REC I • REC II • REC III

ENTRY FEE \$135

ULLAND PARK

- 16 Diamond Complex
- ASA Sanction Rules
- 3 game Guarantee
- Format Dependent on Number of Teams in Division

- CASH PRIZE for 1ST & 2ND place teams in each division
- EVENING CONTESTS
- COOLERS ALLOWED IN COMPLEX

Registration Information Available at www.grandforkssoftballassociation.com
or Contact Todd Lafferty 218-230-5924



SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

June 4th-5th

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Ulland Park

- 16 Diamond Complex
- 3 game Guarantee
- ASA Sanction Rules
- Format Dependent on Number of Teams in Division

Men's Division
Open C/D • Rec 1-2
Rec 3 • Rec 4

Women's Division
Upper • Lower

Entry Fee \$125
Due May 27th



Cash Prize in each division
\$100 Buffalo Wild Wings
Gift Card (Saturday Bracket Winners)

• *Coolers Allowed in Complex* •

Registration Information Contact Todd Lafferty 218-230-5924
or at www.grandforkssoftballassociation.com



SOUTH FARGO
1501 42nd St S.
356-WING

NORTH FARGO
1515 19th Ave N.
280-WING

MOORHEAD
2201 2nd Ave N
218-512-0400

GRAND FORKS
2717 S. Columbia Rd
775-WING

BISMARCK
218 S. 3rd St
323-WING

Mike Wolf wins Award of Excellence

NDASA State Umpire in Chief Mike Wolf of Bismarck was named the recipient of the Northern Region Award of Excellence as the Outstanding Umpire in the Northern Region.

The award was made at the Bi-Ennial Umpire in Chief Clinic and Workshop in Oklahoma City the first weekend of February. Each of the fifteen Regions in ASA select one umpire who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and ability in umpiring for ASA softball.

Wolf was cited for his many achievements in umpiring and his leadership of the umpires in the state of North Dakota. Wolf was appointed as the state Umpire in Chief in January of 2004 after serving as a Deputy Umpire in Chief for Bismarck and South Central North Dakota for several years.

He has played and umpired softball for over 25 years and has worked as an umpire at the highest level of ASA slow pitch softball

when he worked the Men's Major tournament and later the Men's Super Tournament.

In his seven National Championships, he worked the Championship games in six of them.

Wolf is a member of the National Indicator Fraternity, the Gold Level of the umpires' program and has obtained Elite status as a working umpire. He also serves as the Umpire in Chief for the city of Bismarck and is an important member of the McQuade Charity Softball Board of Directors.

He has recruited and scheduled umpires for this massive tournament for the past several years and goes so far as to have several umpires stay at his house



during the Tournament. Wolf was selected for this honor by Regional Umpire in Chief Steve Riswold of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

2011 Suspensions & Probations

- Dominic Paradino Jr., Fargo, Unsportsmanlike conduct, suspended indefinitely, Two year probation follows reinstatement.
- Scott Fears, West Fargo, Unsportsmanlike conduct, Probation thru 2011
- Jason Baca, Mandan, Illegal participation (2nd) Probation thru 2011
- Todd Kalpakoff, Fargo, Altered bat. Two years suspension 2010

& 2011 NDASA/ASA play. Five years probation starting 1/1/12

- Ryan Hertel, Jerome Talley, Delmon Clown, Lyle Uses Arrow, Mandan, Illegal participation. Suspension through 7/1/11. Probation 2011 & 2012
- Dustin Talley, Mandan, Illegal participation. Suspension through 7/1/11. Probation 2011, 2012 & 2013

• T C Wolves Softball Team, Mandan, Illegal participation. Probation 2011 season

- Kyle Wheeler, Minot, Illegal participation. Probation 2010-2011
- Dilon Kunz, Jamestown, Unsportsmanlike conduct. Probation 2010-2011
- Danny Kunz, Jamestown, Unsportsmanlike conduct. Probation 2010-2011

Tharaldson provides trophies, banners

Super sponsor and softball booster Gary Tharaldson will again provide the trophies and the championship banners for all state softball tournaments sponsored by the North Dakota Amateur Softball Association. Included are all the awards for the Junior Olympic program as well as adult awards in both slow pitch and fast pitch. The number of trophies and banners depends on the number of teams entering each of the state tournaments.

Gary Tharaldson and his wife

Connie continue their commitment to North Dakota softball with sponsorship of both men's and women's adult teams. Gary's sponsorship started in the early 1980's and includes sponsorship of many state championship teams, Regional champions and several national tournament teams. He was elected to the state Softball Hall of Fame in 1995 as a player and coach of some of the most successful teams ever to play in North Dakota. He played for many years at the highest level

of slow pitch softball and won over 650 games as a pitcher. He led his teams in over thirty state tournaments, a number of Regional events and close to two dozen National Tournaments.

NDASA is able to provide the trophies and banners only through the cooperation and generosity of Gary Tharaldson and his various business enterprises. NDASA gratefully acknowledges his many, many contributions to North Dakota softball.

So you think you know the rules

A sample from the 2011 Umpire Test

1. True or False

When using five inch thick bases, it is permissible to use an orange tapered edge base, three inches thick for the contrasting colored base.

2. True or False

The tie-breaker rule is used in fast pitch only.

3. True or False

A bat with a cone-shaped grip is legal in all Divisions of ASA play.

4. True or False

An altered bat has been used by several players before it is discovered. The penalty should apply to all batters who used the bat during this inning.

5. True or False

A player wearing metal cleats after being warned by the umpire shall be disqualified from the game.

6. True or False

When two consecutive batters are intentionally walked by the defensive team, the first batter can go directly to second base and the second batter goes directly to first base.

Answers on page 11

Players must carry picture ID at tournaments

North Dakota ASA will continue to follow the National Rule which requires that all players carry a current picture ID with signature at all tournaments. After June 15th, managers must also carry a copy of the team roster.

Spot checks will be made. Any person playing without proper ID will face suspension as do his teammates and/or manager. Games will be forfeited at that time. The NDASA executive committee meeting last fall adopted the following rules in regard to picture ID:

When questioned, if the player does not have a picture ID on his person, he or she will be given five minutes to present it.

The player is ineligible until a picture ID has been presented.

The players in violation will be ejected from the game if no ID is available.

The game is not forfeited.

The team can replace the players if they have substitutions.

If the ejection brings the team number down to nine, the team will be allowed to continue with an out in the batting position of the players ejected. This is similar to the injury rule.

If the player turns out to be an illegal player, the present rules for the use of illegal players will be in effect.

MANAGERS—be sure all your players have picture identification so they will not be embarrassed and lose their right to play.

2010 ASA Equipment Committee Review

Editor's Note: The following is a review of the Equipment Committee activities during 2010 prepared by Dick Gulmon, chairman of this important national committee. Much of the committee's emphasis was on the testing and acceptance of a new ball which will have a reduced batted ball speed which in turn will increase the reaction time of the defensive players.

In addition this new ball will be less affected by temperature extremes, either hot or cold. The committee is continuing its efforts to make our game safer while retaining its competitive aspects.

In the past year the Equipment Committee and staff spent a considerable amount of time on the development and approval process of a new ball for the slow pitch game. This process involved extensive lab and field testing with numerous bat and ball combinations.

The development of a new ball certification also involved reaching out to ball manufacturers to provide a prototype ball that was playable, reduce injury to players upon impact, temper bat performance and be less affected by weather extremes. This process started in the lab at WSU and continued through field testing in Pullman,

Washington last May by members of the Equipment Committee.

The Trackman radar system was used for the field testing in Pullman. The Trackman technology was made possible by a partnership developed by ASA, WSU Lab, NCAA, and NFHS for the purchase of the radar system. The Trackman technology has proven to be essential to the decision making process in monitoring game conditions, field standards and research. Increasing our understanding of the game will qualify how rule changes effect play, including field dimensions, softballs, bats and temperature. While in Pullman, the committee toured the testing lab at WSU with Dr. Lloyd Smith and noted many new improvements since the committee's last visit to the site. Members traveled to a local ballpark to observe and participate in field testing experiments with three (3) prototype balls.

Specific bats and balls were selected to be tested using slow pitch players of varying skills. Hitting performance data was collected using the new Trackman radar system.

The committee also reviewed a number of items such as bat confiscation procedures, issues related to altered bats, bat testing machines, protective equipment, bases, data

regarding the pitch height change in slow pitch and potential new products for the game of softball.

Work at the WSU Lab by Dr. Smith this past year included the following areas:

- Ball size and weight – compared the effect of ball size & weight on hit distance, hit speed, pitcher reaction time, and impact force.

- Pitch height – compared the effect of pitch height, and pitcher distance on the hit speed.

- Trackman-Dr. Smith visited a facility in Denmark who manufactured the Trackman, assisted the Pullman field study as well as tracked tournaments such as WCWS, World Cup, Men's D, Hooters Championship Series and High School GFP at Hall of Fame Stadium.

- Ball Temperature – compared the effect of ball temperature on COR and Dynamic Stiffness.

Dr. Smith's work in each of these areas and insight as to the science of the game proves to be invaluable to the Equipment Committee's work.

After considerable lab testing, field testing, as well as the cooperation of ball manufacturers, the Equipment Committee is pleased to bring a rule change to the council this year for an additional ball cer-

tification for the slow pitch game. Field & Lab test data has provided the committee with the following results to propose a 52/300 ball for certification effective 1/1/11.

- Reduced BBS/Increased Reaction Time

- Less effected by temperature changes, such as extreme heat or cold.

- Significant reduction in impact force on the body when struck with a thrown or batted ball.

- Charting of games was also done again this year at the Hooters Championship series. BBS was also measured at all levels of play with the Trackman technology.

Some of the projects for the Equipment Committee and Dr. Smiths lab in 2011 are:

- Bat and Ball Compliance
- Continued review of potential new products

- Continue to utilize the Trackman at major tournaments and develop data base of playing conditions, evaluate accuracy of speed and distance measurements, and extract ball left and drag from tracked data. Field test with the Trackman will compare lab and field performance of softball bats of various levels of performance.

As in the past, it is the duty of the Equipment Committee to make the very best decisions possible for the game of softball, based on scientific data with regards to future bat and ball combinations, and related equipment that will uphold the integrity of the game.

State Tournament No Shows without notification

- Bismarck Vaaler Ins. Rec II-W-WSP; Entire team probation 2011
- Mandan Quality Home Furniture Rec II-W-WSP; Entire team probation 2011
- Grand Forks Rhombus II, Rec IV-E-MSP; Entire team probation 2011
- Mandan Last Call/Miller Lite, Rec IV-W-MSP; Entire team probation 2011



Mandan Crew gets National Tournament. Mike Wolf, Jack Jones, Dave Frueh & Lori Schneider.

Mandan to host National in 2012

Men’s Master 35 and Over Slow Pitch to play over Labor Day Weekend, 2012

Mandan successfully bid for and was awarded the Men’s Master’s 35 and Over National tournament to be held September 7 through September 9, 2012 at the Mandan Softball Complex. Dave Frueh from the Mandan Parks and Recreation Department, Jack Jones from the Mandan Softball Association and Lori Schneider from the Bismarck/Mandan Chamber of Commerce led the team which prepared and presented the bid with able assistance from State Umpire in Chief Mike Wolf of Bismarck. The bidding took place during the ASA National Council Meeting in Shreveport, Louisiana last November. National tournaments are awarded two seasons in advance to allow successful bidding

cities to put together a quality tournament based on ASA requirements. This will be the second National Championship tournament to be hosted by Mandan following their 2009 debut with the Men’s 40 and Over Championship. Both the 35 and Over and the 40 and Over events are nation-wide tournaments and teams wishing to enter do not have to abide by rules governing Regional or Territorial Championships. Teams with rostered players 35 years of age and over may participate in this tournament. Further information regarding this event will be provided by this newspaper and will also be posted on the NDASA website and on the website for Mandan Parks and Recreation.

Minutes from the NDASA Fast Pitch Youth Meeting

January 8, 2011
Discussed the progress of youth fastpitch in ND. At the high school level there will be 21 teams participating in the spring of 2011. Reconfirmed State Tournament site in Bismarck to be held on Saturday/Sunday, July 23-24. Set tournament entry fee for each team at \$125. Discussed umpire fees for the state tournament and set that for 2-man at \$30 per game. Question was asked if ND can send multiple teams to a national tournament. Commissioner Hanley said yes we can, however, each team must play in the state tournament and the NDASA will only pay the entry fee of \$425 for the state tournament winner. The other team(s) will have to pay the entry fee on their own. Reviewed the on-line registration process. It was suggested that JO commissioner Butterfield send instructions to each league in the state that wants to send teams to the state tournament. Last year no one in the state received their ASA cards from the National Office. Commissioner Hanley was informed that the National office had made changes and that we will have cards to us for this year.

Both commissioner Hanley and Butterfield, informed the group that all coaches, asst. coaches, scorekeepers and any other people in the dugout, MUST, complete the ASA website background check. This is for all teams wishing to participate in the state tournament. Failure to do so will result in no participation in the State Tournament. In addition, at least one (1) coach from each team must take the ACE Certification test which is also on the ASA website. Again, failure to do so will result in no play in state tournament. Also, reviewed the supplemental insurance that comes with registering each team. Requested invitational tournament dates to be listed on the NDASA website:

- West Fargo, June 18-19
- Bismarck (McQuades), June 24
- Bismarck (Prairie Rose), July 9-10
- Bismarck (State), July 23-24

Brian Neuhardt
Asst. JO Fastpitch Commissioner

2011 ASA National Championships

Adult Men Slow Pitch			
Men’s Class B	9/1/	9/5	Oklahoma City, OK
Men’s Masters 35-Over	9/9	9/11	Waxahachie, TX
Men’s Masters 40-Over	8/26	8/28	Auburn, AL
Territory Tournaments			
Hooters ASA Men’s Northern Class C	9/1	9/5	Bismarck, ND
Hooters ASA Men’s Northern Class D	9/1	9/5	Topeka, KS
ASA Men’s Northern Class E/Rec	9/1	9/5	Springfield, MO
ASA Women’s Northern Class C	9/1	9/5	Bloomington, MN
ASA Women’s Northern Class D	9/1	9/5	Bloomington, MN
Coed Class C Eastern	8/25	8/28	Bloomington, MN
Coed Class D Northern	8/25	8/28	Bloomington, MN
Adult Women Slow Pitch			
Women’s Master 35-Over	8/12	8/14	Dohan, AL
Senior Slow Pitch			
Senior 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 East	9/1	9/5	Burlington, NC
Senior 50, 55, 60, 65, 70,75 West	9/1	9/5	Fort Collins, CO
Youth			
Girls’ A 10-Under Southern	8/4	8/7	Rochester. MN
Girls’ B 10-Under Northern	8/4	8/7	Rochester, MN
Girls’ B 18-Under Northern	8/4	8/7	Rochester, MN

Bi-Annual Umpire Clinic and workshop held in Oklahoma City

The 20th Bi-Annual Umpire in Chief Clinic and Workshop was held in Oklahoma City February 3 through 5, 2011. Deputy Fast pitch Umpire in Chief Lyle Rader of Wahpeton and former Regional Umpire in Chief Walt Stack of Bismarck attended the sessions. State Umpire in Chief Mike Wolf of Bismarck was slated to attend but last minute responsibilities at his work place prevented his attendance. The event opened on Thursday evening, February 3, with sessions designed to provide training for umpires who are assuming responsibilities as Umpires in Chief for their state or metro area and also a session for those Umpires who are or want to be an Umpire in Chief at a National Championship tournament. Following these sessions the Eastern

Territory hosted a hospitality and welcome party for everyone attending. On Friday and Saturday, breakout sessions were presented by members of the National Umpire Staff. These sessions included presentations on understanding the rules on players and substitutes, batting and pitching, umpires mechanics and equipment issues. In addition, a lengthy presentation on Obstruction and Interference provided lively discussions and pertinent information. The Clinic wrapped up with a banquet on Saturday night and awards were presented at that time to an outstanding umpire from each Region. North Dakota UIC Mike Wolf was the recipient of the award from the Northern Region. A separate story on his award appears elsewhere in this issue.

2011 ASA softball playing rule changes with comments

Rule 2, Section 1 Table: The base distance for Men’s Class A and Class B Slow Pitch classification shall be 70 feet.
Comment: Allows for more defensive plays in our upper classifications of Men’s Slow Pitch.
Rule 2, Section 3H: The double base shall be used at first base in all divisions of play. The base is 15x20 inches and both sides of the double base, white and contrasting color, shall be of equal thickness. (5” max).
Comment: This clarifies that both sides of the double base must be equal in height.
Rule 3, Section 1D: The safety grip can be made of cork, tape or other synthetic material and must be permanently attached and cover the handle region of the bat. No bare metal may be exposed in the area covered by safety grip. It shall not be less than 10 inches and not more than 15 inches. Any attachment such as a molded finger grip, flare cone, or choke up device must be attached to the grip with safety tape. Resin, pine tar, or spray substances are permissible on the safety grip only.
Comment: Better defines the safety grip of a legal bat.
Rule 3, Section 1H: An ASA official bat’s characteristics shall remain fixed at the time of manufacture and may not be altered in any way other than specifically provided for in (Rule 3, Section 1) or as specifically approved by the ASA. Approved bats shall be considered altered if they are rolled, shaved, repainted, weighted or modified to change their characteristics from that produced by the manufacturer. Identifying the bat by means of laser marking, engraving, or painting the name or number of the player will not make the bat an altered bat.
Comment: This better defines an altered bat and allows for engraving to be part of the identification process.
Rule 3, Section 3A: The ball must have an ASA approved Certification Mark and not appear on the ASA non Approved Ball List.
Comment: There will be balls with certification marks that will be added to a non approved ball list. This clarifies that the balls on this list will no longer be approved.
Rule 3, Section 3E (3): A yellow cover red stitch 12” ball with as follows: Size: At least 11.875 in.; Weight: at least 6.250 oz.; COR .520 max; Compression: 300.0 lbs. max and Dynamic Stiffness: 5500.0 lbs. Max.
Comments: Allows for an additional 12” ball for the Slow Pitch Classification of play that is less temperature sensitive, reduces batted ball speed, and increases player reaction time.
Rule 3, Section 6: Exception: Men’s Class E/Rec: The only uniform requirement is matching shirts with numbers.
Comment: Allows the uniform code for E/Rec Classification to be less stringent.

Rule 4, Section 1C (3): If discovered using the wrong number of females or males in the outfield and brought to the umpire’s attention by the offended team:
After a pitch legal or illegal or play made, EF-FECT: All action stands.
Before the next pitch legal or illegal or play made,
Before the defense has left the field,
Before the umpires have left the field of paly, EFFECT: b, c and d
If the batter hits the ball and reaches first base safely, and all other runners have advanced at least one base. All action of the batted ball stands.
If all runners, including the batter runner, do not advance at least one base. The manager has the option of taking the result of the play, or awards the batter first base and advances all runners, if forced.
Comment: This adds a penalty for the defensive team not playing the right number of males and or females in the outfield and infield.
Rule 6, Section 3K (2): (Modified Pitch)
The pivot foot must drag and not lose contact with the ground.
Comment: This matches the foot requirements for 10 man with 9 man in the rule book.
Rule 7, Section 3B: (Adult Slow Pitch Only except Seniors) The batter shall assume a one ball, one strike count upon entering the batter’s box.
Comment: This removes the Master’s Slow Pitch classification from the exception and they will now start with a one and one count.
Rule 10, Section 5D: The approved navy ball bag(s) with ASA letters to be worn with the Navy or Fechheimer gray slacks; or the gray ball bag(s) with the ASA letters may be worn with the Fechheimer gray slacks.
Comment: Clarifies the uniform rule to allow the gray ball bag with the ASA letters to be worn.
Rule 10, Section 5H: The plate umpire must wear a black or silver mask, with black or tan padding and black throat protector.
Comments: This allows for a silver colored mask to be worn by the plate umpire.

Answers to sample questions on the rules

- 1 False, See Rule 2, Section 3H
- 2 False, See Rule 5, Section 11C
- 3 True, See Rule 3, Section 1D
- 4 False, See Rule 7, Section 6B
- 5 True, See Rule 3, Section 6G (Effect)
- 6 False, See Rule 8, Section 1C (3)

Important Dates

- Annual Spring Meeting: April 16, Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction
- Roster Due: Before You Play Your First Game
- Roster Deadline Date: June 17 (Later Than Usual)
- Final Roster Change Deadline: July 1 (Later Also)
- Classification Meeting: July 8
- Men’s Class C National Tournament: Labor Day

2011 ASA Code Changes with Comments

Article Number	Change
Article: 201 D 07 d	New
Allied Member Review. An annual review witll be conducted by the membership committee and all renewals will be approved by the Board of Directors.	
Comments: Creates a review and renewal process for Allied Members.	
Article: 201 E 04 d	New
Affiliated Member Review. An annual review will be conducted by the member-ship commitee and all renewals will be approved by the board of Directors.	
Comments: Creats a review and renewal process for Affiliated Members.	
Article: 303 d 17	New
Executive Director Duties.	
17. Prepare and send to all commissioners a complete set of all minutes of all matters addressed and actions taken by the Board of Directors and the Equipment Testing Committee within fifteen days of the meetings of the respec-tive groups.	
Comments: Adds duty to the Executive Director	
Article: 305 A	Association Review and Nomination.
If a commissioner posi-tion should become vacated for any reason, a panel consisting of the President, or their designee, the respective Regional Director, or their designee and the ASA Executive Director, or their designee and the Director of Membership Services shall:	
Comments: Adds Director of Membership as one of the individuals to conduct Commissioner Inter-views.	
Article: 310 C 02 a b	Delete additional words and add
02. Use of Assistant Umpires-in-Chief. The use of an Assistant Umpite-in-Chief shall be governed as follows:	
a. If a National Championship Final has 40 or more teams.	
b. If a National Championship Final plays on more than four (4) fields.	
Comments: To assist the National Championship UIC in administering the umpire program.	
Article: 403 A 01 c	Amendments to the ASA Code
c. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the start of the annual meeting, the Executive Director shall mail and/or electronically mail, to each member of the Council written notice of all properly submitted proposed amendments.	
Comments: Gives the option to email the code proposals out to the council.	
Article: 403 B 01 c	Amendments to the ASA Playing Rules
c. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the start of the annual meeting, the Executive Director shall mail and/or electronically mail, to each member of the Council written notice of all properly submitted proposed amendments.	
Comments: Gives the option to email the code proposals out to the council.	
Article: 501 D 06	Industrial Qualifications.
The ASA shall conduct championship tournaments for industral or all-employee teams. Industrial team rosters must have the eligi-bility form attached that verifies employment requirements.	
Comments: Adds a verification form for Industrial teams.	
Article: 501 D 07	Church Qualifications.
The ASA shall conduct championship tour-naments for industral or all-employee teams. Church team rosters must have the eligibility form attached that verifies employment requirements.	
Comments: Adds a verification form for Church teams.	
Article: 503 A 01	New EXCEPTION.
EXCEPTION: (Adult only) If two local associations combine berths and/or cham-pionship play, pick-up players may come from either local association with the approval of both commissioners.	
Comments: Allows adult pick-up players from associations who combine berths or tournaments to award berths.	
Article: 505 B 01	Time Limitations.
Suspension complaints must be filed with the Commissioner in whose association the offense is alleged to have ocured or the commissioner in who association registered the player or team, within at least one of the following time restric-tions: within six (6) months of the date of the alleged violation; ot within six (6) months of the complaint’s discovery of the alleged violation, so long as the complaint was not unreasonable in failing to discover the alleged violation.	
Comments: Changes the time limitations.	
Article: 505 B 02	Hearing.
Prior to suspension, the accused must be given an opportunity for a hearing by the commissioner in whose jurisdiction the violation took place. The commissioner may appoint a deputy or district commissioner, an officer or an official of the local association or any other disinterested party to conduct the hearing in their place. Notwithstanding the prior sentence or other provisions of Article 505 of this Code, for purpose of addressing exten-suating circumstanves, ASA Executive Director and or any ASA Commissioner shall have the authority to issue and interim suspension pending a hearing. In cases of an interim suspension, an initial hearing on the matter must be sched-uled within fifteen (15) days from the first day of the interim suspension. An interim suspension shall have the same effect as a suspension.	
Comments: Allows the Executive Director/Commissioner to immediately suspend a player/team on an interim basis.	
Article: 505 B 04	New - re-number
Hearing Process Interference Penalties. No person may interfere with the ASA hearing process under this Article 505 or any other ASA Code article. Any person who harasses, threatens, tampers with, or intimidates any member of any hearing panel, any ASA administrator or official, or any potential hearing witness, or who attempts to do so, shall be subject to discipline under this ASA Code, incuding suspension for such actions. Any attempts to interfere with ASA’s hearing process shall constitute independent grounds for discipline against that person.	
Comments: To put penalties in the code for interfering with ASA hearings.	
Article: 505 B 05	Right of Appeal.
Following the decision of the local association com-missioner, the accused or any person claiming that an act of suspension was or was not committed may appeal in writing within fourteen (14) days to the Executive Director or their designee whose decision shall be final. The Executive Director must render a decision on any appeal within fourteen (14) days. The Executive Director shall have the authority in extenuating circumstance to issue a stay pending appeal.	
Comments: Gives the Executive Director the authority to issue a stay pending an appeal.	

Article Number	Change
Article: 506 A 01	DIVISIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY DEFINED.
A. The ASA recognizes the following divisions and classifications of championship play. Each local as-sociation shall establish a classification code to determine team and/or player classification for champion-ship play in the following divisions:	
DIVISIONS	CLASSIFICATIONS
01. Men’s Fast Pitch	Major
	A
	B
	C
Comments: Changes the Open Classification back to A.	
Article: 506 A 07	DIVISIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY DEFINED.
A. The ASA recognizes the following divisions and classifications of championship play. Each local as-sociation shall establish a classification code to determine team and/or player classification for champion-ship play in the following divisions:	
DIVISIONS	CLASSIFICATIONS
07. Men’s (09) Man Modified Pitch	
Comments: Removes the Class A and Major division of the 9 man Modified Pitch.	
Article: 507 G NEW	National Adult Fast Pitch Pitchers Classification Board.
01. Responsibilities. The National Pitcher Classification Board will oversee all aspects of the adult fast pitch pitcher classification. The board will create proce-dures regarding classification.	
a. The Board will consist of five people, one representative from each territory plus one at-large member, as shown:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eastern Territory• Northern Territory• Southern Territory• Western Territory	
• At large member to be assigned by ASA President.	
Note: If a territory cannot elect a representative, then the president will fill the vacancy by appointment.	
b. Each territory representative shall name a territorial subcommittee comprised of no less than five and no more than 9 people from their territory. Local as-sociation representatives will be assigned in conjunction with the Association Commissioner.	
02. Duties.	
a. Each territory shall create and maintain a fast pitch pitcher classification.	
b. This board is to uphold the national pitchers list and classification strategy.	
c. This board in concert with the National ASA Office staff will oversee and maintain a national pitchers classification list.	
d. This board in concert with the National ASA Office staff will communicate with the tournament directors of ASA National Championships to ensure all pitchers participating in ASA Fast Pitch events are within the established proce-dures.	
e. This board will also seek out further information by cintracting local commis-sioners, player representatives, district commissioners, league directors, and tournament directors to acquire the best and most recent information on fast pitch pitchers.	
03. Rules	
a. Male and Female pitchers that are classified Major Fast Pitch by the local as-sociation in which they reside must remain in that classification until changed by the same local association.	
b. Any Men’s Class B or C Fast Pitch pitcher who earns First Team All Tourna-ment, MVP or outstanding pitcher awards and whose team is reclassified pursu-ant to Article 507 (G) (02) or Article 507 (G) (03), must pitch at the higher classifi-cation their next ASA playing season.	
c. In all adult Fast Pitch, no USA National Team Member may participate below the Class A Classification.	
d. All Men’s Fast Pitch players and/or teams are eligible to participate in the Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship and retain their eligibility for their original classification in Championship Play.	
e. Men’s Major Fast Pitch Players will be classified by a restricted fast pitch players list. The restricted fast pitch players list will be available on the ASA website and this list will be updated, modified and/or revised on a regular and continuous basis, but will be finalized by July 1 each year for the current year’s National Championship Finals. the players on this list are ineligible to partici-pate in the Men’s Class A, B, and C Fast Pitch classification. Any appeals re-garding this list can be made through the ASA National Office to the Fast Pitch Classification Board.	
04. Classification Appeal. Pitchers classified in accordance with this article have the right to appeal their classification after participating at the higher classifica-tion. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the team’s local commissioner and should include game results and reason for appeal. The local commissioner shall evaluate the information presented and forward the appeal with their recommendation to the National Adult Fast Pitch Pitcher’s Board. The National Adult Fast Pitch Pitchers Board shall review the information presented and make a determination on the appeal.	
Comments: Adds a National Fast Pitch Pitchers Classification Board.	
Article: 507 G 01	Mandatory Player Classification.
Starting January 1 each year will start a player appeal process where each player can submit an appeal to have their player rating dropped. This process ends August 1 and at that time appeals will not be accepted until January. We have taken our team, procedures and based it on the ASA Code in which a team could have 3 Mandatory players from the next higher division on their roster. We consider our list equal to Mandatory classified players. With the player classification system that we have in place helps create a fair and level playing field for all of out teams not only at a local but also at a national level. Below are the procedures that we use on how to classify a team. Players on the ASA Restricted List can only participate in the Men’s A or Coed Open Programs. A Player may have a + designation, this player cannot play down a class.	
Comments: Extends the process for appeals one month and adds a + designation wich will not allow players to play down to a lower classification.	
Article: 507 G 03 b	Returning Players.
A team that has a combination of four or more players on a roster, including pick-ups, from a team or teams subject to mandatory reclassification and/or restricted classification must maintain the classification as assigned by the mandatory classification rule.	

2011 ASA Code Changes with Comments

Article Number	Change
EXCEPTION: Players that have successfully appealed and been granted a reclassification shall not be counted towards the four player rule for a returning team. Comments: Allows players who have been approved for an appeal not to be counted toward the returning team rule.	
Article: 507 G 04	New
04. Men’s Masters 35-Over, 40-Over, and 45-Over Slow Pitch. Teams playing in the Men’s Masters 35-Over, 40-Over, and 45-Over Slow Pitch play shall not have more than two (2) players, or no players from the Restricted Player List and four class A rated players. Comments: To put restrictions on the amount of upper level players that can participate in the Masters Division.	
Article: 508 A	Local Association Championships. Local Associations championship play at the state or metro championship, must follow ASA Code requirements except that Local Associations rules may be enacted for: Run rules, time limits, uniforms (except that a minimum a like shirt with numbers on the back), home run rules, stealing, metal cleats and fence distances. Local associations may not conduct championship play tournaments in locations outside of their association’s boundaries without permission from that local association’s commissioner. Local Associations may conduct JO qualifying tournaments for the following years championship play. Teams that participate in these tournaments must use age eligible players for the year the championship play will be played and must meet the returning team requirement to maintain their berth. Comments: Allows Local Associations the opportunity to enact local rules for championship play.
Article: 509	Regional’s National Qualifiers, and Territorial Gold Qualifiers must be scheduled between a Friday and Sunday. Comments: Requires that these events are played on a weekend.
Article: 509 C 02 g	Women’s Major, Class A and B Fast Pitch. These National Championship Finals shall be scheduled on the weekend that includes the second Saturday in August and shall be scheduled for a minimum of four days, and shall be held at one site. Comments: Changes the dates of the Women’s Fast Pitch Championships.
Article: 509 C 04 d	Delete 504 C 04 D and re-number Girls’ ASA Class A and B Fast Pitch (all ages). These National Championship Finals shall be scheduled by the territory in which the tournament takes place, but must be scheduled between the weekend that contains the third Saturday of July and the weekend that includes the second Saturday of August and may have the option of commencing no earlier than Monday. Opening ceremonies may be held on that Monday. These championships are scheduled for a maximum of seven days. Comments: Adds flexibility to the dates of the Girls Class A Fast Pitch National Championships.
Article: 509 C 04 f	Girls’ ASA Gold 18-Under Fast Pitch. This National Championship Final shall be scheduled and completed on the weekend that includes the last Saturday in July and not be held more than seven (7) days. This event won’t have an opening ceremonies event and the managers meeting can’t be scheduled prior to 6:00 PM on the prior Sunday. Comments: Moves the Gold National Championship up one weekend.
Article: 510 A	A. Assessment Fees. Each team participating in ASA Championship play, not including state/metro championships shall be assessed an ASA fee (See Article 606 (D) Tournament Assessment Fees and Summary of Tournament Assessment Fees) of this Code. Comments: Removes the reference of how much assessment fees are because they are listed in Article 606.
Article: 510 D	Entry Deadlines. An official team entry form and proper entry fee must be submitted to the tournament director of all National Championship Finals seven (7) days prior to commencement of the tournament. Comments: States that entry form and fee must be submitted 7 days prior to the start of a championship.
Article: 510 M 06	Altered Bat. Any person discovered in possession of an altered bat at or near the facility or grounds of a softball competition in which such equipment is not permitted to be used shall be subject to discipline pursuant to Article 505. ASA shall have the right to take possession of a bat that is, in the sole direction of the official , reasonable suspected to be an altered bat, then the player shall surrender ownership of the altered bat to ASA; otherwise a bat of equal or greater value or a monetary equivalent , in the sole direction of ASA, shall be returned to the owner of the subject bat . A team that is discovered to have within its possession or control an altered bat may be suspended from further tournament competition. Comments: Better defines Altered Bat.
Article: 511 A	Deletes references of Bracket protection with Championships that have pool play. Comments: In tournaments with Pool Play remove all reference to protection in bracket play.
Article: 513 M	Previously Qualified. Junior Olympic Teams which have previously qualified for a National Championship Final may compete in other National Qualifiers. If a previously qualified team wins another berth from a National Qualifiers. The highest finishing team without a berth will qualify. Exception: Gold teams that have qualified for the Gold National Championship cannot play in the Gold National Qualifier. Comments: Eliminates Gold Qualified teams from participating in the Gold National Qualifier.
Article: 516 G	Girls’ Class A USA/ASA Fast Pitch National Championship Finals. 18, 16, 14, 12, 10-Under Defending Champion 1 Runner-Up 1 Host Teams 2 Hall of Fame - Not Applicable For 10-Under 8 National Qualifiers 15 East National Qualifier 1 West National Qualifier 1 Regional Berths - Two Teams from Each Region 30 Returning Teams from the previous year’s USA/ASA National Championship Finals and ASA National Championship Finals 0-16 Association Berths based on previous year’s Girl’s Fast Pitch registrations: Associations registering 201-999 teams, receives one(1) berth, for associations increment of 500 team registrations. As an example,

Article Number	Change
an association that registers 2900 teams would receive 5 total berths. The best way to determine the berths is to take total registered teams and divide by 500 - the number of berths is the whole number - no rounding up. Comments: Adds an East and West National Qualifier to the USA/ASA National Championships.	
Article: 516 J	EFFECTIVE 2012
Junior Olympic GOLD Girls’ 18-Under Fast Pitch Returning Teams from the previous year’s ASA Territorial Nationals Championship Finals	
National Qualifier	4
Regional Champion	2
Regional Berths based on previous Year’s Gold Participation in Regional Play:	15
Region with the highest participation	5
Region with the second highest participation	5
Region with the third highest participation	1
Region with the fourth highest participation	1
Region with the fifth highest participation	1
Region with the sixth highest participation	1
Region with the seventh highest participation	1
Territorial Berths based on previous Year’s Gold Participation in Territorial Play:	15
Territory with the highest participation	12
Territory with the second highest participation	12
Territory with the third highest participation	4
Territory with the fourth highest participation	4
Maximum Possible Number of Teams	32
Comments: Adds 4 berths to the USA/ASA Gold National Championship Finals.	68
Article: 519 G	Delete second sentence Comments: Eliminates reference to having the tournament Report Notarized.
Article: 520 C	Delete 02, 03, 04, 07, 08, and 09; re-number Comments: Deletes reference to Conflict in Schedule, Notification, Rosters, Suspension, Forfeits, and Player Identification for Non-Championship Invitational Tournament Play.
Article: 601 A	New and Re-letter A. The Executive Director of his designee shall negotiate and secure the contract for the ASA Annual Council Meeting. Note: If the Executive Director is unable to secure a contract, letter B takes effect. Comments: Allows the Executive Director to secure a cost effective site for the ASA Annual Council Meeting.
Article: 602 F 01	Tournament Review Committee. Two (2) elected by each Territory and the immediate past president. This Committee can accept or reject bids. Comments: Defines who make up the Tournament Review Committee.
Article: 602 H 09	The Junior Olympic Girls 18 and Under Gold Fast Pitch will be rotated to Oklahoma City every other year and in the off years will be placed in other parts of the country by the Executive Director. Comments: Rotates Gold into Oklahoma City every other year.
Article: 602 H 12	EFFECTIVE 2013 The Men’s Masters Slow Pitch 30-Over and 45-Over will be played at the same site. Comments: Places the Men’s Masters Slow Pitch 35-Over and 45-Over in the same location.
Article: 602 H 13	There will be at least one USA/ASA Junior Olympic National Championship Finals in each Territory. Comments: New process for awarding USA-ASA Junior Olympic National Championship Finals with at least one championship in each territory.
Article: 602 S	Pre-Tournament Fact Sheet. Host city must supply complete information for pre-tournament fact at the conclusion of the council meeting in the year prior to the championship. Failure to do so without a reasonable explanation may result in host city forfeiting right to bid on a National Championship Final for a period of one year and then only with approval of the ASA Executive Director. Comments: Sets deadline for when the Pre-tournament fact sheet is due.
Article: 602 U	New: A National Championship cannot be cancelled without prior approval from the Executive Director. Comments: Establishes a process for canceling a National Championship.
Article: 603 B 01	Umpire Expense. Umpire expenses must include the following: 01. Game fees for adult fast pitch shall be a minimum of \$25.00 per game; game fees for youth fast pitch shall be a minimum of \$25.00 per game; Men’s Major Fast Pitch shall be a minimum of \$25.00 per game and Junior Olympic GOLD fast pitch game fees shall be a minimum of \$25.00 per game. The number of umpires to be assigned per game is addressed in Comments: Sets a minimum game fee for fast umpires.
Article: 603 B 03	03. Housing, local transportation for UIC and \$100.00 per diem/per day for the tournament umpire-in-chief. The UIC shall arrive one day prior to the scheduled opening day of the Championship. Comments: Establishes when a UIC should arrive at a National Championship.
Article: 603 B 05	New 05. The UIC and Assistant UIC (if assigned) may share a room if deemed necessary by the Tournament Host Committee. Comments: Allows the Tournament host the place the UIC and his Assistant in the same hotel room.
Article: 607 B 02 e	New and Re-letter CATEGORY V (49- 96 Teams) Teams Awards First, Second, Third, Fourth and Two (2) Fifth Places Individual Awards First, Second and Third Place Adult Division Only: All-American Awards First Team Awards and Second Team Certificates Batting Champion Leading Hitter

2011 ASA Code Changes with Comments

continued from page 13

Article Number	Change
Home Run Champion MVP	Leading Home Run Hitter Most Valuable Player
CATEGORY VI Teams Awards	(97 - and above Teams) First, Second, Third, Fourth, Two (2) Fifth, and Two (2) Seventh Places First, Second and Third Place
Individual Awards	
Adult Division Only:	
All-American Awards	First Team Awards and Second Team Certificates
Batting Champion	Leading Hitter
Home Run Champion MVP	Leading Home Run Hitter Most Valuable Player
Comments: Establishes a new level of Championship Awards	

Article: 608 **Delete Entire Article**
Comments: This item is addressed in the Rule Book.

Article: 609 E01 Listing of the official order of finish, **Post Tournament fact sheet, and tournament brackets** within 24 hours after conclusion of championship play.
Comments: Adds additional forms that are required to be submitted to the National Office at the conclusion of a Championship.

Article: 609 E 07 **New**
The following additional forms are also required to be submitted with in thirty (30) days after the tournament. Evaluations from teams, ASA Tournament Representative, Umpire-In-Chief and Tournament Director; Souvenir Income Statement; Gate Receipts; Report; and National Income State (tournament budget).
Comments: Adds additional forms that are required to be submitted to the National Office at the conclusion of a Championship.

Rev: 11/24/10

Casual profanity rule defined

Casual profanity pertains to expletives “not directed at the umpires or opposing players, but most likely at the players uttering them as a vent to frustration. This type of profanity is penalized by “OUTS” being declared against the offensive or defensive teams, whichever is guilty of the violations. The above “OUTS” will be treated on a delayed, dead ball situation. Profanity directed at others, especially umpires, will still result in ejection.

Let’s say a team has the bases loaded and the batter pops up to the infield. Immediately he lets out a profanity (fill in your favorite).

What happens if the fielder catches the ball? The batter can’t be called “OUT” because he already is. Therefore, the next batter is out. If the batter would be first up the next inning, that spot will be an OUT. That’s how the penalty is enforced.

If a defensive player “boots” the ball or drops the ball and utters a profanity where it can be heard by the people in the stand the defense is penalized by having their first batter called out when they come to bat. This is the only aspect of the rule, along with carry-over of the third out enforcement on the offensive team, where the rule will have to be enforced

at a later time.

Profanity directed at others, especially umpires, will still result in ejection. If a player is called out on a bang-bang players at first and he utters a word under his breath as he runs by the umpires at first, or curses under his breath because of this poor hit as he was thrown out at first, the CASUAL PROFANITY RULE will not be enforced. That’s because no one but the umpire, and maybe the first baseman has heard him.

THE CASUAL PROFANITY RULE provides a lesser penalty for the gray area between accepted conduct and situations where the offender must be ejected. It has been found that the players police themselves and each other after this happens a couple of times and it has worked for the betterment of softball. It gets players to clean up their act. Early in the year, umpires, in pregame conference, should warn both managers that the CASUAL PROFANITY RULE applies. Failure to do so does not preclude the penalty being enforced. After June 15, this is not required at pre-game conference as all teams should be aware of the rule.

Bismarck to host Men’s National Labor Day tournament features Men’s Class C

The Men’s Class C Northern National tournament returns to Bismarck over the Labor Day weekend. Bismarck was the successful bidder for the tournament during the National Council meeting in Reno, Nevada in the fall of 2009.

Five cities were vying for the tournament including two Minnesota cities, Rochester and Moorhead. Topeka, Kansas and South Bend, Indiana also bid for the tournament. National tournaments are bid two years in advance to allow host cities time to properly prepare for the national events.

Bismarck has held a number of successful national tournament events since their initial

attempt in 1989. Mandan was awarded the Men’s 40 and Over for 2012 at the National Council meeting in Shreveport, Louisiana in November, 2010.

The Northern National Class C to be held in Bismarck will be limited to teams from the Northern Territory which includes 13 states from the Dakotas to Indiana and Kentucky. A tournament committee of veteran softball enthusiasts will be formed to take care of the many details involved in running a successful national softball tournament.

North Dakota cities have been successful in attracting national events in Minot, Mandan, Grand Forks as well as Bismarck.

Girls Slow Pitch Nationals next door Watertown, S.D. Hosts 10 Through 18 Year Olds

Watertown, South Dakota will host the Junior Olympic Slow Pitch National Championship for ages 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under, 16 and under and 18 and under July 28 through 31. What an opportunity for teams from North Dakota to participate in an ASA National Championship event.

Several North Dakota cities located in the southeastern half of North Dakota will be within easy driving distance of this tournament. The cities of Fairmount, Hankinson,

Lidgerwood, Milnor, Lisbon, Napoleon, Valley City, Jamestown, Harvey, Horace and Wahpeton all fielded girl’s slow pitch teams in the state tournament last year and all would be eligible for this national championship event as long as they registered ASA and play in this year’s state tournament.

Teams interested in obtaining more information can contact Girl’s Slow Pitch Commissioner Scott Schafer at the NDASA state office in Jamestown.

2011 State Tournament Dates & Sites

Men’s Slow Pitch		
July 23-24	Masters 40	Mandan
	Masters 60	Mandan
July 30-31	Masters 35	Fargo
	Masters 50	Jamestown
August 6-7	Rec I	Jamestown
	Rec II-East	Grand Forks
	Rec II-West	Minot
August 13-14	Division I	Mandan
	Division II	Mandan
	Division II	Mandan
	Rec III-East	Fargo
	Rec III-West	Minot
	Masters 50 Wood Bat	Mandan
August 20-21	Rec IV-East	Grand Forks
	Rec IV-West	Bismarck
Women’s Slow Pitch		
July 30-31	Masters	Bismarck
August 6-7	Class C	Mandan
	Class D	Mandan
	Rec I	West Fargo
	Rec II-East	Valley City
August 13-14	Rec II-West	Dickinson
	Rec III-East	Devils Lake
	Rec III-West	Bismarck
Coed		
September 10-11	Div. I, II, III, IV	Grand Forks
Junior Olympic		
July 9	GSP 16 & Under	Jamestown
July 10	GSP 18 & Under	Jamestown
July 16	GSP 12 & Under	Jamestown
July 17	GSP 14 & Under	Jamestown
July 23-24	GFP 10 & Under	Bismarck
	GFP 12 & Under	Bismarck
	GFP 14 & Under	Bismarck
	GFP 16 & Under	Bismarck
	GFP 18 & Under	Bismarck

Masters Committee Report

November 30, 2010

Following is the long awaited Masters Committee report.

1. Allow one courtesy runner per inning in Masters 35 (adopt same rule for 35 as presently used in Masters 40).

This is a request from the Masters 35 team managers.

2. Allow pickup players in Masters 35/40 State Tournaments.

a) Maximum 2 pick-up players
b) Maximum 12 players (including pick-ups)

c) Pick-up players must be age qualified and rostered NDASA players

d) Masters 35 Div I – Teams may pick up from any class

35 Div. II – Pick-up players must be Rec I or lower

35 Div III – Pick-up players must be Rec 3 or Rec 4 only

Masters 40 Div I – any class

40 Div II – Pick-up players Rec 2 or below

Pick-up players request came from the team managers. Our committee recommends a pick-up player form be developed that must be turned in prior to a team’s initial game in the tournament.

3. Team managers requested a set classification system for Masters divisions.

a) Masters 35 Div I teams will be any team with 2 or more lettered (A-D) players.

b) Masters 35 Div II will be allowed one (1) lettered player.

c) Masters 35 Div III – no lettered players allowed

Masters 40

a) Any team with a lettered player will be Div I.

b) No lettered players in Div II

Masters Committee requests all rosters be available for the Masters classification meeting in July.

4. Allow 50 & over players to play both the wood bat 50 and Rec 3 State Tournaments, even if they are the same weekend.

This has been requested by both the Master 50 teams and some Rec 3 team managers.

5. ASA bat list will continue to be used as the determination of what is or is not a single wall bat.

6. Committee recommends Masters 60 State Tournament remain in Mandan, until tournament numbers increase.

7. State Tournament site recommendations.

Masters 40/Masters 60 Mandan
Masters 35 Fargo
Masters 50 Jamestown
Wood Bat Mandan

In a non-masters item, we discussed the ongoing issue of upper class players and Rec divisions of play. Our discussion came out with these suggestions.

1) Players not be allowed to play down more than two classes. With this change C players could not play below Rec I, D players could not play below Rec 2, and Rec I players below Rec 3. This change would make Rec 3 & 4 truly recreational softball.

2) In conjunction with this change, we also suggest moving the Div I/II/III tournament back one week, playing it the same weekend as the Rec 3. The upper class teams have requested this change, making the state tournament closer to Nationals. It would allow the upper class players to play in the Rec I/II State Tournaments and eliminate them from the Rec 3.

3) Those present at the Masters Committee Meeting were Jack Jones, Richard Peterson, Graig Good, Steve Granberg, Jack Lukes.

Home Run Rules in Slow Pitch Softball in all Divisions

Slow Pitch HR
WSP HR Rule
Open – Unlimited
C – 4 HR Excess Out
D – 2 HR Excess Out

MSP HR Rule
B – 6 HR Excess Out
C – 4 HR Excess Out
D – 2 HR Excess Out
**(NDASA – Rec – 2 HR Excess Out)

Coed
C – 4 HR Excess Out
D – 2 HR Excess Out

Masters
35 – 4 HR Excess Out
40 – 4 HR Excess Out
45 – 4 HR Excess Out

NDASA 2011 Invitational Tournaments

Men’s Slow Pitch

Date	City	Classifications	Type	Fee	Director
April 16	Fargo	16 C-D, 16 R1-R2, 16- R3-R4	3GG	\$90	Steve Granberg, 2513 4th Ave S, Moorhead, MN 56560, 218-236-5867
May 1	Wahpeton	5 B-D, 5 R1-R2, 5 R3-R4	RR	\$90	Laree Bumgarner, 304 5th St S, Wahpeton, ND 58075, 642-2811
May 7	Mandan	10 C-D, 10 R1-R2, 10 R3-R4	RR	\$125	Bryan Jones, 3804 Saratoga Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504, 426-8704
May 14	Bismarck	8 B-D, 8 R1-R2, 8 R3-R4	4GG	\$125	Scott Kinnischtzke, 4250 Calahan Place, Bismarck, ND 58540
May 15	Fargo	16 R1-R2, 16 R3, R4	3GG	\$90	Sam Martin, 3253 17th Ave SW #303, Fargo, ND 58103, 367-4932
May 15	Minot	35C-R4	3GG	\$100	Tom Landseidel, PO Box 684, Minot, ND 58702, 857-4730
May 20	Wahpeton	8 R3-R4	3GG	\$90	Laree Bumgarner, 304 5th St S, Wahpeton, ND 58075, 642-2811
May 21	Mandan	10 R1-R2, 10 R3-R4	RR	\$100	Brett Charvat, 2123 Missouri Loop N, Mandan, ND 58554, 220-3756
June 4	Bismarck	5 B-C, 5 D, 5 R1, 5 R2, 5 R3, 5 R4	4GG	\$125	Scott Kinnischtzke, 4250 Calahan Place, Bismarck, ND 58540
June 4-5	Grand Forks	6 C-D	RR	\$120	Todd Lafferty, 427 Burdick Ct, Grand Forks, ND 58203, 230-5924
		8 R1-R4	RR		
June 5	Red Willow	5 R3-R4	RR	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
June 10-12	Fargo	16 Open	3GG	\$200	Sam Martin, 3253 17th Ave SW #303, Fargo, ND 58103, 367-4932
	Fargo Classic	24 D	3GG	\$200	
	<i>Money Tournament</i>	16 R1-R2	3GG	\$180	
		32 R3-R4	4GG	\$135	
June 11-12	Center	20 R3-R4	RR	\$100	JD Hanson, Box 1836, Center, ND 58530, 794-8891
June 12	Stump Lake	8 R2-R4	3GG	\$90	Dwight Elfman, 1411 11th Ave SE, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-3928, 351-1560
June 18	Bismarck	8 B-D, 8 R1-R2, 8 R3-R4	4GG	\$125	Scott Kinnischtzke, 4250 Calahan Place, Bismarck, ND 58540
June 19	Devils Lake	6C-R1, 16 R2-R4	RR, 3GG	\$90	Terry Wallace, PO Box 446, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-8243
June 24-26	Bismack-Mandan	8 A-B	DE	\$300	Mike Wolf, 1926 Billings Dr, Bismarck, ND 58504, 400-2255
		24 C	DE	\$200	
		24 D, 24 R1	CC	\$140	
		48 R2	CC	\$140	
		128 R3, 48 R4	CC	\$140	
		16 M35-49	CC	\$140	
		8 M50, 4 M60	CC	\$140	
		D-R1, R2, R3, R4	3GG	\$100	
July 9-10	Dickinson	D-R1, R2, R3, R4	3GG	\$100	Eric Kittleson, 2004 Fairway St, Dickinson, ND 58601, 456-2074
July 9-10	Grand Forks	6 C-D, 8 R1-R2, 8 R3-R4	RR	\$135	Todd Lafferty, 427 Burdick Ct, Grand Forks, ND 58203, 230-5924
July 9-10	Rugby	12 R2-R4	RR	\$110	Mark Hamilton, 1116 Main Ave S, Rugby ND 58368, 208-1373
July 9	Stump Lake	8 R2-R4	3GG	\$90	Dwight Elfman, 1411 11th Ave SE, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-3928, 351-1560
July 10	Prairie Rose	C-R4	3GG	\$95	Mike Wald, Bismarck Parks & Rec, 400 E Front Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504
July 10	Turtle Lake	16 R3-R4	3GG	\$90	Darwin Saari, PO Box 338, Turtle Lake, ND 58575, 448-2596
July 16	Devils Lake	6 C- R1, 16 R2-R4	RR, 3GG	\$90	Terry Wallace, PO Box 446, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-8243
July 16-17	Mandan	16 C-D, 16 R1-R2, 16 R3-R4	DE	\$100	Ryan Steifel, 2612 Berkshire Dr, Bismarck, ND 58503, 222-1702
July 16-17	Oakes <i>Early Entry 7/3</i>	24 R3-R4	3GG	\$100	Bob Ubben, 210 S 7th St, Oakes, ND 58474, 742-2087, 388-3083
July 17	Valley City	5 R1-R2	RR	\$100	Amy Pederson, PO Box 422, Valley City, ND 58072, 845-3294
		8 R3-R4	3GG	\$90	
July 22	Wahpeton	8 R3-R4	3GG	\$90	Laree Bumgarner, 304 5th St S, Wahpeton, ND 58075, 642-2811
July 23-24	Minot	50 C-R4	3GG	\$100	Tom Landseidel, PO Box 684, Minot, ND 58702, 857-4730
July 23-24	Red Willow	24 R3-R4	C&C	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
July 30-31	Red Willow	16 R2-R4	RR	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
August 20-21	Center	16 R3-R4	RR	\$100	JD Hanson, Box 1836, Center, ND 58530, 794-8891
August 20-21	Fargo	16 R1-R2, 16 R3-R4	RR	\$150	Steve Granberg, 2513 4th Ave S, Moorhead, MN 56560, 218-236-5867
August 27-28	Red Willow	16 Open	C&C	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
September 3-4	Grand Rapids	8 Open	3GG	\$75	David Warken, 6989 104th Ave SE, LaMoure Nd 58458, 883-5569
September 3-5	Red Willow	24 Open	3GG	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
September 11	Dickinson	R1-R2, R3-R4	3GG	\$100	Eric Kittleson, 2004 Fairway St, Dickinson, ND 58601, 456-2074

Women’s Slow Pitch

Date	City	Classifications	Type	Fee	Director
May 21	Mandan	5 C-R1, 10 R2-R3	RR	\$100	Brett Charvat, 2123 Missouri Loop N, Mandan, ND 58554, 220-3756
June 4	Bismarck	10 Open	RR	\$95	Cody Remboldt, 32 Eckelson Rd, Lincoln, ND 58504, 751-3843
June 4-5	Grand Forks	6 C-D, 6 R1-R3	RR	\$120	Todd Lafferty, 427 Burdick Ct, Grand Forks, ND 58203, 230-5924
June 10-12	Fargo	12 Open	3GG	\$160	Sam Martin, 3253 17th Ave SW #303, Fargo, ND 58103, 367-4932
<i>Money Tournament</i>	Fargo Classic	8 R1-R3	3GG	\$100	
June 19	Devils Lake	8 R1-R3	3GG	\$90	Terry Wallace, PO Box 446, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-8243
June 24-26	Bismarck-Mandan	12 C	DE	\$200	Mike Wolf, 1926 Billings Dr, Bismarck, ND 58504, 400-2255
		16 D	CC	\$140	
		24 R1	CC	\$140	
		32 R2, 40 R3	CC	\$140	
July 9-10	Dickinson	D-R1, R2-R3	3GG	\$100	Eric Kittleson, 2004 Fairway St, Dickinson, ND 58601, 456-2074
July 9-10	Grand Forks	6 C-D, 6 R1-R3	RR	\$135	Todd Lafferty, 427 Burdick Ct, Grand Forks, ND 58203, 230-5924
July 10	Prairie Rose	C-R3	3GG	\$95	Mike Wald, Bismarck Parks & Rec, 400 E Front Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504
July 15	Wahpeton	8 Open	CC	\$85	Laree Bumgarner, 304 5th St S, Wahpeton, ND 58075, 642-2811
July 16	Devils Lake	8 R1-R3	3GG	\$90	Terry Wallace, PO Box 446, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-8243
July 16-17	Mandan	16 R2-R3	DE	\$100	Ryan Steifel, 2612 Berkshire Dr, Bismarck, ND 58503, 222-1702
July 23-24	Minot	45C & Below	3GG	\$100	Tom Landseidel, PO Box 684, Minot, ND 58702, 857-4730
September 11	Dickinson	R1, R2-R3	3GG	\$100	Eric Kittleson, 2004 Fairway St, Dickinson, ND 58601, 456-2074

Coed Slowpitch

Date	City	Classifications	Type	Fee	Director
May 29-30	Red Willow	16 Open	C&C	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
June 10-12	Fargo	8 Open	3GG	\$100	Sam Martin, 3253 17th Ave SW #303, Fargo, ND 58103, 367-4932
July 3-4	Red Willow	16 Open	C&C	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
July 16	Stump Lake	8 Open	3GG	\$90	Dwight Elfman, 1411 11th Ave SE, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-3928, 351-1560
August 20	Devils Lake	8 Open	3GG	\$100	Terry Wallace, PO Box 446, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-8243
August 21	Red Willow	12 Open	C&C	\$90	Vernis Haines, 1540 County Rd 5, Binford, ND 58416, 676-2061
August 27	Stump Lake	8 Open	3GG	\$90	Dwight Elfman, 1411 11th Ave SE, Devils Lake, ND 58301, 662-3928, 351-1560

Junior Olympic

Date	City	Classifications	Type	Fee	Director
June 11	Valley City	8 18U Fast Pitch	4GG	\$110	Amy Pederson, PO Box 422, Valley City, ND 58072, 845-3294
June 18-19	West Fargo	18U	TBA	\$250	Terry Greenlund, 7316 Elm Court, Horace, ND 58047, 238-7731
		14U	TBA	\$250	
		12U	TBA	\$250	
		10U	TBA	\$200	
		12 Youth	TBA	TBA	
June 24-26	Bismarck-Mandan	12 Youth	TBA	TBA	Mike Wolf, 1926 Billings Dr, Bismarck, ND 58504, 400-2255
	<i>The McQuade</i>				



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LODGING COMPANIES



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Fairfield Inn-North
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Fairfield Inn-South
223.9293

Grand Forks

Fairfield Inn
775.7910

Minot

Fairfield Inn
838.2424



BY CHOICE HOTELS

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Comfort Inn-East
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Comfort Inn-West
282.9596

Comfort Suites
237.5911

Econo Lodge
232.3412

Grand Forks

Comfort Inn
775.7503

Jamestown

Comfort Inn
252.7125

Wahpeton

Comfort Inn
642.1115



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(Before it's too late.)
Entry Deadline:
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Or when division
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36TH ANNUAL

Sam McQuade Sr./Budweiser Charity Softball Tournament 2011 Entry Form

City - _____ Team Name - _____

Men's Team - _____ Classification - _____ Women's Team - _____ Classification - _____

(If you are a Men's Rec 3 or 4 team, you must be able to play on Friday night unless special arrangements are made.)

Manager's Name: _____

Manager's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Manager's Telephone (H): _____ (W): _____ (Cell): _____

E-mail Address (Please print clearly!): _____

To Register - Fill out the area above and mail it to: The Sam McQuade Sr./Budweiser Charity Softball Tournament; P.O. Box 1196; Bismarck, ND 58502-1196.
Look up your entry fee on our website <www.mcquades.com> and mail it in with this form. Verify your entry by ensuring your check was cashed or e-mailing us <mcquadesoftball@yahoo.com>.

For more information & to see last year's winning teams, go to www.mcquades.com or call us at 1-800-735-6589!

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