

**North Dakota Amateur Softball Association
2008 Advisory Board Minutes
January 4, 2008, Jamestown, ND**

General

Annual meeting will be held April 19 in Jamestown.

The Hall of Fame Banquet will be April 19 at the Gladstone Inn.

Team registration deadline is May 15; May 15-June 1 - \$10 late fee, after June 1, \$25 late fee.

Roster deadline is June 1; after June 1, \$25 late fee; after June 7 – cannot play in state tournament.

Roster change deadline is June 12. Must be postmarked on or before that date.

Softball News will be out March 14. Deadline to submit ads or information is March 1.

2008 National Tournaments

Bismarck – Class D MSP – August 28-31; Registration deadline – August 21

Minot – 40 & Over Men's Fast Pitch – August 21-24; Registration deadline - August 21.

Moorhead – Class C MSP – August 28-31

2009 National Tournaments

Mandan – MSP 40 & Over

Bid rotation for Slow Pitch National Tournaments – 2008 – Minot; 2009 Bismarck.

Olympic Women's Fast Pitch team will be playing a game at Rapid City on July 15, 2008. If interested in attending, contact the South Dakota commissioner for ticket information.

Effective 2007, for state tournaments only – Division I will be B and top Class C teams; Homeruns, four over the fence. Champion will advance to the B National and the next three to the Class C National.

Division II – Lower Class C teams and top Class D teams, homeruns, three over the fence.

Champion will advance to the Class C National and the next three advance to the D National.

Division III – Remainder of Class D teams. Homeruns, two over the fence.

Champion only in each division will have the entry fee to the National paid by the State.

Players who play on more than one team, both of which play in state tournaments the same weekend, must play with their highest class team.

Prairie Rose games will be held in Minot July 11-13. Sanction fee is \$20.

Fargo will again host the Coed State tournament.

In case of a rainout of state tournament, if a team plays one game, they will receive half of their fee back. If a team plays two games, no refund will be made.

Eligibility

No stripping of rosters.

Allow players to play in any association within North Dakota, not just their local association of league.

Women's Slow Pitch State Advisory Board

Reported by Greg Kaeding

Team registration due by May 15th.

Roster deadline June 1. Roster change deadline June 12.

Classification meeting July 11. Spring meeting April 18 & 19.

Code Changes: Travel permits no longer required.

National Tournaments – ND can qualify 6 from each division.

Reminder on Eligibility: No stripping of rosters.

Allow players to play in any association in ND.

When playing in State Tournament on the same weekend you must play on the higher classification team. If you lose out, you cannot go and play in another tournament on the same weekend.

Rules: Bats will have to be re-taped.

Bats that have any audible rattling, cracks, dents, etc, will be thrown out.

Home run rule – you do not have to run bases, including the runners.

WSP are not permitted to steal.

We have recommended that NDASA allow only Class C & D teams be allowed to steal at state tournament only (which is a national qualifier). NOT REC teams. (all agree)

Run Rule –Do we stay at 15 after 3 and 10 after 5, or do we change to 20 after 3, 15 after 4, 10 after 5?

Rec teams stay with 15 after 3 & 10 after 5, upper division C & D go with the national rule.

State Tournament move-ups.

Recommend that the format in class D & Rec I that only the 1st place team gets moved up.

WSP still has a concern with state tournament locations. Mary Hager will get numbers of total teams in each division and number of how many actually play in state tournaments, and will present to the state tournament selection committee.

If a team challenged up to play in a state tournament we suggest that they do not have to stay up for the next year. As most teams challenge up due to location of tournament.

Men's Slow Pitch Advisory Board

Reported by Reinhold Fleck

Classification Meeting is July 11.

Annual Meeting is April 19th.

Motion was made to not allow stealing in invitational and advancing tournaments in North Dakota. Motion failed.

All bats must be taped again this year because of the amount of bats that are not illegal.

When teams challenge up for state tournaments, if they win 2 or more games, they would stay that classification until the next classification meeting. Forfeits do not count as a win.

At the annual meeting there will be a short training session for new league reps.

Allow teams to pick up players to the highest level of the tournament. Example: Rec 1 to Rec 4 tournament, a Rec 3 team would be allowed to pick up a Rec 1 player.

There is a recommendation to move the operation of the website to someone local. Advertise in the Softball News for a webmaster.

Advertise in the Softball News for a replacement for Walt Stack for the Softball News.

Masters Committee Report

Reported by Jack Jones

Committee reviewed the 2007 masters 35/40 State Tournaments.

Some issues were raised regarding the way Bismarck scheduled their brackets/games. All teams played only two games on Saturday (placement round + one round of double elim.) NO TEAMS WERE ELIMINATED the first day. Some teams complained about the number of games they were required to play on Sunday, particularly in the loser's bracket. Jack Jones and Gordy Smith will meet with Bismarck Tournament Director Doug Bowers prior to next year's tournament.

The fact that "make-up" teams were allowed for the first time in 2007 received positive comments. Rosters for "make-up" teams must be submitted by July 1. Make-up teams must pay sanction fee & tournament entry fee..

In 2008, team managers will be surveyed to gather opinions about playing the Masters 35 and Masters 40 on different weekends. The suggestion is to play Masters 35/Masters 50 on one weekend, Masters 40 on a different weekend. The hope is that more Masters 40 teams would evolve from this format as many Masters 35 teams include players over age 40, but these players are prohibited from playing in both age groups on the same weekend. Will also survey teams regarding the possibility of rotating the tournament site to other cities.

40 & Over: Approved increasing roster limit to 20 players (instead of 18) in Masters 40.

50 & Over: Playing rules were discussed: 1) approved pitching box, 2) rejected strike mat 3) on HR – no running bases.

The "single wall bat list" was discussed and will be continued in 2008. It was felt the list was a positive aiding both players and umpires in the metal bat tourney.

Jamestown softball officials and UIC Tom Harty were given high ratings by the committee for their work at the Masters 50 State Tourney. Jamestown is much preferred by teams.

Recommendation is made to the NDASA Executive Committee that any city hosting a Masters 50 State Tournament should be required to have an automated electronic defibrillator on-site at the softball complex.

Both Steve Granberg's and Jack Jones' terms on the committee expire January 2008. The committee unanimously requests Commissioner Hanley to re-appoint both Steve and Jack for another 3 year term, through January 2011. Jack Jones was re-elected as committee chairman.

Junior Olympic
Reported by Tracy Marback

JO State Fast Pitch Tournament

July 19 12-Under	Bismarck
July 20 14-Under	Bismarck
July 19 16-Under	West Fargo
July 20 18-Under	West Fargo

Proposed Invitational Tournaments – Fast Pitch – All Divisions

June 14 & 15	West Fargo
June 28	Grand Forks
July 10 & 11	Minot

Approve JO Committee

Brad Bittner – SE
Bill Butterfield – SW
Pat Johnson – SE (Fargo)
Brian Neuhardt – Bismarck – West
Mark Wax – Bismarck
Gary Leslie – Minot
Tracy Marback – NE – JO Commissioner
Dave Frueh – Mandan – GFP & GSP
Amy Pederson – Valley City – GFP & GSP
Kathy Stefonek – Jamestown - JO Commissioner
Darryl Marek – Grand Forks – NE
Mike Wolf, Bismarck - Umpire

Executive Committee Minutes

MSC to approve the State Tournament schedule for 2008.

MSC to allow make-up teams for the 40 and Over Fast Pitch National in Minot.

MSC to allow Division II teams, 2nd and below, and all Division III teams to play in the Class D National in Bismarck in 2008. No make-up teams will be allowed.

MSC to seek out a Web Master in North Dakota advertising in the Softball News in March. Deadline will be the April meeting. Commissioner Jim Hanley is to appoint a committee to look over the resumes. Reinhold Fleck will contact Jim Hanley and will put together some criteria for this position. Resumes are to be sent to the State Office and will be forwarded to the Committee.

MSC When a team challenges up to a different class for a state tournament, if they win two or more games the team must stay at that classification until the next classification meeting. A forfeit does not count as a win. This is for both men's and women's state tournaments.

MSC All bats must be remarked in 2008. League Reps and DUICs will work with each association toward this goal.

MSC During every annual meeting, a short training section will be held to assist new league reps.

MSC New run ahead rule for Men's and Women's state and invitational tournaments. 20 runs after 3 innings 15 runs after 4 innings 10 runs after 5 innings.

MSC In Men's Masters 40, the roster limit is 20 players.

MSC Rules for men's Senior 50 state tournament. Approved pitching box, no strike mats. No running bases on a home runs - 35-40-50. Did not approve the use of strike mat.

MSC Advertise in the softballs news for anyone interested in becoming the new editor of paper when Mr. Stack retires.

MSC approved new Junior Olympic committee Brad Bittner, Bill Butterfield, Pat Johnson, Brian Neuhardt, Mike Wolf, Darryl Marek, Mark Wax, Gary Leslie, Dave Frueh, Amy Pederson, Tracy Marback and Kathy Stefonek.

MSC NDASA to purchases a bat testing machine.