

March 2020

# USA SOFTBALL OF MICHIGAN



of Michigan

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## Blues Across Michigan Newsletter

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### Umpire Spotlight:

Ed Flores

USA Softball of Michigan Blues Across Michigan wants to recognize multiple USA Softball Umpires from the USA Softball of Michigan program every month for their accomplishments on the field in the local area, state or national championships as well as how they have given back to the game off the field.

Being recognized does not always relate to the number of national or state championships an umpire has participated in. This honor encompasses an umpire's accomplishments, both on and off the field, in their local area and district in addition to their contributions at the state or national level.

These umpires represent what being a member of the USA Softball of Michigan umpire family is all about and bring attention to the wide-spread and diverse umpire community in our program across the state.

For March we are recognizing an individual from our program that has given a lot of time in helping out at the local level and excelling at the national level.



**Ed Flores**

**District 08**



From left: Craig Kuipers, Ed Flores, Dawn Carson, and Tess Layman in Salem, VA



Ed with Libby Duistermars

One of the most impressive things about Ed Flores is his ability to make games at any level a positive and fun experience. It could be a national championship final or a Coed Fall league tournament championship and Ed Flores will umpire those games with the same passion, enthusiasm, and positive spirit. His love for the game is contagious and he is, by far, one of the most recognized and respected umpires we have in our program and especially in District 8. Ed has been a registered umpire with USA/ASA since 1985. He has worked five USA national tournaments and 70+ USA/ASA state tournaments. He has umpired numerous MHSAA games including two MHSAA state finals. He is also an NCAA umpire, and has been for over fifteen years. Most importantly, for Holland Area Softball, he has been a part of our staff for over twenty years. However, what some may not know is that Ed

is one of the absolute best Wrestling officials in all of Michigan. In fact, he has worked twenty-nine state wrestling finals for the MHSSA in his career and is going back again this year.

Ed Flores is a valuable and knowledgeable umpire that finds the positive in every game. Even if you're on the losing team...if you had Ed Flores as an umpire, you probably still had fun. That is not an easy thing for any umpire to do but for Ed, it's just a part of his nature... and he excels at it! Holland Area Softball, USA Softball of Michigan, and USA Softball (nationally) are very blessed to have the caliber and quality of umpiring that Ed provides each and every game.

Thank you, Eddie Flores!