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CHAMPIONS ARE MADE WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING

POSTER AVAILABLE AT
softballoutlet.com
Another season of Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America softball is upon us. I would like to first take an opportunity to thank everyone who participates in our great association, whether you’re a player, coach, umpire or fill one of the many roles in-between, it’s because of you that we continue to be successful.

As we enter the 2013 season, I encourage you to look into the many benefits that ASA provides to our members. The ACE (Achieve, Certify, Educate) Coaching Certification Program, the many tools offered through our partnership with Liberty Mutual and the Responsible Sports Community Grant program, National Umpire Schools and the new online mobile Official Rules of Softball web-based application are just a few. You can get information about all of these resources and many more by visiting www.ASASoftball.com.

There are a lot of big events in store for ASA this year. We will again host close to 100 National Championships across the different disciplines of play within our organization. Our USA Softball Men’s Fastpitch National Team just returned from Auckland, New Zealand where they competed in the International Softball Federation (ISF) World Championship and our USA Softball Junior Women’s National Team will be headed to Brampton, Ontario, Canada in July to defend their 2010 Gold Medal in their division of the World Championship.

The ASA National Office in Oklahoma City will again host the NCAA Women’s College World Series beginning in late May as well as the 8th World Cup of Softball in July featuring the top four teams in the world; USA, Japan, Canada and Australia. This year’s World Cup will also include a youth tournament to compliment the event. If your team would be interested in playing along with the best in the world that weekend, contact Chris Sebren at csebren@softball.org.

Oklahoma City also recently played host to the 23rd Biennial Umpire-in-Chief Clinic this past February. Over 60 umpires were honored for their years of service and excellence in performance during the three-day event. I would like to personally congratulate all of those who were recognized and say thank you for your dedication to our sport and association.

It’s going to be another great year of softball! On behalf of everyone at ASA, I wish you a successful 2013 season.

E.T. Colvin, President
Amateur Softball Association of America
Mississippi ASA
THE LEAD OFF:

USA Men's Fastpitch National Team player Eddie Ketelhut slides safely into third base during the International Softball Federation (ISF) World Championships in Auckland, New Zealand.
THE LEAD OFF:

New "Play ASA" Feather banners line the entrance of an ASA Tournament in Altamonte Springs, Florida in January. If you’re interested in purchasing one of these banners contact Steven Embree at sembree@softball.org.
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 Abbie, Abby, Adrian, Hannah and Mallory, six of the athletes who play ASA fast pitch and slow pitch.

**ABBIE CRAWFORD, 13**
Dallas, Georgia
Georgia Diamond Dawgs
Girls’ 12-Under Fast Pitch
Pitcher / 1st Base / 3rd Base

**HER START** I began playing rec ball when I was 8 years old. My entire family had played either baseball or softball at a high level, including my great grandfather playing professional baseball and my aunt playing college softball, so I wanted to give it a try.

**BEST EXPERIENCE** The best experience in the sport so far is playing at ASA nationals. It was awesome to know that my team was among the best in the country.

**ROLE MODELS** One of my role models in the game is my grandmother. She passed away in 2010, but she was my biggest fan. She played and coached when she was young, and she had an unbelievable love for the game and an extreme sense of competitiveness. My other role model would be Jennie Finch. I admire her faith in God, and her hard work and determination.

---

**HANNAH SOLL, 19**
Riverton, Wyoming
Riverton US Energy
Girls’ 18-Under Fast Pitch
Short Stop / 3rd Base / Catcher

**HER START** I began playing softball when I was 8 years old for a 10-U team. Prior to that, I played tee ball for a few years, then switched to softball to play on league and travel teams.

**FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOFTBALL** It’s more than just a sport to me, it’s my passion, and it’s what I love. Being a part of a team, that’s like your family, is more than I could ask for. The thrill of hitting the sweet spot on your bat crushing the ball and hearing your coach, your team, and the fans cheer for on. Your team pushing you to be the best you can be and being able to represent your town with your team playing as one and as one heartbeat.

**TOUGHEST OBSTACLE** My toughest obstacle I had to overcome was hitting. Hitting is one of the important roles a softball player must achieve and I had a difficult time surpassing it. After many seasons, practices, and games, hitting became natural to me. Overcoming my obstacle of hitting took a lot of time, effort, and passion, which made me grow as a softball player and made hitting my comfort zone. This led me to conquer other obstacles and aspects of the game.
MEGHAN LEA RAMOS, 9
Lubbock, Texas
Top Fuel
Girls’ 10-Under Fastpitch
Pitcher

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

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOFTBALL When our team makes a bunch of really good hits and we are all excited and jumping up and down. We love to win!

HER GOAL To play with the college girls.

BEST EXPERIENCE I love our midnight tournaments. I am the only one that can stay awake the whole time.

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT I won a gold ring at a tournament. I hit my first triple and pitched a lot of innings. We only lost one game the whole two days.

ABBY KUBIN, 9
Highland Village, Texas
Strikerz
Girls’ 10-Under Fast Pitch
Pitcher / 1st Base

HER START I went to my league’s softball clinic to give it a try and loved it. I started playing in fall of 2011.

HER GOAL I want to play for Team USA Women’s Softball when they add it back to the Olympics again.

ROLE MODEL I admire Keilani Ricketts and got her to autograph a ball at the World Cup of Softball in Oklahoma City last summer.

ADRIAN CORONA, 35
Glendale, Arizona
Team Strikeout Cancer
Coed & Men’s Class E
Pitcher

HIS START When I got out of the Army I started a team.

HIS GOAL To spread the word about cancer awareness.

TOUGHEST OBSTACLE Softball helps me overcome my fight with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder so you could say that it’s the sport that has kept me going.

ABOUT HIS TEAM We have all had some fighting to do especially the ones on our team who have or lost their fight with cancer. We get out there every week sick or not and show that no matter what stands in front of you... You can overcome it.

MALLORY HOHENADEL, 11
Letts, Iowa
Louisa-Muscatine Monsters
Girls’ 12-Under Fast Pitch
Short Stop / Catcher

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOFTBALL I love everything about the sport; crushing the ball and sliding are my favorite!

HER GOAL To keep improving and to get more comfortable at all the positions.

TOUGHEST OBSTACLES Long practices and hot weather.

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT I had a grand slam over the fence.
It is that time of the year again! The Spring Liberty Mutual Insurance Responsible Sports Spring Community Grant period is now open!

The Community Grant is a great opportunity for your softball club or team to earn money. You can use the grant towards purchasing equipment, team uniforms, travel funds, player scholarships or whatever you may need! You can be the next winner from ASA Softball just like the Texas Vipers99 youth girls softball team who earned a grant in the Fall 2012 period.

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

Get started today!
Every day, millions of lives are shaped with a softball and a little open space.

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.

Liberty Mutual Insurance
Official Sponsor of

Responsible. What’s your policy?®
USA SOFTBALL VETERANS HELP PROMOTE THE SPORT ACROSS THE GLOBE

In February 2012, the U.S. Department of State announced a global effort to engage women and girls through sports. With the help of former USA Softball athletes, the Empowering Women and Girls Through Sports Initiative aims to increase the number of women and girls involved in sports and to share the lessons of Title IX – the landmark legislation in the U.S. that afforded women equality and opportunity through sports – worldwide. It is comprised of three pillars: sports envoys (American athletes who travel overseas); sports visitors (youth athletes and coaches who travel to the U.S.); and the cornerstone of the initiative, the U.S. Department of State and espnW Global Sports Mentoring Program. This initiative builds on Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton’s vision of “smart power,” which embraces the full range of diplomatic tools—in this case, sports—to empower women and girls and foster greater understanding. Click here to learn more.

In February, USA Softball Olympians Jessica Mendoza and Natasha Watley traveled to Nicaragua and India, respectively, to participate in the Sports Diplomacy Envoy. Mendoza, along with Ruby Rojas, traveled to Nicaragua, leading clinics for athletes and coaches and spearheading discussions on leadership and the importance of health and wellness. During their time in Esteli and Managua, Mendoza and Rojas led a series of softball clinics for girl teams, held press talks on the field, and engaged coaches in special trainings on pitching and batting. They also discussed their experiences as elite female athletes in the U.S. and emphasized the importance of Title IX in women’s sports. Mendoza, who serves on the U.S. Department of State’s Council to Empower Women and Girls Through Sports, is a two-time Olympian, three-time World Champion, and inductee in the Latin Sports Hall of Fame. She has also served as President of the Women’s Sports Foundation. Watley, along with Olympian Barry Larkin, traveled to India and took part in the State Department’s first joint baseball and softball venture to encourage youth participation in sports. Larkin and Watley traveled to New Delhi and Imphal to lead baseball and softball clinics for underserved youth and their coaches. In those cities, more than 400 young people were reached—200 at Imphal’s Khuman Lampak Sports Complex and 240 boys and girls at Jesus and Mary College and Mayteri College in New Delhi. Watley is also a two-time Olympian and three-time World Champion.
MEN’S A SLOW PITCH 2013 ”ASA 2K” SERIES SCHEDULE

• Tournament must be ASA Sanctioned
• Tournament upper division must play with ASA Restricted Player List. To view the current list, click here ASA Class A Men’s Slow Pitch Restricted Players List
• Tournament free to use rules it sees fit for event
• Teams will be awarded points based on finish in each event. Team with most points at end of series who plays in the ASA Men’s A National Championship will win a Prize Pack.
• Teams must play in one of the following ASA Tournaments or an ASA National Championship to participate in the Men's Class A National Championship.

Points in the qualifiers will be awarded as follows:
• First place-60 points
• Second place-40 points
• Third place-30 points
• Fourth place-20 points
• Fifth place-15 points
• All other teams receive 10 points

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TOURNAMENT</th>
<th>DIRECTOR</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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<td>April 5-7</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
<td>Combat Capital City Classic</td>
<td>Rich Cress</td>
<td>405-425-3442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>Mid America Grand Slam</td>
<td>David Maury</td>
<td>513-245-1212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3-5</td>
<td>Owatonna, MN</td>
<td>Corky’s Earlybird Men’s Softball Classic</td>
<td>Loren Dietz</td>
<td>507-456-2618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18-19</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>ASA 2K Series -</td>
<td>Sean Melvin</td>
<td>858-558-8685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8-9</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>Best of the Northwest</td>
<td>Ron Boley</td>
<td>503-823-3112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14-16</td>
<td>Bloomington, IN</td>
<td>ASA Midwest Challenge</td>
<td>Tim Fulton</td>
<td>812-349-3742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28-30</td>
<td>Bismarc, ND</td>
<td>McQuade</td>
<td>Jack Jones</td>
<td>701-426-8700</td>
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***Additional tournaments could be added.
ESPN'S 2013 COLLEGE SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

ESPN has you covered when it comes to NCAA Softball. Check out what games you can catch on their family of networks throughout the 2013 season.

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<td>Tennessee at Florida</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<td>March 23</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M at Tennessee</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>Auburn at Alabama</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Missouri at Alabama</td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Missouri at Alabama</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Baylor at Oklahoma</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>California at UCLA</td>
<td>11 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Ole Miss at Miss. State</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Florida at Kentucky</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>LSU at Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Washington at Arizona State</td>
<td>10 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Arkansas at Missouri</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Virginia at Florida State</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Cal St. Northridge at Long Beach St.</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Cal St. Northridge at Long Beach St.</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>UCLA at Arizona</td>
<td>10 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>UCLA at Arizona</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Florida State at Virginia Tech</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>South Carolina at Auburn</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>Georgia Tech at North Carolina</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Alabama at LSU</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>California at Arizona State</td>
<td>10 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Georgia at Florida</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Virginia Tech at Virginia</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Texas Tech at Baylor</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Louisville at Notre Dame</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Louisville at Notre Dame</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Tennessee at Missouri</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Texas at Oklahoma State</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>LSU at Georgia</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPN</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>SEC play-in game No. 1</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>SEC play-in game No. 2</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>SEC quarterfinal No. 1</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>SEC quarterfinal No. 2</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>SEC quarterfinal No. 3</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>SEC quarterfinal No. 4</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>SEC semifinal No. 1</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>SEC semifinal No. 2</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Big East championship</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>ACC championship</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>SEC championship</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>SWAC championship</td>
<td>10 p.m.</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Big South championship</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>ESPNU</td>
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2012 USA SOFTBALL ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Valerie Arioto (Pleasanton, Calif.) was named the 2012 USA Softball Female Athlete of the Year while Dennis Rulli (Moorpark, Calif.) was selected as the Male Athlete of the Year for 2012. Jerlin Rutt (Bernville, Pa.) was also named the Junior Male Athlete of the Year from the Junior Men’s National Team program.

Arioto batted .462 on the year with 11 home runs, 37 RBI and 27 runs. She had an on-base percentage of .611 with a 1.115 slugging percentage. The slugger finished the 2012 campaign leading Team USA in six offensive statistical categories including: runs scored, RBI, home runs, slugging percentage, on-base percentage and walks.

In four games with the USA Men’s Slow Pitch Team in 2012 Rulli went 14-of-18 from the plate for a .778 batting average and scored 13 runs. The California native hit five home runs and two doubles while picking up 10 RBI.

Rutt struck out 38 batters in 33.1 innings pitched during the ISF Junior Men’s World Championships. He threw complete games in five of his six outings and run-ruled opponents in three of the contests.

For more News and Notes visit ASASoftball.com and USASoftball.com

BORDER BATTLE V

The 5th Men’s Border Battle Slow Pitch game will return to Oklahoma City Thursday, July 11 when the USA takes the field against Canada in Border Battle V!
OPPORTUNITY IS EVERYTHING

OPEN TO ASPIRING COLLEGE PROSPECTS
AGES 13-18

RECENT ASA/USA SOFTBALL NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION PLAYERS HAVE COMMITTED TO STANFORD, OREGON STATE, FSU & VARIOUS OTHER DI, DII & DIII PROGRAMS

APRIL
4/7 | LONG ISLAND SPORTS COMPLEX | FREEPORT, NY
4/14 | FOREKICKS SPORTS COMPLEX | MARLBOROUGH, MA
4/14 | IOWA WESTERN CC | COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA
4/21 | SERA ATHLETIC FIELDS | TACOMA, WA
4/28 | S. PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL | DOUGLASVILLE, GA

MAY
5/5 | OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
5/5 | FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL | NASHVILLE, TN
5/11 | CHALMETTE HIGH SCHOOL | CHALMETTE, LA
5/12 | SALMON CREEK SPORTS COMPLEX | VANCOUVER, WA
5/19 | MISSOURI BAPTIST UNIVERSITY | SAINT LOUIS, MO
5/19 | LIMESTONE COLLEGE | GAFFNEY, SC

JUNE
6/9 | BURKETT SPORTS COMPLEX | PITTSBURGH, PA
6/11 | WILLOW LANE ATHLETIC COMPLEX | BOISE, ID
6/12 | HEWITT-TRUSSVILLE HS | TRUSSVILLE, AL
6/16 | COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES | GOLDEN, CO
6/17 | BROOKSIDE WEST PARK | ASHLAND, OH
6/20 | TWIN LAKES PARK | BLOOMINGTON, IN

JULY
7/10 | WINSLOW PARK | WARWICK, RI
7/16 | UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS | IRVING, TX
7/23 | BRANDT QUIRK PARK | WATERTOWN, WI

AUGUST
8/6 | DEEP RUN HIGH SCHOOL | GLEN ALLEN, VA

ADDITIONAL EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN:
LOUISVILLE, KY; CHICAGO, IL; SIOUX FALLS, SD;
TRENTON, NJ & BALTIMORE, MD

SEPTEMBER
9/22 | ELLA MAE POWER PARK | NOVI, MI

ADDITIONAL EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN:
SEATTLE, WA; BOSTON, MA; AUSTIN, TX;
PHILADELPHIA, PA & COLUMBUS, OH

FOR AN UPDATED LIST OF ASA/USA NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM DATES & LOCATIONS, PLEASE VISIT SOFTBALLFACTORY.COM

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

The 1930s

**In the Beginning:** In 1933, Leo Fischer, sports editor of the Chicago American and M.J. Pauley, a Chicago sporting goods salesman, recognized the need to organize softball on a national basis. Their solution: the creation of the ASA. In 1934, the first meeting of the International Joint Rules Committee on Softball was held January 21-22 in Chicago with 37 states represented.

**Great Players of the Era:** Nina Korgan headlined the 1930s with six Women’s Fast Pitch National Championship teams. In the 1941 National Championship, Korgan fanned 67 batters in 30 innings. She hurled four shutouts, had a perfect game and also struck out 20 in another. She also averaged 15 strikeouts per game throughout her career. Harold “Shifty”
Gears was the first player elected into the Hall of Fame in 1957. During his career, he won 886 of 981 games, struck out 13,244 batters and collected 61 no-hit games. In National Championship play, he won 20 games, including three no-hitters and 15 shutouts.

**Teams to Remember:** Over a seven year period (1933-1939), there were seven different Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Champions: J.L. Gill Boosters (Chicago, Ill.), Ke-Nash-A Motor Manufactures (Kenosha, Wis.), Crimson Coach Tobacco (Toledo, Ohio), Kodak Park (Rochester, N.Y.), Briggs Body (Detroit, Mich.), Pohlers Café (Cincinnati, Ohio) and Nick Carr Boosters (Covington, Ky.). Chicago, Ill., Cleveland, Ohio and Alameda, Cal. each produced multiple National Champions in the Women’s Major Fast Pitch division. The Great Northernns (Chicago, Ill.) and Hart Motor Commercial Tire (Chicago, Ill.) claimed the title in 1933 and 1934, respectively while the Bloomer Girls (Cleveland, Ohio) were crowned champions in 1935. National Screw and Manufacturing of Cleveland (Cleveland, Ohio) won back-to-back titles in 1936 and 1937, before J.J. Krieg’s (Alameda, Calif.) closed out the decade with consecutive championships in 1938 and 1939.

**The 1940s**

**Overcoming the Depression:** While the Depression defined the 1930’s, World War II defined the 1940’s. Even with the war, the ASA not only survived but came out of the war the largest amateur athletic organization in the world.

**Great Players of the Era:** Dot Wilkinson played for a quarter century and was selected to 19 All-American teams. She led the Arizona Ramblers of Phoenix to three National titles and was considered the best catcher of the era. Wilkinson’s lifetime batting average was .300. She never used a catcher’s mitt, instead opting for a five-finger fielder’s glove. Clyde “Dizzy” Kirkendall was the pitching star for five National Championship teams in an impressive career that spanned 25 years. During his career, he participated in 11 ASA National Championships, helping lead the famed Zollner Pistons to three National Championship titles.

**Teams to Remember:** The Arizona Ramblers, led by Hall of Famer Dot Wilkinson, began and ended the 40s as the...
best women’s fast pitch team with National Titles in 1940, ’48 and ’49. The Jax Maids of New Orleans, La. Were the most successful women’s fast pitch teams in the mid-40’s, winning the National Title in 1945, ’46 and ’47. In an unfortunate twist, the Maids were ruled ineligible for amateur play in 1948 due to the team’s participation in contests featuring professional teams. The Zollner Pistons, led by Hall of Famer Clyde “Dizzy” Kirkendall, won three consecutive Men’s Fast Pitch National Titles in 1945, ’46 and ’47. Hammerfield Air Base of Fresno, Calif. was the only other men’s fast pitch team in the 40s to win multiple National Titles. They took home the trophy twice with back-to-back wins in 1943 and ’44.

The 1950s
The Emergence of Slow Pitch Softball: The 1950’s for softball was a decade of innovation and maturity. The innovations included the realization of a youth program, the beginning of a slow pitch program and an annual All-Star Fast Pitch Series for both men and women.

Great Players of the Era: John Hunter never lost in state or regional competition in 30 outings. He set a National record (since broken) in 1952 by fanning 19 batters in a seven-inning game. In his next appearance, he struck out 16. His lifetime record with the Clearwater Bombers was 275-19. He once retired 45 consecutive batters on strikes. In almost 30 years of pitching, Bertha Tickey posted a 757-88 record, including 162 no-hit, no-run games. She was named to the National All-Star team 18 times and chosen MVP of the National Championship eight times. She played on 11 National Championship teams. At the 1953 National Championship, she struck out 20 batters in seven innings. Of Tickey’s 74 National Championship wins, three were perfect games.

ASA TIMELINE

1935 - Heavy rains forced teams to practice on a roof top during the 1935 ASA National Championship in Chicago.

1936 - A photo of the 1936 ASA National Champions, Kodak Park of Rochester, N.Y.

1938 - A photo taken during the 1938 ASA National Championship.

1941 - Wilbur E. Landis, president of the ASA, presents the 1941 World’s Softball Championship official Ford Mercury car to ASA Executive Secretary M.J. Pauly (in car). The car was painted red (bottom), white and blue (top).

1942 - Members of the Deep Rock Oilers (Tulsa, Okla.) arrive in Chicago prior to winning the 1942 ASA National Championship.

1942 - The 1942 championship was the first time the double elimination format was used. Due to war-time restrictions on travel, the Women’s National Championship was reduced to ten teams, prompting the use of the new system.

1947 - Hall of Famer Nina Korgan is lifted by her fellow Jax Maids (New Orleans, La.) teammates following their win at the 1947 National Championship.

1951 - Lou Hamilton became ASA’s first female commissioner in 1951.

1951 - A photo of the ASA Commissioners in 1951.

1953 - 1953 marked the first year that slow pitch was added to the National Championship program.

1955 - In 1955, Bertha Tickey was awarded the Coca-Cola Bottle Award for her outstanding efforts in the 1955 Women’s Fast Pitch National Championship. Tickey was a standout athlete during her long career with ASA Softball.

1957 - Presentation of the 1957 Men’s Slow Pitch National Championship trophy to Gatliff Auto Sales (Newport, Ky.)

1957 - Hall of Famer Bernard Iassogna demonstrates what officials should look for in a softball training school at Rhein/Main Air Base, Germany. Due to softball’s rising popularity in the armed forces, ASA officials sent an envoy in 1957.
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For the seventh week in a row, the Oklahoma Sooners, led by 2012 USA Softball players Keilani Ricketts and Jessica Shults, are the No. 1 team in college softball according to the ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25 poll. The Sooners edged out Arizona State who comes in at No. 2 this week. Florida, California and Tennessee round out the top five. Click here to see the complete poll.

2013 USA SOFTBALL NATIONAL COLLEGIATE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**Week 1 (Feb. 7-10)**
Keilani Ricketts – Oklahoma – Senior – Pitcher – San Jose, Calif.

**Week 2 (Feb. 11-17)**

**Week 3 (Feb. 18-24)**
Mel Dumezich – Texas A&M – Senior – Pitcher – Whiting, Ind.

**Week 4 (Feb. 25- March 3)**

**Week 5 (March 4-10)**

**Week 6 (March 11-17)**
Kaia Parnaby – Hawai’i – Senior – Pitcher – Bilgola Plateau, NSW, Australia

**Week 7 (March 18-24)**

UCLA senior B.B. Bates was the USA Softball National Collegiate Player of the Week in Week Two after an 8 HR, 19 RBI and 10 run performance in five games played.
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It’s not often that anyone gets to travel 7,000 miles around the world to represent their country doing what they love but that’s exactly how two of ASA’s finest umpires spent the early part of March this year. Randy McLamb (Clinton, N.C.) and Greg Pohl (St. Louis, Mo.) made the trip to Auckland, New Zealand to work the International Softball Federation (ISF) Men’s Fastpitch World Championship and while the opportunity was extremely rewarding, the path of getting there wasn’t easy! Balls and Strikes sat down with the umpiring duo to get a firsthand account of their trip and the process of qualifying to work such a high level event.

First of all, congratulations on being selected to represent the U.S. at the 2013 ISF Men’s World Championship. How did you get your start in umpiring?

Pohl: It is an honor to represent ASA and be selected for this particular World Championship. I never imagined anything close to this when I started umpiring ASA Softball in the Quad Cities - Illinois. I was 15 and playing baseball when my neighbor asked if I would be interested in umpiring. He umpired a men’s fastpitch league and occasionally needed a partner. I was a catcher, so I figured it couldn’t be that hard (boy was I wrong). I went out and worked three games one night with him, and I was hooked on the game! I joined the local ASA association, and they took me under their wing.

You’ve worked several major events throughout your career, do you ever get nervous or anxious before stepping on the field?

McLamb: I used to get nervous years ago, but I really don’t any more. I thought I might get nervous at this World Championship, but I never really did.

Where would you rank the trip to Auckland, New Zealand among your career highlights as a softball umpire?

Pohl: Getting the opportunity to umpire the ISF Men’s World Championships has been a goal for over 12 years. I learned early that setting goals were important. At 18, as an ASA Umpire I decided I wanted to earn my ISF Certification by the time I was 30. I worked extremely hard and accomplished that goal. Once I earned my ISF Certification, I made it my goal to umpire this Championship. Without a doubt, this has been the highlight of my umpiring career and a dream come true.

What type of training and certification were you required to go through in order to become a World Championship caliber umpire?

McLamb: In the US in order to qualify for an ISF event, you have work a minimum of
two ASA National Championships with at least two of them in the "Major" category (Men’s Major, Men’s Masters, Men’s A, Women’s Major, or Girls’ 18 GOLD). You have to have "Excellent" ratings in all of the championships and you have to have attended a National Umpire School within the last five years. Once you satisfy all those criteria, you then apply for your ISF certification. The ISF certification process itself isn’t easy. It’s over three or four days and involves a test, case plays, the pitching machine, live games, etc. you have to achieve at least a 90% average to earn your certification.

With 16 countries represented on the field at the World Championships, what was it like to umpire such a diverse tournament? Where there language barriers that you had to overcome and how did you manage to do so?

Pohl: One of the unique challenges of an ISF World Championship is the cultural differences; and the team’s customs and language do present umpires with challenges they do not typically concern themselves with in their own country. Personally, this is just another reason why umpiring international softball is so rewarding. Although sometimes difficult, it’s extremely rewarding and enjoyable to interact with teams and umpires from around the world. We’re forced to communicate and work together for the ‘Game.’ It’s not about the individuals, but rather the game and what it represents. Fortunately, most of the communication can be done using a common set of signals. However, there are times when umpires must help each other to get the message across to a player or coach.

Did you get to spend any time away from the softball fields while you were in Auckland? If so, what did you do?

McLamb: We really didn’t have much free time to spend around Auckland, but I got to see quite a bit of both the North Island and South Island three years ago when I was there for an event. I even managed to bungee jump on the South Island down near Queenstown.

What advice would you give to young umpires who are just getting started and aspire to make it to this level of competition?

Pohl: I would encourage any young ASA Umpire that desires to umpire at this level, or even the highest levels of softball in the U.S., to sit down with those that have done it and find out what is needed to get there. Develop a plan, a set of goals, and then list (physically write/type it down) what needs to be done to achieve those goals. Set both short and long term goals, and know how and when to evaluate progress. They need to know what they should do, and what they shouldn’t do in order to be successful.

Dreaming big is just the beginning, putting the dream into action is where the young umpire can grow and be successful!

McLamb: For any young umpire aspiring to make it to a World Championship, I have several pieces of advice. First, be the best ASA Umpire you can to get the required nationals. Second, always ask your partners for feedback and be honest with your self-evaluations. Third, every umpire makes mistakes, but the good ones learn from their mistakes. Lastly, never stop learning and improving because once you do, you’ll never get better.●
Southern California ASA Commissioner and ASA President Elect Phil Gutierrez 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 Southern California ASA apart from other Associations?**
That’s a difficult question to answer since all Associations have unique circumstances with which they must deal to accomplish their mission. Having said that, unlike many of the other Associations, we are blessed with a large population base that lives in an area of our country where softball, like most other outdoor sports, can be played almost every day of the year. While most Associations are unable to play softball during the months of December, January and February, we have adult and youth leagues, certainly tournaments, playing softball which provides our umpires more games to umpire. Annually during January our Junior Olympic Program holds two Coaches Conferences, one for Recreation Softball and one for Travel Softball, where combined approximately 1,000 coaches or league administrators attend training and informative sessions to help them prepare for the beginning of another ASA/USA Softball season. Additionally, our Umpire Program uses these same three months to train umpires by conducting three all-day rules clinics, eight all-day mechanics clinics and administer the current Umpire Exam, which must be passed. Only umpires that successfully complete this training are eligible to receive assignments to championship tournaments, regardless of level.

**As the largest Association in the ASA/USA Softball, you have many different pieces that help your Association function. As the Commissioner, how do you manage all of those pieces?**
As Commissioner I know and certainly understand that I am responsible for the overall state of our Association. I also know that in order for our large Association to achieve its goals and thereby accomplish its overall mission a strong structure must exist with persons in place who are empowered with the authority to carry out their assigned duties. We have such a structure with persons in place in whom I have complete confidence and trust. We have a staff of about 70 volunteers of all ages and backgrounds, which are energetic, knowledgeable but also eager to learn, enthusiastic, impactful and passionate about our Association, ASA/USA Softball and the...
sport in general. I rely heavily on these volunteers, especially our senior staff that consists of our JO Commissioner for Recreation Softball, JO Commissioner for Travel Softball, Adult Program Commissioner, Umpire-in-Chief, Players Association Director and our Marketing Director.

**Southern California ASA is in its 10th year of providing coaches training programs. What has the response been like for these programs and how have they benefited your association?**

In one word, phenomenal! We began providing coaches training prior to the introduction of the ASA/USA Softball ACE Program. Now we provide the coaches training in addition to the ACE training. The true measure of the success of our coaches training is the very large number of coaches that return to the training each year. The benefit, especially for our “B” and “C” programs, is better coaching at the grassroots level where it is so very important as these are our players who are beginning their ASA/USA Softball experience.

**As an organization what do you feel are the Southern California ASA’s biggest strengths/weaknesses?**

Our strength is the quality service provided by our extremely dedicated staff to our leagues, teams, players and umpires. We believe that every phone call deserves to be returned and every email requires a reply. Moreover, and perhaps more importantly, we believe in face-to-face communication with our members; that being one of the reasons for our annual coaches’ conferences and coaches training. We also attend meetings, events, tournaments, clinics, etc. held by our members as often as possible to let them know that we are interested in their program. Our JO Commissioners, both Recreation and Travel, hold online training sessions with leagues and teams using “Go-to-Meeting” to assist them with RegisterASA. Lastly, we hold completely staffed championship tournaments that are organized, safe and conducted with our membership in mind. We do this by assigning the best umpires available, using the latest technology to keep all interested persons informed and by doing everything we can to ensure our members have a fun experience.

Not a weakness, but a major concern is creating a way to stem the loss of teams and veteran umpires to other organizations that exist only for their own gratification and profit.

**What are some of the ways that you reach out to the teams in your Association and share information with them?**

As mentioned previously, we continually hold or attend conferences, training sessions, meetings and other events to reach out to our membership in person. At these events we make presentations, distribute written material such as a recently published brochure that explains/describes our program and answer any questions that may exist. Our staff stays in constant contact with our leagues, teams and umpires using the telephone and emails, especially email blasts. Additionally, we have our website, use Facebook and recently we began using Twitter.●

Click here for more information on the Southern California Amateur Softball Association.
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In the past year, USA Softball National Coaching Schools have been held in Ohio, Southern California and Houston, Texas and more are on the books for 2013. Aside from the USA Softball schools, many local ASA associations hold their own annual coaching clinics. Southern California is in its tenth year of hosting its coaches training program which is designed to help coaches of all levels further their knowledge of the sport.

Florida ASA recently hosted its inaugural Coaching Clinic this past January. USA Softball Women’s National Team Head Coach Ken Eriksen as well as Canadian National Team Coach Mark Smith and International Pitching Academy coach Russell Cooper lead both classroom and on-field demonstrations with 72 attending coaches. Florida ASA Deputy Umpire-In-Chief Anthony Small spoke with the coaches on rules and how to deal with umpires during a game situation and Sergeant Tim Long also gave attendees a great talk on “Who’s Watching Our Children” to help raise awareness on the importance of identifying potential suspicious activities around teams. Resources just like these are available to ASA coaches all over the country and we strongly encourage you to take advantage of them. For more information on coaching resources visit www.ASASoftball.com.

“A coach should never be afraid to ask questions of anyone he could learn from.”

-Bobby Knight
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JANESVILLE — Jerry Burhans hit a home run when he pitched the idea of teaching a class in umpiring at the Boys & Girls Club of Janesville. “What appealed to me was him teaching the kids a skill they can use for the rest of their lives while hopefully providing them some sort of income,” said Carrie Kulinski, executive director at the club.

Even Kulinski’s son T.J. enrolled in the class. T.J. knows he can make about $30 per game and work up to five games a day umpiring. “He’s excited to make some money,” she said. “I’m excited as a parent to get him out of the house and off the computer.” Eight local teenage boys and girls take part in the class, which meets twice weekly for 12 weeks.

Burhans is deputy chief umpire for the Amateur Softball Association of Wisconsin. He opened class with a review of material from the ASA’s “2012 Umpire Manual: Official Rules of Softball,” which has been talked about in class for the past three weeks. “I wanted to give an opportunity to boys and girls 14 and older interested in getting a spring/summer job, to make extra money with the potential for a career in this field that would fill a void,” he said.

Burhans believes umpires are a dying breed. The ASA now has 38,000 umpires. By 2014, however, the association expects it will need an additional 10,000 umpires because of the baby boom of 2004, which was larger than the one that followed World War II, he said. “These children will be 10 in 2014, creating the need of future umpires,” he said.

Burhans, who assigns 300 umpires to tournaments and conducts evaluations on them, plans to hire some of the youth who graduate from his course for spring and summer umpiring. By the time the course is completed, graduates will have learned the philosophy of umpiring baseball and softball, plus the rules and mechanics of the game, he said. Those who pass field and written exams will become certified Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association baseball and ASA softball umpires. With those certifications, umpires can earn between $25 and $40 per game, Burhans said.

Hunter Schneider, 14, said he initially enrolled in the class because he plays baseball and “thought it would be cool to umpire.” Now the Parker High School freshman realizes he can make more than $400 in three days if he umpires 12 games at $35 each.

Another student, Ethan Hernandez, 13, said he just wanted to learn more about baseball and softball when he signed up. Now the Marshall Middle School student hopes to umpire as a summer job.

“My goal is to make a lot of money,” he said. Kulinski said she would like for the partnership between the club and Burhans, who teaches as a volunteer, to continue next year. Both sides believe there is a strong chance that will happen.
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USA Men Compete at ISF World Championship

The USA Men’s Fastpitch National Team recently traveled to Auckland, New Zealand for the 2013 International Softball Federation (ISF) World Championship. Team USA fell to 0-3 early in pool play but bounced back with four straight wins to earn a berth to the playoffs.

The USA men were matched with Argentina in the opening round of playoffs. Despite scoring two quick runs in the top of the first and holding the lead through three and half innings, an eight-run fourth inning spelled doom for the USA as they fell by a final of 9-2.

Matt Palazzo (Des Moines, Iowa) led the way offensively for Team USA. The infielder finished the tournament with a .556 batting average, 4 home runs, 8 RBI and 10 runs scored. Click here to see results and box scores from all of the USA Men’s Fastpitch National Teams games.

Matt Palazzo celebrates with teammates after hitting a homerun.

USA infielder Tommy Crouch fields a groundball.

Adam LaLonde and Josh Johnson chat with USA coach Avon Meacham.

ISF Men’s Fastpitch World Championship - Final Results

GOLD  New Zealand
SILVER  Venezuela
BRONZE  Australia
4TH  Argentina
5TH  Canada
6TH  Japan
7TH  Samoa
8TH  USA
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— Mike Candrea, two-time U.S. Olympic Team Head Coach

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   a smaller 8.5-inch, 3.5-ounce, high quality soft leather ball.

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The 2013 Biennial Umpire-In-Chief (UIC) Clinic, held the weekend of Feb. 7-10, brought over 450 umpires to Oklahoma City. Hosted at the Biltmore Hotel, the clinic included breakout sessions, guest speakers and a banquet to honor those who receive the Award of Excellence.

Sessions began on Thursday evening with sessions for new UIC’s and those wishing to be a UIC for a National Championship and a session covering RegisterASA. Region 7 capped off the evening by hosting a hospitality party.

Friday morning kicked off with opening remarks and introductions from Kevin Ryan, ASA Supervisor of Umpires, Executive Director Ron Radigonda, Director of Membership Services Craig Cress, President E.T. Colvin and the Umpire Committee Chairman Phil Gutierrez. Bollinger followed the opening remarks with a presentation and the opening session was capped off by guest speaker Don Vaden, Supervisor of Officials for the NBA. Friday and Saturday saw a return to business as the attendees participated in several breakout sessions. Topics included Training and Retaining umpires, Obstruction/Interference, the Slow Pitch Game, Game Management, Appeals vs. Protests, Equipment, Umpire Mechanics and Technology.

The Awards Banquet brought an end to the clinic, with over 60 umpires honored by ASA/USA Softball. The evening was highlighted by the 15 Regional Awards of Excellence and the Merle O. Butler National Award of Excellence that was given to Wayne Vaught (Yukon, Okla.) who was honored for his time and service as the UIC and Umpire Coordinator for events at the ASA Hall of Fame Complex. Dick Gayler (Kennesaw, Ga.), Mark Ingrao (Falls Church, Va.), Walt Sparks (San Antonio, Texas) and the late Max Wilkes were also recognized for their retirement from the National Umpire Staff. For a complete list of award recipients, please look on the next page.
THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS:

**Region 1 New England** –
Norm Davis (Auburn, Maine)

**Region 2 Mid Atlantic** –
Jim Peters (Linden, N.J.)

**Region 3 Central Atlantic** –
Mark Ingrao ( Falls Church, Va.)

**Region 4 South Atlantic** –
Ed Rowe (Chattanooga, Tenn.)

**Region 5 Southern** –
Annette Pevy (Tallahassee, Fla.)

**Region 6 Southwestern** –
Dennis Wanzer (Enid, Okla.)

**Region 7 Texas** –
Danny Bowman (Lone Oak, Texas)

**Region 8 Great Lakes** –
Jim Mitchell (New Richmond, Wis.)

**Region 9 East Central** –
Tim Klemm (Harrison, Ohio)

**Region 10 Mid West** –
John Smart (Hardinsburg, Ky.)

**Region 11 Northern** –
Keith Cook (Little Canada, Minn.)

**Region 12 Mid America** –
Greg Pohl (St. Louis, Mo.)

**Region 13 Rocky Mountain** –
Ralph Anderson (West Point, Utah)

**Region 14 Pacific Coast** –
Chris Drumm (Oceanside, Calif.)

**Region 15 Northwest** –
Jack Eppley (Anchorage, Alaska)

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WERE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE:

- **Kayleen Dunson**, 5 years – Seattle ASA
- **Jeff Rice**, 10 years – Colorado ASA
- **Ralph Anderson**, 15 years – Utah ASA
- **Stan Finch**, 15 years – Hawaii ASA
- **Steve Zawierucha**, 15 years – Maryland-DC ASA
- **Mike Graber**, 20 years – Alaska ASA
- **Mike Terlecky**, 20 years – Buffalo ASA
- **Steve Huskins**, 20 years – Piedmont ASA
- **Chad Mitchell**, 20 years – Wisconsin ASA
- **Jack Mettier**, 25 years – Central California ASA
- **Bill Gubel**, 25 years – Sacramento ASA
- **Warren Collatt**, 25 years – Minnesota ASA
- **Jack Walker**, 25 years – Missouri ASA
- **Greg Pohl**, 25 years – St. Louis ASA
- **Kathy Zifchock**, 25 years – New York ASA
- **David Anderson**, 25 years – Oklahoma ASA
- **Ed Rowe**, 25 years – Tennessee ASA
- **Fran O’Donnell**, 25 years – Wyoming ASA
- **Steve Riswold**, 25 years – South Dakota ASA
- **Chuck Louie**, 30 years – San Francisco ASA
- **Tony Roberto**, 30 years – Connecticut ASA
- **Bobbie Seals**, 30 years – Nebraska ASA
- **Glenn Colburn**, 30 years – New Hampshire ASA
- **Newton Buckner**, 30 years – Southern New York ASA
- **Don Alexander**, 30 years – Oregon ASA
- **Terry Ryan**, 30 years – Memphis ASA
- **Ron Selph**, 30 years – Fort Worth ASA
- **Mike Bozeman**, 35 years – Alabama ASA
- **Wally Latall**, 35 years – Arizona ASA
- **Jill Suico**, 35 years – Oakland ASA
- **John Orlowski**, 35 years – Kansas City ASA
- **Johnny Campbell**, 35 years – New Mexico ASA
- **Mike Wolf**, 35 years – North Dakota ASA
- **Joe McGeever**, 35 years – Philadelphia ASA
- **Charlie Moss**, 35 years – Central Virginia ASA
- **Jerry Williams**, 35 years – West Virginia ASA
- **Steve Roscia**, 35 years – Maine ASA
- **Bob Mauger**, 35 years – New Jersey ASA
- **Jim Craig**, 35 years – Buffalo ASA
- **Jerry Stewart**, 40 years – Mississippi ASA
- **Jim Peters**, 40 years – New Jersey ASA
- **Gene Harrison**, 40 years – Oklahoma ASA
- **Dave Epperson**, 40 years – Kansas ASA
- **Jerry Fick**, 45 years – Cincinnati ASA
- **Dave Maudsley**, 45 years – Sacramento ASA
- **Walt Sparks**, 55 years – San Antonio ASA
- **Ike Wheeler**, 60 years – Louisiana ASA

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WERE RECOGNIZED FOR ATTENDING ALL 23 UIC CLINICS:

- **Les Novak** – St. Louis Park, Minn.
- **Kinard Latham** – Columbus, Ga.
- **Henry Pollard** – Richmond, Va.
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Aside from the ASA Hall of Fame Stadium, the Play at Home statue, located in front of the ASA National Office, is arguably the most recognizable attraction in the softball world. Crafted to reflect a close play at home, the sculpture was dedicated in 1979 to all softball players and umpires worldwide. Now a fan favorite, teams and individuals stop to pose for pictures in front of the iconic landmark during their visit to the ASA National Office. Here, we honor the work of Leonard McMurry with photos taken during the creation of the statue.
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UC Santa Barbara, C. Cal
Just Softball – Mt. Sac, S. Cal
Cal Lutheran University, S. Cal
University of San Diego, S. Cal
San Diego City College, S. Cal
UNR & the Reno Sports Complex, NV
Williamette University, OR
Seattle University, WA
Embry Riddle University, AZ
Bible Park, CO
City Park, CO

CENTRAL
University of Dallas, Irving, TX
University of the Incarnate Word, TX
DePauw University, IN
The BallPark, Arlington Hts., IL
Extra Innings Academy, IL
Concordia University, WI
Fullerton Park, MO
Davenport University, MI
Defiance College, OH

EAST
Fairfield University, CT
Curry College, MA
Amherst College, MA
Dan Duquette Sports Academy, MA
Bryant University, RI
Gettysburg College, PA
Rochester Institute of Technology, NY
Adelphi University, NY
Vernon Verona High School, NY
The Lawrenceville School, NJ
New Jersey Jackals, NJ
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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.

Scan the code from your smart phone to visit TournamentASA!
The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) has proven to be front and center when it comes to the fight against cancer. From the annual “Pink Out” game during the World Cup of Softball that has raised over $60,000 for cancer research to the countless clinics and tournaments hosted by local associations all over the country, the ASA is partnering with cancer awareness organizations in this important battle. One event, a tournament hosted by Kansas City ASA, is in its fifth year of benefitting the American Cancer Society (ACS).

“Hit for the Cure is more than just a softball tournament,” said Kansas City Metro & Kansas ASA Girls Fastpitch Junior Olympic Commissioner Mary Mahoney. “We take a break in the middle of the tournament to hold our own Relay Ceremony which mimics that of the ACS, to teach the players the meaning of what the event is all about. We also suspend the uniform policy for this event and encourage teams to create their own uniquely designed shirts in honor of or in memory
of someone who has fought a battle with cancer. It’s a very moving event and the teams really enjoy participating.”

Through the four-year history of the event, Kansas City ASA has raised and donated over $23,000 to the American Cancer Society and Camp Quality, a summer camp in St. Joseph, Mo. for children with cancer. ●

The 2013 Hit for the Cure! tournament will be held in Olathe, Kansas, April 27-28. Teams can visit www.TournamentASA.com to register.
It’s a new year in OKC at the ASA Hall of Fame and we have a ton of great events lined up for the 2013 season. This season will be highlighted by the NCAA Women’s College World Series, World Cup of Softball and Border Battle and six ASA/USA Hall of Fame Qualifiers. Here’s a list of all our upcoming events this season...

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 5-7</td>
<td>Capital City Classic (Adult Slow Pitch)</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>Special Olympics Oklahoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12-13</td>
<td>High School Slow Pitch Classic</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Bedlam (OU vs OSU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26-28</td>
<td>ASA Spring Challenge (14U, 16U, 18U)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 30-May 1</td>
<td>OSSAA HIGH School Slow Pitch State Championship</td>
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<td>May 3-5</td>
<td>Region 2 JUCO Championship/SAC Championship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17-19</td>
<td>ASA 10U Hall of Fame Qualifier</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 30-June 5</td>
<td>NCAA Women’s College World Series</td>
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<td>June 7-9</td>
<td>ASA 12U Hall of Fame Qualifier</td>
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<td>June 14-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 5-7</td>
<td>ASA 18U GOLD National Qualifier</td>
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<td>July 11</td>
<td>Border Battle (USA Men’s Slow Pitch vs Canada)</td>
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<td>July 11-14</td>
<td>World Cup of Softball</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11-14</td>
<td>Futures Cup</td>
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FROM THE VAULT

Raybestos Bracketts practice before 1965 Pan American Games

Hall of Famer Joe Barber (left) and the 1967 Raybestos Brakettts head to the Pan American Games

1949 World Championship

Al Dewall demonstrates a pitch

1941 Umpire Clinic in Europe
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Balls and Strikes Trivia

Think you know softball? Submit your answers to these five questions to promotions@softball.org with the subject “Balls and Strikes Trivia” and you could win a Softball Prize Pack from ASA/USA Softball.

1. What year did the Amateur Softball Association open for business?
2. Who was the 2012 USA Softball Male Athlete of the Year?
3. What’s the website to buy tickets to the 2013 World Cup of Softball?
4. How much money has Kansas City ASA raised for cancer research in the four years of the Hit for the Cure tournament?
5. Name an event that will be held at the ASA Hall of Fame complex in June.
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