

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Jamestown Civic Center, April 25, 2009

Vice-President Jack Lukes called the meeting to order.

We wish to thank the following firms, leagues, and individuals for contributing door prizes: Jamestown Gladstone Inn and Suites, Jamestown “Orr”iginals, Mary Hager, Steve Granberg and the Fargo Slow Pitch Association, NDASA, Minot Park & Recreation Department; Grand Forks Softball Association, Red Willow Resort, Fargo Coaches Choice, Sue Lachenmeier, Bismarck Park & Recreation Department, and Walt Stack.

League Reps are encouraged to register all teams, adult, Junior Olympic, coed and church. All registrations are needed to keep our total above 2000 which enables NDASA to have an At-Large Player Rep to the National.

Teams registrations must be in to Greg Kaeding by May 29 – **2009 only** due to flooding conditions throughout the state. Rosters must be in the State Office by June 8 – **2009 only**. Roster change deadline remains June 12. Rosters remain in effect through December 31, 2009. Rosters must have classification and team names of any player who is on more than one roster.

ROSTER CHANGE DEADLINE IS JUNE 12. This is only for roster changes.

Slow Pitch Classification meeting is July 10.

Masters 40 Men Slow Pitch National Tournament in Mandan 2009.

Coed State Tournament in Grand Forks 2009.

For information on invitational and state tournaments check the website at www.ndasa.org

WOMEN’S SLOWPITCH
Reported by Sue Lachenmeier

THESE ARE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WSP GROUP
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Discussed:

- on NDASA.org Classification meeting will be July 10.

- 2010 optic ball will be mandatory.
- 1-1 count NO COURTESY
- Registration fees & deadlines.
- Roster deadlines.
- State Tournament sites and dates.

Motion: To rotate Rec I Women’s between East (Valley City) and West (Mandan). Motion carried.

Concern: Talked about state tourney(s) falling on same dates as We Fest and its effect on tournament team numbers.

- Minot hosting Women's C National Tourney (Labor Day weekend). Any team can play, but must compete in their own state tourney.
- Teams can challenge up, but if you win 2 games at that tournament you must stay at that division.
- Busch Light Invitational (Fargo) June 13&14.
- Background checks for umpires & JO coaches.
- Get new bats stickered ASAP.
- 20 player roster max and **stressed** that rosters must be filled out correctly and completely. They **WILL** be returned if not!! Questions call Kathy S.
- Advertise tourney's

Motion: Proposal made to keep current pick-up player rules, but eliminate the 3 player authorization form.
Motion passed.

Election of officers:

President: Sue Lachenmeier
450 Summit Blvd.
Bismarck, ND 58504
(w) 223-1949 (H) 222-3627

Vice President: Amy Pederson
PO Box 422
Valley City, ND 58072
(w) 701-845-3294; Cell 701-840-1328; email: amyp@vcparks.com

Secretary: Barb Schmidt
9225 71st St SE
Berlin, ND 58415
Email: bschmidt@drtel.net
(H) 883-5695 (cell) 320 9170

WSP Commissioner: Mary Hager
2838 18th St NE
Harvey, ND 57341
Email: mhager@gondtc.com

MEN'S SLOWPITCH
Reported by Roger Weigel

**THESE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MSP GROUP
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Jack Jones briefing on Masters:

- National 40 tournament in Mandan.
- Make up teams allowed for Masters Tournament.
 - Due July 1 – rosters to Jack Lukes.
- Masters teams to play at Mandan Masters tourney. Must play in ND state tourney and meet age requirements. (Passed by Executive Committee in January.)
- McQuades can play in both 50 & 60 divisions. (Passed by executive board in January.)
- Motion to play in any Masters State Tournament if same weekend if age qualified.
- Division 1, 2, and 3 state winner goes to Nationals in class they are classified.
- 10 teams qualify for E National.
- Pick-up players to highest class of team entered in tournament. (clarification)
- Background checks for umpires.

Motion failed: Divison 2 and 3 state winners to move up a division for 1 year for state tourney.

Motion passed unanimously: Same pick-up rules as before except when pickup 3rd player, the 3rd player form not required.

- Discussion to allow pick-ups for state.
- Discussion to only pay out donated money for money tournament. Do not take out of entry fee.
- Get ASA team card for teams traveling out of state.
 - Jack to follow up.

The following officers were reelected: President – Reinhold Fleck, 2516 Country Club Parkway N., Moorhead, MN 56560, phone (218)233-0441; Vice President - Craig Good, P O Box 566, LaMoure, ND 58438, phone (701) 833-5079 (H) or (701) 432-5541; Secretary – Roger Weigel, 610 W. Wachter Drive, Bismarck, ND 58504, phone (701) 258-0011 (H) or (701) 328-4403.

MASTERS SLOW PITCH
Report by Jack Jones

**THESE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MASTERS GROUP
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Masters 40 National in Mandan August 28-30.
Any team that plays in an NDASA State Tournament is eligible for 40 National if they meet the age requirements.

- Masters 40/60 State Tournament July 18-19 in Bismarck.
- Masters 35/50 State Tournament July 25-26 in Fargo.
- Make-up teams 35/50 sanction fee \$70.
- Make-up teams 50/60 sanction fee \$20.
- Rosters and fees to Jack Lukes by July 1.
- Jack will forward on to State office.
- Approved for State Masters Tournaments only:
 - Players may play in any age group they are qualified to play.
Example: A 50 year old player may play 35 & 50; even though tournaments are on the same weekend.
- At McQuade players may play both 50 & 60 if age qualified.
- If there are 60 year old players looking for a team, contact Jack Jones.
- A minimum amount of underage players allowed in 60.
 - 58 yr old player - 2 point each
 - 59 yr old player-1 point each
 - Maximum 4 points per team.
- Masters Tournaments use 0-0 count.
- Craig Good and Richard Peterson appointed to another 3 year term on Masters Committee by Commissioner Hanley.
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GIRL'S FASTPITCH
Reported by Tracy Marback

**THESE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GIRLS FAST PITCH GROUP
 TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- All teams will be individually registered through registerasa.com for all teams fast and slow pitch.
- All coaches who coach in a National Tournament must be ACE certified and have a background check.
 - In North Dakota all coaches will be background checked.
- State Fast Pitch Tournament changed to:
 - July 11-12 (10-12-14) Bismarck
 - July 18-19 (16-18) West Fargo
- McQuade Fast Pitch (10-12-14-16-18)
 - Friday June 26th.
- Estimated Teams
 - Bismarck 15-20
 - Dickinson 10
 - Williston
 - West Fargo 25-30
 - Casselton
 - Valley City
- Got letter out to High School Coaches about benefits of individual registration.

NDASA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 24-25, 2009

- Jack Lukes re-elected as Vice President of NDASA.
- MSC- Registration deadline is May 29. Roster deadline is June 8 for 2009 only.
- MSC- NDASA will not pay registration fees for national umpire clinics.
- MSC - For Umpires working in a North Dakota National Tournament, it is not mandatory to attend a national umpire clinic.
- Motion Failed – Motion to play in any Masters State Tournament if same weekend if age qualified.
- MSC – Eliminate 3 pick-up player form.
- Motion Failed – Rotate Rec I Women’s State Tournament between Valley City and Mandan.
- MSC – Women’s Rec I State is moved to Devils Lake same date.
- MSC – Girls Fast Pitch State Tournament for age 10-12-14 is July 11 &12 in Bismarck.
- MSC – Any team that plays in any NDASA state tournament is eligible for the Masters 40 National in Mandan if they meet the age requirements.

NDASA Umpire Report below➤

Umpire Report—State Meeting

April 25, 2009

Submitted By: Michael Wolf, State UIC

In working with ASA, NDASA, and our Deputy Umpire-in-Chiefs, I have decided to implement the policy of conducting background checks on all registered umpires beginning with the 2009 season. We want to be pro-active in this process in order to assure all players that we are concerned about their well-being. Background checks will be paid for by the umpires through increased umpire registration fees and we will not ask for any funds from NDASA to implement this program.

At their annual conference, the ASA adopted the 1 & 1 count with no courtesy foul ball for men's and women's slowpitch. The only exception is Men's Master's which will stay with the 4/3 count.

A new rule passed for 2009 that does not allow bats to have dents, chips, or burrs. In the past, if a bat had a dent and the bat ring fit over the bat, the bat was allowed to be used. With the new rule change, if there are any visible dents, the bat cannot be used—regardless of whether the bat ring fits over the bat. Managers and players should be aware of this rule and understand the intent of the rule—safety. If a bat has dents, chips, and burrs, it means it is more likely to break.

Umpires and the state board are considering stickering the bats that have dents, burrs, and chips to identify them as illegal bats. All umpires will be given these special stickers that can be placed on the bat immediately to identify them as an illegal bat.

We will continue to sticker legal bats with the bright orange stickers. Contact your local UIC to make sure all of your bats are legal and have the proper sticker on them. Umpires will continue to sticker the bats during league nights in the major cities and at all tournaments.

There are 24 bats on the illegal bat list. You can review this list at the ASA website www.asasoftball.com and click on certified equipment. If a bat doesn't have a 2000 or 2004 certification stamp on the bat, it cannot be used. The list of 24 illegal bats are those bats that had a 2000 or 2004 certification stamp but have become illegal after additional testing.

Several umpires from around the state will be assigned to work national tournaments later this summer. Umpires will be assigned to the Men's Class A, Men's Class D, Men's Class C, Men's Masters 40+, Men's Masters 50, Men's Class C Fastpitch, Women's C, and the Girls 16U Class A Fastpitch. We are currently working on finalizing the assignments and should have that process completed by mid-May. We will announce the umpires chosen to work national tournaments in the summer issue of the Softball News.

Please remember that you cannot use umpires to umpire your league games unless they are ASA registered. You are taking a huge chance from a legality standpoint by not making your umpires register for league play. Please contact me if you have questions. We are always in need of umpires. Please consider trying to recruit an umpire in your area. If you need more information, I can put you in contact with the DUIC from your area.