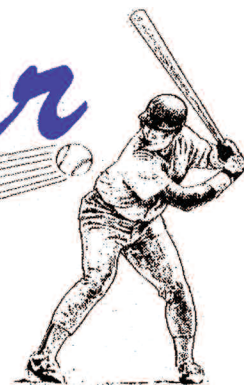




The Messenger



April 2009 — Section 1

Official Publication of the Wisconsin ASA

Batter Up: 2009 WASA Season Approaches

FREDONIA – Grab a bat!

Following a long, frigid and snowy Wisconsin winter (So, what else is news?), thousands of Badgerland softball enthusiasts are about to do just that as the Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association's 2009 season approaches.

And 2009 promises to be a summer of big doings for the WASA, especially in the Green Bay metropolitan area and Fond du Lac.

Coupled with the normal busy slate of WASA state tournaments, sanctioned tourneys, national qualifiers and league games, Wisconsin will host three ASA national tournaments this summer.

The first two of these will be July 29 through August 2 when metro Green Bay welcomes the ASA Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch Class A 10-U and 12-U Northern Nationals.

These thriving events are destined to attract many of the best youth teams in the Midwest with strong representation expected from the WASA's booming JO program.

Rex Mehlberg, Ashwaubenon's Director of Parks and Recreation, will be coordinating the Northern Nationals at the Ashwaubenon Sports Complex and Riverview Park. He can be reached at (920) 492-2331 for additional tournament information.

Wisconsin's third national of 2009 will unfold over the Labor Day weekend (Sept. 4-7) when Fond du Lac is the venue for the ASA Men's 10-Man Modified Pitch National Championship for the third time.

Fondy last ran the event in 2003 when two local ballclubs, Dillinger's and Cheers II, finished 1-2 respectively, with Dillinger's emerging from the loser's bracket to repeat as national champions.



SOFTBALL: A "PLUM" OF A SPORT. No matter what your name or number, there's a spot for you on a softball team this season.

This year Dillinger's will be looking to parlay the home field advantage at Lakeside Park into national title number four and extend their record for ASA national championships won by a WASA team.

For more data on Fond du Lac's national tournament, contact WASA Assistant Commissioner Tom Rausch at (920) 922-5517.

Fond du Lac will also be the locale for another prime WASA festivity in 2009, the WASA Hall of Fame inductions.

This biennial event is scheduled to take place Saturday, July 25 at Lakeside Park in conjunction with the WASA Men's Slow Pitch Class D State Tournament.

Ten new members will be enshrined into the WASA Hall of Fame that afternoon and the two most recent WASA Umpires of the Year, John Peterson and Richard Kummerow, will also be recognized.

(Continued on page 9)

Another “Major” Honor for Stevens Point

OKLAHOMA CITY – Stevens Point has been awarded a James Farrell Award of Excellence by the Amateur Softball Association of America for running one of the ASA’s top-rated national tournaments in 2008.

All of the organization’s Farrell winners were announced during the ASA’s National Council Meeting in Oklahoma City last November.

Stevens Point’s Zenoff Park served as the venue for the 2008 ASA Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship, the first time that the ASA’s most venerable national tourney had ever been held in Wisconsin.

The 17-team tournament witnessed defending champion Patsy’s of New York City retain its crown over the Rivershark Twins from Ambler, Penn. by a 2-1 count in a thrilling, eight-inning “if game” finale.

“It was a pleasure to host this exciting event,” stated Mike Disher, president of the Stevens Point Softball Association. “Stevens Point is very proud to now have held ASA championships in all of the Men’s Major tournaments: Fast pitch, modified and slow pitch.”

Disher concluded by stressing “The tremendous cooperation and support we receive from the city of Stevens Point which makes the SPSA’s success in staging these ASA national events possible.”

The 2008 Men’s Major was the fifth ASA National Championship that Stevens Point has run since 1993 and all five of them have earned the coveted Award of Excellence.

The Messenger

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N5372 Loraine Court

Fredonia, WI 53021

WASA Office Phone: (262) 685-7984

Fax: (262) 692-9940

Web site: www.wisconsin-asa.org

Editorial Office at:

Wisconsin ASA Messenger

c/o Randy Wievel

1901 Michigan Avenue

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Editor's Phone: (715) 344-6846 or (715) 341-2804

Personnel:

Editor Randy Wievel

Assistant Editor Matt Disher

Commissioner Tom Raimer

President Dick Buskov

Columnists Dale Ferron

Roger Regez

Design/Layout Jim Krueger

Photo Credits Randy Wievel, Lynn Hintz



**LOOKING FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT ASA SOFTBALL IN
WISCONSIN?**

COME CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:

www.wisconsin-asa.org

Perfect 10: New Hall of Fame Class Set For Induction

FOND DU LAC – The Wisconsin ASA’s Hall of Fame Class of 2009 is size XL ... with heavy emphasis on the X.

This March WASA Commissioner Tom Raimer announced that 10 distinguished individuals have been selected for induction into the organization’s Hall of Fame.

The Class of 2009 therefore ties with the 1989 group for the second-largest in WASA history behind the 11-member Class of 1988.

Comprising the WASA Hall of Fame Class of 2009 are, in alphabetical order:

• Harold (Nook) Blank	La Crosse
• Todd Buetow**	Fond du Lac
• Hal Case	Madison
• Jo Ann Krueger	Denmark
• Rusty Kryzanowski	Fond du Lac
• Jeff Moon	Fond du Lac
• Lud Nordahl	Hixton
• Jean Rivett	De Pere

• Bob Tomlinson	Poynette
• Guy Wertz**	Waukesha

** = Posthumous inductee.

The new inductees will lift the WASA Hall of Fame’s roster up to 110 members. 2009 will be the WASA’s 18th Hall of Fame class since its establishment in 1984.

The enshrinement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, July 25 at Lakeside Park in Fond du Lac. Other details, such as time, tickets, etc., are being finalized by the organizers in Fond du Lac and will be available in the near future.

As has been the trend lately, the ceremony will run in conjunction with a WASA championship, in this case the 2009 Men’s Slow Pitch Class D State Tournament.

Also slated to be honored at the biennial ceremony will be the WASA’s two most recent Umpire of the Year recipients, John Peterson of Madison for 2008 and Richard Kummerow of Mosinee for 2007.

“Open” to Assistance

EAU CLAIRE – Some of the early records of Wisconsin ASA state tournaments are sketchy at best, especially in slow pitch where a few seem to have vanished like investments with Bernie Madoff.

For example, now defunct Men’s and Women’s Open slow pitch state championships were contested in the 1950s, ‘60s and ‘70s. WASA records and individual research indicate the Open champions that are listed at right but the lists are far from complete and may contain inaccuracies.

The WASA is eager to fill in the missing years for these championships and urges anybody with documented information on the Wisconsin Opens to contact WASA Sports Information Director Randy Wievel (715) 344-6846 or historian Roger Regez (715) 832-3550.

The Messenger will continue to periodically run lists of WASA state champions from the archives of old tournaments that no longer exist and the staff welcomes any updates or corrections.

	Men’s Open Slow Pitch State Champions	
1957	Club Snafu	Sheboygan
1958	?	
1959	Club Snafu	Sheboygan
1960	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1961	?	
1962	?	
1963	Strand Tavern	Waukesha
1964	Strand Tavern	Waukesha
1965	Tirabassi	Kenosha
1966	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1967	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1968	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1969	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1970	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
1971	Becker’s Sporting Goods	Waukesha
	Women’s Open Slow Pitch State Champions	
1963	West Oconomowoc	Oconomowoc
1964	Butler	Butler
1965	Oconomowoc Belles	Oconomowoc
1966	South Side Sausage	?
1967	Oconomowoc Realty	Oconomowoc
1968	Pfeifers (may be Stretch Motel)	?
1969	?	
1970	Stretch Motel	Fond du Lac
1971	Butler Backers	Butler
1972	Stretch Motel	Fond du Lac
1973	Stretch Motel	Fond du Lac

Kummerow and Peterson Named WASA Umpires of the Year

FOND DU LAC – The WASA’s newest Umpires of the Year are John Peterson of Madison and Richard Kummerow from Mosinee.

Peterson was selected from 2008 and Kummerow for 2007 and both men will be honored at the biennial WASA Hall of Fame ceremony July 25 at Lakeside Park in Fond du Lac.

The WASA Umpire of the Year Award was established in 1982 and Peterson, who was also recognized in 1989, is now its first two-time recipient.

The veteran fast pitch arbiter had the honor in 2008 of being named the crew chief and working home plate for the United States Olympic Team’s only Wisconsin appearance during its “Bound 4 Beijing” Tour June 17 in Stevens Point. Peterson was also selected to work the 2008 Men’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship, the ASA’s oldest and most prestigious national, which was likewise contested in Stevens Point.

Kummerow has three decades of umpiring with the WASA to his credit and has called over 50 state tournaments plus three ASA nationals and a trio of modified pitch NITs.

When asked what his umpiring specialty was, the versatile Kumerow replied, “You name it,” with a friendly chuckle. “I’ve done them all, fast pitch, modified and slow pitch.”

WASA Commissioner Tom Raimer lauded both men when informed of their selections by WASA Umpires-in-Chief Dick Buskov and Jim Mitchell.

“John and Rick have been extremely valuable components of the WASA for many years,” Raimer declared. “They are richly deserving of our Umpire of the Year designation and I congratulate them both and thank them for their dedication to the sport of softball.”



2008 WASA Umpire of the Year John Peterson calls Team USA’s Jessica Mendoza, the 2008 Women’s Sports Foundation’s Sportswoman of the Year, out at the plate after being tagged by Korryn Brooks of the Midwest Collegiate All-Stars on an attempted steal of home. The action came during the first inning of last June 17’s exhibition game in Stevens Point won by Team USA, 20-1, as part of its 2008 “Bound 4 Beijing” pre-Olympic tour. (Photo by Lynn Hintz)

Wisconsin ASA Umpire of the Year Award Winners

<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>
1982	Ken Gracner	Madison
1983	Ed Johnson	La Crosse
1984	John Baltus	Eau Claire
1985	Clyde Schuette	Green Bay
1986	George Gannon	Chippewa Falls
1987	Arden Geisler	Wis. Rapids
1988	Fred Kratz	Montello
1989	John Peterson	Madison
1990	Joe Hamilton	Eau Claire
1991	Tim Joly	Green Bay
1992	Mike Lipp	Madison
1993	Joe Cyran	Stevens Point
1994	Wes Templeton	Madison
1995	Jim Mitchell	New Richmond
1996	Tim Irish	Onalaska
1997	Lorn Roehm	Sparta
1998	John Eckendorf	Stevens Point
1999	Pete Dake	Eau Claire
2000	Lew Smith	Green Bay
2001	Ron Deutsch	Eau Claire
2002	Tim Townsend	Greenfield
2003	Bill Gongoll	Wausau
2004	Mike Mikalsen	Cottage Grove
2005	Tom Ueberroth	Hales Corners
2006	Bill Bartingale	Eau Claire
2007	Richard Kummerow	Mosinee
2008	John Peterson	Madison

Quick Pitches

News and notes as the Wisconsin ASA's 2009 season gets ready to rock:

** The WASA is once again attempting to revive state tournament play in Women's Slow Pitch.

Fond du Lac is scheduled to hold 2009 state championships in Women's Class C and D June 6-7 at Lakeside Park if sufficient entries are received.

The last WASA state tourney in Women's Slow Pitch was played way back in 1995 with Dairy State Bank of Plymouth capturing the Class C crown, so this is an event the WASA would love to see get off the canvas and return on an annual basis.

Women's teams that are interested in competing in Fond du Lac should contact Paul Suemnicht at (920) 960-9684 for further details.

** The WASA's annual meeting has been booked for Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 at the Ramada in Stevens Point.

**A pair of fast pitch stalwarts from Wisconsin will be part of the USA Men's National Team as it competes in the 16-team XII ISF Men's World Championship this July 17-26 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Chris Delarwelle of Forestville and Don Garvey of Appleton have been named to Team USA's elite, 17-member squad with Delarwelle listed as a First Baseman and Garvey as a Catcher/Infielder.

Both men are former UW-Oshkosh baseball stars and have extensive experience on the international fast pitch stage in addition to glittering resumes in ASA Men's Major competition.

** Only two Wisconsin teams have ever won back-to-back ASA national titles: The Farm of Madison in the 2003-2004 Men's Major Fast Pitch division and Dillinger's from Fond du Lac in the 2002-2003 Men's 10-Man Modified events.

There's a possibility that number could double this summer as Farmington defends its Men's 23-U Fast Pitch championship and the Oshkosh Raiders go for their second JO Girls Fast Pitch 10-U Class B Northern National conquest.

Good luck to both clubs as they attempt to add their names to a very exclusive list.

** Registration reminder: Teams, umpires and individuals can obtain WASA registration forms for 2009 directly from the WASA Web site, www.wisconsin-asa.org

Also, while there, be sure to check out the site's updated look and new, sleeker, WASA logo.

** Gazing into the not-so-distant future, Kimberly has been tabbed as the venue for the 2010 ASA Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch 12-U Northern Nationals in both Class A and B. Playing dates are August 2-8.

As of this writing, these are the only ASA national tourneys destined for Wisconsin currently on the ASA's 2010 calendar.

** With 10 inductees and two Umpires of the Year being honored at the 2009 WASA Hall of Fame ceremony set for July 25 in Fond du Lac, oddsmakers in Las Vegas are rumored to be refusing any action on the proposition that anybody might surpass Tom Rausch's record 17-minute acceptance speech from 2005.

** And, finally, on another less serious note, WASA Junior Olympic Commissioner/Dining Critic Dale Ferron is scoffing at the notion that he's in serious training in order to tackle the enormous hamburger now available at the home games of the West Michigan Whitecaps.

The Whitecaps, the Class A Midwest League affiliate of the Detroit Tigers in Grand Rapids, have bolstered their menu with a 4,800-calorie colossus that features five 1/3-pound beef patties, five slices of cheese, chili, salsa and corn chips all inside a sesame sees bun approximately the size of second base.

It sells for \$20.

Ferron, a noted gourmet of ballpark cuisine, claims that "Now, anything over a pound is troublesome for me" but he was very impressive in devouring a massive burger following a WASA committee meeting this February in Fond du Lac.

We'll definitely relish tracking this story throughout the summer.



Wisconsin Line Drives

By Roger Regez

In 1999, I had a newsletter called *Wisconsin Fastpitch*. With the year 2000 approaching, I asked subscribers to send their choices for a Wisconsin All-Century men's fast pitch team.

I expected less than 10 responses but I was surprised, I received close to 30. I printed each and every one. Many of the named teams came from the northeast corner of the state, the hotbed area of Green Bay and Kimberly.

Ray Neveau, from Niagara, was far and away picked on the most all-century teams. I had heard of him, but never really knew much about his fast pitch career. He had more than double the selections of any other player.

I decided to see what I could find on him on my favorite old newspaper Web site, www.badgerlink.com/newspaperaccess. Many old Wisconsin newspapers are available on that site. Normally when I look up a great athlete I might get 25-50 hits. To my amazement, Neveau brought me 490! Eye-opening to say the least.

Many of the hits were of his handball accomplishments, plus his name was mentioned a lot playing basketball. At one point he was a six-time Wisconsin state champion and ranked No. 6 in the nation in handball. I think there must exist a separate building to store all the trophies he has won.

He also played baseball for Oshkosh State College (now UW-Oshkosh). He did not go out until his junior year but led the team in hitting both years. There were many softball

items. I am assuming whether it be baseball, basketball, handball or softball, the articles were on the same Ray Neveau. Listed below are some of the fast pitch softball accomplishments I found:

1965 — ASA District Tournament ... Hit a home run to give Oshkosh Wertsch Motors a victory over Dale's Bar of Sheboygan.

1966 — ISC State Tournament at Rhinelander ... Playing for Wertsch Motors, had two hits and drove in two runs in a 4-3 win over Stoughton A&W, S&S.

1967 — ASA State Tournament at Green Bay ... Hit a base-loaded single, driving in two runs to give Menasha Jitter's and John's a 3-2 win over Green Bay Military Golfland ... Chosen to the Oshkosh Classic Open League all-star team.

1968 — ASA State Tournament in Eau Claire ... Slammed a three-run homer to give Menasha Jitter's and John's a win over powerful Eau Claire She-Nannigans.

1970 — ISC State Tournament in Kaukauna ... Hit an 11th inning home run in a 2-1 loss to Green Bay Military Golfland.

1971 — As of August 5, led Oshkosh Oregon Clothing in hitting at .383 and home runs, with seven; Named MVP of the Knights of Columbus tournament in Denmark.

1972 — ISC State Tournament at Oshkosh ... Homered to help Oshkosh Oregon Clothing to a 5-0 win over Green Bay Benkowski Budweiser.

1973 — ISC World Tournament ... Had the game-winning hit to give Jack's Rose Hill of Little Chute a win over Pueblo, Colorado.

1974 — Wausau Invitational Tournament ... June 16 hit a 401-foot home run for Tommy's Angels in a win over Rhinelander Lions Lair;

Named MV Catcher of the Rhinelander Hodag Tournament.

1975 — ISC State ... Had three hits in the championship game as Tommy's Angels beat Kaukauna Bob and Mary's and Mike's.

1976 — ISC World Tournament ... Hit a three-run homer for Tommy's Angels in a win over La Crosse Keg, en route to a 4th place finish for his team; Selected first-team catcher on the ISC All-World Team; Fox Valley Classic League ... Hit a three-run home in Oshkosh Tommy's Angels 5-1 win over Wydeven-Uncle Thirstys; Kimberly Recreation Tournament ... In the semifinals Tommy's Angels beat Little Chute Jack's Rose Hill 1-0 on a Neveau home run; As of August 7 was Tommy's Angels top hitter at .348.

Perusing through the International Softball Congress yearbook from 1976, I noticed he played for Oshkosh's Tommy's Angels in the 1975 ISC World Tournament. He ranked second in the tournament with a .545 batting average, going 6-for-11, scoring 5 runs and batting in 5 runs. Tommy's went 1-2 in the tournament and scored 21 runs, so Neveau scored or batted in nearly half of them.

So I can see why Ray Neveau was named to so many of the all-century teams I received in the mail. It seems as though he homered in nearly every tournament he played in. I really only touched the surface as I counted 44 documented home runs in all the articles. I have to believe that may be an "internet record" for a Wisconsin fast pitch player.

Through my request for Wisconsin all-century teams, it seems the message I was receiving was that Ray Neveau may have been the greatest Wisconsin player, at least from the Northeast quadrant of this state.

2009 ASA Playing Rule Changes

(Playing rule changes and commentary provided by the Amateur Softball Association)

Rule 1 Definition Charged Conference: When a team representative requests a suspension of play or delays the game for the purpose of delivering a message to another team member, unless the pitcher is removed from pitching position.

Comment: *This allows the coach to talk to their pitcher before deciding to remove the pitcher without being charged a conference.*

Rule 2 Section 1: Men's Modified fence distance to be a max of 325 Feet.

Comment: *Modified Players requested this to add more defense to the game.*

Rule 3 Section 1 A 1: Remove the word "or" and replace with "and".

Comment: *All approved bats must have the certification mark and be on the list of approved bats. Item 3 of the rule about the bats manufactured before 2000 still applies.*

Rule 3 Section 1 F: The bat shall be free of burrs, DENTS and visible cracks...

Comment: *This adds to the call out of the surface of the bat to be free of dents. Umpires will no longer have to identify if a dent is small enough for the bat ring to fit over the bat. If it has a dent the bat shall be removed from competition.*

Rule: 3 Section 1 K: The official bat shall be of one piece construction, multi-piece permanently assembled or two piece interchangeable construction. If the bat is designed with interchangeable components it must meet the following additional criteria:

1. Mating components must have a unique locking key to prevent uncertified equipment combinations in the field.
2. All component combinations must meet the one piece bat rules.
3. Manufacturer must demonstrate that the interchangeable bat fails in a safe manner. (i.e. visible damage before locking feature's) fail's).
4. Bat components must be designed in a way to prevent uncertified equipment alterations.

Comments: *This allows for new bat technology that the Equipment Standards Committee has studied for several years before approving it.*

Rule 3 Section 3 B: The Optic yellow ball shall be used in National Championships beginning in 2010 for all Slow Pitch, including Coed, Masters, and Seniors.

Comment: *The Slow Pitch players wanted this because the yellow ball is easier to see as the game goes on.*

Rule 3 Section 6 G: Effect: Players wearing metal cleats after being warned by the umpire not to do so shall be ejected.

Comment: *This adds a penalty for players who wear metal cleats when not allowed and have been asked to remove them.*

Rule 4 Section 2 I: Allow a courtesy runner for an ADA player.

Comment: *This allows a courtesy runner for an ADA player who is on base. The rule will be the same as the Seniors rule.*

Rule 4 Section 6 C 1: Removes the penalty of disqualification from the Substitution Rule.

Comment: *This only removes the disqualification portion of the rule, the balance of the penalties still apply. The unreported substitute is now in the game and all rules regarding reentry still apply.*

Rule 5 Section 8 A: Adds home run limits to Women's Slow Pitch in the following classifications:

- 1) Women's Open Unlimited
- 2) Women's Class C 4
- 3) Women's Class D 2

Comment: *Sets new limits for the number of Home Runs in Women's Slow Pitch*

(Continued on page 8)

2009 ASA Playing Rules Changes

(Continued from page 7)

Rule 5 Section A 1: Move Slow Pitch Coed Major Classification to the 8 Home Run limit category.

Comment: *The Slow Pitch Task Force asked for this based on the players input.*

Rule 5 Section A 2: Move Men's Slow Pitch B Classification to the 6 Home Run limit category.

Comment: *The Slow Pitch Task Force asked for this based on the players input.*

Rule 5 Section 8 A: Move Men's C Slow Pitch Classification and Coed A Slow Pitch Classification to the 4 Home Run limit category.

Comment: *The Slow Pitch Task Force asked for this based on the players input.*

Rule 5 Section 8 A: Move Men's D Slow Pitch Classification and Coed B Classification to the 2 Home Run limit Category.

Comment: *The Slow Pitch Task Force asked for this based on the players input. This also removes the ? inning out for the D classification.*

Rule 5 Section 8 A 6: Add Men's E/Rec. Slow Pitch Classification of play and establish a zero Home Run limit. Any over the fence Home Run is a 1/2 Inning ending out.

Comment: *The code added a new classification of Men's Slow Pitch, and restricted their home runs.*

Rule 5 Section 9 A 1: Men's Fast Pitch Only: the Run Ahead Rule is now 15 after 3, 12 After 4 and 7 after 5.

Comment: *This changes Men's Fast pitch from 8 after 5 innings to 7 after 5 innings.*

Rule 5 Section 9 A 3: Men's A Slow Pitch Only, 20 after 4 and 15 after 5.

Comment: *This changes Men's A Slow Pitch Run Ahead Rule from 20 after 3 to 20 after 4.*

Rule 5 Section 11: Add Men's Fast Pitch 40 – O and 45 –O Classifications to the Tie-Breaker rule.

Comment: *The 45 – 0 Classification of Men's Fast Pitch was added by a rule change and the 40 –O was added by a code change. They both will play under the same Tie-Breaker rule as Junior Olympic Girls.*

Rule 6 Section 1 A Fast Pitch and Modified: The pitcher must take the position on the pitcher's plate with the hands separated and the ball in the glove or the pitcher's hand.

Comment: *This only clarifies a rule that Fast Pitch and Modified umpires have enforced for years.*

Rule 6 Section 3 O Fast Pitch and N Modified: Effect: A ball called on the batter.

Comment: *The Effect of Letter O in Fast Pitch and N in Modified was an Illegal pitch and were always intended to be a ball on the batter only.*

Rule 6 Section 6 A Fast Pitch: an Approved manufactured drying agent that is included on the list published by the ASA, may be used by the pitcher. The Resin must be left on the ground and the approved drying agent in the pitcher's pocket. Effect: ... If any other substance is found in the pitcher's pocket the pitcher shall be ejected.

Comment: *Some drying agents are resin and need to be submitted to ASA for approval before they can be used by the pitcher. Currently only Gorilla Gold is approved.*

Rule 7 Section 3 B: Adult Slow Pitch Only, Prior to the pitch the batter will enter the batters box with a one ball one strike count. Exception: Masters and Seniors

Comment: *The Slow Pitch Players wanted this rule.*

Rule 8 Section 1 C 2: add to the exception 16" Slow Pitch the ball remains live.

Comment: *In 16" Slow Pitch runners can lead off and can be picked off therefore the ball should remain live.*

Rule 8 Section 3 I Exception: Add Masters Slow Pitch.

Comment: *The Masters Division of Slow Pitch can now hit an over the fence home run and not run the bases.*

(Continued on page 9)

Junior Olympic News

By Dale Ferron
WASA JO Commissioner

MADISON – It looks like everyone has been practicing for the upcoming softball season. During the first three months of 2009 I have attended some indoor fast pitch softball tournaments and I want to thank Lou Aponte, Brian Johnson and John Roth for the excellent opportunity they have provided to the players and coaches by running these events.

It looked to me that everyone had a great time and is looking forward to the tournaments next year. I know these gentlemen are already in the planning stages for the next winter season of softball.

Coaches, please remember that teams wishing to play in the WASA state tournaments and ASA Nationals must have at least one ACE certified coach for each team. This certification also includes a background check on that coach.

The response for ACE coaching schools has been overwhelming. As of this writing I have had ACE schools in

Trevor, Appleton and Oak Creek with outstanding attendance at each school.

I still have schools remaining in Eau Claire, Columbus, De Pere, Stoughton and Lake Mills. The ACE certification program can be found on the Internet at www.softball.org

If anyone is interested in hosting an ACE coaching school please contact me at (608) 838-3202.

Take a look at our newly-designed Web site (www.wisconsin-asa.org) and logo. I have posted all of the national tournaments for 2009 on the Web.

Please remember that the Wisconsin requirement for playing in a national tournament is to play in one SCS tournament and one of the WASA state tournaments. You can then play in the same Class (A or B) in the national tournament.

Ashwaubenon will be hosting the 2009 Class A Northern Nationals for the JO Girls 12-U and 10-U teams.

Please check out our Web site as Wisconsin has now gone to a Class C for girls and the WASA is offering a state tournament for these teams. Class C is defined as teams whose players are rostered on your league team (no pickups).

Have a good season and I hope to see everyone again this summer.

2009 ASA Playing Rules Changes

(Continued from page 8)

Rule 8 Section 5 I: When a fair batted ball deflects off a fence then off the fielder before going over the home run fence. Effect: The ball is dead. All runners and or batter-runner are awarded two bases from the time of the pitch.

Comment: *This should be a two base award since it can not be caught for an out. We are now consistent with other organizations. Rule 8 Section 7 I 2: If properly appealed by any defensive player during a live ball the runner is out.*

Comment: *This is a clarification of the rule as it has been called by umpires.*

Rule 8 Section 10: (All Fast Pitch)

Comment: *All Fast Pitch will follow the Courtesy runner rule previously used only by the Junior Olympic Classification of Girls and Boys.*

2009 Men's Slow Pitch Mandatory Reclassifications

FREDONIA – As a result of the Wisconsin ASA's slow pitch reclassification system that became effective Jan. 1, 2007, the following teams are subject to mandatory reclassification in 2009:

Team	City	Reclassification
X-treme Measures	Amery	Men's Class B
Budweiser/Electro-Glo	Fort Atkinson	Men's Class C

2009 WASA Season

(Continued from page 1)

Specific details for the 2009 Hall of Fame ceremony are in the process of being finalized by the organizers in Fond du Lac and should be available soon.

(See page 3 for more information on the Hall of Fame Class of 2009.)

So, as the 2009 season nears liftoff, take part in the WASA and grab a bat.

Or, if you don't play, coach or umpire, head out to your local softball facility, watch a game or two ... and grab a brat!

2009 WISCONSIN ASA STATE TOURNAMENTS

SLOW PITCH

MEN'S				
Class B	July 24 - 26	Marshfield	Gordon Adler 104 E 3rd St Suite 202 Marshfield, WI 54449	715-384-9176 July 14, 2009
	\$250.00			
Class C	July 24 - 26	Marshfield	Gordon Adler 104 E 3rd St Suite 202 Marshfield, WI 54449	715-384-9176 July 14, 2009
	\$250.00			
Class D	July 24 - 26	Fond du Lac	Paula Suemnicht N9352 Elm Beach Fond du Lac, WI 53935	920-960-9684 July 14, 2009
	\$275.00			
Class E	TBD	Pending		

WOMEN'S				
Class C/D	June 6-7	Fond du Lac	Paula Suemnicht N9352 Elm Beach Fond du Lac, WI 53935	920-960-9684 May 28, 2009
	\$180.00			

CO-ED				
Class A	TBD	Pending		

MODIFIED PITCH

MEN'S				
Class B	July 17 - 19	Ashwaubenon	Rex Melhberg 2155 Holmgren Way Ashwaubenon WI 54304	920-492-2331 July 10, 2009
	\$295.00			
Class C	July 25 - 26	Wautoma	Gary Burns W1324 Cty Rd E Redgranite, WI 54970	920-566-4329 July 14, 2009
	\$250.00			
WOMEN'S				
Class A	July 17 - 19	Ashwaubenon	Rex Mehlberg 2155 Holmgren Way Ashwaubenon, WI 54304	920-492-2331 July 10, 2009
	\$195.00			

FAST PITCH

MEN'S				
Class D	TBD	Portage	Tim Raimer 806 Silver Lake Dr Portage, WI 53901	608-742-2222
WOMEN'S				
Class A/B/C	TBD			

JUNIOR OLYMPIC FAST PITCH

GIRLS				
18/16/14/12/10 & Under Class A	July 10- 12	Watertown	Scott Pomerence N9650 Dewey Rd Watertown, WI 53094	920-261-9212 June 30, 2009
	\$400.00			
18/16/14/12/10 & Under Class B	July 10- 12	Kimberly	Bob Lang W5725 Hearth Stone Dr Appleton, WI 54915	920-740-9878 June 30, 2009
	\$400.00			

JO GREAT LAKES NATIONAL QUALIFIER

GIRLS				
14/12/10U Class A	June 19-21	Watertown	Scott Pomerence N9650 Dewey Rd Watertown, WI 53094	920-261-9212 June 8, 2009
	\$400.00			

2009 WISCONSIN ASA INC.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Wisconsin ASA
N5372 Loraine Ct
Fredonia, WI 53021

www.wisconsin-asa.org
(262) 685-7984
(262) 692-9940 fax

COMMISSIONER

Tom Raimer
N5372 Loraine Ct
Fredonia, WI 53021

raimertm@msn.com
(262) 692-3540

ASSISTANT - COMMISSIONER

Tom Rausch
619 Guinette Ave
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

tomr@rauschins.com
(920) 922-5517

BOARD of DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Dick Buskov
34 Belmont Rd
Madison, WI 53714

rbuskov@charter.net
(608) 241-8629

VICE-PRESIDENT

Matt Disher
1009 Park St
Stevens Point, WI 54481

matt@disherinsurance.com
(715) 342-6886
(715) 344-4427 fax

TREASURER

Arleen Case
2506 McDivitt Rd #4
Madison, WI 53713

arleencase@yahoo.com
(608) 445-1047

SECRETARY

Gordy Adler
104 E 3rd St. Suite 202
Marshfield, WI 54449

gjacpa@tznet.com
(715) 384-9176

PAST PRESIDENT

Tom Monahan
142 Scout Way
DePere, WI 54115

tommonohan@netnet.net
(920) 339-9190

STATE PLAYER REPRESENTATIVE

Mike Disher
2616 Prais St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

mike@disherinsurance.com
(715) 341-6856
(715) 344-4427 fax

2009 WISCONSIN ASA INC.

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF FAST/MODIFIED PITCH

Dick Buskov
34 Belmont Rd
Madison, WI 53714

rbuskov@charter.net
(608) 241-8629

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF SLOW PITCH

Jim Mitchell
919 Paperjack Dr
New Richmond, WI 54017

jmitchell_ump@yahoo.com
(715) 246-7788

J O COMMISSIONER

Dale Ferron
4801 Marsh Rd.
Madison, WI 53718

daleferron@charter.net
(608) 838-3202

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Randy Wievel
1901 Michigan Ave.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 344-6846

FAST PITCH COMMISSIONER

Mark Higgins
149 Shelley Lane
DePere, WI 54115

md.higgins@athenet.net
(920) 217-0665

Tom Monahan
142 Scout Way
DePere, WI 54415

tommonohan@netnet.net
(920) 339-9190

MODIFIED PITCH COMMISSIONER

Paul Wagner
500 Windrose Ct
Green Bay, WI 54311

yanksandpack2712@yahoo.com
(920) 406-9146

SLOW PITCH COMMISSIONER

Matt Disher
1009 Park St
Stevens Point, WI 54481

matt@disherinsurance.com
(715) 342-6886
(715) 344-4427 fax

WOMEN'S COMMISSIONER

Paula Suemnicht
N9352 Elm Beach
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

pjsuemnicht@hotmail.com
(920) 960-9684