making the team

Seventeen athletes, including two rookies, were offered a contract to play for the 2010 Women’s National Team

The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America announced on Jan. 11 the 17 athletes who were offered a USA Softball Athlete Agreement for the 2010 season. The final roster for the 2010 USA Softball Women’s National Team (WNT) will be announced in March with the team competing in the International Softball Federation’s (ISF) Women’s World Championships, June 23-July 2, 2010 in Caracas, Venezuela as well as other events to be scheduled at a later date.

The athletes who were offered a USA Softball athlete agreement for 2010 are: Monica Abbott (Salinas, Calif.); Chelsea Bramlett (Cordova, Tenn.); Eileen Canney (Paradise, Calif.); Ashley Charters (Beaverton, Ore.); Kaitlin Cochran (Yorba Linda, Calif.); Andrea Duran (Selma, Calif.); Jennie Finch (La Mirada, Calif.); Vicky Galindo (Union City, Calif.); Alissa Haber (Newark, Calif.); Ashley Hansen (Chandler, Ariz.); Ashley Holcombe (Fayetteville, Ga.); Lauren Lappin (Anaheim, Calif.); Caitlin Lowe (Tustin, Calif.); Jessica Mendoza (Camarillo, Calif.); Cat Osterman (Houston, Texas); Natasha Watley (Irvine, Calif.); and Tammy Williams (Roscoe, Mo.).

Fifteen of the athletes played on the 2009 WNT while Canney and Williams would be making their first appearance on the team if they accept their contract.

The following 13 athletes selected from the selection camp will be alternates on the 2010 USA Softball Women’s National Team: Valerie Arioto (Pleasanton, Calif.); Brandice Balschmiter (Newark, N.Y.); Courtney Bures (Haymarket, Va.); Molly Johnson (Lexington, Ky.); Megan Langenfeld (Bakersfield, Calif.); Brittany Lastrapes (Laguna Niguel, Calif.); Jenae Leses (Fair Oaks, Calif.); Stacey Nelson (Los Alamitos, Calif.); Amber Patton (Forsyth, Ill.); Britanny Rogers (Dacula, Ga.); Melissa Roth (Long Beach, Calif.); Taylor Schlopy (West Hills, Calif.); and Angela Tincher (Eagle Rock, Va.).

Continue to check out www.usasoftball.com for the most-up-to-date info including roster and schedule.

January 2010

The Inside Pitch
Official Newsletter of the Amateur Softball Association of America

A note from Amateur Softball Association President Andy Dooley

Happy New Year!
I hope each of our Junior Olympic (JO) Commissioners have scheduled their trip for the workshop on February 4-6 in Oklahoma City, Okla. It should be a great learning experience for everyone. The schedule and agenda should be forwarded to you in the next few weeks.

For those of you that have gone live on registerasa.com, I want to thank each of you for your patience and working with us through the transition. If you haven’t been scheduled to go live, please contact the National Office as soon as you can. Teams are ready to get this completed.

The final numbers for registrations are out. Congratulations to all of the associations who exceeded their previous numbers. I hope each of you will set your goals to have increases at all levels of play for 2010.

I would like to thank all of the local associations that I have visited with your meetings as of this month. If you would like me to attend your local meetings please send me a note where I can see if it can be scheduled. If not this year we will schedule your association for 2011.

If you would like to be placed on a certain committee for the next council meeting, please let me know soon at piedmontasa@verizon.net. I’ve already made a first draft.

Please keep up the good work. Thanks again for all you do to help make Amateur Softball Association of America (ASA) the best it can be.

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• Page 12 | Massachusetts softball united as one association
A note from The Inside Pitch editor
Jamie Blanchard

Thank you for all of the feedback on the December 2009 issue of The Inside Pitch. It was great to hear from so many different associations. In the new year, I hope to incorporate all of your ideas so the newsletter can better serve the entire association.

Remember, if you would like to have a news item or photo included in The Inside Pitch, send it to me electronically during the first week of the month at jblanchard@softball.org. Any items, including photos, not submitted by the deadline may not be included. Please plan ahead to allow yourself enough time to submit items about your association.

Other duties that I am taking over from Bill Plummer, who is now enjoying his retirement, include two at the Council Meeting: the awards luncheon and the trade show. I am also working with the local associations Hall of Fame.

Holly Krivokapich has taken over the National Softball Hall of Fame and Museum as well as the Hall of Fame inductions. She’s already overseen a lot of remodeling efforts in the Hall of Fame – those of you joining us at the Junior Olympic (JO) are in for a treat.

If you have any ideas on how I can make things better, please let me know anytime at jblanchard@softball.org. Holly would love to hear from you too at hollyk@softball.org.

We appreciate the feedback and help.

Happy 2010 everyone. Hope to see all of you again - or meet you for the first time - sometime in the New Year.
Andrew Lawrence of Sports Illustrated's SI.com named USA Softball's left-handed pitcher Cat Osterman as one of the 20 female athletes of the decade. She placed No. 17 on the list, which was topped by No. 1 Serena Williams (tennis) and No. 2 Annika Sorenstam (golf). Here is what Lawrence wrote:

"Few were as dominant on the softball mound as the 26-year-old southpaw. During her four-year career at Texas, she set the Division I record for strikeouts (2,265) -- some of which she sprinkled across 20 no-hitters and 10 perfect games. (Her success is partially explained by her massive hands, which enable her to grip an entire softball with her fingers rather than just cradle it in her palm.) She brought even more magic to the international stage, leading the U.S. to a Gold and Silver at the Athens and Beijing Games, respectively."

Osterman has made several other lists for her decade of work. Sports Illustrated named her performance against Team USA in 2000, when she was 17, as the No. 8 high school moment of 2000-09. ESPN RISE also named her the Player of the Decade.

**Venezuela replaces OKC as host of 2010 Women's Worlds**

The International Softball Federation's (ISF) XII Women's World Championship will be held June 23-July 2, 2010 in Caracas, Venezuela. The world championship had originally been awarded to Oklahoma City, however a decision was made to relocate the event due to a date conflict with the Central American & Caribbean Games in Puerto Rico that would have prevented three teams that had qualified for the ISF event from having the opportunity to play against the other 13 nations at the ASA Hall of Fame Stadium.

Team USA qualified to the event at the 2009 Pan American Cup Qualifier, also held in Venezuela.

**Great Britain wins airfare to 2010 Women's Worlds**

The Great Britain Women's National Team won airfare to the Women's World Championships in Venezuela through a British Airways contest called "Great Britons," which asked people to vote online for groups who were trying to win airfare to special events. Members of the ASA received a "thank you" from members of Team Great Britain after helping them publicize it via our Web sites and both Facebook and Twitter.

**Softball Canada hosting Women's Worlds in 2012**

Whitehorse, Yukon, will host the ISF XIII Women's World Championship in 2012. The 2010 event in Whitehorse is expected to take place in July of that year, exact dates are being finalized.

**ASA/USA Softball’s Facebook following nears 10K**

The ASA/USA Softball Facebook page (www.facebook.com/asausasoftball) has over 9,500 fans, with a goal of hitting 10,000 in the next few weeks. Facebook has proven as a very successful way to communicate with fans across the United States and the world, with hundreds of people commenting and asking questions on the page every week. On Twitter (www.twitter.com/asausasoftball), more than 4,000 are following ASA/USA Softball.

Several ASA associations have taken to social media - including Georgia, Mass, Nor Cal and Oregon. Links are posted on the national Facebook and Twitter.

**Balls and Strikes online mag hit the net on Dec. 17**

The last 2009 issue of Balls and Strikes online magazine was e-mailed out on Dec. 17. For those who missed it, it is available for download at www.asasoftball.com/communications/ballsandstrikes.asp. The next issue comes out in March.

**2009 ASA scorebooks still available to associations**

The remaining copies of last year's scorebooks are being given away - thousands have already been donated to Special Olympics. If your association would like scorebooks for contests, giveaways, etc., please contact Jamie Blanchard (jblanchard@softball.org) as soon as possible. Scorebooks are in boxes of 50.
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Spokane ASA selects new UIC to replace retired Stewart

Randy Harnasch, an umpire for 25 years and a Deputy Umpire in Chief for 11, has been named the new Umpire-in-Chief of the Spokane Amateur Softball Association (ASA).

Spokane Commissioner Clarence “Fuzzy” Buckenberger made the announcement, selecting Harnasch to replace Chuck Stewart, who retired after 16 years in the position.

Harnasch, of Rockford, Wash., in southern Spokane County, has served as an umpire in chief at one ASA National Tournament, umpired in 11 National Championships, and served as an assistant UIC and/or umpire coordinator in a half-dozen others. He has also assisted in putting on three National Umpire Schools.

Harnasch is a former president of the Spokane Softball Umpires Association, is a member of the ASA National Indicator Fraternity, a member of the Medals Program at the Gold level and received the ASA Region 15 Award of Excellence in 2007.

In Memoriam

Robert J. Adams

Robert J. Adams, the father of Illinois Junior Olympic (JO) Commissioner Bob Adams, passed away Nov. 29 at Heartland Healthcare Center in Peoria, Ill. He was 87.

Bob was born Sept. 7, 1922, in Peoria to Charles and Anna Theresa (Norbits) Adams. He married Betty L. Buchanan on Dec. 10, 1942. He was preceded in death by his parents; four sisters, Mary Sharp, Irene Vevig, Mae Whitmore and Theresa “Babe” Blackburn; and four brothers, Bill, Lee, Chuck and Howard Adams.

Surviving are his wife of 66 years, Betty L. Adams; two sons, Robert J. (Brenda) Adams Jr. of Pekin and Stephen C. (Shelley) Adams of Peoria; one sister, Anna Lechnowicz of Chicago; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association Central Illinois Chapter at 606 W. Glen Ave., Peoria, IL 61614. Online tributes may be made at www.Woolsey-Wilton.com.

Sympathy card can be sent to: Bob Adams, PO Box 4168, Peoria, IL 61554.
Forty softball teams from Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota participated in the 20th Anniversary of the Softball Night at the Dome event at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Sept. 18-20.

A fundraiser for Minnesota Special Olympics and the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame, the event raised $5,612 for the Special Olympics in 2009. Over the years, the event has raised over $50,000 for the Special Olympics. The games, which were sandwiched between the Tigers-Twins series went on throughout the entire night Friday and Saturday. Divisions of play included Girls Fastpitch, Men's Slow Pitch, Women's Slow Pitch, Co-Rec Slow Pitch, Men's Masters, and the featured game Saturday evening between Elk River Special Olympics and Osseo-Maple Grove Special Olympics.

Elk River Special Olympics and Osseo-Maple Grove Special Olympics, pictured above, were two teams that competed in the Special Olympics softball game at the Metrodome following the Twins-Tigers game.

Softball night at the Dome raises over $5k

A special thanks to the Farmer's Union Insurance from Ivanhoe who was the highest fundraising team. Farmer's Union Insurance enjoyed a Twins game from a suite as their reward for their generous contributions.

The event was made possible with the efforts of the ASA of Minnesota, Special Olympics Minnesota, Minnesota Twins, Mark Herman, George Fadell and the volunteer ASA umpires.

Indiana ASA’s Myers passes away at 84

Longtime Indiana ASA Commissioner Wayne Myers passed away Jan. 10 at 84-years-old, following a nearly year-long battle with liver cancer. A visitation is scheduled for Thursday from 2-8 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at DeBaun Funeral Home in Terre Haute, Ind., while a Masonic service is at 7 p.m. Thursday. His funeral is at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society or the Shriners Children's Hospital.

Myers was a member of the ASA Hall of Fame, the Indianapolis ASA Hall of Fame, the Wabash Valley Hall of Fame and the national ASA Hall of Fame. He is also a member of the Terre Haute Softball Hall of Fame, which he was instrumental in founding in 1976, the same year he became a commissioner.

While president of the ASA, he threw out the first pitch of the first Olympic softball game in Atlanta in 1996, one of the greatest thrills of his career. He was also the manager of the Terre Haute Americans in 1961 when that baseball team reached the Little League World Series. He was named a Sagamore of the Wabash Valley by then-governor Evan Bayh.

Survivors include his wife of 24 years, Phyllis Myers; his son, Terry Wayne Myers; a daughter, Elaine Roetter; brothers Bill Myers of Prairieton and Fred Myers of Riley; three granddaughters; and several nieces and nephews.

More information is available at www.indiana-asa.org.
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- **ASA Team Accident Insurance Plan** provides a $250,000 Excess Medical Expense benefit for injuries to your players.
- Various deductible options offer you additional savings.
- **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.

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.

Leading the way with ASA Individual Registration: Best Practices for Teams and Leagues

- **Why Individual Registration?** As the National Governing Body for Softball, ASA/USA Softball is committed to the goal of providing accident and liability insurance to all participants in the Junior Olympic (youth) program. This is especially important as more and more American families do not have their own medical insurance. To ensure that our JO players receive the insurance protection they need, ASA/USA Softball has been converting to Individual Registration (as opposed to team registration) for the JO Program. Individual Registration is also available to Adult leagues in certain areas.

- **How is the insurance plan for Individual Registration different from Team Insurance?** There is no difference in the limits of coverage under the Individual Registration or Team Insurance plans. The program is still administered by Bollinger and underwritten by Markel Insurance Company.

- **How to get started?** Contact your local ASA Commissioner or JO Commissioner for details on how to Individually Register. To find the contact information for your Commissioner, go to the ASA/USA Softball web site at [www.ASASoftball.com](http://www.ASASoftball.com).

- **For answers to Frequently Asked Questions on Individual Registration**, please visit Bollinger’s ASA web site, [www.BollingerASA.com](http://www.BollingerASA.com) and click on “Individual Registration.”

**Important Note:** In order to participate in ASA Junior Olympic/Youth Championship Play, all teams must be ASA Individually Registered or purchase through Bollinger the ASA Team Insurance Package Plan.
ASA announces new slow pitch RPL

The Amateur Softball Association of America (ASA), the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States, announced today the 2010 Men’s Slow Pitch Restricted Player List (RPL). Players on the ASA RPL may only play Class A and any team that participates in ASA may not have more than five (5) players from the ASA RPL.

Per the ASA Code, the players on the Men’s Class A Restricted Player List were determined by the ASA Slow Pitch Restricted Player Committee. Any appeals regarding this list can should be made to the players local commissioner who will forward it to the ASA National Office for further review by the ASA Slow Pitch Restricted Player Committee. Please do this in writing and be sure to include statistics, teams played against, and a reason why you feel you should be removed from the RPL in any appeal.

A complete list of these players can be found at www.asasoftball.com/adult/restrictedplayers.asp.

Men’s Class A Restricted Player List

Bryson Baker, California  
Rick Baker, Indiana  
Dal Beggs, Florida  
Vince Bisbee, Michigan  
Robert Blackburn, North Carolina  
Randell Boone, Georgia  
Scott Brown, Minnesota  
Geno Buck, Minnesota  
Rusty Bumgardner, North Carolina  
Tim Cocco, Kentucky  
Greg Connell, Georgia  
Dennis Crine, Nevada  
Don DeDonatis III, Florida  
*Chaun Demars, Minnesota  
*John Dutch, Alabama  
*Kevin Filby, Ohio  
B.J. Fulk, North Carolina  
Hank Garris, Florida  
J.D. Genter, Georgia  
Jamie Gordon, Michigan  
*Rich Goulash, Florida  
Jeff Hall, North Carolina  
Greg Hartwick, Arkansas  
Shane Hatfield, Ohio  
Brett Helmer, New York  
Brian Higgintonbotham, Washington  
R.J. Howerton, Texas  
Bobby Hughes, Arkansas  
*Jeremy Isenhower, California  
Todd Joerling, Missouri  
Brian Justice, Tennessee  
Jason Kendrick, Florida  
Matt King, Ohio  
Scott Kirby, Florida  
Howie Krause, Ohio  
*Alex Lavorico, California  
*Sam Lopez, Colorado  
Todd Martin, North Carolina  
*Brett McCollum, California  
Johnny McCraw, North Carolina  
Sean McDonald, Michigan  
Scott Nastally, Michigan  
*Donovan Pokraka, Georgia  
Andy Purcell, Florida  
Brian Rainwater, Florida  
*Mike Raines, Tennessee  
*Ryan Robbins, Nevada  
Dale Roe, Michigan  
Dennis Rulli, Michigan  
*Richard Seflack, Missouri  
*Dennis Shrum, Kentucky  
Scott Striebel, Florida  
*Ryan Thiede, Indiana  
Rusty Thorp, Minnesota  
Jeff Wallace, Florida  
Brian Wegman, Ohio  
*New to the RPL

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The Responsible Sports Season Evaluation Tool™ is now live! An easy-to-use, online survey tool designed to help leagues and teams measure season-over-season improvement and allow you, the parents, to give valuable feedback to your league. Get started today!

The Responsible Sports Season Evaluations will create a space for you to voice opinions in an anonymous and confidential way. The feedback that you give will help your league measure its improvement in the experience they provide to your child, and others, for years to come.

Want to learn more about the Season Evaluation Tool? Visit ResponsibleSports.com for survey best practices, pre-season, mid-season, and post-season steps, and how you can tell your administrator to sign up!

Tell your administrator to use the tool this winter at ResponsibleSports.com/Softball. >>

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Choose your sport season, and you’re all set! We’ll walk you through the step-by-step process introducing these evaluations to your league, building and sending the survey, delivering results to you, and help you develop your action plan, plus it’s free!
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## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, April 9, 2010</td>
<td>6:00 – 10:00 pm Check In/Hospitality</td>
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</table>
| Saturday, April 10, 2010 | 8:00 – 9:00 am Check In and School Photo  
9:00 – Noon Instructional Sessions  
Noon -1:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 - 4:00 pm Instructional Sessions |
|            | Best Western Palace Inn 6:00 – 7:00 pm Optional Buffet Dinner  
8:00 – 11:00 pm Hospitality |
| Sunday, April 11, 2010 | 8:00 am – Noon Instructional Sessions  
Noon -1:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 – 3:00 pm Instructional Sessions  
3:00 – 3:30 pm Closing Ceremony |

### 2010 - 2011 National Tournaments scheduled in Michigan:

- Northern Territory Girls 18-Under A Novi, MI August 2010  
- Northern Territory Girls 14-Under B Novi, MI August 2011  
- Northern Territory Girls 16-Under A Mt. Pleasant, MI August 2011  
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Massachusetts softball united as one

By Rich Fahey, special to The Inside Pitch

Massachusetts softball players, teams, coaches and umpires -- the entire softball family -- are now all on the same page.

The Amateur Softball Association (ASA), the national governing body of softball in the United States, announced recently that Joseph Alfonse of Lexington, Mass., has been named the Massachusetts ASA commissioner. He began his new duties Oct. 8 after serving as Boston ASA commissioner since 2008.

In September, by the recommendation of the Massachusetts ASA and Boston ASA commissioners and the action of the ASA Board of Directors, the Boston and Massachusetts local associations were combined into one association that will serve all of Massachusetts.

Alfonse said the idea to combine the two districts came from both he and former Massachusetts ASA Commissioner Ed Ladley. There had been problems where one community was served by one district and an adjoining community by the other district, sometimes creating a “dead zone” when teams from different districts played.

“We thought in the best interest of the ASA that there be a continuity of service and no real walls between cities because of two associations,” said Alfonse. “We decided the best thing would be to merge the two associations into one.”

Alfonse and Ladley presented their plan to the ASA board in Oklahoma City in September.

“We’re always looking for ways to make to make our associations stronger,” said Craig Cress, the ASA’s director of membership services. “Our board challenged both associations to bring us a plan on what would be the best for softball in the state of Massachusetts. We needed to make a change from what it was because of the structure of the county system here in Massachusetts.”

Cress said it was very surprising when both Alfonse and Ladley came to the board of directors and said it should go to one of the associations, because that meant one of them would be out of business.

“That made the final decision for the board a no-brainer,” said Cress. Cress said the selection committee interviewed both Ladley and Alfonse, and decided that Alfonse’s emphasis on using technology to reach out to current and prospective clients made it easier for him to take Massachusetts to a higher level.

“That’s the way the national ASA is going,” said Cress. “We’re trying to be better at communications and customer service and the committee thought Alfonse would do a better job in supplying that customer service to players, teams and umpires.”

Alfonse now oversees a district with more than 5,000 registered teams, 70,000 players and 1,000 umpires. Including adults, the new association will service about 150,000 people.

Alfonse said his biggest priority as commissioner will be promoting membership in the ASA throughout the state and hopefully expanding to 6,000 teams within a year. “In the last six weeks, we’ve gone about 5,000 miles throughout the state all the way down to Cape Cod, all the way out to Western Mass., to Northern Essex County to meet with all the commissioners, Junior Olympic representatives and umpiring chiefs to present what our new plan will be,” he said.

As the commissioner of the Boston ASA, Alfonse helped the organization increase the individual Junior Olympic registrations by 23 percent in the last year and he helped recruit 300 teams to ASA in the last 18 months. Alfonse was also involved in recruiting over 100 new umpires and providing a new umpire training plan to ensure better skill sets and umpire retention.

He helped create an up-to-date Boston ASA Web site that provided leagues, teams and umpires with information on upcoming events. Already for the Massachusetts ASA, Alfonse has created a Face book profile (www.facebook.com/ASAMass) and Twitter account (www.twitter.com/MassASA) to help the organization better connect with members.

“I think Joe will do a great job and I’m very happy for him,” said Norm Davis of Lewiston, Maine, umpire-in-chief for ASA’s Region I, which is New England.

Alfonse first joined the ASA in 1980 as a player and became an umpire with the Boston ASA in 1988. He served as the Boston deputy commissioner and Junior Olympic umpire-in-chief before taking his first commissioner role. In addition to ASA, Alfonse is also a member of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association and the NCAA’s East Coast Umpire Association.

A graduate of Fitchburg State College in Fitchburg, Mass., with a Bachelor of Science in geography and earth science and a Master of Education in earth science, Alfonse is now a science teacher at Woburn Memorial High School. He is also a retired Army master sergeant.
The Amateur Softball Association of America (ASA) and Major League Baseball (MLB) are partnering in 2010 for the MLB Aquafina MLB Pitch, Hit & Run (PHR), which this year will feature a Girls’ National Softball Division for the first time.

“ASA is thrilled to be partnering again this year with Aquafina MLB Pitch, Hit & Run, especially at the National level,” said ASA Executive Director Ron Radigonda. “We have previously had two really strong trial years in the Girls’ division and are excited MLB has activated the girls’ side to the National level. I strongly encourage all ASA teams, leagues and local associations to take advantage of this opportunity to showcase our sport at the National level, participate and host a local competition. PHR is very important to continue the growth and promotion of our sport.”

Hosting a free PHR competition provides boys and girls, ages 7-14, the opportunity to showcase their baseball and softball skills. It also provides a great community event in just two to three hours; minimum of 30 participants per local competition.

The official skills competition of Major League Baseball, PHR is intended to encourage youth participation and emphasize the fun element of baseball and softball. All participants must begin by competing in a Local competition, which can be hosted by any organization, league, civic group or set of volunteers in the community. PHR is free of charge to both the participants and the local hosting organization.

The Four levels of competition are Local, Sectional, Team Championship and the National Finals. The local event is hosted one day in March, April or early May with winners advancing to the sectional in their area.

The top scorers are eligible to compete in the Team Championship in a Major League Stadium in June. The top scores nationwide, from the Team Championships, earn an all-expense paid trip to the MLB All-Star Game in Anaheim, Calif. to compete in the National Finals competition.

PHR is a 1-day event that is easy to administer and can often be completed in only a few hours. The competition can be hosted on a baseball/softball diamond or any open field. Registered hosts will receive an administrative kit with a handbook, promotional posters, registration forms, strike zone banner, award ribbons, and participation baseball cards for all participants and more information required to host the event.

Please take advantage of this great opportunity by signing up now to host a free Local Competition for the boys and girls in your community this spring (March 1 – early May).

Please visit www.mlb.com/phr for more information and to register online for your free Local Administrator Kit, which contains materials and information required to host. Space is limited so do not wait.

For general information, send your name, address, organization and questions to: pitchhitrun@website.mlb.com.