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PowerChalk.com is the approved, licensed video analysis site of the Amateur Softball Association. This partnership between the ASA and PowerChalk.com allows coaches, players and parents to analyze and collaborate about pitching, hitting and positioning. Start by registering a free account at www.PowerChalk.com/ASA

**Video Analysis Benefits**

- Faster skill acquisition (visual learning)
- Increased insights through slow motion
- Real-time coach - player collaboration
- Collaboration from remote locations
- Analysis sessions replace rainouts
- Mobile learning w/ iPhone/iPad, Android
- Improved motion via visual modeling
- Built-in electronic playbook

Finally, a fundraiser that makes your coaches and players better!

PowerChalk is available to leagues as a Gift Card fundraiser program. This no-cost, high impact fundraiser offers the card buyer an online motion analysis account at PowerChalk.com. Card buyers can upload their swing, pitch and field video (or their soccer kick and golf swing) and then analyze that clip in slow motion.

PowerChalk installs no software and yet allows analysis and collaboration between coaches and players.

Register an account today and begin to add voice and markup while you control the video in slow motion or freeze frame.

See the order form on the reverse side for the fundraiser program details.
With the Holiday Season upon us it’s once again time to wrap up a successful season of ASA/USA Softball. As we close out 2012 and prepare for 2013 I would like to say thank you to all of you who help to make the Amateur Softball Association the best softball organization in the country. It’s the efforts that you put forward day in, day out that have helped us be successful.

We recently concluded the 81st Annual ASA Council Meeting in Dallas, Texas in November. The meetings proved successful as we accomplished a number of goals we had set forth for the week. New playing rules were established that will improve both the safety and quality of our sport, championship sites were selected for the 2014 season, we honored six additions to the National Softball Hall of Fame and also selected the class of 2013. The National Office staff should be commended for their efforts in organizing another successful Council Meeting.

I would like to personally congratulate our USA Softball Junior Men’s Fastpitch National Team on their best ISF World Championship finish in 27 years. The 2012 squad competed in early November in Parana, Argentina where they finished with a 5-3 record which was good enough for fifth place in the 13-team event. As we move into the 2013 season, the ACE Coaching Certification program, RegisterASA and background checks for coaches and umpires will continue to be a priority for ASA. Great strides have been made in these online services that we offer and we will continue to work to improve your registration and certification experience. If you run into any issues when registering your team for the 2013 season we encourage you to contact your local ASA Association to get the problem resolved.

As always, I’m thankful for the opportunity to serve as your President and I look forward to another successful year.

E.T. Colvin, President
Amateur Softball Association of America
Mississippi ASA
Every year, the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America has 365,000 Junior Olympic (JO) athletes playing on more than 78,000 teams while over 1 million adults play on nearly 106,000 teams across the United States. Meet Eliana, Jodie, Maria, Tamara, Trinity and Tyler, six of the athletes who play ASA fast pitch and slow pitch.

**JODIE AGUIRRE, 10**  
Alvin, Texas  
Lady Stros 02 Gold (Sandy)  
Girls’ 10-Under Fast Pitch  
Pitcher, 3rd Base, Outfield

**FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOFTBALL** I have many interests in softball. I love to slide into bases and get dirty, I love to strike girls out with my famous knuckle ball and I love to practice with my teammates.

**ROLE MODELS** My role models in the game are Jackie Traina of Alabama because I saw her in the Women’s College World Series and everyone thought that Keilani Ricketts was going to win, but Jackie Traina “finished it”. But Keilani Ricketts is super awesome too!! Actually, all college softball players are my role models.

**BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT** I am so proud that I can be an example of “size does not matter”. I’m sort of short and my teammates tower over me, but I can keep up with all of the advanced players in our age group. I have to work extra hard but it is so worth it. This season I tried out for one of the top teams in our state and I made the team!! I have learned so much and our coach lets us practice what we learn during games.

**PROUDEST MOMENT** When my team won the Chicago Metro ASA Tournament two years in a row.

**PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT** Earning a Scholarship to play for Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville

**TOUGHEST OBSTACLE** I broke my collar bone two years ago during a college exposure tournament I played the whole weekend and then found out it was broken. Trying to gain the strength back in my arm was difficult.

**MARIA PRETE, 17**  
Westmont, Illinois  
White Sox Training Academy  
18U GOLD  
Girls’ 18-Under GOLD Fast Pitch  
Infield

**HER START** I started playing t-ball when I was five and then moved on to slowpitch until the sixth grade when I started playing fastpitch.

**PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT** Being named ASA All American in 2010 and winning 23U National

**TOUGHEST OBSTACLE** I would have to say adjusting my baseball swing to be able to hit a rise ball.

**ROLE MODELS** Pat Shannon, Trevor Kelly and Chad Ferguson

**TYLER DUDLEY, 23**  
Battle Creek, Michigan  
Marshall Thunder  
Men’s Class A Fast Pitch  
Shortstop

**HIS START** I went to a friend’s game in 2009 and was asked if I wanted to play. I said yes and have been hooked ever since.

**HIS GOAL** My only goal is to play for the USA Men’s National Team. Nothing can beat representing your country.

**PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT** Moving named ASA All American in 2010 and winning 23U National

**TOUGHEST OBSTACLE** I would have to say adjusting my baseball swing to be able to hit a rise ball.
ELIANA GONZALEZ 
(YAYA), 11
Carpinteria, California
CVGSL
Girls’ 12-Under Fast Pitch
Infield

HER START I started playing softball when I was seven because my mom signed me up.

HER GOAL My goal is to play for Team USA and for a good softball college.

TOUGHEST OBSTACLE I fractured my thumb my second time catching. I had just made it onto the all-star team and had to sit out for three games.

ROLE MODELS My role models are Danielle Yudin from UCLA and Lainey Depompa from the UCSB.

TAMARA STATMAN, 15
Phoenix, Arizona
L’il Saints
Girls’ 18-Under GOLD Fast Pitch
Pitcher

HER START I started playing softball in 1st grade when my parents signed me up for the Scripps Ranch Little League. I have been playing for about 9 years.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOFTBALL The mental challenge it gives me. There is always a challenge to get better, faster, and stronger at what I do. There is no limit to how far I could push myself. I also enjoy meeting girls from different states and each team does something a bit different. Like crossing the mound for post game high fives vs. crossing the plate. It’s all fun and interesting!

HER GOAL Being that I am verbally committed to the University of Arizona, my goal is to get to the Women’s College World Series and win. When softball is reinstated to the Olympics my goal is to make the Olympic Team.

TOUGHEST OBSTACLE I would have to say my height. Always playing up in age and being one of the shorter pitchers has been a challenge. However, I never let height define who I was and how much I was willing to work hard to get to where I want to go.

ROLE MODELS Taryne Mowatt because she was a pitcher who was only 5’6” and won two national championships, Katie Cochran because she is a left-handed power hitter and Jackie Coburn because of her intensity and love for the game of softball.
Every day, millions of lives are shaped with a softball and a little open space.

Far from the stadium lights and the roar of the crowd come the moments when youth sports matters. These opportunities help form bonds that enrich the game and enhance the lives and life skills of young players. That’s why Liberty Mutual Insurance and our partners are proud to bring you the Responsible Sports™ program – offering educational resources, training tips and teaching tools for youth sports parents and coaches, plus coaching awards and valuable community grants.

There’s an insurance company that understands the value of those lessons.

Far from the stadium lights and the roar of the crowd come the moments when youth sports matters. These opportunities help form bonds that enrich the game and enhance the lives and life skills of young players. That’s why Liberty Mutual Insurance and our partners are proud to bring you the Responsible Sports™ program – offering educational resources, training tips and teaching tools for youth sports parents and coaches, plus coaching awards and valuable community grants.

Memorable youth sports moments are waiting for you. Visit ResponsibleSports.com/Softball today.

This Fall 15 teams will earn a $2,500 grant. Go to ResponsibleSports.com/Softball to learn more.

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Responsibility. What’s your policy?®
The Liberty Mutual Insurance Responsible Sports program is designed to provide helpful advice and useful resources for youth softball coaches and parents that can be applied universally among youth athletes to help our children succeed both on and off the field.

Responsible Sports is proud to bring you exclusive podcasts from Softball greats. They provide insight on their youth sports experience, how they have made it to where they are today and much more!

LEGENDS OF SOFTBALL

Olympic Gold Medalist and National Softball Team pitching All-Star Jennie Finch talks about the ‘privilege of pressure’, encouraging youth athletes to enjoy the moment, to Honor the Game and the opportunity to learn life lessons through sports.

U.S. National Team softball outfielder Kaitlin Cochran how the self-discipline she developed through her experiences in softball helped her juggle successfully sports and studies. She talks about how supportive parents, motivational coaches and her teammates have inspired her to strive for greatness and how she hopes softball will soon return to the Olympics.

Former U.S. National Team softball pitcher and two time gold medal Olympian Michele Smith shares how she stayed positive and in control through tough moments in competition. Taught to her by her father, “control the controllables” is a mantra that has helped Michele excel in difficult times throughout her career.

Current Head Coach of the USA Women’s Softball Team Ken Eriksen talks about how controlling your emotion is the key to controlling the game, the lessons he learned while playing for Hall of Famer Robin Robert and how his playing experience as a catcher has influenced him as a coach.

www.ResponsibleSports.com/Softball
2013 WOMEN’S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

All-session tickets for the 2013 NCAA Women’s College World Series are now on sale. The WCWS will be held May 30 – June 5 at ASA Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Tickets are available for purchase in both the grandstand and outfield seating areas. All-session grandstand tickets are $120 while outfield seating is available for $100. Tickets can be purchased online at NCAA.com/wcws.

The WCWS will feature the nation’s top eight teams in a double elimination tournament format. The final two teams will play in a best-of-three championship series to determine the national champion. The WCWS is in its 32nd year. 2013 marks the 17th straight year, and 23rd time, the WCWS has been held in Oklahoma City. Last season a record 75,960 fans came through the turnstiles at ASA Hall of Fame Stadium.

The 2013 Biennial Umpire-In-Chief Clinic will be held in Oklahoma City, February 7-10. The clinic, which focuses on the theme “Recruit, Train, Retain”, will include breakout sessions, guest speakers and a banquet to honor those who receive the Award of Excellence.

The Biltmore Hotel will again be the host hotel for this year’s clinic. Topics ranging from technology and mechanics to retention and training will be covered during the four-day clinic, with a special emphasis on certified equipment.

The Liberty Mutual Insurance Responsible Sports program recently announced the Texas Vipers 99 as one of the recipients of their Fall 2012 Community Grants. The team plans to use the grant to offset costs of attending tournaments in the 2013 season. They used Facebook posts as a way to rally support for their efforts and they posted early and often encouraging everyone to post on their walls also. They rallied the support of their community and received items to raffle off to anyone who took the quiz. Bettye Smith, team administrator said, “As parents, we strive to provide meaningful life lessons through sports as well as other methods. This grant process has given our players another tool for their toolkit.”

For more News and Notes visit ASASoftball.com and USASoftball.com
ASA/USA Softball donated $4,000 to Susan G. Komen for the Cure® of Central and Western Oklahoma on Saturday, October 27 following the Race for the Cure in Oklahoma City. The money, raised by an eBay auction of pink items worn and used by the 2012 USA Softball Women’s National Team athletes during the World Cup of Softball presented by Lumber Liquidators, brings USA Softball’s five year donation total to $60,900.

“ASA/USA Softball is proud to be making our fifth consecutive ‘Pink Out’ contribution to Susan G. Komen for the Cure® of Central and Western Oklahoma’s mission to find a cure for breast cancer,” said ASA/USA Softball Executive Director Ron Radigonda. “Breast cancer is a disease that has affected many of the individuals involved with our organization in one way or another. We remain committed to raising awareness not only through the USA Softball Women’s National Team but at ASA events throughout the country.”

Special Congress approved the creation of a charter for a new international confederation for Softball and Baseball. The Congress voted for the new international confederation with 71% in favor.

ISF President, Don Porter said, “I was pleased with the results and look forward to meeting with the IBAF officials for further discussions and continuing preparations for the IOC presentation in December. There’s going to be a lot of positive things that we can do together for both our sports, not just for the Olympics but in the long term.”

The full coaching staff for the USA Softball Junior Women’s National Team for the upcoming season including the International Softball Federation (ISF) Junior Women’s World Championships has been announced.

Tairia Flowers (Tucson, Ariz./Head Coach at Cal State Northridge) was named Head Coach of the team in August. Her assistants will include Laura Berg (Corvallis, Ore./Head Coach at Oregon State), Trisha Ford (Fremont, Calif./Head Coach at Fresno State) and Mike White (Eugene, Ore./Head Coach at the University of Oregon).
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From National Championships to Hall of Fame inductions, 2012 was a busy year for The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and USA Softball. Here's a look at some of the headlines and highlights from throughout the year.

**JANUARY 9**  
On January 9th Stacy May-Johnson (Reno, Nev.) and Greg Connell (Moultrie, Ga.) were announced as the USA Softball 2011 Female and Male Athlete of the Year.

**JANUARY 11**  
Twelve athletes were named to the 2012 USA Softball Women’s National Team with an additional five players to be named after a selection camp later in the year.

**JANUARY 16**  
The National Softball Hall of Fame and Museum and Gift Shop closed for renovations. The updates included a new entrance as well as the addition of an elevator in the museum.

**JANUARY 23**  
The Cherokee Pride ‘01 Fastpitch Softball Association from Woodstock, Ga., an ASA league, were announced as one of 20 winning organizations in the Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports Fall Community Grant giveaway.

**FEBRUARY 2**  
Over 120 Junior Olympic (JO) commissioners and other representatives from local ASA associations across the country attended a two-day workshop in Oklahoma City full of instructional and information sessions on youth softball hosted by the ASA National Office.

**FEBRUARY 13**  
Oklahoma City won the bid to host the 2015 ISF Junior Women’s World Championship. The event is tentatively scheduled for August 7-16, 2015 at the ASA Hall of Fame Complex in Oklahoma City.

**FEBRUARY 20**  
Jennie Finch (La Mirada, Calif.) delivered a powerful speech at the International Olympic Committee’s Women and Sports Conference in Los Angeles encouraging everyone to Back Softball and get the sport included in The Olympic Games again. Finch was accepting the ‘Power of I’ award for her charity work as well as her inspiration of female athletes worldwide.

**FEBRUARY 22**  
The 2012 USA Softball Women’s National Team’s schedule was officially released. Stops included exhibition games in Ohio and West Virginia as...
well as tournaments in Oklahoma City, Surrey, B.C., Canada, and Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.

**FEBRUARY 27**

ASA/USA Softball announced a partnership with PR Bar of Carlsbad, Calif. to be the official Performance Nutrition Bar of ASA/USA Softball.

**FEBRUARY 28**

Twelve veterans and two rookies were named to the roster of the 2012 USA Softball Men’s Slow Pitch National Team that would go on to compete in the Border Battle IV and inaugural Slow Pitch Showdown.

**MARCH 13**

ASA/USA Softball announces a partnership with Sports Authority to be the official sporting goods retailer for the 2012 season.

**MARCH 26**

Rocklin Girls Fastpitch Softball of Rocklin, Calif., an ASA league, were announced as one of the winning organizations in the Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports Spring Community Grant giveaway.

**MAY 10**

Former USA Softball Women’s National Team Olympian Laura Berg was named assistant coach for the 2012 USA Softball Women’s National Team joining Head Coach Ken Eriksen’s staff along with Mike White and Tairia Flowers.

**MAY 13**

Three-time Olympic Gold Medalist Lisa Fernandez and the 2004 U.S. Olympic Softball Team were named to the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame’s Class of 2012. Fernandez was one of six individuals selected while the 2004 Team was the only team honored.

**MAY 16**

Schutt unveils new USA Softball Women’s National Team Agua Tech helmets for 2012.

**MAY 29**

Oklahoma’s Keilani Ricketts (San Jose, Calif.) is named the 2012 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year.

**JUNE 20**

ASA launches a mobile version of their website designed to provide on-the-go information such as tournament listings, ASA certified equipment, headlines and event listings.

**JUNE 30**

The USA Softball Men’s Slow Pitch National Team came from behind to beat Canada 32-21 in the Border Battle IV. With the win, USA moves to 3-1 in the four-year history of the event.

**JULY 22**

The USA Softball Women’s National Team fell to Japan 2-1 in 10 innings to take second place in the 2012 ISF Women’s World Championship.

**JULY 28**

The Arizona Desert Thunder claimed the 2012 ASA 18-Under GOLD National Championship in Oklahoma City by defeating Texas Impact GOLD 2-1 in the finals.

**JULY 3**

The USA Softball Women’s National Team defeated Australia 3-0 to capture their seventh World Cup of Softball Title.
**JULY 30**
The New York Gremlins battled through the losers bracket picking up four consecutive wins to capture the ASA Men’s Major Fast Pitch Championship. The Gremlins were managed by 2012 ASA Hall of Fame inductee Denny Bruckert.

**AUGUST 2**
Despite its exclusion from the 2012 Games, USA Softball versus Japan is named one of the Top 10 Greatest Rivalries in the history of the Summer Olympics by Yahoo Sports.

**AUGUST 7**
The 17-man roster was announced for the USA Softball Junior Men’s Fast Pitch Team that would go on to compete in Parana, Argentina later in the year for the ISF World Championship.

**AUGUST 13**
ASA/USA Softball hit 100,000 ‘likes’ on Facebook. To celebrate, fans received $10 off a purchase of $50 or more at softballoutlet.com.

**AUGUST 16**
Tairia Flowers was named head coach of the USA Softball Junior Women’s National Team that will compete in Brampton, Ontario, Canada July 1-7, 2013 for the ISF Junior Women’s World Championship.

**SEPTEMBER 7**
USA Softball named the final 17-member roster for the Men’s Fast Pitch National Team that will compete at the 2013 ISF World Championship in Auckland, New Zealand.

**SEPTEMBER 20**
OKC hosted the 2012 Special Olympics North America Softball Invitational Tournament with 33 teams from across the U.S., Canada, Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico in attendance.

**SEPTEMBER 30**
Sonny’s Softball Club captured the ASA Men’s Class A Slow Pitch National Championships while Classic Glass and Titans took home the Class C and D titles.

**AUGUST 1**
ASA/USA Softball donated $3,000 to the Beat Autism Foundation after raising funds with a silent auction during the World Cup VII in Oklahoma City earlier in July.

**AUGUST 16**
USA Softball pitcher and 2012 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Keilani Ricketts was named a finalist for the Women’s Sports Foundation’s Sportswoman of the Year Award in the team sport category.

**AUGUST 31**
Xtreme/Combat of Brooklyn Park, Minn. took the title in the ASA Men’s B National Championship with a 17-14 win over BBS/Miken at the ASA Hall of Fame Complex in Oklahoma City.

**SEPTEMBER 30**
Sonny’s Softball Club captured the ASA Men’s Class A Slow Pitch National Championships while Classic Glass and Titans took home the Class C and D titles.

**OCTOBER 27**
ASA/USA Softball donated $4,000 to Susan G. Komen for the Cure of Central and Western Oklahoma. The funds were raised through an annual Pink Auction held on eBay in which autographed USA Softball game-worn items were auctioned off to the highest bidder.

**OCTOBER 30**
In a Special Congress meeting, the International Softball Federation (ISF) elected to combine with the International Baseball Federation to form a new international confederation in an effort for the sports to be reinstated into the 2020 Olympic Programme.
NOVEMBER 10
The USA Junior Men’s National Team fall to Canada 4-2 in the playoffs at the ISF World Championship. Team USA finished the tournament with a 5-3 record, good enough for fifth place which was their best finish since 1985.

NOVEMBER 14
Six individuals received softball’s highest honor as ASA/USA Softball inducted it’s newest class into the National Softball Hall of Fame. Chris Armijo (Grand Rapids, Mich.), Denny Bruckert (Gillespie, Ill.), Leon Grunalt (Warren, Mich.), Jerry King (Maysville, Ky.), Larry Mays (Canyon Lake, Calif.) and Ivan “Ike” Wheeler (Bossier City, La.) were included in this year’s class.
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Showcase your team in 2013 with the BEST at the Best facilities in the world from spring through fall! With events in virtually every corner of the country, you now have the ability to showcase your team’s skills and compete with the BEST in the ASA Heartland College Showcase Series!

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ASA/USA SOFTBALL WRAPS UP ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN DALLAS

After hours of meetings, presentations, discussions and training sessions, the Annual Council Meeting concluded another successful year for ASA/USA Softball. Held Nov. 10-17 in Dallas, Texas, the 82nd Council Meeting was attended by over 650 Council Members, exhibitors, equipment manufacturers and National Office Staff.

Prior to the start of the Council Meeting was the “Swing for a Cause” golf series, which was held on Friday at The Golf Club of Dallas. Nine teams competed, with Johnny McCraw, Brian Wegman, Brett Helmer and Don Cooper defending their title by claiming first-place.

Kicking off the week-long event Saturday evening was the annual trade show, which featured 80 booths from cities bidding on future ASA National Championships, equipment manufacturers and softball suppliers. Over 1,000 Council Members, association delegates and visitors passed through.

On Monday afternoon over 100 individuals/associations were honored at the Wilson Sports Goods Awards Luncheon. In the service award category, 40 Council Members were given the awards for their five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 55 years of service to the organization. Another 26 were given benchmark awards for increases in the registering of adult and youth teams and umpires. The Triple Play award, for increasing adult teams, Junior Olympic teams and umpires, was awarded to Commissioner Don Meinel of Hawaii ASA and Houston ASA Commissioner Stoney Burke. These two associations received the same awards in 2011. The most total registrations award went to Rodney Cobb on behalf of Texas.
ASA. The most JO registrations award went to Phil Gutierrez on behalf of the Southern California ASA. The most umpires registered went to Andy Loechner Jr. on behalf of the Pennsylvania ASA. All three associations have received their respective awards for the past four years. For a complete list of honors, click here.

Tuesday morning started bright and early as over 60 Council Members participated in the fifth-annual “Fun Walk”. Later in the day, the general council session decided which cities will host the 2014 ASA National Championships.

Capping off the Council Meeting was the annual Hall of Fame Induction where six individuals were honored with inductions into the National Softball Hall of Fame. The 2012 class included: umpire Chris Armijo (Grand Rapids, Mich.), Managers Denny Bruckert (Gillespie, Ill.), Leon Grunalt (Warren, Mich.) and Larry Mays (Canyon Lake, Calif.), Slow Pitch Player Jerry King (Maysville, Ky.) and for Meritorious Service Ivan “Ike” Wheeler (Bossier City, La.).

For 2013 Playing Rule Changes that were voted on during the Council Meeting, click here >>

For 2013 Code Changes that were voted on during the Council Meeting, click here >>

For the host cities, please click here to get more info on the 2012 Hall of Fame class and to find out who will be inducted in 2013, click here

IN OTHER NEWS

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Sloan Hammons, 13, of Valrico, FL is the 2012 MLB Pitch, Hit & Run (PHR) National Champion in the 11/12 girls softball division. PHR is the official skills competition of MLB, designed for youth ages 7-14 to showcase their baseball and softball skills. Hammons competed locally with Florida Fire, attended the Team Championship at Tropicana Field and was 1 of 12 girls to advance to the 2012 PHR National Finals in Kansas City held at the MLB All-Star Game. Hammons took some time to answer a few questions about her experience with Pitch, Hit & Run!

How did you find out about the MLB Pitch, Hit & Run Competition?
When I was 8 years old, my dad introduced it to me on our way to practice. My dad and the founder of our Florida Fire travel ball organization, Mark Braddy, encouraged me to participate.

What is your favorite element about PHR: Pitching, Hitting or Running?
Running! I’ve always loved to run whether it’s bases or just for fun, but as any competitor would do, after I found out that I was going to Nationals, I spent the whole time practicing all of the skills.

What do you remember about the first time you stepped on to a Major League Field at the Team Championship (Tropicana Field)?
My first time was in 2010 and it was huge! My family, coaches, and teammates showed up to support me and it was awesome.

Looking back at your PHR National Finals experience this summer in Kansas City, what was your favorite memory?
Stepping onto the field in front of all the fans before the Home Run Derby. Having our faces on the Jumbotron at Kauffman Stadium was intimidating, but fun! I liked sharing my win with all of my competitors, everyone worked hard to be there and we all had fun!

What was it like when you got home after the All-Star Game with peers, classmates, teammtes, reporters, etc.?
Everyone was extremely proud of me. My school put on their marquee ‘Congrats Sloan Hammons MLB Pitch, Hit & Run National Champion’ and also FL State Senator Rhonda Storms sent me a note saying “keep up the hard work!”

What advice would you give to young girls planning to compete in their local PHR competition in 2013?
Work hard and do your best. Just because you failed once, doesn’t mean you just give up. I tried out for 3 years before I made it to the All Star game.

Who are your softball idols?
Michelle Smith (USA Softball) and my aunt, Missy Smith-Radaker (GA State, Colorado Silver Bullets)

What are your goals for the next couple years?
Get good grades, continue with my travel ball team, make my HS softball team, go on to college to get my degree and make the college team.

For more information on the program and to get involved in PHR for 2013, visit www.mlb.com/phr or check us out on Facebook at: facebook.com/pitchhitrun

BIO INFO
Age: 13 | Height: 5’10’ | ASA Team/League: Florida Fire (travel)
Stats: .412 Batting average, .689 Slugging percentage. 1.37 ERA
HOST A 2013 AQUAFINA MLB PHR COMPETITION!

PHR annually reaches over 650,000 boys and girls between the ages of 7 to 14. The program includes four levels of competition, with top performers in all 30 markets competing at Major League ballparks, followed by the National Finals at the MLB All-Star Game. PHR is FREE to both hosts and participants.

Register today to host a Local Competition – www.mlb.com/phr

TIMELINE/LEVELS OF COMPETITION

• Local Competitions: Administrative kits distributed to Local hosts in February with events being hosted in March, April or early May. Host during Opening Day, a league-wide event, or after a practice.

• Sectional Competitions: Local winners advance to Sectional Competitions in late May.

• Team Championships: Hosted in all 30 Major League Ballparks. Qualifiers compete in a pre-game competition and recognition ceremony.

• National Finals: The top participants nationwide take part in the National Finals competition as a part of MLB All-Star Week in July.

STEPS TO HOSTING A PHR LOCAL COMPETITION

• Register to Host: Visit www.mlb.com/phr and register your free event.

• Receive Support Materials: Receive a free administrative kit, which will include a handbook, strike zone banner, registration forms, posters, participation cards, awards, etc.

• Event Day: Host your 1-day competition with a handful of volunteers and pass along awards and advancement information to the winners (provided by PHR Headquarters).

• Report Results: Submit results online and mail in registration forms (pre-paid postage provided).
Hawaii ASA Commissioner Don Meinel sat down with Balls and Strikes Magazine to discuss the strengths and weaknesses that he sees with his association and the different ways they reach out to the teams in their association.

What sets Hawaii ASA apart from other Associations?
Our association is a very unique because we sit in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, therefore I consider our association a region within our region.

What type of challenges and limitations do you see being such a long distance away from the continental US? Are there any advantages?
Our challenges in our association is getting our teams to the nationals. We must deal with the economics of getting our teams to participate in the nationals. Our border line is a body of water and it’s hard for our teams to travel to participate in our region and territorial tournaments.

Hawaii ASA saw increases in the number of registered adult and JO Teams, individuals and umpires in 2012. What do you contribute this growth to?
Thankfully we have a strong and very dedicated staff. We do not compete too much with other softball bodies in the State and keeping our association consistent every year keeps teams coming back with our association. Keeping the teams informed, especially JO teams, with updates such as clinics, equipment, and tournaments really helps us in player and team registration increases. As far as our umpire program and adult slow pitch, our military bases here are a major part of team registrations. But the bottom line is our staff. I give them all the credit for our success in these past years.

As the Commissioner, what helps you provide great service to your ASA players, coaches, umpires and fans?
As I mentioned before, our dedicated and strong working staff.
As an organization what do you feel is Hawaii ASA's biggest strength/weakness?
Our biggest strengths is that the teams and players in our State are like one big family. Our staff are like parents spoiling the kids. We will go overboard to assist our teams, players and umpires to whatever their needs. Of course our weakness is economics in trying to get our teams to travel to the mainland to participate in tournaments.

What are some of the ways that you reach out to the teams in your association and share information with them?
We actually have three websites that will keep teams informed of any kind of softball in our association. We have our main website, asahawaii.com, and also a JO website, and a tournament and league website. We noticed in the past years that members would rather go to a website that deals directly with league and tournaments, or our JO program. The main website links to the other two websites. We also host some events like college coaches clinics for our JO players and in January we will be hosting some exhibition games for the Wounded Warriors softball team. We also hosted some elite slowpitch players putting on some hitting clinics and home run derbys.
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...So what are members of the USA Softball National Teams asking for this year?

I’ve been feeling crafty lately so Home Depot or Lowes Gift Cards would be good
Shoes, I have a weakness for shoes

-Molly Johnson
USA Women’s National Team

Two new softball bats
A new set of golf clubs

-Derrick Zechman
USA Men’s Fastpitch National Team

1st Base Glove
New Car
iPhone 5
True Religion Jeans

-Frank DeGroat Jr.
USA Men’s Fastpitch National Team

Books
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Homemade chocolate chip cookies

-Samantha Fischer
USA Women’s National Team

New Pair of Glasses
Clothes

-Michelle Moultrie
USA Women’s National Team

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**Rule 2 Section 1 Table**

The pitching distance for Girls Junior Olympic 14 and Under A/B classification of play shall be 43 feet.
Comment: Allows for Girls 14U Junior Olympic Fast Pitch to pitch from the same distance as the Girls 16U and 18U Junior Olympic Fast Pitch Classifications of play.

**Rule 3 Section 1A [1]**

The Official bat must bear either the ASA 2000 Certification Mark, the ASA 2004 Certification Mark or the ASA 2013 Certification Mark.
Comment: This adds an additional Certification Mark to the list of ASA Certification Marks allowed on ASA approved bats.

**Rule 3 Section 1A**

Bats bearing the ASA 2013 Certification Mark are allowed in Slow Pitch Only.
Comment: Clarifies bats with the new ASA 2013 Certification Mark are only allowed in the game of Slow Pitch.

**Rule 3 Section 3E [3]**

EFFECTIVE in 2014 The 52/300 12 inch ball will be the only 12” ball allowed in Men’s Adult Slow Pitch, Men’s Co-ed, Men’s Master’s Slow Pitch and Junior Olympic Boys Slow Pitch, with the exception of Seniors.
Comments: Removes the 44/375 12” ball as an approved ball for all Men’s Adult Slow Pitch, Men’s Co-ed, Men’s Master’s Slow Pitch and Junior Olympic Boys Slow Pitch.

**Rule 3 Section 6A [2]**

(Female Fast Pitch and all Slow Pitch) Ball caps and visors are optional for players. If worn, they may be mixed, but must be worn properly......
Comment: Removes headbands from the list of headwear regulated by uniform rule. Headbands can still be properly worn on the head and allows them to be mixed colors if worn.


Adult Slow Pitch, caps and visors may be mixed and must be the same color(s) as the team uniform but do not have to be alike in color.
Comment: Allows for caps and visors worn by a team to be mixed in color as long as the cap or visor matches a color of the uniform.

**Rule 3 Section 6G EXCEPTION**

Junior Olympic Fast Pitch 10U, 12U, and Junior Olympic Slow Pitch, Co-ed Slow Pitch, and Senior Slow Pitch Play: No metal cleats. No metal spikes nor hard plastic or polyurethane spikes similar to metal sole and heel plates are allowed.
Comments: Allows for Girls Junior Olympic Fast Pitch 14U A/B Classifications of play to wear metal cleats.

**Rule 3 Section 7B**

The National Championship UIC, Assistant UIC or Staff has the right to remove any and all equipment not meeting Rule 3 including bats and helmets, through pregame inspection, bat testing or during a game. Removed equipment will be marked properly with the name of the team and/or player and will be returned after the team’s final game of the Championship. The equipment will be securely stored by the Championship Committee until returned to the team and/or player.
Comment: Documents a procedure for removing and storing equipment not meeting Rule 3 of the ASA Rule Book.

**Rule 4 Section 6C [2]**

When an unreported substitute is discovered while at bat.
EFFECT: The unreported substitute is officially in the game and assumes the ball and strike count. All action stands.
Comment: Clarifies the EFFECT of the Unreported Substitute Rule when the unreported substitute is discovered while still at bat.

**Rule 5 Section 1**

Prior to the start of all games, the choice of which team will bat first or last in the inning shall be decided by a coin flip.
Comment: Clarifies that a coin flip is required before the game.

**Rule 5 Section 9A [2]**

Modified Pitch, 15 after three innings, 12 after four innings, and 10 after 5 innings.
Comments: Adds a run ahead rule after four innings to the Modified game.
(Men’s Senior Slow Pitch Only) All age groups will have a maximum number of runs allowed per inning except for the seventh inning, the last inning of a time limit game or any extra inning. The Major will have a maximum of 7 runs and the AAA & AA Divisions will have a maximum of 5 runs. The seventh inning, the last inning of a time limit game or any extra innings will have unlimited runs allowed.

Comment: Institutes a runs allowed per inning rule except in the 7th inning, the last inning of a time limit game or any extra innings in Men’s Senior Slow Pitch Classifications of play.

Dugout Conduct:

a) Coaches, players, substitutes, and other bench personnel shall not be outside the designated bench, dugout/team area except when the rules allow or it is justified.

b) Adult: Participants may not smoke or use alcohol beverages inside the dugout or on the playing field.

c) Junior Olympic Only: The use of alcoholic beverages or tobacco product is prohibited at all Junior Olympic Championships.

EFFECT: The first offense is a team warning. Any repeat offense shall result in the ejection of that team member.

Comment: Better defines Dugout Conduct in the ASA Rule Book.

(Male and Junior Olympic Boys) The pitcher shall take a position with their pivot foot in contact with the pitcher’s plate and their non-pivot foot in contact with it behind the pitcher’s plate.

Comment: Clarifies that Junior Olympic Boys Classifications of play to pitch by the Men’s Fast Pitch pitching rule by starting with both or one foot on the pitcher’s plate.

FP (Male and JO Boys) A backward step may be taken before, simultaneous with or after the hands are brought together. The pivot foot must remain in contact with the pitcher’s plate at all times prior to the forward step.

Comment: Clarifies that Boys Junior Olympic Classifications of play can step back with the non pivot foot like the Men’s Fast Pitch pitching rule.

FP (Men’s & Junior Olympic Boys Fast Pitch) In the act of delivering the ball, the pitcher must take one step with the non-pivot foot, simultaneous with the release of the ball. The step must be forward toward the batter. It is not a step if the pitcher slides the pivot foot across the pitcher’s plate toward the batter, or if the pivot foot turns or slides in order to push off the pitcher’s plate, provided contact is maintained with the plate. Raising the foot off of the pitching plate and returning it to the plate creates a rocking motion and is an illegal act.

Comment: Allows for the Junior Olympic Boys Classifications of play to step outside the 24” width of the pitcher’s plate during the delivery of the pitch like the Men’s Fast Pitch pitching rule.

FP (Men’s and Junior Olympic Boys) Pushing off and dragging the pivot foot in contact with the ground, or if both feet are in the air, having the toes of the pivot foot in the downward direction is required.

Comment: Allows for the Junior Olympic Boys Classifications of play to leap during the delivery of the pitch like the Men’s Fast Pitch pitching rule.

The pitcher shall bring the hands together for not less than one second and not more than 10 seconds before releasing it, and both feet must remain in contact with the pitching plate at all times prior to the forward step.

Comment: Aligns the rule with fast pitch so that the pitcher only needs to bring the hands together not hold the ball in both hands.

If batting order is discovered after the incorrect batter has completed a turn at bat:

a. The improper batter’s time at bat is negated.

b. The player who should have batted is out.

c. Any advancement or score of a runner as a result of the improper batter is negated. Runners not called out must return to the last base occupied at the time of the pitch. Any runner, who is called out prior to the discovery of the infraction, remains out.

d. The next batter is the player whose name follows that of the player called out for failing to bat.

EXCEPTION: (Co-ed Only) If the incorrect batter is called out as a result of their time at bat, and is scheduled to be the proper batter, skip that player and the next person in the line-up will be the batter.

Comment: Rewords the rule so if the Batter-Runner is called out that out applies to the batter who should have batted. All outs made by runners are still out. If the incorrect batter makes and out and is the next legal batter they simply bat again. The old rule of all out stands including the batter runner and skipping the batter if they make an out and they are the next legal batter, still applies to the game of Co-ed.

When a batter enters the batter’s box with or is discovered using an altered or non-approved bat.

EFFECT: The batter shall be ejected from the game, and if in a tournament may be subject to future penalties by the protest committee.

Comment: Establishes an appeal process for players who have used an altered or non approved bat before possibly being ejected for the entire Championship.

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Softball is no longer in the Olympic Games. By now that shouldn’t be a surprise to very many Balls and Strikes readers. But regardless of its place on the Olympic platform, the sport is thriving all over the globe. This November, the USA Junior Men’s Fastpitch National Team saw firsthand just how popular the game is when they traveled to Parana, Argentina and met up with 12 other National Teams from around the world for the International Softball Federation (ISF) Junior Men’s World Championship.

Having finished at or below .500 in six straight World Championships, the USA squad was far from the favorites to capture Gold in 2012. The squad when 5-6 in the most recent World Championships in 2008 finishing in eighth. But this year’s team looked to improve on that record behind the pitching of ace Jerlin Rutt (Bernville, Pa.) and a speedy lineup lead by Tyler Johnson (Union, Mo.). “Going into this tournament we felt like this could be a really special team for us,” said USA Head Coach Tim Lyon. “With the popularity of baseball in the U.S. there just aren’t that many kids throwing underhand but Jerlin is a special pitcher and we had a solid lineup to back him up on offense.”

Having coached in the past three ISF Junior Men’s World Championships, Coach Lyon had an idea about the challenge this team would face in Parana but the 17 teenagers plucked from around the country had no idea what would be waiting on the other side of their 10 hour plane ride.

Upon arriving in the tournament’s host city, the Junior Men played three days worth of exhibition games to prepare for their upcoming pool play games. “On the second or third day we played an exhibition doubleheader against Canada,” said Lyon. “Our guys knew from previous World Championships that Canada’s typically in the top tier of competition at these events. We beat them in game one 3-0 and had them down 5-3 before giving up the winning homerun in the bottom of the last inning. I think those games were huge for our guy’s confidence. They knew we could play with anyone in the tournament.”

Once pool play began the USA tore through the competition, run ruling their first four opponents. A matchup with one-loss New Zealand on day five proved Team USA’s first real test. USA jumped on the board early with three runs in the first two innings en route to a 5-4 win.

The winning streak came to an end on the final day of pool play. With a first round by locked up, Team USA rested Rutt as they faced undefeated Australia. The game remained scoreless after two innings but three straight 2-run at-bats for the Australians capped off by a 6-run seventh inning handed the USA their first loss of the tournament, a 12-1 final.

As the No. 2 seed entering the playoff portion of the tournament, Team USA was matched with host Argentina for round one. With over 7,000 fans screaming and shooting fireworks from the bleachers the game held more of a World Cup soccer feel than that of softball. On the field, the two teams put on an exciting contest. USA held a 5-4 lead entering the top of the fifth inning before giving up three runs in the fifth and one more in the sixth as Argentina took the 8-5 victory, guaranteeing themselves a medal in the tournament.

With the loss, Team USA was scheduled to play Canada who had just defeated Denmark to avoid elimination. The game was scheduled to be played on Friday but heavy rainfall pushed the day’s games to Saturday. With most teams scheduled to fly home on Sunday, tournament officials were forced to fit two day’s worth of games into one.

The USA Junior Men needed to win at least their first two games of the day to finish the tournament with a medal. Unfortunately things didn’t start well in their game with the Canadians. Unable to get anything going offensively, USA found themselves trailing 4-0 after four innings. A brief rally in the top of the fifth looked promising but the Americans could only manage two runs as they fell by a 4-2 final, ending their hopes of taking home a medal.

“We didn’t get the medal that we were hoping for but I’m still extremely proud of the way this team competed,” said Lyon. “These guys went on a run that really opened some eyes to this program. I think the success that we had this year is going to be huge for the Junior Men’s National Team in the future.”

USA finished the tournament with a 5-3 record, the first winning record for a USA Junior Men’s National Team at the ISF World Championships since a 7-3 finish in 1985. Team USA outscored its opponents 55-33 in the event and went 58-of-193 from the plate for a combined batting average of .301.
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Shirley Simmons Snell is the sixth person and first slow pitch player from Shreveport elected into the National Softball Hall of Fame. Beginning in 1983, Shirley’s career with ASA Women’s Slow Pitch spanned over 20 years, where she earned All-American accolades five times. She competed at the National Level in six ASA Women’s Slow Pitch National Championships, ranging from Class C to Women’s Major. In addition, she was awarded Home Run Champion in 1994 and 2001, Tournament MVP in 1996 (.615) and Batting Champion (.512) in 1994. Her most notable accolade occurred during the 1996 Women’s Class B Slow Pitch National Championship. While at bat, she hit a home run 350 feet and became the first woman to hit a ball that distance in the Bloomington complex.

USA Softball’s only four-time Olympian, Laura Berg has made a name for herself as one of softball’s greatest outfielders to ever play the game. One of four women who hold three Olympic Gold Medals in softball, Laura is no stranger to success on both the national and international scene. In addition to competing in four Olympic Games, Laura also appeared at four ISF World Championships, and three Pan American Championships, all Gold Medal finishes. Laura also was a three-time ASA All-American, once with the California Commotion, once with the California Players and once with the California A’s. With the Commotion, she earned a Women’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship title in 1999. In 2012, Laura, along with the 2004 U.S. Olympic Softball Team, was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.

Randy Melvin first came into the ASA Softball scene in 1976 when he registered as an umpire with the Michigan ASA. Throughout his career with ASA, Randy became one of the most respected slow pitch umpires in the state of Michigan. He umpired in 16 State Championships and five National Qualifying Tournaments and his talents would eventually carry over to the national level. Between 1993 and 1999, Randy umpired in eight ASA Men’s Slow Pitch National Championships, including two back-to-back appearances at the Men’s Super Slow Pitch National Championship. Randy became a member of the National Indicator Fraternity in 1995, became IFB certified in 1998 and was inducted into the Michigan ASA Hall of Fame in 2012.

One of the greatest players to ever play the game, three-time Olympic gold medalist Lisa Fernandez is also a seven time ASA Women’s Major Fast Pitch National Champion and nine-time ASA All-American. The only pitcher to appear in all three Olympic finals, Fernandez served as a threat on both sides of the plate. Overall, she achieved a 7-2 record throughout her Olympic career, allowing only 20 hits, seven walks and six runs (four earned) while striking out 93 over 74.2 innings. In addition to her pitching accolades, Fernandez maintained a .333 batting average overall in Atlanta, Sydney and Athens with three home runs, 15 RBI and 13 runs scored. A rare pitcher/hitter, Fernandez has the distinction of holding four individual Olympic records: most strike outs in a game (25 at the 2000 Olympic Games), fewest runs allowed, highest batting average (.545) in Olympic play and most doubles (3). These accolades helped land her in the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame as both an individual and with the 2004 U.S. Olympic Softball Team. Fernandez also competed in three ISF World Championships and three Pan American Championships, all of which earned her a Gold Medal.
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Special Olympics Softball has become a large part of ASA/USA Softball over the past two years with efforts made in combination with ASA Allied Member Moose International. From financial contributions, to clinics with the Men’s Slow Pitch National team, to hosting 33 teams in Oklahoma City at the North American Special Olympics Softball Invitational, the ASA and Moose have made fantastic strides to assisting the Special Olympics mission.

On Thursday, November 15, as the ASA Annual Council Meeting in Dallas, Texas was coming to a close a very special thing happened. Earlier in the afternoon, the ASA Council was addressed by a very talented athlete in Blaine Hardin who is a Special Olympics Athlete Global Ambassador. Blaine spoke on behalf of all Special Olympians in how much the help of his participation in all sports, including softball, has been a joy to his life and brings him excitement. Blaine presented plaques to Shawn Baile of Moose International and Ron Radigonda of ASA on behalf of their continued efforts.

Following Blaine’s presentation, thanks to the leadership and compassion of Pennsylvania commissioner Andy Loechner who pledged $1,000 to the ASA Special Programs, contributions came rolling in from several others and reached an excess of $25,000 for this special cause.

“My sincere thanks and gratitude to the associations and individuals who made the donations to Special Programs at our annual convention,” said committee chair Andy Dooley. “It is amazing what great people will do when they believe in the cause and purpose of our organization. On behalf of the athletes, coaches and parents who we support they say THANKS as well.

Let’s continue to move our partnership with Special Olympics and Moose International forward.”

If you would like to make a donation to support the ASA Special Programs Committee who assists Moose International in a nationwide initiative to support Special Olympics Softball, please contact Andy Dooley at piedmontasa@verizon.net.

If you would like to learn more about Moose International and its mission and purpose in membership, please click here. http://www.mooseintl.org/
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References

ASA Official Portable Fence; NCAA Women’s Fastpitch “World Series” Division I, II & III Championships Series; City of Woodland, City of Santa Maria, Salem VA, etc.

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Sonny’s Softball Club of Casper, Wy. captured the 2012 ASA Men’s Class A National title in September by winning three consecutive games while defeating 3rd Street Financial/Team Cincinnati 19-18 in the “if necessary” game. With a 6-1 record, Sonny’s put together quite the run on Sunday despite entering the loser’s bracket late Saturday night.

With a batting average of .743 going 26-for-35, Sonny’s shortstop Jonathan Lenz was named the tournament’s Most Valuable Player. Teammate Chris Greinert recorded a remarkable 42 RBI over the weekend and earned the home run title with 14.

“This is unbelievable,” said MVP Lenz. “Great experience, awesome fields, great players all over the place and the best sponsor out there and the best teammates out there. We just all put it together and won! It was a wonderful weekend.”

After forcing the “if” game, both teams came out strong in the finale putting up strong pitching and defensive efforts. 3rd Street had a 16-10 lead through four innings, before the bats of Sonny’s charged back posting seven runs in the top of the sixth. The highlight of the inning was home runs from Greinert and Kevin Ballard.

Sonny’s pitchers Carl Blank and Daniel Lopez stifled the 3rd Street bats in the bottom of the sixth and seventh as 3rd Street failed to muster a run giving Sonny’s the one-run victory.

Nine of the Sonny’s hitters finished with multiple-hit outings while 3rd Street was led by a four RBI effort from Jon Jamison.

The following athletes were awarded the Men’s Class A Division’s highest awards:

**Batting Champion:** Brian Zirkle - Nordkap - hitting .875

**HR Champion:** Chris Greinert – Sonny’s – 14 home runs

**Most Valuable Player:** Jonathan Lenz – Sonny’s

---

Classic Glass/Easton (San Jose, Calif.) became National Champions in Men’s Class C with a 21-11 five-inning run-rule victory over Kentucky Steel/TKO/Easton (Kadiz, Ky.) in late September. Coming from the winner’s bracket, the championship game was led by series MVP Nick Price from Classic Glass who was 4-for-4 with seven RBI.

“It means a lot to us to win this title,” said Price. “We are a good hitting ASA team and we were so excited to come here to OKC. We feel we have one of the best pitchers in Northern California. We really enjoy this place and the tournament is run really well.”

Scoring in all five innings, the fourth inning proved to clinch the title for Classic Glass as they scored 11 runs on 12 hits. Kentucky Steel was led by Randall Rampage who was 3-for-3 in the contest while Shaun Ballard had five RBI for the runner up team.

Overall Classic Glass finished with a 5-1 record, while Price led with 24 RBI and six home runs.
Despite on-going rain at the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America Hall of Fame Complex, the 2012 ASA Women’s Open Slow Pitch National championship trophy landed in the hands of the Derby Girls (Seattle, Wash.) in September. The Derby Girls defeated Armed Forces (Washington, D.C.) 16-3 in the Championship Game to capture the Women’s Open title. Ending the tournament with a flawless 3-0 record and outscoring its opponents 49-13, the Derby Girls were led by tournament All American and Batting Champion Christian Dowling. After hitting a home run early in the tournament, the infielder was intentially walked 10 times and scored five total runs with three RBI.

The All Armed Forces team tied up the game in the second inning before the Derby Girls pulled ahead for the eventual win. They pushed across eight runs in the bottom of the third inning and then an additional five runs in the bottom of the fourth to claim the run-rule victory.

All Armed Forces started strong early in the event putting up 21 runs to TALAPID’s (Forman, Ark.) 3 in game one. The Red, White and Blue then matched up with Derby Girls who had defeated Ideal Hitters/Denison Drywall (Des Moines, Iowa) 21-3 earlier in the day. It was a tight contest that was knotted up at four in the third inning until Derby Girls added seven runs in the top of the fifth for the eventual 12-7 victory. Tournament MVP Kat Sherer led all hitters in the game going a perfect 4-for-4 with one RBI.

TALAPID notched a morning victory with a 15-13 win over Whoosh (Choctaw, Okla.). Whoosh was then eliminated from the tournament after suffering a heart-breaking 16-15 loss to Ideal Hitters/Denison Drywall. Ideal Hitters/Denison Drywall would then eliminate TALAPID from the tournament before facing elimination themselves at the hands of the Armed Forces in the third place game.

The Armed Forces took an early 4-0 lead before eventually defeating Ideal Hitters 18-6. Ideal Hitters finished third in the tournament with a 2-2 record followed by TALAPID at fourth and Whoosh in fifth.

**Tians claim Men’s Class D Title**

The Titans of Murfreesboro, Tenn. claimed top prize in Men’s Class D with a 13-3 five-inning run-rule win over Galindo of Orange County, Calif. Coming into the final on the winner’s side, the Titans came out strong and never looked back.

They put ten runs on the board in the first two innings thanks to nine players on the Titans rosters recording at least one hit each. Series MVP was Titans David Hoffman who finished the weekend hitting .609 (14 –for-23) with 20 RBI.

“This was a great ride out here and this was my first time playing in this tournament,” said Hoffman. “This is a well ran tournament and being the champions means so much to this team. We had a couple of guys that could not make it so it is great that we put together a team effort.”

The Titans finished the weekend at 5-1 totaling 87 runs scored.
NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS FROM AROUND THE ASA!

We asked people around the Amateur Softball Association and USA Softball what their 2013 New Year’s Resolutions would be. Here’s what they had to say...

“Stop taking pictures of my husband sleeping and/or doing something stupid and posting them on Facebook and Twitter...while I think they are funny, he tends to get a bit upset with me. Try to not rely on Google so much when I can’t figure out something. Try to call my relatives once a week and talk to them for more than five minutes. I rely too much on texting.”

Codi Warren – ASA Marketing and Communications Coordinator

“To master my rise ball and participate in as many tournaments as possible.”

Brent Meshke – USA Softball Junior Men’s Pitcher

“I’ve never made a New Year’s Resolution. If you want to do something, why wait til the first of the year to get it? That’s just me. “

Laura Berg – USA Olympian and National Team’s Assistant Coach

“My New Year’s Resolution is to get better as a team and win more championships. It takes a team effort to get them.”

Cody Hord – ASA Slowpitch player with the West Salem Outlaws

“My New Year’s Resolution is to gain at least 20 pounds, of muscle and spend less time at work and more time on the softball field.”

Matt Palazzo – USA Softball Men’s National Team
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We're making it easier for ASA teams in your area to find your tournaments. Launched in 2010, TournamentASA.com is an ASA exclusive, tournament management system designed to promote your ASA tournament, register teams and manage your online bracket from the first pitch to the last out. Coaches and managers can’t get enough of the special features that are included on the site! Tools such as our Power Rankings, opponent overview and tournament history, all based off teams past games, give coaches a better understanding of the competition they are schedule to face.

Check out these other features...

**Tournament listing options**
- **Tournament listing only**: Tournaments are listed but teams cannot register online nor will they or the tournament director have access to the features such as an online bracket or text messaging updates. This option is simply to promote your tournament to teams.
- **Tournament Registration**: With the option teams and tournament directors will have access to all of the websites features.

**Power Rankings**
Online ranking system that is based entirely off of teams prior game performances in previous tournaments. Coaches can research how their opponents faired in past tournaments and also see certain trends and situational statistics.

**Text Message Updates**
With the text message updates coaches, players, parents and fans can follow along with their teams progress throughout a tournament by signing up to receive a message each time their game is complete. Coaches can choose to receive updates on their team only, their pool only, or the entire tournament.

**Online Rosters**
Online rosters make it easier for tournament directors to get information they need for tournament programs. No more hounding coaches or team administrators to send in the information. Simply pull up their team page and print their player’s names and information.

**Tournament Search**
Are teams in your area complaining that they can’t find tournaments to play in? With the tournament search feature, teams can see every ASA tournament that’s listed including the events age division, format and cost.
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“The ASA/USA Softball National I.D. Program was great for both my girls. Each one is at a different stage of their softball development. My older daughter is going to college soon, and the video we got made will help with college recruiting. My younger daughter will be starting high school soon and this evaluation will help her develop her skills. We are looking forward to attend next years program.”

-Softball Factory Parent

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— Mike Candrea,
two-time U.S. Olympic Team Head Coach

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Learn the finer points of team play as taught by two-time U.S. Olympic Team Head Coach Mike Candrea

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# 2012 National Champions

## Junior Olympic Fast Pitch

<table>
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<th>Hometown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Bowling Green, KY</td>
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<td>Texas Peppers 01</td>
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<td>Firecrackers 02</td>
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<td>New Era Diamond Girls</td>
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<td>Huntsville Sparks 99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guava Jam</td>
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<td>Heart of Ohio</td>
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<td>The Next Level</td>
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<td>Team Mizuno Gold</td>
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<td>Jr. Phoenix</td>
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<td>Birmingham Vipers</td>
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## Junior Olympic Slow Pitch

<table>
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<th>Champions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monroe Storm</td>
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## Junior Olympic Fast Pitch

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<td>ASA Girls’ B 12-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
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<td>ASA Girls’ B 14-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
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## Junior Olympic Slow Pitch

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<td>ASA Girls’ 14-Under Slow Pitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 14-Under Slow Pitch</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 18-Under Slow Pitch</td>
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MODIFIED PITCH
ASA Men’s (10) Modified Pitch

ADULT FAST PITCH
ASA Men’s 23-Under Fast Pitch
ASA Men’s Major Fast Pitch
ASA Men’s A Fast Pitch
ASA Men’s C Fast Pitch East
ASA Men’s C Fast Pitch West
ASA Men’s Masters 40-Over Fast Pitch
ASA Men’s Masters 50-Over Fast Pitch
ASA Men’s Senior 60-Over Fast Pitch
ASA Women’s 23-Under Fast Pitch Western

CHAMPIONS
Degroat’s/GVI

ADULT SLOW PITCH
ASA Coed C Slow Pitch Northern
ASA Coed D Slow Pitch Northern
ASA Coed D Slow Pitch Western
ASA Men’s A 16-Inch Slow Pitch
ASA Men’s Major 16-Inch Slow Pitch
ASA Men’s Church Slow Pitch
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ASA Women’s C Slow Pitch Western
ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Eastern
ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Northern
ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Western
ASA Women’s Open Slow Pitch

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Farmington, MD
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Cadiz, KY
Sacramento, CA
Sacramento, CA
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Murfreesboro, TN
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Corinth, MS
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Landon, KY
Mandan, ND
Homewood, AL
Mechanicsville, VA
Birdsboro, PA
Concord, NC
Harrisburg, PA
Sterling Heights, MI
Baltimore, MD
Columbus, IN
State College, PA
Charlotte, NC
Wake Forest, NC
Keedysville, MD
Nevada, IA
Pittsburgh, NC
Tucson, AZ
Warren, OH
Des Moines, IA
West Covina, CA
Seattle, WA
# 2013 ASA National Championships

## Adult Fast Pitch

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<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Men’s Class A</td>
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<td>Salem, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Class B</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
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<td>Salem, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Class C East</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
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<td>Bowling Green, KY</td>
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<td>Men’s Senior 60-Over</td>
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## Adult Slow Pitch National Championships

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<td>ASA Men’s Western Class D</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Roseville, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Men’s Western Class E/Rec</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Kent, WA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Championship Finals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Class D</td>
<td>9/26/2013</td>
<td>9/29/2013</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Adult Women Slow Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Open</td>
<td>9/27/2013</td>
<td>9/29/2013</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Masters 35-Over</td>
<td>8/9/2013</td>
<td>8/11/2013</td>
<td>Rolla, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Eastern Class C</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Canton, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Eastern Class D</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Canton, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Northern Class C</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Watertown, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Northern Class D</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Watertown, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Southern Class C</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Clinton, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Southern Class D</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Clinton, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Western Class C</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Roseville, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Women’s Western Class D</td>
<td>8/29/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Roseville, CA</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Adult Coed Slow Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coed Open</td>
<td>8/23/2013</td>
<td>8/25/2013</td>
<td>Rolla, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coed Class C</td>
<td>8/23/2013</td>
<td>8/25/2013</td>
<td>Rolla, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coed Class D</td>
<td>8/23/2013</td>
<td>8/25/2013</td>
<td>Rolla, MO</td>
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</table>

## Senior Slow Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior 50, 55, 60,65,70,75 East</td>
<td>8/30/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Burlington, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior 50, 55, 60,65,70,75 West (Major, AAA, AA)</td>
<td>6/6/2013</td>
<td>6/9/2013</td>
<td>Medford, OR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Junior Olympic Fast Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASA/USA Girls’ GOLD 18-Under</td>
<td>7/22/2013</td>
<td>7/27/2013</td>
<td>Clearwater, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA/USA Girls’ Class A 14-Under</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Normal, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA/USA Girls’ Class A 16-Under</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Sunnyvale, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 14-Under Eastern</td>
<td>7/30/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>York, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 16-Under Eastern</td>
<td>7/30/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Charles County, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 18-Under Eastern</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Virginia Beach, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 10-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/31/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Tallahassee, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 12-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/31/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>College Station, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 18-Under Southern</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Tupelo, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 10-Under Northern</td>
<td>7/31/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Lawrence, KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 12-Under Northern</td>
<td>7/25/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>Bloomington, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 18-Under Northern</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Bloomington, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 12-Under Western</td>
<td>7/29/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Medford, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ A 14-Under Western</td>
<td>7/29/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Medford, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ B 10-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/31/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Tupelo, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ B 12-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>Gadsden, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ B 16-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/29/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ B 18-Under Southern</td>
<td>7/31/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>Tupelo, MS</td>
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## Boy’s Fast Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 10-Under</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 12-Under</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 14-Under</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 16-Under</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 18-Under</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
<td>8/4/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Junior Olympic Slow Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ 10-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ 12-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ 14-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ 16-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ 18-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2013</td>
<td>7/28/2013</td>
<td>North Mankato, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 10-Under</td>
<td>7/19/2013</td>
<td>7/21/2013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 12-Under</td>
<td>7/19/2013</td>
<td>7/21/2013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 14-Under</td>
<td>7/19/2013</td>
<td>7/21/2013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys’ 16-Under</td>
<td>7/19/2013</td>
<td>7/21/2013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
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## Modified Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Stop Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s (10)</td>
<td>8/30/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td>Port Huron, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s (9)</td>
<td>8/30/2013</td>
<td>9/2/2013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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1. What ASA JO Team won a Fall 2012 Responsible Sports $2,500 Community Grant?

2. How many ASA Council members participated in the Fifth-Annual “Fun Walk” at the 2012 ASA Council Meeting?

3. Name three members of the 2013 USA Softball Men’s National Team?

4. Who was named MVP of the ASA Men’s Class A National Championship in September?

5. Who are the members of the National Softball Hall of Fame Class of 2013?
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