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Craig Cress
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Old Hat Creative

Visit us on the Internet:
www.asasoftball.com | www.usasoftball.com
MY ACTIVE IS...

Find your ACTIVE at ACTIVE.com

WHAT'S YOUR ACTIVE?
With great pride and much appreciation I congratulate each of you and your guests who attended the ASA/USA Softball’s Annual Council Meeting held in Oklahoma City last month. Your dedication and hard work, and that of the National Office personnel, contributed greatly to the huge success of our meeting. It was a pleasure to see each of you, to visit with you and also to have the opportunity to exchange ideas for the future of our Association. I was very pleased with the attendance at our Hall of Fame Induction Banquet where five new members of the Hall were inducted. I was just as pleased with the attendance and with the enthusiastic participation at our committee meetings and other events.

As we move into our 81st Year, 2014, several significant changes are taking place. For the first time in many years a change has been approved to the structure of the Junior Olympic age classification with the creation of the Girls’ Fast Pitch 16U GOLD Classification. In addition to a new Association President, a new Executive Director, Craig Cress, was hired and assumed his duties on November 15. Moreover, changes to the playing rules, the Code and the Procedural Manual will enhance the very professional services already provided to our players, coaches, teams and umpires.

Moving forward we will continue to improve our online registration procedures for individuals, teams, as well as umpires by making the process more easily accessible, more user-friendly and less time consuming. We will continue to develop ways to facilitate online access to useful and educational information for such access has proved to have a positive impact on recruitment and retention.

Lastly, it is my pleasure and great privilege to serve you as President of our Association for the next two years. I look forward to working with our Board of Directors, our Executive Director and each of you to keep our Association moving ahead. To our detractors, ASA/USA Softball, the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States of America, is today united, stronger and very much committed to remaining “The Game America Plays.”

I wish each of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a very successful 2014.

Phil Gutierrez, President
Amateur Softball Association of American/USA Softball
**THE LEAD OFF:**
The National Softball Hall of Fame Class of 2013 following their induction ceremonies at the ASA Annual Council Meeting. From left Laura Berg, Lisa Fernandez, Margie Wright, Randy Melvin and Shirley Simmons Snell.
THE LEAD OFF:

Members of the 2013 USA Softball Women’s National Team work the USA Softball Legacy Club booth during the Trade Show at the ASA Annual Council Meeting. Top Rhea Taylor, from left Valerie Arioto, Amanda Chidester and Michelle Moultrie.
FACES ON THE FIELD

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 McKayla, Kylie, Ricardo and Elissa, four of the athletes who play ASA.

McKAYLA BETTS, 10
Greenbrier, Arkansas
Arkansas Dirt Devils 03
Girls’ 10-Under Fast Pitch
Catcher/Utility

HOW SHE GOT HER START
I began playing softball when I was 5 years old. My mom signed me up for Greenbrier City league softball where I played two years before moving on to play for a competitive team.

FAVORITE PART OF SOFTBALL
I love to catch because I can be in on every play and I love to pick off base runners.

GOAL
I want to play college softball for either the Tennessee Lady Vols or the Arkansas Razorbacks.

ROLE MODEL
Raven Chavanne

KYLIE FRITZ, 15
Hazel, South Dakota
Brookings Outlaws
Girls’ 16-Under Fast Pitch
Pitcher, Catcher, Shortstop and Outfield

TOUGHEST OBSTACLE
During the summer I had a partial tear in my Achilles tendon and had to sit out all summer, I wasn’t mad but I had to watch and I couldn’t be out there playing. That was the hardest part. I love the game so much that it was hard to not play. I still went to every game and cheered them all on. It was fun to still be there and watch.

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT
Having the opportunity to play at nationals two years in a row.

GOAL
To go to college and play for the Florida Gators, then someday play for Team USA!

ROLE MODELS
Gary Young, Jennie Finch, my sister, Natasha
ELISSA LOPEZ, 9
Coffeyville, Kansas
Oklahoma Lightning
Girls’ 10-Under Fast Pitch
Second Base

HOW SHE GOT HER START
I started with rec. tee ball when I was five and moved to softball when I was seven. I wanted to try it and I loved it.

BEST MEMORY
I got to attend the ASA Futures Cup last year and met players from Team USA.

GOAL
To play softball in the Olympics, when it is reinstated.

ROLE MODELS
Lauren Gibson and Jessica Moore

RICARDO RAMIREZ, 22
Chula Vista, Calif.
Jardineros
Mens’ Class B Slow Pitch
Outfielder

HOW HE GOT HIS START
I began playing in September 2012 when my friend invited me to play on his team. I had never played before and I put up a good performance that season. After that season I made my team and have been playing ever since.

FAVORITE PART OF SOFTBALL
When we start a season we all start as teammates and by midseason we are all good friends. The fact that those days of the week we get together and have fun either winning or losing is priceless. The feeling of comradery between all of us, even other teams, is what I play for.

Proudest Accomplishment
Hitting the game winning, inside the park home run, getting that feeling of butterflies in your stomach, the same feeling you have when you realize you are in love, goes away and turns into this feeling of greatness. It’s what you have been working so hard for.

ROLE MODELS
Luis Reyna and Bryson Baker from the USA Men’s Slow Pitch National Team.

Do you want to be profiled in “Balls and Strikes Online Softball Magazine” in the future?
Click here for information on how to submit your profile and photo.
What evaluation tool does three-time Olympic gold medalist Mike Candrea use at the end of every season?

*Learn about Candrea’s S.W.O.T. analysis* >>>

Leah O'Brien-Amico, who played for Candrea, opens up about how her passion for softball drove her to success. She also reflects on lessons learned from Coach Candrea.

*Listen to Leah O'Brien-Amico* >>>

Go to Responsible Sports for more from softball greats, past and present, like Lauren Gibson, Mike White, and Laura Berg.
THEN
.424 on-base percentage for the season

NOW
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Darlene Von Arx
Second Base, North High Huskies
Sales Representative, Liberty Mutual Insurance 1992

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• Tips and tools for volunteer youth sport coaches
• Insight from softball players & coaches on their youth sports experience
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• Much more!

*Figure reflects average national savings for customers who switched to Liberty Mutual. Based on data collected between 1/1/12 and 6/30/12. Individual premiums and savings will vary.

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TEXAS VIPERS AWARDED $2,500 GRANT

Alycen McAuley, Managing Director of High Five Marketing, Inc who handles marketing efforts for the Liberty Mutual Insurance Responsible Sports program, was on hand during the ASA’s Annual Council meeting in November to present Texas ASA Commissioner Rodney Cobb with a check for $2,500. Rodney accepted the check on behalf of the Texas Vipers 99, a travel team from his association. The Vipers were one of 15 teams to earn a Fall 2012 Community Grant from the Responsible Sports program. Through the grant competition, teams drive family and friends to the Responsible Sports website to take a brief quiz and credit the visit back to the team. Teams with the most credits at the end of the grant period earn one of the $2,500 prizes. The Texas Vipers 99 are just one of many ASA teams who have taken home a $2,500 grant since ASA/USA Softball partnered with Responsible Sports in 2008.

RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY AT ASA HALL OF FAME STADIUM

The ASA Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City, the Mecca of Softball in the United States, is getting a facelift this offseason. Renovations began on the stadium late last summer and are expected to continue through April. Current improvements are considered the first phase of the overall project and include restrooms and team rooms inside the dugouts.

*We have posted photos of the progress on our website at USASoftball.com.*
*Click below to check them out.*

ASA Hall of Fame Stadium Renovations
ASA/USA SOFTBALL RECOGNIZES OKLAHOMA CITY CONVENTION AND VISITOR’S BUREAU FOR SUPPORT

During November’s annual council meeting, ASA/USA Softball presented the Oklahoma City Convention and Visitor’s Bureau (OKC CVB) with a special award in recognition for all that they do to assist the Association in bringing top level softball events to Oklahoma City. The ASA and OKC CVB have shared a long partnership. The OKC CVB provides funding for various ASA events that are held at the ASA’s Hall of Fame Stadium annually. Events include ASA Hall of Fame Qualifiers, National Championships at every level of play, the NCAA Women’s College World Series and the World Cup of Softball just to name a few. Accepting the award on behalf of the OKC CVB were President Mike Carrier and Assistant Director of Sports Business Development Sue Hollenbeck.

ASA HALL OF FAME STADIUM TO HOST NCAA DIVISION II AND III CHAMPIONSHIPS

The ASA Hall of Fame Stadium has been selected to host the 2015 NCAA Division II and the 2017 and 2018 NCAA Division III Softball National Championships. This marks the first time that Oklahoma City will host the NCAA Division II and Division III Softball National Championships.

"We appreciate the confidence that the NCAA has in ASA/USA Softball and our partners the Oklahoma City All Sports, the city of Oklahoma City and the University of Central Oklahoma," said Craig Cress, ASA/USA Softball Executive Director. "We want to thank the NCAA for allowing us to host the NCAA Division II and Division III Softball Championships. Their decision validates the belief that Oklahoma City and the ASA Hall of Fame Complex is where champions are crowned in the sport of softball."

The bidding process for 82 of the 89 NCAA Championship sites began in July and final submissions were due in mid-September. The sites were selected by the respective sport committees, made up of coaches and administrators from NCAA member schools and conferences, and ultimately approved by the appropriate divisional championships cabinets or committees. Each sport committee, per division, then selected the host sites it believed would provide the ultimate experience for the competing student-athletes.

Experience it Live!

NCAA Women’s College World Series tickets are now on sale!
May 29 – June 4, 2014
ASA Hall of Fame Stadium – Oklahoma City
BUY TICKETS NOW!
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!
YOU TWEETED IT!

Here's a collection of our favorite tweets that we have received from our followers over the past few weeks.

Thank you @ASAUSASoftball General Council for supporting the USA Softball Legacy Club with your donations! #blessing
- @moultrie16

@ASAUSASoftball Hall of Fame Stadium renovations look incredible!! Thank you for continuing to push our sport forward.
- @UACoachMurphy

@ASAUSASoftball congrats to warren jones on being elect president of the ASA Ohio proud
- @danamotter

@ASAUSASoftball AP reports of possible inclusion of Baseball and Softball in 2020 #Tokyo #2020OlympicGames!! We pray this happens!
- @MicheleSmith32

@ASAUSASoftball They did a great job with 14U ASA/USA this year!!!
- @TFMRebels

Best wishes to @ASAUSASoftball Executive Director, Ron Radigonda, as he retires after 15 years of great service!!
- @okcAllSports

@ASAUSASoftball: 2015 ASA/USA Girls' 18-Under Class A National Championship!! 2015?! Reading this made me miss my childhood LOL
- @amandadunk

Congrats to @StaceyNuveman, who was announced as a 2014 National Softball Hall of Fame inductee! @ASAUSASoftball
- @UCLASoftball

Tweet at us for a chance to see your tweet in the next issue!
@ASAUSASoftball
2013 BY THE NUMBERS

7,828 fans attended the 2013 General Tire World Cup of Softball at the ASA Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City July 11-14, 2013.

157,885 Teams registered with the Amateur Softball Association/USA Softball in 2013 (as of Oct. 31)

28,039 Umpires registered with the Amateur Softball Association/USA Softball in 2013 (as of Oct. 31)

554 Junior Olympic teams qualified and competed in one of the ASA/USA “Big Six” National Championships in 2013

408 teams from 24 states competed at the ASA Hall of Fame Complex in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 2013

Over 100,500 spectators watched a game at the ASA Hall of Fame Complex in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 2013

26,452 ACE (Achieve, Certify, Educate) Coaches certified through the Amateur Softball Association in 2013

70,704 Coaches and support staff were background checked through the Amateur Softball Association in 2013

63 ASA National Championships received an overall rating of 95% or greater in 2013
The Official Supplier of ASA & USA Softball

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INFIELD CONDITIONS: STABILIZED

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ATHLETE</th>
<th>What was the last meal you cooked?</th>
<th>Best Christmas gift you ever received</th>
<th>I’m secretly obsessed with...</th>
<th>Favorite Christmas movie of all time</th>
<th>Favorite person to follow on Twitter</th>
<th>If I could co-star in a movie with one actor/actress, it would be...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KEN ERIKSEN</td>
<td>Stuffed mushrooms with crab meat</td>
<td>A Tom Seaver Spalding Baseball Glove</td>
<td>Trying to delete my inbox</td>
<td>A Miracle on 34th Street</td>
<td>I don’t do twitter</td>
<td>Al Pacino/Diane Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAM LaLONDE</td>
<td>Burgers on the Grill</td>
<td>A Reciprocal Saw from my wife</td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Christmas Story!!! “You’ll shoot your eye out kid!”</td>
<td>Don’t do the Twitter thing</td>
<td>I’d like to co-star in a Lord of the Rings or a Hobbit film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASSIDY WEAKLEY</td>
<td>Garlic Potatoes, with extra garlic YUM I can eat these everyday!</td>
<td>Two Boxes of my favorite cereal, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, from my sister</td>
<td>I can’t tell you if it’s a secret! But OK... it’s Late Night with Jimmy Fallon</td>
<td>ELF</td>
<td>Miley Cyrus, she makes me laugh and I would do anything to be able to go to her concert!</td>
<td>OMG... Andrew Garfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPHIA TOGNERI</td>
<td>Turkey Pot Pie</td>
<td>An iPhone</td>
<td>Magic Shows</td>
<td>ELF</td>
<td>MLB Network</td>
<td>Liam Hemsworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICOLE HUDSON</td>
<td>Turkey Quinoa Meatloaf</td>
<td>My first car when I was 16... it was a tiny Hyundai Tiburon and I loved it.</td>
<td>Allen Craig who plays for the St. Louis Cardinals. Still haven’t heard from him after I proposed...</td>
<td>A Christmas Story... “You’ll shoot your eye out, You’ll shoot your eye out.”</td>
<td>@HistoryinPix - I love photography and they post some amazing photographs.</td>
<td>Jennifer Lawrence for sure. She fell on her face at the Oscars, I fell on my face on ESPN...we’re pretty much soul sisters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Following a week full of meetings, presentations, discussions and training sessions, the 82nd Annual Council Meeting concluded another year for ASA/USA Softball. Held Nov. 9-16, over 650 Council Members, exhibitors, equipment manufacturers and National Office Staff visited Oklahoma City, the headquarters for ASA/USA Softball.

The week-long event kicked off with the special programs golf tournament on Saturday. Several Council Members teed off at the Lincoln Golf Course to help benefit the ASA/USA Softball Special Programs, including former Executive Director Ron Radigonda. Later in the evening, several committees and task forces met to discuss rule and code proposals.

On Sunday, the General Council met for the first time at the Opening Session. The 33rd Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony highlighted the evening when five individuals were honored with induction into the National Softball Hall of Fame. The 2013 class included three players, one umpire and one person in the meritorious service category. The 2013 class consisted of: Laura Berg (Santa Fe Springs, Calif.) – Fast Pitch Player, Lisa Fernandez (Long Beach, Calif.) – Fast Pitch Player, Randy Melvin (Dowagiac, Mich.) – Umpire, Shirley Simmons Snell (Shreveport, La.) – Slow Pitch Player and Margie Wright (Clovis, Calif.) – Meritorious Service. Fans can watch the Induction Ceremony at USASoftball.com.

On Monday and Tuesday, several committee and territory meetings took place to discuss important pieces of legislation, elect representatives for territorial seats on the ASA/USA Softball Board of Directors. Council Members were also offered several training sessions that covered topics such as Volunteer Recruitment & Retention and TournamentASA.com. Council Members were also given an opportunity to visit the ASA/USA National Office and National Softball Hall of Fame on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday afternoon, over 100 individuals/associations received awards at the Wilson Sports Goods Awards luncheon. In the service award category, 48 members were honored for their five,
10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, or 45 years of service to the organization. Another 21 were given benchmark awards for increases in the registering of adult and youth teams and umpires. The Double Play award, for increasing in two of the following categories (adult teams, Junior Olympic teams and umpires), was awarded to Commissioner Don Meinel of Hawaii ASA, Stoney Burke of Houston ASA and Andy Dooley for both Piedmont Virginia ASA and West Virginia ASA. The most JO registrations award went to Phil Gutierrez on behalf of the Southern California ASA, while the most total registrations, the most adult team registrations and the most umpire registrations went to Andy Loechner Jr. on behalf of the Pennsylvania ASA. For a complete list of honors, click here.

The annual trade show capped off Wednesday evening with over 70 exhibitors in attendance. Exhibits ranged from cities bidding for the ASA/USA National Championships, equipment manufacturers, softball suppliers and the ASA/USA Softball National Office staff. More than 800 council, association delegates and visitors attended the trade show.

Thursday marked the last day of the Council Meeting as the General Council voted on the host cities for the 2015 ASA/USA National Championships and territory meetings voted on their host cities for the 2015 territorial National Championships. ASA/USA Softball also ushered in new leadership as Craig Cress assumed the Executive Director position as Ron Radigonda retired after 15 years in the position. Southern California ASA Commissioner Phil Gutierrez also stepped into the office as the President of ASA/USA Softball while Warren Jones was announced as President-elect. Later in the evening, ASA/USA Softball staff, Council Members and friends and family of Ron Radigonda celebrated his many achievements at a special reception held in his honor.

**IN OTHER NEWS**

The sites for the 2015 National Championships were announced. [Click here for the host cities.](#)

For 2014 Rule and Code changes that were voted on during the Council Meeting, please [click here.](#)
Now you can build your own custom softball batting helmets online and purchase them directly from schuttstore.com
NEVADA ASA AND THIS AND THAT SOFTBALL HOST ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS AND BATTING FOR BREAST CANCER TOURNAMENTS

By Tony Pehle

The Nevada Amateur Softball Association along with This and That Softball host two annual fundraising tournaments, Toys for Tots and Batting for Breast Cancer. This past September and October the 2013 versions of the events took place at the Golden Eagle Regional Park in Sparks, Nevada. The Toys for Tots event has been in place for over 15 years. Players are asked to bring in a new, unwrapped toy to donate to the cause. This year 17 adult teams participated and a great number of toys were donated. Infamous Softball of Sparks went 5-0 in the Men’s division to take first place and Free Agents, also of Sparks, went 4-0 on their way to the Coed Championship.

The Battling for Breast Cancer tournament began just a few years ago but has already raised thousands of dollars for breast cancer awareness and research. Eighteen teams played in this year’s event in early October. Pink softballs were used and many teams dress in pink to raise awareness. Former USA Softball Olympian Jennie Finch was also generous enough to send a number of autographed items for a raffle. In the tournament Home Grown went 5-1 to capture the Men’s title and Save 2nd Base double dipped Sunday Punch in the championship of the Coed division finishing 6-1 and taking home the honors.

Both Nevada ASA and This and That Softball look forward to continuing these annual events for years to come.
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NEW DEALS

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1.866.830.5014 FUNDRAISING.COM/ASA
The year 2014 is a year of change for the Amateur Softball Association/USA Softball. For the first time in 15 years there’s a new individual sitting in the Executive Directors seat at the National Office in Oklahoma City. Craig Cress, Terre Haute, Ind. native, officially stepped into his new position following the ASA/USA Annual Council Meeting in November. Formerly the Director of Membership Services for the past 11 years, Cress has been involved with the ASA/USA for over 35 years serving in several roles. He’ll now be tasked with leading the National Office staff in day-to-day operations and serving as a face of the association both nationally and internationally.

“I am very humbled, honored and excited for this tremendous opportunity,” said Cress. “ASA/USA Softball has a storied history and there are many individuals who helped build and maintain this outstanding association. It has definitely been my privilege to have served ASA/USA Softball for over 35 years in many different roles and I look forward to being part of the future by serving as its next Executive Director. I appreciate the support and confidence of the ASA Board of Directors, the Membership and the National Office Staff - we will need everyone as we create the next chapter of this historic organization!”

Cress started his involvement with ASA/USA Softball as a player and spent many years behind the plate umpiring at all levels including National Championships and International Softball Federation Women’s and Men’s Fast Pitch World Championships. He served on the ASA/USA National Umpire Staff for four years and in 2005, he was nationally honored for his years of expertise as an umpire by being inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame in the umpire category.

Prior to arriving in Oklahoma City, Cress served as the Executive Director of the Wabash Valley Family Sports Center in Terre Haute, Ind. and supervised over 20 employees who provided services to over 2,000 members and volunteers. He conducted several fundraising events annually that generated revenue and exposure to the Sports Center in Indiana.

“Craig brings a wealth of knowledge and softball expertise to his new role in ASA,” said former ASA/USA Softball Executive Director Ron Radigonda. “He has progressed through various levels and roles within our association and has excelled in all of his endeavors. He has gained valuable experience in his most recent role as our Director of Membership Services and has had direct contact with our 76 local associations for the past decade. He is well versed in all aspects of softball and our association and will provide outstanding leadership to ASA for many years to come.”
Ron Radigonda
Edmond, Okla.
Meritorious Service

Under his 15 years of leadership as Executive Director, the face of ASA/USA Softball evolved dramatically. Prior to accepting the Executive Director position, Radigonda worked with the City of Sacramento in the Parks and Recreation Department for 28 years and also served as Executive Director of the Sacramento Sports Commission and the Sacramento Sports Foundation. In 1982, he became the Commissioner of the Sacramento ASA, where he served as Chair of numerous committees and served on the Board of Directors and as the Chair of the Association’s Insurance and Finance Committees. During his tenure as Executive Director, the ASA Hall of Fame Complex has undergone major renovations and has continued its hosting duties for the NCAA Women’s College World Series (WCWS), and the World Cup of Softball, an international softball event. He also helped foster a continuing relationship with the City of Oklahoma City. At the International Level, Radigonda has served as a delegate and committee chair for the International Softball Federation (ISF), the governing body of softball internationally.

Stacey Nuveman
La Verne, Calif.
Fast Pitch Player

A two-time Olympic Gold Medalist, Stacey Nuveman will go down in history as one of the best catchers in the history of fast pitch softball. Nuveman competed in three Olympic Games, capturing the Gold at the 2000 and 2004 Games while claiming the silver at the 2008 games. Nuveman first wore the Red, White and Blue in 1995 when she earned Gold at the ISF Junior Women’s World Championship in Normal, Ill. where she set a tournament record with 18 RBI. Her impressive power at the plate and strong performance behind it landed her a spot on the Women’s National Team, where she would earn two Pan American Gold Medals and two ISF World Championships. On the national level, Nuveman won two ASA/USA National Championships with the Gordon’s Panthers, coached by fellow Hall of Fame member Larry Mays. She also earned a second-team ASA All-American honor with the California Jazz. Nuveman retired following the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China, leaving behind an Olympic Legacy with 10 RBI and three home runs. In 2012, Nuveman, along with the 2004 U.S. Olympic Softball Team, was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.

Darryl Day
Hilton Head, S.C.
Fast Pitch Player

If attitude is a key to winning, there was little doubt that Darryl Day would be anything but a winner. Darryl started his softball career with a local Aurora, Ill. softball league before word of his talent reached the notable men’s fast pitch team Aurora Home Savings. Throughout his 15 years of play in ASA/USA Men’s Major Fast Pitch, Day collected four first team All-American titles, three second team All-American accolades and earned one National Championship and six runner-up finishes. Starting in 1973, Darryl was a mainstay for the Home Savings for eight years, during which time he led the team to the Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship every year. Day’s strong glove at first base helped lead the Home Savings to four-consecutive runner-up finishes before ending his career with the team in 1980 with a career average of .370. The following year, Day joined the Decatur ADM, where he would earn his first ASA/USA National Championship that same year. During his four years with Decatur ADM, Day led the team to a 409-77 record and finished with a career average of .358 with 173 RBI and 26 home runs. It’s no wonder why many of the best pitchers in the world regarded Day as one of the most difficult batters to retire. Day also made a name for himself on the international scene, playing for the USA Men’s Fast Pitch Team in 1979 at the Pan American Games where the team earned silver. He also played three years for the Men’s East Team at the U.S. Olympic Festival.
For years, Craig Elliott was considered as the top slow pitch player by a lot of people, a title which he earned by dominating men’s slow pitch softball at the highest level. A menace at the plate, Elliott became one of the most feared hitters in the men’s slow pitch world and could change the game with one swing of the bat. Beginning in 1977, Elliott collected 11-consecutive ASA All-American titles and earned tournament MVP accolades three times. He also earned the home run leader title in 1983, ’85 and ’86. His best performance, however, came during the 1983 season when he hit 390 home runs for a HR-to-at bat ratio of 1.93. With the legendary Steele’s team, Elliott collected three ASA Men’s Super Slow Pitch National Championship titles and finished runner-up once. Elliott was also one of very few players to be selected MVP of the ASA Smoky Mountain Classic. His close friend a teammate once claimed: “You could put a quarter in him, and he would hit home runs all day long.”

The New York Gremlins have made a name for himself on the softball field thanks to Bruce Tanski, who has sponsored the team for over 40 years. Tanski’s commitment led to a long and storied career with ASA for the Gremlins, including a recent runner-up finish at the Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship in 2013 and a Championship in 2012. Since 1987, Tanski’s teams appeared in 14 National Championships, earning four third-place finishes and two runner-up titles.

You’d be hard pressed to find an umpire who’s worked an ASA/USA Softball National Championship as often as Michigan native Ted Germain. Ted first registered as an umpire with the Michigan ASA in 1976, establishing a long and storied career as one of the most respected fast pitch and modified pitch umpires. Germain umpired in nine Men’s Major Modified National Championships, one Men’s 40-Over Fast Pitch National Championship, one Men’s Class A Fast Pitch National Championship and three Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championships for a total of 14 National Tournament assignments. He also umpired in 36 State Championships and eight National Qualifying Tournaments. Germain also served as an Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) in 42 State Championships, 11 National Qualifying Tournaments and three Great Lakes Regional Tournaments. Ted became a member of the National Indicator Fraternity in 1995, became ISF certified in 1998 and is a member of the ASA Medals Program at the Elite level. Germain also appeared on the international scene, umpiring at the 2007 World Cup of Softball. Germain served as a member of the Michigan ASA State Umpire staff from 1991-2007 and was inducted into the Michigan ASA Hall of Fame in 1991.

At the Junior Olympic (JO) level, the Shamrocks, led by coach Tommy Orndorff, have established a tradition in fast pitch softball that’s hard to match. Since their first national appearance in 1977, the Shamrocks have been a force in the JO world, qualifying for 25 ASA/USA National Championships and finishing in the top 10 on nine occasions. In the early years of the Shamrock organization, not many East coast teams competed competitively, but once Coach Orndorff organized the Shamrock organization that completely changed. In their 25 appearances at the ASA/USA National Championships, the Shamrocks earned a total of eight top-five finishes, including a runner-up at the 2003 18U GOLD. In 2005, they earned the ultimate title in JO Championship Play as the 18U GOLD National Champions.
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# 2014 ASA National Umpire Schools

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<tr>
<td>Deer Park, TX</td>
<td>December 13-15 2013</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brian Mount</td>
<td>281.315.9262</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brian@houstonasa.org">brian@houstonasa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattanooga, TN</td>
<td>February 7-9 2014</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ed Rowe</td>
<td>423.355.3002</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rowe_edward@yahoo.com">rowe_edward@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Altamonte Springs, FL</td>
<td>February 7-9 2014</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Steve Seither</td>
<td>407.877.8269</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sseither@cfl.rr.com">sseither@cfl.rr.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dublin, CA</td>
<td>February 7-9 2014</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Will Macedo</td>
<td>925.443.3287</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmacedo@comcast.net">wmacedo@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, NJ</td>
<td>February 21-23 2014</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jim Peters</td>
<td>908.392.5877</td>
<td><a href="mailto:NUS.2014.NJ@gmail.com">NUS.2014.NJ@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Joseph, MO</td>
<td>February 21-23 2014</td>
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<td>Jack Walker</td>
<td>660.868.0410</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jackw@regionalradio.com">jackw@regionalradio.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoria, AZ</td>
<td>February 21-23 2014</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Wally Latall</td>
<td>602.999.9392</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wlatall@azasaumps.org">wlatall@azasaumps.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Massillon, OH</td>
<td>February 28 - March 2, 2014</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Warren Jones</td>
<td>419.651.3335</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wjonesjr3@frontier.com">wjonesjr3@frontier.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>East Moline, IL</td>
<td>February 28 - March 2, 2014</td>
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<td>Doug Humphrey</td>
<td>309.373.5441</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dhumphrey@mchsi.com">dhumphrey@mchsi.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Memphis, TN</td>
<td>March 7-9, 2014</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Terry Ryan</td>
<td>901.652.3863</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tryan929@yahoo.com">tryan929@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Baraboo, WI</td>
<td>April 25-27, 2014</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chad Mitchell</td>
<td>507.269.4050</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmitchell_ump@yahoo.com">cmitchell_ump@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewiston, ME</td>
<td>May 2-4, 2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tony Gowell</td>
<td>207.240.7058</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tonygow1@gmail.com">tonygow1@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Fargo, ND</td>
<td>May 2-4, 2014</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Randy Olson</td>
<td>701.429.3708</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olson6363@msn.com">olson6363@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clackamas, OR</td>
<td>June 5-8, 2014</td>
<td>Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Don Alexander</td>
<td>541.821.8698</td>
<td><a href="mailto:archer_502001@yahoo.com">archer_502001@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomington, IN</td>
<td>June 17-19, 2014</td>
<td>Fast Pitch</td>
<td>Ed Bellows</td>
<td>574.596.3036</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pmsieb@comcast.net">pmsieb@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on ASA National Umpire Schools click here!
The 1990s and 2000s were fun times in the international softball world. The sport was thriving on the Olympic platform and Team USA athletes were celebrated across the country for their dominance on the diamond. As an official Olympic sport, the program received funding from the United State Olympics Committee (USOC) and sponsorships weren’t hard to come by. The USA Softball Women’s National Team won three Gold medals in its first three Olympics appearances, and then came a decision from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that stunned the rapidly growing program.

In 2005, a majority of IOC members voted to eliminate softball from the Olympics programme following the 2008 games in Beijing. Along with the dismissal from the sports biggest stage went a large portion of funding for the entire program. Following the 2008 Olympics, funding from the USOC disappeared and without the Olympic spotlight, sponsorships were not as easy to come by.

Fast forward five years later. The National Team roster is now comprised of current and former college standouts more eager than ever to rebuild their sport and get the program back to the level it was at when they were growing up. The Crystl Bustos’ and Jennie Finch’s have long since retired from wearing the Red, White and Blue but their departure has opened the door for players like Valerie Arioto and Lauren Gibson who are every bit as talented as many of the former Olympians but lack the recognition that the Olympic stage once provided.

The International Softball Federation (ISF) World Championships are now the cream of the crop in the international softball world. Previously on a four-year cycle, the World Championships for both the women's fast pitch game as well as the men's fast pitch game and the junior levels in each now occur every two years. While the change in format keeps international programs competing on a consistent basis, the lack of funding since being dropped from the Olympics makes it difficult to send teams to international events on such a frequent basis.

Another concern surrounding the current USA softball program is a disconnect between the current crop of National Teamers and those that laid the groundwork building the reputation that the jersey still holds today. A quick thumb through of past USA Softball National Team rosters yields a pretty impressive list of individuals who put the sport on the map. Players like Dr. Dot Richardson, Michele Smith and Lisa Fernandez made wearing the USA jersey something to aspire to.

Enter the USA Softball Legacy Club, a program designed to link the past with the present and generate additional funding for current USA National teams. The Legacy Club, which debuts in 2014, is a combination alumni association and booster club which provides a structured discipline for donating to the USA Softball National Teams. Supporters of the program can etch their name next to the games greats by supporting the current program. Every past player who played in a major international event for the Women’s, Junior Women’s, Men’s, Junior Men’s or Slow Pitch National teams are automatic members of the Legacy Club. Donors can join the Club and receive different levels of benefits based on their sponsorship level.

The Legacy Club was introduced to the ASA/USA Softball General Council during this year’s annual council meeting and was well received. Following a presentation on the Legacy Club in the final general council session of the week, one by one ASA softball leaders from country stepped up to the microphone and pledged money to the program. When all was said and done $21,200 were pledged to the Legacy Club.

Money raised through this program will go towards the five teams that make up the USA Softball national teams program. Funds will be used for additional training opportunities for the five teams as well as international travel for competition. Additionally, long-term goals for the Legacy Club include linking current players with those of the past by hosting alumni events in which former players and staffs can come together and share their experiences.

Softball may be out of the Olympics for the time being but the Legacy of Team USA fights on. If you’re interested in joining the Legacy Club visit the Legacy Club page at USASoftball.com.

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CT - Fairfield University, Fairfield
FL - Southeastern University, Lakeland
GA - Columbus State University, Columbus
IN - Valparaiso University, Valparaiso
MD - Salisbury University, Salisbury
MA - Amherst College, Amherst
MA - Dan Duquette Sports Academy, Hinsdale
MA - Curry College, Milton
MA - Tufts University, Medford
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ASA/USA SOFTBALL DONATES $4,800 TO SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE®

Continuing a tradition that stretches into year six, the Amateur Softball Association/USA Softball made a donation to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure of Central and Western Oklahoma this month.

The money, $4,800, was raised via an online auction of pink items used by the 2013 USA Softball Women’s National Team during July’s General Tire World Cup of Softball. This year’s donation brings ASA/USA Softball’s six year Susan G. Komen for the Cure donation total to $65,700.

“We’re happy to continue this tradition of donating to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure® of Central and Western Oklahoma,” said ASA/USA Softball Executive Director Craig Cress. “Breast cancer is a horrific disease that touches so many and we as an Association will continue to raise awareness with our National Team programs as well as our Junior Olympic events across the country until a cure can be found. We appreciate our partners Nike for providing the Pink uniforms that our USA Softball Women’s National Team wears each year in the Pink Out game.”

The USA Softball Women’s National Team donned pink uniforms in a “Pink Out” game during the General Tires World Cup of Softball in Oklahoma City to honor breast cancer survivors and create awareness for breast cancer research. In October, more than 20 items went up for bid on eBay, including not only the game worn jerseys of the National Team athletes, but also team autographed posters.

Pink items worn and used by USA athletes throughout the past four years are permanently on display at the National Softball Hall of Fame and Museum, 2801 N.E. 50th Street in Oklahoma City.
ASA ANNOUNCES MOBILE WEBSITE

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The base distance for the Senior Slow Pitch Classification of play will be 70 feet.
Comment: Allows all Adult Slow Pitch to play with the base distance at 70 feet.

Guidelines for base and fence distances for Men’s Super Slow Pitch Championships Classification of Play to be established by the Executive Director.
Comment: Allows the Executive Director to establish base and fence distances, based on the host’s location, in this reestablished Classification of Men’s Slow Pitch.

Bats with the 2013 ASA Certification Mark are allowed in Men’s Adult Fast Pitch, Junior Olympic Boys Fast Pitch and Men’s Modified Pitch Divisions of play.
Comment: Allows bats with the 2013 ASA Certification Mark to be used in Men’s Adult Fast Pitch, Junior Olympic Boys Fast Pitch and Men’s Modified Pitch Divisions of Championship play.

If a bat is not marked OFFICIAL SOFTBALL but has an ASA Certification Mark, meets Rule 3 Section 1 of the ASA Rules, is included on a list of approved models published by the ASA, and is not listed on the Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Mark it is allowed in ASA Championship Play.
Comment: Allows a bat without the words, OFFICIAL SOFTBALL on it to be used in ASA Championship Play.

Remove Men’s Adult Slow Pitch, Coed (Men), Men’s Masters and Junior Olympic Slow Pitch from the table that shows the use of the 44/375. Seniors will stay in the table under the 44/375 ball.
Comment: The 52/300 12” ball will be the only 12” ball allowed in Men’s Adult Slow Pitch, Coed (Men), Men’s Master’s Slow Pitch and Junior Olympic Boys Slow Pitch Championship Play, with the exception of Seniors.

(Men’s Class D Slow Pitch and Men’s Class E Rec Slow Pitch) the only requirement is matching shirts with numbers.
Comments: Adds Men’s D Slow Pitch Classification of Play to the uniform exception allowed in Men’s Class E Rec Slow Pitch which requires only matching shirts with numbers.

Senior Slow Pitch (50-55-60) will have the option of having 11 or 12 players in the batting order or any number of players up to the total number of roster players present.
Comment: Allows the Senior Slow Pitch (50-55-60) Division of Play to bat the legal number of players present or any number up to the total number of roster players present.
Senior Slow Pitch (65-70-75) will have the option of having 12 or 13 players in the batting order or any number of players up to the total number of roster players present.

Comment: Allow the Senior Slow Pitch (65-70-75) Division of Play to bat the legal number of players present or any number up to the total number of roster players present.

Guidelines for home run limits in Men's Super Slow Pitch Classification of Play will be established by the Executive Director.

Comment: Allows the Executive Director to establish the home run limits, based on the host's location in this reestablished Classification of Men's Slow Pitch.

Men's B Slow Pitch Classification of Play run ahead rule will be 20 after four innings and 15 after five innings.

Comment: Adds Men's B Slow Pitch Classification of Play to the same run ahead rule as Men's A Slow Pitch Classification of play.

Guidelines for run ahead limit in the Men's Super Slow Pitch Classification of Play will be established by the Executive Director.

Comment: Allows the Executive Director to establish the run ahead limits, based on the host's location, in this reestablished Classification of Men's Slow Pitch.

In all Junior Olympic Pool Play Class A 12-Under, 14-Under, 16-Under, 18-Under, 16-Under Gold and 18-Under Gold pool play and elimination play in fast pitch, no new inning shall start after a 1 hour and 40 minutes time limit. If the game is still tied after the time limit has expired, the tie breaker shall be in effect at the start of the next inning. **EXCEPTION:** There shall be no time limit in elimination play beginning with the winner's bracket final.

Comment: Adds a time limit to Junior Olympic Class A 12-Under, 14-Under, 16-Under, 18-Under, 16-Under Gold and 18-Under Gold elimination play except beginning with the winners bracket final.

In all Junior Olympic Slow Pitch pool play, the time limit shall be 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Comment: Reduces the time limit from 1 hour and 30 minutes to 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Men's Adult Fast Pitch and Men's Modified Pitch Divisions of play can use either on-deck circle.

Comment: Allows the on-deck batter in Men's Adult Fast Pitch and Men's Modified Pitch Divisions of play to use either on-deck circle.

Remove the Exception for Coed Slow Pitch Divisions of Play to skip a batter when batting out of order is discovered.

Comment: This removes the 2013 Exception requiring a team to “skip the next batter,” when batting out of order is discovered.

Batter is out, all outs count and all runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.

Comment: Clarifies the currently enforced penalty when a batter completes their turn at bat after using an *Altered or Non-Approved Bat*.

Batter is out, all outs count and all runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.

Comment: Clarifies the currently enforced penalty when a batter completes their turn at bat after using an *Illegal Bat*.

*Rev. 11-27-13*
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ASA/USA Softball Celebrates 80 years of history

With 80 years of history, innovation and stability under its belt, the Amateur Softball Association and USA Softball continues to change the face of amateur softball across the U.S. Since its founding in 1933, the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) of America and USA Softball has become one of the nation’s leading sports organizations, but that honor did not come easy. In the last three issues, we covered the great strides ASA/USA Softball has taken and saluted the efforts of countless individuals who helped lead the organization to where they are today. In our final issue in 2013, we take a moment to reflect on how far ASA/USA Softball has come, and what lies ahead.

ASA/USA Softball provides millions of adult and youth athletes the opportunity to play a sport on a multitude of levels. Since its inception, ASA/USA Softball has moved the sport of softball into the future to provide a better game for softball athletes. Whether with the ACE (Achieve, Certify, Educate) Coaching Certification Program, USA Softball National Coaching Schools or extensive umpire training, ASA/USA Softball values the safety and education of its participants and is the leader in those categories.

Moving into 2014, a change in leadership demonstrates how ASA/USA Softball is constantly evolving. Newly instated President Phil Gutierrez and Executive Director Craig Cress will lead the organization into the future while continuing the tradition of excellence established throughout the history of ASA/USA. There may be some obstacles to overcome in the future, but ASA/USA has proven to be up to the challenge. Change is inevitable, and ASA/USA Softball continues to make the necessary changes to move the organization forward and the sport of softball is better because of it.

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# 2014 National Championship Finals Schedule

## Adult Fast Pitch

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## Adult Men Slow Pitch National Championships

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<td>Men's Masters 45-Over</td>
<td>9/12/2014</td>
<td>9/14/2014</td>
<td>Ridgeland, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Church</td>
<td>8/8/2014</td>
<td>8/10/2014</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Industrial</td>
<td>8/22/2014</td>
<td>8/24/2014</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's 16 Inch Major</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's 16 Inch Class A</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Adult Men 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>ASA Men's Eastern Class D</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Men's Northern Class D</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Liberty, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Men's Southern Class D</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Men's Western Class D</td>
<td>8/28/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Salem, OR</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>9/19/2014</td>
<td>9/21/2014</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asasoftball.com">www.asasoftball.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coed Class C</td>
<td>8/22/2014</td>
<td>8/24/2014</td>
<td>St. Joseph, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coed Class D</td>
<td>8/22/2014</td>
<td>8/24/2014</td>
<td>St. Joseph, MO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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 (Major, AAA, AA)</td>
<td>8/27/2014</td>
<td>9/1/20134</td>
<td>Burlington, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior 50, 55, 60,65,70,75 West (Major, AAA, AA)</td>
<td>6/5/2014</td>
<td>6/8/2014</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>7/20/2014</td>
<td>7/26/2014</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA/USA Girls' Class A 12-Under</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>8/3/2014</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOY'S FAST PITCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOURNAMENT NAME</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>STOP DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</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>7/24/2014</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>Johnson City, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' 12-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2014</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>Johnson City, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' 14-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2014</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>Johnson City, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' 16-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2014</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>Johnson City, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' 18-Under</td>
<td>7/24/2014</td>
<td>7/27/2014</td>
<td>Johnson City, TN</td>
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</table>

MODIFIED PITCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOURNAMENT NAME</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>STOP DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men's (10)</td>
<td>8/29/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Fond da Lac, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's (9)</td>
<td>8/29/2014</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Spokane, WA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOURNAMENT NAME</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>STOP DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-Under and 8-Under</td>
<td>8/7/2014</td>
<td>8/10/2014</td>
<td>Fairhope, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Under Coach Pitch</td>
<td>7/17/2014</td>
<td>7/20/2014</td>
<td>Blue Springs, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's 18-Over</td>
<td>7/4/2014</td>
<td>7/6/2014</td>
<td>Salem, OR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASA Softball
USA Softball

THE NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY
OF SOFTBALL

SUPER SERIES
&

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

$50,000 CASH PRIZES

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3RD PLACE $10,000

CONTACT: RICH CRESS
RCRESS@SOFTBALL.ORG
(405) 425-3442
Mizuno’s new Whiteout Fast Pitch Series of bats are completely customizable with over 1,700 options! Choose from 17 color options for the top of the barrel, 17 color options for the taper & knob, plus 3 different style grips in black or grey. Add your team’s logo and you’ve got a great looking line of high performance bats.
The Portland Metro Softball Association (PMSA) began a special program in 2012 for United States Military Veterans and their families by creating a league dedicated specifically to them. Ron Boley, the commissioner of PMSA, solicited the help of DeMarini who provided the league with some equipment while the City of Portland reduced field fees and other various individuals donated money to help get the league up and running. As a result of the sponsorships, PMSA could reduce the fees for all league participants.

In the first year 28 veterans participated in the program from June thru August and included athletes and umpires. Both male and female veterans came out each week to play softball, some of which had never played before. Veterans ranged from Vietnam era veterans in their 60’s to active duty veterans just returning from Iraq. Individual coaching was provided for any veteran who wanted to come early or stay late to better understand the rules and better their play. Many veterans took the extra time and effort to take advantage of these extra coaching sessions.

Each week, participants were split up into two teams and played by modified ASA rules that were adjusted to include some senior and co-ed rules, which allowed everyone the opportunity to play. Although scores were kept, if at any time it become too one sided teams were mixed up to even things out.

2013 saw many of the same veterans returned from the previous year along with some new faces raising the total number of participates to 38. The year also saw a group of Veterans that had all returned from active duty in Iraq and suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). They all belonged to the same support group and signed up as a team to play together. By the end of the season, members of this new group were coming to play as individuals and there was a lot of growth and trust displayed by these men that had grown since the beginning of the season. Many of the participants wanted to continue to play into the fall softball season and asked for help in getting a team into the league. Eventually a few sponsors came onboard and helped the team of veterans financially, which allowed them a chance to play in a regular league.

These men, who at the beginning of the season had a hard time playing softball, played the entire season. It was unsure how they would handle playing against teams that had played together for years, but after the first week they came back and won both of their games. The team stuck it out and managed to come back and in the final week of the season won two games against the team that had initially suffered run-rule losses to. With the wins, the veterans squad captured first place in the league by one game.
**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

PHR annually reaches over 600,000 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](http://www.mlb.com/phr)

---

### TIMELINE/LEVELS OF COMPETITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Competitions</td>
<td>Administrative kits distributed to Local hosts in February with events being hosted in March, April or early May.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sectional Competitions</td>
<td>Local winners advance to Sectional Competitions in late May.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Championships</td>
<td>Hosted in all 30 Major League Ballparks. Qualifiers compete in a pre-game competition and recognition ceremony.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Finals</td>
<td>The top participants nationwide take part in the National Finals competition as a part of MLB All-Star Week in July.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STEPS TO HOSTING A PHR LOCAL COMPETITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Register to Host</td>
<td>Visit <a href="http://www.mlb.com/phr">www.mlb.com/phr</a> and register your free event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive Support Materials</td>
<td>Receive a free administrative kit, which will include a handbook, strike zone banner, registration forms, posters, participation cards, awards, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Day</td>
<td>Host your 1-day competition with a handful of volunteers and pass along awards and advancement information to the winners (provided by PHR Headquarters).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Results</td>
<td>Submit results online and mail in registration forms (pre-paid postage provided).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENGINEERED TO THE EXACT SPECIFICATIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP ATHLETES

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CUSTOMIZE YOUR TEAM.
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JUST DO IT.
## 2013 National Champions

### Junior Olympic Fast Pitch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Champions</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
<th>Champions</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 10-Under Fast Pitch Northern</td>
<td>KC Elite</td>
<td>Blue Springs, MO</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ B 10-Under Fast Pitch Southern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 10-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
<td>Team AB</td>
<td>Rancho Belago, CA</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ B 10-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 14-Under Fast Pitch Southern</td>
<td>Texas Kaos</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ B 14-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 18-Under Fast Pitch Eastern</td>
<td>Ohio Ice GOLD</td>
<td>Mogadore, OH</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ B 18-Under Fast Pitch Western</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 18-Under Fast Pitch Northern</td>
<td>BNGSA Avanti’s Angels</td>
<td>Bloomington, IL</td>
<td>ASA Girls’ GOLD 18-Under Fast Pitch Southern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA Girls’ A 18-Under Fast Pitch Southern</td>
<td>Georgia Elite Gamers</td>
<td>McDonough, GA</td>
<td>JUNIOR OLYMPIC FAST PITCH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*List continues on next page*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Champions</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Girls' GOLD 18-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Atlanta Vipers - Giles</td>
<td>Kennesaw, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA/USA Girls' A 10-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>So Cal Athletics</td>
<td>Lakewood, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA/USA Girls' A 12-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Texas KAOS</td>
<td>Missouri City, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA/USA Girls' A 14-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>TX Impact GOLD – Elder</td>
<td>League City, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA/USA Girls' A 16-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Atlanta Vipers – Berry</td>
<td>Sugar Hill, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA/USA Girls' A 18-Under Fast Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Carolina Cardinals</td>
<td>King, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior Olympic Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Elite Exteriors</td>
<td>Watertown, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Girls’ 12-Under Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Westport Area</td>
<td>Westport, SD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Girls’ 14-Under Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Jurgens Printing</td>
<td>Watertown, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Girls’ 16-Under Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Jurgens Printing</td>
<td>Watertown, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Modified Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Greenville</td>
<td>Greenville, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s (10) Modified Pitch</strong></td>
<td>Greenville</td>
<td>Greenville, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adult Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Coed C Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Champions</strong></td>
<td>ASA Coed D Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hometown</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s A 16-Inch Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s A Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s B Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s C Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Eastern</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Northern</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Western</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Southern</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Overall</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Eastern</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Northern</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Western</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Industrial Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Masters 40-Over Rec. Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Masters 40-Over Rec. Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 50 AA Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 50 AAA Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 50 Major Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 55 AA Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 55 Major Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 55 Major Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 60 AA Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 60 AA Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 60 AAA Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 60 Major Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 60 Major Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Men’s Senior 65 AAA Slow Pitch East</strong></td>
<td>ASA Men’s Senior 65 AAA Slow Pitch East</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Eastern</strong></td>
<td>ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Northern</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Western</strong></td>
<td>ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA Women’s Open Slow Pitch</strong></td>
<td>ASA Women’s Open Slow Pitch</td>
<td>Cherokee, GA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Champions**

**Hometown**

- ASA Coed C Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Coed D Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s A 16-Inch Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s A Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s B Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s C Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Eastern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Northern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Southern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Western
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s D Slow Pitch Overall
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Eastern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Northern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s E/Rec Slow Pitch Western
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Industrial Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Masters 40-Over Rec. Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 50 AA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 50 AAA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 50 Major Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 55 AA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 55 Major Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 60 AA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 60 AAA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 60 Major Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Men’s Senior 65 AAA Slow Pitch East
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Eastern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Northern
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Women’s D Slow Pitch Western
- Cherokee, GA
- ASA Women’s Open Slow Pitch
- Cherokee, GA

**Champions**

**Hometown**

- Slate Towing & Performance
- Columbia, MD
- Piranhas
- Indianola, IA
- LongHaul/JJ’s/Doerflinger/Easton
- Albertville, MN
- Heartland Investors
- Mandan, ND
- Sydicate/Guardian Nat’l/Gold’s Gym
- Overland Park, KS
- T2W HMD Mojo
- Columbus, OH
- Comatose Softball
- Beloit, WI
- LineDrive
- Winder, GA
- Team LCP
- Los Angeles, CA
- Faith & Hope
- Denham Springs, LA
- DGR Miller Concrete
- Goshen, IN
- Lehigh Valley Polish Water Ice
- Macurgie, PA
- Vortex Black
- Bow, WA
- Kentucky Erectors
- London, KY
- Virginia Masters
- Mechanicsville, VA
- Grill 584/Dave’s Furniture
- Burlington, NC
- TNT Sports Club
- Norristown, PA
- Crosley
- Louisville, KY
- Golden Vipers
- Sterling Heights, MI
- Triangle Masters
- Chapel Hill, NC
- Chesapeake 60’s
- Owings Mills, MD
- Carolina Cobras
- Chapel Hill, NC
- Superior Senior Softball
- Richmond, VA
- Spicer Properties 65 AAA
- Keddsville, MD
- Bombshell Bombers
- Somersworth, NH
- CheapFest
- Bloomington, MN
- DBF
- Atwater, CA
- Low Bobs/Kinder/Louisville Slugger
- Harrodsburg, KY
FROM THE VAULT

Mens Fast Pitch, Class B 1987

Mens Major Industrial 1983

Womens Slow Pitch - Caterpillars

Womens Slow Pitch 1982

Ann Mullins
Balls and Strikes
Trivia

How well did you pay attention to this edition of Balls and Strikes? 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. Who is the new President of ASA/USA Softball?

2. Name one member of the National Softball Hall of Fame Class of 2014.

3. How much money did ASA/USA Softball donate to the Susan G. Komen Foundation through this year’s pink auction?

4. Where will the 2014 16-Under GOLD National be held?

5. What’s the hometown of new ASA/USA Softball Executive Director Craig Cress?
WHERE DO YOU STAND NATIONWIDE?

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2- Woman’s Full Sub Jersey
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