A note from Amateur Softball Association President E.T. Colvin

I want to extend my congratulations to all our 2013 Junior Olympic (JO) National Champions! It takes a lot of hard work and dedication from these young athletes to make it to an ASA National Championship and we hope that you all enjoyed it from start to finish.

To all our tournament directors, volunteers, hosting cities and staff members, thank you for giving ASA/USA Softball another great National Championship season! Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

I recently attended the Pan American Games Qualifier in San Juan, Puerto Rico with our Women's National Team. It was another great international event for softball and Team USA went undefeated to claim the Gold Medal. It was an impressive showing by such a young group of athletes and they represented our organization very well!

As you all know, softball has a huge week ahead of it as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) votes on softball/baseball’s Olympic future on September 8. I strongly encourage you to help support softball’s Olympic reinstatement by visiting PlayBall2020.com. Spread the word to your teams, leagues and staff members!

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Men's Super Slow Pitch returns!

Hortenbach Auto/Easton claimed the first Super Slow Pitch title since 2003 as they blasted past Sonny’s in the Championship Game at the Super Slow Pitch Championship. Held at the historic Midway Stadium, H. Auto/Easton combined for 10 homeruns, including three from tournament MVP Brian Wegman, and 27 hits to defeat Sonny’s 29-14 in five innings.

Sonny’s scored first after Jeremy Davis reached on a throwing error by the second baseman. With one runner on, Chris Greiner hit his third home run of the day to take an early 2-0 lead. The lead would not last long as H. Auto/Easton pushed eight runs across the board in the bottom of the first off seven hits, four of which by way of a home run. Bryson Baker led off with a walk, followed by a Wegman home run. Kevin Filby sent a line drive to the right field wall before Geno Buck connected for the long ball to clear the bases. A walk to Chad Durick set up another scoring opportunity for H. Auto/Easton as Sam Lopez hit a homer and Brian Rainwater followed with another shot out of the park. H. Auto/Easton would add an additional run as Luis Reyna scored on a walk to Wegman.

Sonny’s closed the lead in the top of the second inning as Sammy Christensen hit a double to plate Alexis Ramirez for the first run of the inning. A walk to Davis put two runners on before Kevin Ballard hit an RBI single to plate...
A note from The Inside Pitch editor
Codi Warren

Hello everyone and welcome to the August 2013 issue of The Inside Pitch, the official newsletter of the Amateur Softball Association of America (ASA) and USA Softball.

I hope everyone had a great time at their respective ASA/USA Softball National Championships! It was so much fun to keep up with all the athletes who “tweeted” their excitement about participating at the highest level of youth softball!

With the conclusion of our JO summer season, we now turn our sights on our Adult National Championships. We just wrapped up the Men’s Super Slow Pitch Championship in Minnesota, which I was fortunate enough to attend. What an exciting three days of men’s slow pitch softball! For the first time in 10 years, eight teams competed in the slug fest to earn their place in slow pitch history.

For those of you who haven’t submitted their photos from an ASA National Championship, please email or mail those to me as soon as possible.

If you have a news item or photo that you’d like to submit for next month’s Inside Pitch, please send me an electronic copy by September 15th.

Thank you for keeping up with ASA/USA Softball! See you all next month!

Help promote MLB’s Pitch, Hit and Run! Check out the flyer on the portal!

The InsIde PIt Ch August 2013

The Inside Pitch
Official newsletter of ASA/USA Softball
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Going, going...gone!

A nice action shot from the Adirondack Girls Softball League (AGSL) 14-Under Championship Game in Florida, N.Y. © Dave Wallin-Eddy

You make the call!
Out...or safe?

A play at the plate during the 10-Under Class A National Championship.

A close call at first base during the 14-Under Class A Northern National Championship.

A play from the Adirondack Girls Softball League (AGSL) 14-Under Championship Game in Florida, N.Y. © Dave Wallin-Eddy
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Christensen, Griener picked up two more RBI with a triple and Bryce Oliveira hit a home run to clear the bases. H. Auto/Easton extended their lead in the bottom half of the inning, scoring an additional five runs off five hits. An RBI by Buck, a grand slam from Durick and a solo shot by Reyna and H. Auto/Easton led 13-8 heading into the third inning.

Sonny’s was kept off the board in the top of the third as a groundout to third and a fly out to left field recorded the first two outs. Christensen connected for a single, but Aaron Martinez hit into a fielder’s choice to get Christensen out at second.

Wegman hit his second home run of the game to start off the bottom of the third inning. A double by Filby and a single from Scott Kirby put two runners on base as Brett Helmer plated Filby with a single to right field. An error by the second baseman put Buck on first as Kirby scored before Durick hit a three-run homer. After three complete innings, H. Auto/Easton led 19-8.

A single by Davis and a walk to Ballard put the first two runners on base for Sonny’s in the top of the fourth. A single by Griener plated Davis before Griener was thrown out at second for the first out of the inning, in which Ballard scored. Carl Blank hit a single, scoring Oliveira and Ramirez sent a shot over left field to score an additional two runs. H. Auto/Easton plated another two runs in the bottom of the fourth on two sac-fly’s via Baker and Kirby.

Sonny’s pushed across one more run in the top of the fifth after Ballard hit a sac-fly to right field to plate Martinez. Needing just eight runs to claim the run-rule victory, H. Auto/Easton did just that as they combined for two home runs and seven hits. Lopez connected for a single to score Buck, Reyna hit an RBI single to score Durick and a double by Kevin Bazat plated Lopez and Rainwater. With two runners on, Baker hit a home run to clear the bases. With no outs and no runners on, Wegman hit a solo shot to end the game after five, with H. Auto/Easton taking the 29-14 win.

This marks the first time since 2003 that a Champion has been named in the Super Slow Pitch Division. The first Men’s Super Slow Pitch National Championship took place in 1981 in Burlington, N.C., where Howard’s/Western Steer (Denver, Colo.) claimed the inaugural Championship and Hall of Fame member Rick “The Crusher” Scherr took home the MVP title. Throughout the 22-year existence of the Super division, 12 teams were crowned champions, with Ritch’s Superior (Windsor Locks, Conn.) and Steele’s Silver Bullets (Grafton, Ohio) leading the pack with four championships apiece.

For a complete bracket, box scores and results, please visit USASoftball.com.

### 2013 ASA Men’s Super Slow Pitch FIRST Team

**All- American Team**

- Matt Pesso - Sonny’s
- Bryson Baker - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Andy Shiltz - Rip City/DeMarini
- Scott Kirby - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Bryce Oliveira - Sonny’s
- Donavan Prokraka - Rip City/DeMarini
- Westy Guill - Sonny’s
- Brian Rainwater - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Brian Wegman - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Chad Durick - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Landon Helm - Team Combat
- Brett Helmer - Hortenbach Auto/Easton
- Dale Brungardt - Rip City/DeMarini
- Chris Griener - Sonny’s
- Dan Bean - Sonny’s
- Kevin Bazat - Hortenbach Auto/Easton

**Batting Champion:** Donavan Prokraka - Rip City/DeMarini - hitting .800

**Co-HR Champion:** Dale Brundardt (Rip City/DeMarini) & Bryce Oliveira (Sonny’s) - 7 HR

**Most Valuable Player:** Brian Wegman – Hortenbach Auto/Easton
Traveling this Summer?
Why not stay where Team USA stays? Save up to 15% by staying at any hotel in the Hilton Honors portfolio of brands!
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ASA/USA Softball recently announced the selection of Denny Bruckert (Gillespie, Ill.) as the head coach of the USA Softball Men’s Fast Pitch National Team for the 2013-16 seasons. Bruckert has previous USA Softball coaching experience, serving as an assistant coach at the 1996 International Softball Federation (ISF) Men’s World Championship (fourth place finish) and at the 1999 Pan American Games, where the team earned a silver medal.

“Tím very grateful, excited, humbled and honored to be selected as the head coach for the Men’s National Team,” said Bruckert. “I’m looking forward to working with the best of the best in men’s fast pitch softball and bringing the history and tradition of winning back to the Men’s National Team Program. With everyone pulling together, I’m ready to get this program back to the highest level.”

Bruckert has over 20 years of coaching experience in men’s softball and has coached seven ASA Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship squads. He coached the Decatur Pride to back-to-back National Championships in 1994 and 1995 and added another in 1999 prior to the team’s disbanding. Bruckert would add another three Men’s Major Fast Pitch titles to his resume: in 2002 with the St. Joseph Frontier Casino Players, in 2005 with the Tampa Bay Smokers and in 2006 with the Green Bay Circle Tap. Most recently, Bruckert claimed the 2012 Men’s Major title with the New York Gremlins and earned a runner-up finish at the 2013 National Championship.

“We’re excited to welcome Denny back to the National Team Program,” said ASA and USA Softball Executive Director Ron Radigonda. “He has a long and storied career with ASA/USA Softball, both on an National and International level, which will greatly impact our current and future athletes.”

Bruckert is a member of the Illinois ASA Hall of Fame and earned softball’s highest honor with his induction into the National Softball Hall of Fame in 2012.
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By Chris Derrick  
The (Spokane) Spokesman-Review

Renee Stewart delivered rosebushes and a request to her softball players this year. Plant this in a special place, she said. Follow its progress through the years and think of our time together whenever you see it.

Renee’s husband, Jamie, considered the gift a perfect symbol.

“By planting the rosebush, they can watch it grow like we watched them grow,” Jamie said.

This summer, the Stewarts are fulfilling a promise they made to young girls who have matured into some of the area’s finest high school players.

This is the final season for the Spokane Dawgs, the Stewarts’ decade-old ASA club team that competes in the Spokane Girls Fastpitch Softball Association.

The Stewarts have juggled as many as five Dawgs teams per year, but their farewell season will be limited to an 18-U team that, to them, is like a second family.

Although their real family, daughters Amanda, 19, and Emily, 17, stopped playing softball a few years back, the Stewarts didn’t want to disband the Dawgs without a sense of completion.

“I felt like we should do this or I’d be doing a disservice to the girls we had taken on,” Renee said. “I told them I would take them all the way up to 18-U.”

From the start, the team’s motto has been: “Once a Dawg, always a Dawg.”

“We’ve just always been loyal to our girls and that’s why I think they’ve stayed together for so long,” Renee said.

Renee had never heard of club softball when someone approached her at a T-ball game a decade ago and suggested that her daughters were ready for the next level.

She attended a couple of club games and was impressed enough to form a 10-U team. The Stewarts especially wanted a team for girls who would attend North Central, the school from which they graduated in 1989.

The 10-U team took its lumps during the first season, but Renee vowed to shrink the talent gap. She attended board meetings, became a board member and is now the organization’s president.

Using Renee’s background in softball and Jamie’s knowledge of baseball, the couple started identifying talent. Among the players who grew up with the Dawgs are Malia Wash, Emily Ebaugh, Hannah Wafstet and Tamiya Tisdale, all named to the All-Greater Spokane League first team this year after guiding NC to the Greater Spokane League co-championship.

An indication of the impact of their program, eight of the 10 teams in the GSL had present or former Dawgs. And seven of the nine starters for both North Central and State 2B runner-up Northwest Christian, which Jamie coaches during the school season, have Dawgs’ ties.

Ebaugh’s story stuck with the Stewarts. During her first year with the Dawgs, Ebaugh came to every practice and game, despite knowing she couldn’t play because of a broken ankle suffered while playing basketball. The Stewarts converted Ebaugh from an outfielder to a catcher, because of her “tenacity,” and next year she’ll play for Bloomfield (N.J.) College.

“That’s the fun thing about coaching kids,” Jamie said. “You see those little stories that nobody else gets to see.”

Renee (Acosta) moved to Spokane as a sophomore and played softball for three seasons at NC. She started noticing Jamie when he wandered by Franklin Park during her games. Friends introduced them and they have been inseparable since their senior year at NC. Both also attended Eastern Washington University.

Jamie started coaching as a volunteer at NC about six years ago. He was hired on the following year and stayed with the program until he accepted the head coaching position at Northwest Christian last year. The Crusaders have placed second at the last two State 2B tournaments.

“Girls we coached with the Dawgs wanted him to apply for that (NWC) position,” Renee said. “He has a different temperament. He’s not obnoxious. You see smiles on the kids’ faces when he’s there.”

Daughter Amanda assisted Jamie as a volunteer at NWC this spring. Her interest in school counseling and coaching leaves her parents hopeful that she might revive the Dawgs in the future.

Renee, a paralegal, will continue to serve as SGFSA president and hopes to someday serve as Jamie’s assistant coach. The two have been reluctant to work as co-coaches with the Dawgs because of their different demeanors and coaching strategies.

“We’ve actually done better coaching against each other,” Jamie said. “Every year we have a Dawgs vs. Dawgs game. Our parents laugh when we are in the dugout together because the husband-wife relationship comes out sometimes.”

Editor’s note: The Dawgs’ final season had a storybook ending. They went 12-0 in winning their division in the Spokane Girls Fastpitch Softball Association, allowing just 24 runs while scoring 103.
ASA/USA Softball National Championships
ASA in the 1980s

From its humble beginnings, the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America and USA Softball has become one of the nation’s leading sports organizations. As the association celebrates its past 80 years in 2013, numerous individuals have helped make ASA/USA Softball the nation’s foremost softball organization. Here, we salute those who played a vital role in the sixth decade of ASA/USA Softball’s history.

The 1980s

Milestones: The ASA Hall of Fame Stadium was completed in 1987, ensuring its future as the “Mecca of Softball.” That same year, softball celebrated its centennial.

Great Players of the Era: Mike Macenko of the Steele’s Silver Bullets, a left handed second baseman, established a single season slow pitch home run record with 844 in 1987. He had 1,534 RBI and batted .744.

Michele Granger won three consecutive Bertha Ticket awards (1986-88) as the outstanding pitcher in the Women’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship. Dot Richardson earned the Erv Lind award as the top defensive player in the National Championship four times (1981, 1984, 1986-87) playing for the Orlando Rebels and the Raybestos Brakettes.

Rick “The Crusher” Scherr smashed 2,985 home runs and drove in 6,021 runs while hitting .710 during the decade for Howard’s-Western Steer and Superior Apollo.

Teams to Remember: Steele’s Sports/Silver Bullets (Grafton, Ohio) won three consecutive Super Division titles while Howard’s-Western Steer (Denver, N.C.) captured back-to-back National titles (1983-84).

The Spooks (Anoka, Minn.) led by Hall of Famer Carol Bemis and Linda Polley captured consecutive titles in 1983-84.

Pay n’ Pak (Seattle, Wash.) equaled the record of Fort Wayne Zollner Pistons by winning three consecutive Men’s Major FP titles from 1985-87.

Ritch’s Salvage (Harrisburg, N.C.) became the first team to win both the Super and Major SP titles in 1989. Sikorsky Aircraft (Stratford, Conn.) dominated the Major Industrial SP Division, winning four titles (1980, ‘82, ‘84 and ‘87).
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Fourth Annual Donna Newberry Memorial Tournament

Cambridge, Ohio held the fourth annual Donna Newberry Memorial Tournament June 21-23. Newberry is the all-time winningest coach in the history of NCAA Division III softball and achieved 906 wins before her death in November of 2010.

Sixty-two teams (ranging from 10-Under to 18-Under) competed in the three day tournament with 750 families and 2,500 people attending.

District 14 of the Ohio ASA donated $1,000 to the Muskingum University Softball program, the university where Newberry earned her notoriety.

Pictured (L to R): ASA Umpire Mike McKee, Jane Sherman, Muskingum Head Coach Kari Hoying and ASA Umpire Tony Lashley.

ASA loses legendary Hall of Famer Frank DeLuca

Frank DeLuca (Stratford, Conn.), beloved husband of Grace Lundgren DeLuca, entered into eternal rest on Monday, August 5, 2013. Frank was born in Bridgeport to the late Ralph and Theresa (Costanzo) DeLuca. He was a graduate of Harding High School and had served for two years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a true humanitarian and a friend to all. Frank had a smile for everyone. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved Stratford and softball. His family was everything to him.

Frank headed Textron Lycoming’s Employee and Community Services program from 1958 until his retirement in 1991. He was responsible for the company’s recreation program, community relations, corporate contributions and employee services.

In 1965, the National Industrial Recreation (NESRA) selected Frank as one of the first Certified Industrial Administrators in the nation. Under Frank’s supervision, Lycoming compiled one of the most outstanding blood donation records in the nation, which set State and National records for single day’s bloodmobile visits on three occasions. President Lyndon B. Johnson cited Frank, the company and its employees for “distinguished service” to Connecticut’s Blood Program, breaking records in December 1967, and April 1968. In 1971, President Richard M. Nixon recognized Frank’s efforts with an award for Blood Services work in the Stratford Community. Frank also administered Lycoming’s Employee Community Services Fund, a vehicle for charitable giving.

An active participant in sports himself, Frank was a noted performer on the company’s top basketball and softball teams. He was the Chairman of the first very successful Easter Seals Marathon, in which over 75 teams participated, raising over $25,000 for the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center. In 1963, Frank was inducted into the Harding High School Football Hall of Fame. He received the Stratford Junior Chamber of Commerce “Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award” in 1964, and the “Raymond J. O’Connor Man of the Year” memorial community service award. In 1974, he received the Citizens Community Service Award from the Stratford Old Timers Association, and he was inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame.

Frank is survived by his beloved wife, Grace Lundgren DeLuca; son, Gary DeLuca; daughter, Karen Zayas and her husband, Louie; his “pride and joy” granddaughter, Devin Zayas; sister, Regina Gatto and her husband, Andrew, of Bridgeport; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two brothers, Ralph and Dominick; and his sister, Margaret DeLuca. - See more by clicking here.
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USA wins Gold at Mayor’s Cup and Pan Am Games Qualifier

The U.S. claimed its first Gold Medal of the 2013 season in an anti-climatic turn of events as rain caused a cancellation of the Championship Game at the Mayor’s Cup in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The team had an impressive showing at the Mayor’s Cup despite rain delays and game cancellations. The Red, White and Blue outscored opponents 30-8 with the pitching staff combining for a 1.88 ERA. The offense continued to roll as the team collected 26 hits for a .299 batting average.

Team USA followed the Mayor’s Cup with another Gold as they came away with an 8-1 run-rule victory over Canada to claim the Gold at the Pan Am Games Qualifier. In five innings, the U.S. put up 7 hits, three of which by way of a homerun, and completed the tournament with a perfect 9-0 record. As a team, they hit an impressive .378 throughout the week outscoring opponents 84-4. The pitching staff held opponents to a .165 batted average, combining for an ERA of 1.05 while recording six shutout victories.

“Our team just keeps getting better and better,” said Head Coach Ken Eriksen. “We still have a long way to go, but we are doing some things now that I like. The girls aren’t worried about any personal agendas and they’ve really taken on a philosophy of ‘What can I do to make this team better’. I’m impressed with their attitude of giving it up for those three letters across their chest and not the name on the back of the uniform.”

Lefty Sara Nevins (Pineallas Park, Fla.) earned her fourth win of the tournament after throwing four and a third innings. She tallied a team-leading 24 strikeouts in 21.1 innings pitched over the week with a 1.64 ERA.

USA put runners in scoring position right away in the top of the first inning when Canada’s starter Sara Plourde issued back-to-back walks to Michelle Moultrie (Jacksonville, Fla.) and Raven Chavanne (Thousand Oaks, Calif.). Lauren Gibson (Pasadena, Md.) then came in to pitch for the U.S. with one out and two runners on. Chavanne led off with a walk before Taylor Hoagland connected for her third home run of the Qualifier to plate two runs for the Red, White and Blue.

Hoagland’s two-run homer prompted a pitching change for Canada as Jocelyn Cater entered in relief for Plourde. Cater issued a walk to Taylor Thom (Cedar Park, Texas) before Lindsey Ziegenhirt (Elk Grove, Calif.) advanced Thom 60 ft. with a sac-bunt. Another walk to Moultrie put two runners on base for Chavanne who sent a long ball over right field fence for USA’s second home run of the inning, extending the lead to 6-0.

With one out in the bottom of the second, Nevins nicked Kelsey Haberl to put another Canadian runner on base. A wild pitch by Nevins sent Haberl to second, but Ziegenhirt quickly grabbed the loose ball to connect with Thom at the bag to record out No. 2. Nevins then issued a walk to Megan Timpf, but Chavanne snagged a ground out to strand Timpf at first.

Cater silenced the U.S. bats for the first time in the game with a series of long balls to the outfield. In the bottom of the third inning, Canada threatened to score when they loaded the bases. A leadoff single by Natalie Wideman was followed by Caitlin Lever fielder’s choice in which both runners advanced safely. Arioto snagged a bunt from Victoria Hayward to get the first out of the inning before an intentional walk to Jennifer Yee loaded the bases. Nevins came up with a big strikeout to Canada’s cleanup hitter and a flyout to Chamberlain in right field squashed the rally without a run allowed.

USA threatened to score in the top of the fourth inning after Ziegenhirt sent a long ball over center, but a great snag by Lever gave the U.S. two outs before Cater issued her third strikeout of the game to retire the side in order. Haberl led off the bottom of the inning with a single, but two popups and a strikeout by Nevins cleared the bases to bring the eagles back to bat.

USA sealed the game in the top of the fifth when Chavanne hit a single up the middle to lead off the inning. Gibson moved the runner to second with a sac-bunt before Arioto sent a shot over the left field fence to push the U.S. lead to 8-0. Chamberlain followed with a single to prompt another pitching change for Canada as Marina Demore entered the circle. With two outs, Hoagland hit a shot to center field who made the catch for out No. 3.

Canada prevented the shutout in the bottom of the fifth after Lever reached on a hit-by-pitch. Hayward moved Lever to second with a groundout to Gibson before Yee hit a single to left field to plate Lever. Two passed balls moved Yee to third before Cheridan Hawkins (Anderson, Calif.) entered the circle for the U.S. Hawkins came in the game with a full count on Jennifer Gilbert, and a ball walked Gilbert put runners on the corners. Jessica Moore (Sutter, Calif.) then came in to pitch for the U.S. with one out and two runners on. Chamberlain, who moved to first base, snagged a shot to record the second out of the inning and keep Yee at third before a popup to Moore ended the game.

Canada recorded just three hits in the contest and finished the tournament at 9-3 overall earning the silver medal. Cuba also shared the podium with the bronze medal after falling to Canada 2-0 earlier in the day.

USA will now turn its sights toward the 2014 International Softball Federation (ISF) World Championships. At last year’s World Championship, Team USA Japan in the finals, where they fell 2-1 in a 10-inning shootout.
Being a family member of Team USA has it’s benefits.

Take advantage of partnership travel discounts.

United has flown Team USA for over 30 years, and we strive to be the airline of choice for Olympic family members as well. That’s why we offer discounted fares for USOC/NGB associated events. Go to united.com/USOC to book your flight, or to learn more.
Southern California ASA awards scholarships

The SO Cal ASA awarded $40,000 in scholarships at the SO Cal ASA Scholarship Luncheon at Marie Calender’s Restaurant on August 11, 2013. These scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors who played recreational and travel softball and do not have full ride scholarships.

SO Cal ASA stresses “student athlete” and these awards are given directly to their higher education of choice. This scholarship program has grown since it first began in 1995 when a $500.00 scholarship was awarded.

Applications sought for New Mexico and North Dakota Commissioner

ASA/USA Softball is seeking applicants for the position of Commissioner for the North Dakota ASA and New Mexico ASA associations.

The ASA/USA Softball Commissioner should be an individual who is interested in serving as the principal liaison between the local association and the ASA National Office. Those interested in the complete duties of an ASA/USA Softball Commissioner may review them on the ASA website at ASASoftball.com under the About ASA section and ASA Procedural Manual Article 105.

A panel will interview and make their recommendation of an interim commissioner to the ASA/USA Board of Directors for confirmation. If a qualified candidate is not appointed by the next ASA Council Meeting, the Board of Directors will make a recommendation to the entire Council regarding whether or not the association is to be merged with another.

The ASA was founded in 1933 and has evolved into the strongest softball organization in the country. The growth and development of the association led the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) to name the ASA as the National Governing Body of Softball, pursuant to the Amateur Sports Act of 1978.

Those interested in serving as the ASA/USA Commissioner for the North Dakota ASA or New Mexico ASA association should forward a resume to:
Amateur Softball Association
c/o Craig Cress, Director of Membership Services
2801 NE 50th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
E-mail: ccress@softball.org
Fax: 405-424-3855

Résumés must be received at the National Office by September 16, 2013. Any questions regarding this position should be directed to Craig Cress, Director of Membership Services for the Amateur Softball Association.
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It is that time of the year again! The Liberty Mutual Insurance Responsible Sports Fall Community Grant period opens on September 1. The Community Grant is a great opportunity for your softball club or team to earn money. You can use the grant towards purchasing equipment, team uniforms, travel funds, player scholarships or whatever you may need! You can be the next winner from ASA Softball just like the Texas Vipers99 youth girls softball team who earned a grant in the Fall 2012 period.

Simply register your organization and then reach out to rally parents, coaches and team supporters to go online and review either the Responsible Sport Parenting or Responsible Coaching guide, take the quiz and give their point to your organization. The top 5 organizations in each division (3 divisions) at the close of the grant period will earn $2,500.

Get started today!

ASA/USA Softball recently announced the host cities for two USA Softball National Coaching Schools presented by Liberty Mutual Insurance in the coming months. The schools, which feature instruction from current and former USA Softball Women's National Team coaches, will take place in Reynoldsburg, Ohio Sept. 6-8, 2013, and Livermore, Calif. Nov. 22 – Nov 24, 2013.

To download an application, please [click here](#). The schools feature first-hand instruction from members of the USA Softball Women's National Team coaching staff including Head Coach Ken Eriksen (University of South Florida) and assistant Mike White (University of Oregon). Portions of the school will also feature former USA Softball Women's National Team Head Coach turned USA Softball Director of Coaching Education Mike Candrea (University of Arizona). Candrea led the program to a Gold and Silver Medal at the Olympic Games as well as numerous other medals in international competition before retiring from his USA Softball coaching duties in 2008.

After the opening of the school on Friday, Eriksen will address the audience on the state of USA Softball and his time with the USA Softball Women's National Team. Other Friday classes are “Beginning Pitching” with White and “Practice Organization” with Candrea.

Saturday and Sunday’s instruction includes classes on both defense and offense as well as base running, hitting, pitching and fielding. Candrea will also speak on the Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports program. The National Coaching School concludes Sunday morning with a question and answer session with the staff.

Please [click here](#) for cost and registration information.
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