



The Messenger



November 2010 Edition — Section 1

Official Publication of the Wisconsin ASA

WASA Says 10-4 “2” 2010 Season

FREDONIA – The Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association’s 2010 season is in the book ... but was it one for the record book?

Well, yes and no.

The WASA registered more teams (4,523 at press time), individual players (over 11,500) and umpires in 2010 than in record-setting 2009 but participation in WASA state tournaments was down slightly and the WASA’s performance at the national level paled when compared to ’09 when Wisconsin clubs captured a remarkable four ASA national titles and added six runner-up finishes as well.

A pair of seconds by the Fox River Rush in Junior Olympic Girls action was the best WASA entries could do this past summer in ASA national championship play.

Overall, WASA Commissioner’s view of 2010 was upbeat. “The organization had a very good year in many

respects,” Raimer stated at the WASA’s annual meeting held October 2 in Stevens Point.

“Financially, we look to be solidly in the black, but there are definitely other areas we will strive to improve on.”

These include continuing to expand into more Wisconsin communities, boosting participation in both state and national tournaments, monitoring equipment issues, and emphasizing the recruitment and development of umpires in all divisions of play.

Raimer also mentioned that a number of WASA state tournaments had to be scrapped in 2010 due to lack of entries and he hopes to see them revived next summer.

“Portions of our adult state tournament program are a concern,” Raimer admitted, adding that “many other states

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The Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association garnered a number of awards at the recent ASA National Council Meeting in Shreveport, La. Receiving awards from Central Virginia ASA Commissioner Henry Pollard were (left photo) WASA Commissioner Tom Raimer of Fredonia, accepting the James Farrell Award of Excellence on behalf of Kimberly for hosting two of the highest rated ASA national tournaments in 2010; (middle photo) WASA Player Representative Mike Disher from Stevens Point, accepting a 15 Years of Service to the ASA award; and (right photo) Raimer, accepting an ASA Benchmark Award on behalf of the WASA, one of 22 associations honored for increasing total registrations in adult and youth teams and umpires by at least 10 percent. See “Quick Pitches” on page 4 for more information. (Photos courtesy of ASA of America)

Wisconsin Line Drives

By Roger Regez

I am of the opinion that today's softball fans and players do not realize how much umpiring has improved over the years. I may be revealing my age, I know, but several umpires of the early years era simply did not read the rule-book and did not know all the rules.

Much of the time there was not even a rule book in the ball park. There were different rules in every league and every town. The home team usually set the rules. For example, in my hometown, you could steal all bases except home and if the catcher missed the third strike, the batter was out and there was no running to first base. Many pitchers threw hard but were terribly wild, that was the reason for that rule.

However, if a team had a great pitcher, they would use the rulebook rule on a missed third strike for their home games. A few towns, not many, played 10-man in the 1950s. Those teams had to play nine-man when they played out of town.

Reading old newspapers, I have noticed larger cities had protest committees set up for every league. Some writers hinted that softball had a "corner market" on protests. Protests were rampant because players and umpires simply did not know the rule book. Often the committees would have to make rulings on five or six protests at one meeting. Today, protests are very rare.

Almost every game I watched in the 1950s would have a stoppage of play at least once involving arguing with the umpires. This column is meant to honor the present-day umpire and tournament director ... I am including some of the past softball protests that came about in Wisconsin during the early years of the sport. There were many unusual reasons for protests. No doubt present-day protest committees would handle many of these occurrences in a different manner.

1927 at Appleton – *Wrong shoes!* – Company D Wisconsin National Guard pulled a stunning upset over Bankers, 11-4, in a softball league that had nine-inning games and a no-spike rule. In the eighth inning of a nine-inning scheduled game, and down 11-2, Bankers protested the game because a Company D player was wearing spikes. Company D argued the protest should have been made before the game started. Unable to find the result of this protest.

1934 at Racine – *One church accuses the other of sinning!* – Bethany ME lost to Emmanuel. Bethany protested the eligibility of two Emmanuel players and was awarded a win, putting it just 1/2 game out of first place. Both were members of the North Church softball league.

1936 at Madison – *Filled agenda!* – The following are the rulings set down of just one meeting, July 28, of the Madison softball commission:

St. James' protest of a game with B.S. Taverns was disallowed because Taverns did not have a representative at the meeting.

The Franklin Tavern vs. Bowman Dairy game will be replayed August 3.

Kennedy Dairy must replay its game with Karsten's.

Kennedy Dairy must replay its game with Breese Inn.

Kennedy Dairy must replay its game with Modern Cleaners.

Dropped Fair Oaks from the Major league due to irregularity of lineups.

1936 at La Crosse – *A little bit of forgiveness!* – Holy Trinity downed St. Joseph's Cathedral CYO, 8-5. The losers protested the eligibility of a Holy Trinity player but it

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WASA teams one over .500 in national competition

FREDONIA – A Lilliputian force of 12 teams represented the Wisconsin ASA in 2010 ASA adult national championship play.

This diminutive army managed a respectable 25-24 overall record but came up far short of the 2009 effort when 23 WASA teams went 62-48, a .564 winning percentage, and brought home an ASA national title (The Farm), a pair of seconds (New Image and Farmington), and a third (Dillinger's).

Press Box I from Fond du Lac was this year's top WASA finisher, going 4-2 to take fourth in the Men's 10-Man Modified national in Georgia, one spot above Press Box II.

A pair of 2010 WASA slow pitch champions also enjoyed solid success as Class C kings Milwaukee Softball Club/Dunn's Sporting Goods won six out of eight, good for fifth place, at the Class C Northern National in Rochester, Minnesota, while The Carom Room from Beloit put together a 5-2 weekend in Liberty, Missouri at the Class D Northern National to wind up ninth.

Complete team results follow (for all of the 2010 WASA Junior Olympic results in national competition see Dale Ferron's JO News column on page 22):

Team (City)	Tournament	W/L	Place
The Bar (Appleton)	Men's Major Fast Pitch	1-2	9
Press Box I (Fond du Lac)	Men's 10-Man Modified	4-2	4
Press Box II (Fond du Lac)	Men's 10-Man Modified	2-2	5
TPS (Green Bay)	Men's 10-Man Modified	1-2	7
Cubby's (Downsville)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	3-2	17
Flipside Pub/Cargill (La Crosse)	Men's Slow Pitch Class D Northern National	2-2	25
Just Wanna Play (Amery)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	0-2	33
Milwaukee Softball Club/ Dunn's Sporting Goods (Milwaukee)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	6-2	5
Not Just a Café (New Richmond)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	0-2	49
Subway/Sheisty/Easton (Fond du Lac)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	1-2	33
The Carom Room (Beloit)	Men's Slow Pitch Class D Northern National	5-2	9
Venom/Corners Inn (Janesville)	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National	0-2	49

2010 Wisconsin ASA State Champions

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Champions</u>	<u>City</u>			
	Modified Pitch		16-A	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna
			16-B	Fox River Rush	De Pere
Men's Class A	TPS	Green Bay	14-A	Waukesha Firebirds	Waukesha
Men's Class B	Jim Beam	Ashwaubenon	14-B	Pride of the Midwest White	Brookfield
	Slow Pitch		14-C	Wisconsin Rampage	Horicon
Men's Class C	Milwaukee Softball Club/ Dunn's Sporting Goods	Milwaukee	12-A	Waukesha Firebirds	Waukesha
Men's Class D	The Carom Room	Beloit	12-B	Fox River Rush	De Pere
	JO Girls Fast Pitch		12-C	Waupun Warriors	Waupun
18-A	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	10-A	Queen of Diamonds	Oak Creek
18-B	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	10-B	Oshkosh Raiders Black	Oshkosh
			10-C	Beaver Dam Tornados	Beaver Dam

Quick Pitches

By Randy Wievel

An eclectic sampling of news and notes from within the WASA:

** Wisconsin acquired some well-deserved accolades at the ASA awards luncheon November 8 during the 79th ASA National Council Meeting in Shreveport, La.

WASA Commissioner Tom Raimer of Fredonia accepted an ASA Benchmark Award on behalf of the WASA, one of 22 associations honored for increasing total registrations in adult and youth teams and umpires by at least 10 percent.

WASA Player Representative Mike Disher from Stevens Point was feted with a 15 Years of Service to the ASA award and Kimberly earned a James Farrell Award of Excellence for hosting two of the highest rated ASA national tournaments in 2010.

Kimberly ran both the Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch 12-U Class A and B Northern Nationals, attracting a combined 43 teams.

** Congratulations to Chad Mitchell of New Richmond for attaining ASA Elite Umpire status in 2010.

This is an ASA program designed to recognize umpires who, among other requirements, must have participated in at least four national championships.

Mitchell was also honored by being selected to work the 2010 Hooters Championship Series in Oklahoma City.

“Being named an elite umpire is a big honor for both Chad and the WASA program,” said WASA Commissioner Tom Raimer. “I heartily congratulate him for his outstanding efforts.”

** WASA Fast Pitch Umpire-in-Chief Dick Buskov revealed at the annual meeting in Stevens Point that WASA Hall of Fame umpire and former WASA UIC Dennis Kostac of Green Bay will be in charge of training umpires in the modified pitch program during the upcoming season. Look for Dennis at a clinic near you.



** WASA umpires who desire to attend a 2011 ASA National Umpire School will have to put on some travel miles since there are none scheduled for the Badger State.

The nearest schools will be:

March 11-13, 2011 Moline, IL

March 25-27, 2011 Topeka, KS

April 15-17, 2011 Rochester, MN

May 13-15, 2011 Cincinnati, OH

** Legislation was passed at the WASA’s annual meeting stipulating that beginning in 2011 all divisions of men’s modified play must have a minimum fence distance of 275 feet and a maximum of 300 feet for state tournament games.

Modified boss Paul Wagner also decreed that the top three finishers in the Men’s Class B state tournament in 2010 (Jim Beam, Goode’s and Slugger’s) will be reclassified as Class A teams for 2011.

** Speaking of state tournaments, the WASA announced the following championships for 2011:

JO Girls Class A	Watertown	July 7-10
JO Girls Class B	Eau Claire	July 15-17
JO Girls Class C	Baraboo	August 4-7
Men’s Modified Class A	Fond du Lac	July 22-24
Men’s Modified Class B	Fond du Lac	July 22-24
Women’s Modified	Fond du Lac	July 22-24
Men’s Slow Pitch Class B	Stevens Point	July 9
Men’s Slow Pitch Class C & D	Stevens Point	July 15-17

Please check the WASA Web Site (www.wisconsin-asa.org) for additional state tournament updates.

** There are no ASA national championships ticketed for Wisconsin in 2011. However, Columbus, located between Madison and Fond du Lac, was given the 2012 JO Girls Fast Pitch 16-U Class B Northern National during the ASA National Council Meeting in Shreveport.

“Columbus is a new venue for the Northern Nationals, it’s centrally located and I’m sure they will draw a good number of entries and put on a tremendous event,” commented Dale Ferron, the WASA’s Junior Olympic Commissioner.

The dates are expected to be August 1-5, 2012.

** Shortstop Jennifer Timm of the Fox River Rush’s 12-U state championship club out of Wrightstown demonstrated her strong arm off the diamond as well as on it in 2010.

Jennifer won the age 13-14 softball throw competition at the Hershey’s Wisconsin Track & Field Meet in West Allis this June with a toss of 152.5 feet.

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2011 ASA Playing Rule Changes

Courtesy of the Amateur Softball Association of America

Rule 2 Section 1 Table: The base distance for Men's Class A and Class B Slow Pitch classification shall be 70 Feet.

Comment: Allows for more defensive plays in our upper classifications of Men's Slow Pitch.

Rule 2 Section 3H: The double base shall be used at first base in all divisions of play. The base is 15 X 30 inches and both sides of the double base, white and contrasting color, shall be of equal thickness. (5" max).

Comment: This clarifies that both sides of the double base must be equal in height.

Rule 3 Section 1D: The safety grip can be made of cork, tape or other synthetic material and must be permanently attached and cover the handle region of the bat. No bare metal may be exposed in the area covered by safety grip. It shall not be less than 10 inches and not more than 15 inches. Any attachment such as a molded finger grip, flare cone, or choke up device must be attached to the grip with safety tape. Resin, pine tar, or spray substances are permissible on the safety grip only.

Comment: Better defines the safety grip of a legal bat.

Rule 3 Section 1H: An ASA official bat's characteristics shall remain fixed at the time of manufacture and may not be altered in any way other than specifically provided for in (Rule 3 Section 1) or as specifically approved by the ASA. Approved bats shall be considered altered if they are rolled, shaved, repainted, weighted or modified to change their characteristics from that produced by the manufacturer. Identifying the bat by means of laser marking, engraving, or painting the name or number of the player will not make the bat an altered bat.

Comment: This better defines an altered bat and allows for engraving to be part of the identification process.

Rule 3 Section 3A: The ball must have an ASA approved Certification Mark and not appear on the ASA Non Approved Ball List.

Comment: There will be balls with certification marks that will be added to a non approved ball list. This clarifies that the balls on this list will no longer be approved.

Rule 3 Section 3E [3]: A yellow cover red stitch 12" ball with as follows:

Size: at least 11.875 in.; Weight: at least 6.250 oz.; COR: .520 max; Compression: 300.0 lbs max and Dynamic Stiffness: 5500.0 lbs max.

Comments: Allows for an additional 12" ball for the Slow Pitch Classification of play that is less temperature sensitive, reduces batted ball speed, and increases player reaction time.

Rule 3 Section 6: Exception: Men's Class E/Rec: The only uniform requirement is matching shirts with numbers.

Comment: Allows the uniform code for E/Rec Classification to be less stringent.

Rule 4 Section 1C [3]: If discovered using the wrong number of females or males in the outfield or infield and brought to the umpire's attention by the offended team:

a) After a pitch legal or illegal or play made,

EFFECT: All action stands.

b) Before the next pitch legal or illegal or play made,

c) Before the defense has left the field,

d) Before the umpires have left the field of play,

EFFECT: b, c and d

1) If the batter hits the ball and reaches first base safely, and all other runners have advanced at least one base. All action of the batted ball stands.

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2011 ASA Playing Rule Changes

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2) If all runners, including the batter runner, do not advance at least one base. The manager has the option of taking the result of the play, or awards the batter first base and advances all runners, if forced.

Comment: This adds a penalty for the defensive team not playing the right number of males and or females in the outfield and infield.

Rule 6 Section 3K [2] (Modified Pitch) The pivot foot must drag and not lose contact with the ground.

Comment: This matches the foot requirements for 10 man with 9 man in the rule book.

Rule 7 Section 3B: (Adult Slow Pitch Only except Seniors) The batter shall assume a one ball, one strike count upon entering the batter's box.

Comment: This removes the Master's Slow Pitch Classification from the exception and they will now start with a one and one count.

Rule 10 Section 5D: The approved navy ball bag(s) with ASA letters to be worn with the Navy or Fechheimer gray slacks; or the gray ball bag(s) with the ASA letters may be worn with the Fechheimer gray slacks.

Comment: Clarifies the uniform rule to allow the gray ball bag with the ASA letters to be worn.

Rule 10 Section 5H: The plate umpire must wear a black or silver mask, with black or tan padding and a black throat protector.

Comments: This allows for a silver colored mask to be worn by the plate umpire.

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WASA - 2010

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are experiencing similar difficulties.”

The WASA will be headed by a revised slate of officers for the next two years.

Matt Disher of Stevens Point is the new president, taking over from Madison’s Dick Buskov who completed his second two-year term this fall.

Paul Wagner of Green Bay was elected vice president, replacing the “promoted” Disher, while Gordon Adler from Marshfield and Arleen Case of Madison retained their positions of secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Highlighting the organizational calendar in 2011 will be the WASA Hall of Fame inductions which are tentatively scheduled for July 23 at Fond du Lac’s Lakeside Park.

The WASA’s Hall of Fame Class of 2011 will be announced next March.

Summarizing 2010 and projecting ahead, Commissioner Raimer asserted “The WASA has a lot to offer softball teams, players, coaches, umpires, fans and recreational organizations. We are expecting to build on our past success while looking for great things in 2011.”

Quick Pitches

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She had won the 11-12 age group in 2009 and went on to place fourth that year at the Hershey’s national meet.

** Although no Wisconsin club won an ASA national title in 2010, Pope Transport/M & L/ Commission/Shockers/KA, playing out of Chicago (and henceforth to be referred to as the Popes for the sake of brevity), featured a bevy of players from Wisconsin while winning the Men’s Slow Pitch Class C Northern National in Rochester, Minn., and finishing second to California’s West Coast Blaze at the Hooters Championship Series in Oklahoma City.

The Popes dropped the finale to the Blaze 12-11 in eight innings.

** The WASA’s annual meeting for 2011 will be held in Fond du Lac on Saturday, Oct. 6 at a location to be announced by assistant commissioner Tom Rausch.

SPSA Suspends Two For Altered Bats

STEVENS POINT – The Stevens Point Softball Association has suspended two individuals for their involvement with altered bats.

Mark Larson of Plover was suspended for three years beginning with the 2011 season for using an altered bat in SPSA league play.

Drew Lemke of Stevens Point was suspended for five years, also starting with the 2011 season, for violating the SPSA’s constitution and rules by manufacturing altered bats.

“The problem of illegal and altered bats is prevalent in softball and is something our board of directors is trying to combat,” stated Mike Disher, the SPSA’s president.

“These are very serious violations from a safety standpoint and we hope that these suspensions will make people think twice about attempting to use illegal or altered equipment.”



Umpires (from left) Dick Pillsbury, Gary Burns and Mike Woods get ready for the WASA Men’s Modified Pitch Class B championship game at the Ashwaubenon Sports Complex.

2010 Wisconsin ASA State Tournament Most Valuable Players

Men’s Modified Class A – Eric Anderson, TPS
Men’s Modified Class B – A.J. Phillips, Jim Beam
Men’s Slow Pitch Class C – Larry Carleton,
Milwaukee Softball/Dunn’s
Men’s Slow Pitch Class D – Tim Kyser, The Carom
Room

A Magnificent Seven

FREDONIA – Hats off to the seven individuals listed below who, while representing Wisconsin ASA teams, were honored with either All-America or All-Tournament recognition at an ASA National Championship in 2010:

First Team

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Tournament</u>
OF	Tim Snow	Press Box I	Men's 10-Man Modified National
INF	Tom Bonlander	Press Box I	Men's 10-Man Modified National
1B	Dan Sielaff	Milwaukee Softball/Dunn's	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National

Second Team

INF	Tony Elskamp	Milwaukee Softball/Dunn's	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National
OF	Rob Schultz	Milwaukee Softball/Dunn's	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National
Utility	Larry Carleton	Milwaukee Softball/Dunn's	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National
P	Ron Vogedes	Milwaukee Softball/Dunn's	Men's Slow Pitch Class C Northern National

2011 Wisconsin ASA State Tournaments

FREDONIA – A number of Wisconsin ASA state tournaments for 2011 were not bid on at the annual meeting this October and remain available.

Communities or organizations interested in hosting a WASA state tournament next summer should contact WASA commissioner Tom Raimer at (262) 685-7984 for further details.

Available tournaments at the end of October were as follows:

Men's Fast Pitch (all classes), Women's Fast Pitch (all classes), Women's Slow Pitch (all classes) and Coed Slow Pitch. Check the WASA Web site (<http://www.wisconsin-asa.org>) for further updates on the above tournaments.

Umpire Registration Form 2011

Please complete form, print and mail to address below:

Name (First,Last)	Current Date:(mmddy)
Street Address:	Home Phone:
City,State,Zip:	Cell Phone:
County:	E-mail:
Gender: M -----F	Section: NW NE NC SW SE SC (please circle)
Please circle all Umpiring you are interested in working: Adult --- Youth --- State Tournaments --- SCS Tournaments Fast Pitch --- Modified Pitch --- Slow Pitch --- All	2011 Umpire Registration Fees: Adult Umpire (18 Years & Older) \$50.00 Youth Umpire (Under 18 Years Old) \$25.00

Make registration check payable to: Wisconsin ASA. Send fee and card to: Wisconsin ASA, Dale E. Ferron, 4801 Marsh Rd., Madison, WI 53718

2011 Team Registration Card

Please Print Complete Form and Mail To Address Below

TEAM NAME:		ASA CODE _____	
MANAGER'S NAME (First, Last):			
STREET ADDRESS		HOME PHONE:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP		SECTION: DISTRICT:	
REC. ASSN.:		WPRA AFFILIATION: Yes No	
SEX: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – Men <input type="checkbox"/> 2 – Women <input type="checkbox"/> 3 – Co-Ed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 – Boys <input type="checkbox"/> 5 – Girls	CLASS: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – Super <input type="checkbox"/> 2 – Major <input type="checkbox"/> 3 – Class A <input type="checkbox"/> 4 – Class B <input type="checkbox"/> 5 – Class C <input type="checkbox"/> 6 – Class D <input type="checkbox"/> 7 – Class E/Rec <input type="checkbox"/> 8 – Masters <input type="checkbox"/> 9 – Seniors	DIVISION: <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – Unclass <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – Fast Pitch <input type="checkbox"/> 2 – Slow Pitch <input type="checkbox"/> 3 – Modified 10 Man <input type="checkbox"/> 4 – Modified 9 Man <input type="checkbox"/> 5 – Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> 6 – Church S.P. <input type="checkbox"/> 7 – 16" Slow Pitch <input type="checkbox"/> 8 – 14" Slow Pitch	AGE Youth <input type="checkbox"/> 10 & Under <input type="checkbox"/> 12 & Under <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & Under <input type="checkbox"/> 16 & Under <input type="checkbox"/> 18 & Under <input type="checkbox"/> 23 & Under Masters <input type="checkbox"/> 35 & Over <input type="checkbox"/> 40 & Over <input type="checkbox"/> 45 & Over Seniors <input type="checkbox"/> 50 & Over <input type="checkbox"/> 55 & Over <input type="checkbox"/> 60 & Over
Do you intend to participate in the State Tournament Play? Yes No Do you have a team packet? Yes No To receive League Discount all team cards should be submitted together with Affiliation Card (tan color).			

2011 Team Registration Fees		
<input type="checkbox"/> J.O. Teams.....Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Teams Registering Entire League.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult Team Registration.....\$50.00	Make fee registration check to: Wisconsin ASA and send fee and card to: DALE FERRON 4801 Marsh Rd MADISON WI 53718 For Youth registration, send to: DALE FERRON 4801 Marsh Rd MADISON WI 53718	
NORTHWEST SECTION District #1 – Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland District #2 – Burnett, Polk, St. Croix District #3 – Washburn, Sawyer, Barron, Rusk District #4 – Dunn, Pierce, Pepin District #5 – Chippewa, Eau Claire NORTH CENTRAL SECTION District #6 – Iron, Vilas, Oneida District #7 – Price, Taylor, Clark District #8 – Lincoln, Marathon District #9 – Forest, Florence, Langlade District #10 – Wood, Portage	NORTHEAST SECTION District #11 – Marinette, Oconto, Menomonee District #12 – Shawano, Waupaca, Outagamie District #13 – Brown, Door, Kewaunee District #14 – Waushara, Winnebago, Marquette, Green Lake, Fond du Lac District #15 – Calumet, Manitowoc, Sheboygan SOUTHEAST SECTION District #26 – Washington, Ozaukee District #27 – Waukesha District #28 – Milwaukee District #29 – Racine District #30 – Kenosha	SOUTHWEST SECTION District #16 – Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson District #17 – LaCrosse, Monroe District #18 – Juneau, Adams, Sauk District #19 – Vernon, Crawford, Richland District #20 – Grant, Iowa, LaFayette SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION District #21 – Columbia, Dodge District #22 – Dane District #23 – Jefferson, Walworth District #24 – Green, Rock

Wisconsin Line Drives

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was handled differently. Holy Trinity was not charged with a loss but the game was to be replayed!

1937 at Manitowoc – “No you can’t protest this game!” – St. Boniface and First Lutheran were meeting in the first game of a championship series. The Lutheran school team led 2-1 and was batting in the third inning. With runners on second and third, two out, the batter hit a slow roller to the shortstop who picked up the ball and instead of making the play at first, tagged out the runner attempting to go to third. Before the runner was tagged out, the runner on third scored. The umpire allowed the run and his decision was protested by the St. Boniface team. Instead of permitting the game to continue under protest, the umpire refused to honor the protest and the St. Boniface team left the field. The league director decided the game would be resumed in the third inning with the same conditions prevailing at the time of the disputed play, however he ruled that the disputed run did not count.

1940 at Arcadia – *Umpire decision is so bad they do not want to play anymore!* – Arcadia was up 8-3 over York in the sixth inning. York was on the losing end of an umpired decision, immediately left the park and cancelled all of the remaining games of the championship series.

1941 at Manitowoc – Team wins protest on bobbled ball! – South Side Hardware protested a loss to Sorge’s on the grounds that the umpire erred on a decision at second base in the fifth inning. Sorge’s was batting with a runner at first base. The ball was hit to the shortstop and his toss to the second baseman was low and on the ground. The umpire ruled that the second baseman did not have possession and ruled him safe. South Side Hardware claimed that he should have called the man out, they protested. The protest committee ruled the only way to settle the argument was to replay the game.

1947 at Waukesha – *Hand touches ball or ball touches hand = Protest!* – Christophs Sporting Goods defeated Waukesha Motor Co. Service, 6-3. However, Service protested an umpire’s call in the third inning. The batter hit a grounder to short and was called out after his hand touched the ball after he had reached first base. Service argued the throw was wild, hit the dirt first and then struck his hand. The protest board ruled in favor of Service and the game had to be replayed from the third inning with Christophs ahead 3-1.

1947 at Madison – *Play over, play over, no more!* – Main-King Tap Room and Trameri’s Tavern were to play

off in the city minor tournament at Breese Stevens Field. On August 18, Trameri’s Tavern defeated Main-King Tap Room. Main-King protested and was awarded a replay. On August 19, Main-King Tap Room defeated Trameri’s. Trameri’s protested the game was awarded a replay. On August 20, Main-King defeated Trameri’s 9-3, scoring seven in the bottom of the sixth. Trameri’s protested the game but this time the city softball commission denied their protest.

1948 at Madison – *Protest, protest, protest!* – Security State Bank played Frankie’s Tavern in the city semifinal softball championship game. In the fourth inning the umpire miscalled a play. “Tink” McCann of Frankie’s bunted a ball that hit foul but rolled into fair territory. The umpire called it foul. McCann batted again and was safe on a fielder’s choice, a runner was out at home plate. However, after the game, won 4-3 by Security State Bank, the umpire admitted he called the play wrong. Frankie’s co-manager Frankie Lombardo protested. The commission voted 3-2 to disallow the protest. However, later that day, the umpire involved in the play issued a statement to the commission. The commission then voted 3-2 to allow Lombardo’s protest and ordered that the game be replayed from the point of the protest. Then they held another meeting and again voted 3-2 to allow Lombardo’s protest to stand. Ray Sennett, co-manager of Security State Bank, issued a protest saying the action taken at the latter two meetings should be dismissed on the grounds that any action should be final and therefore the first 3-2 vote against Lombardo’s protest should be allowed. The commission stuck with their vote for a replay. Frankie’s won the replay 6-2. Sennett then protested the legality of the replay game, the commission then voted 4-2 to disallow the protest and ruled Frankie’s Tavern the winner. Frankie’s went on to defeat Main-King Tap Room in the finals 3-0.

Often times Wisconsin softball fans attended games and went home thinking they knew who won the contest but on many occasions, they were just watching a preliminary to the eventual result. I am of the opinion if present-day umpires were used in the above games, none of those games would have had to have been ruled on by a protest committee.

We learn from “past history.” All of our state organizations that conduct state tournaments are staffed by top of the line commissioners and umpires that really know what they are doing. Promoting this game is tough nowadays, give them credit when credit is due.

**2011 STEVENS POINT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
MEN'S CLASS "B" STATE TOURNAMENT
STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN**

DATE: July 9, 2011

ENTRY FEE: \$275.00

ROSTER & ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday, July 1, 2011

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: Teams wanting to participate in ASA championship play must be registered with the Wisconsin ASA for 2011. The tournament will be a Double Elimination format. Official ASA tiebreaker rule will be applied if the tournament cannot be completed as scheduled.

Official ASA National Championship Roster and Wisconsin Official Tournament Entry Form **must** be included with entry fee. Absolutely no refunds after tournament draw. Local ground rules may apply. Players must provide proper photo ID to be eligible.

CARRY-INS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED into Zenoff Park and parking lot area.
Failure to obey no carry-in rule may result in expulsion from tournament.

<u>TOURNAMENT AWARDS:</u>	1 st	\$400.00
	2 nd	\$300.00
	3 rd	\$200.00
	4 th	\$100.00

***** Prize Monies Based on 24 Entries *****

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION: ASA National Championship Rosters and Wisconsin ASA Tournament Entry Form including entry fee should be mailed to:

**Stevens Point Softball Association
PO Box 663,
Stevens Point WI 54481**

For further information contact the SPSA at (715) 341-2804 or e-mail info@stevenspointsoftball.com

HOTEL INFORMATION: Contact the Stevens Point Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
715-344-2556 or on the web at www.stevenspointarea.com

**2011 STEVENS POINT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
MEN'S CLASS "C" STATE TOURNAMENT
STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN**

DATE: July 15-17, 2011

ENTRY FEE: \$275.00

ROSTER & ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday, July 8, 2011

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: Teams wanting to participate in ASA championship play must be registered with the Wisconsin ASA for 2011. The tournament will be a Double Elimination format. Official ASA tiebreaker rule will be applied if the tournament cannot be completed as scheduled.

TEAMS MUST BE PREPARED TO PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT!!

Official ASA National Championship Roster and Wisconsin Official Tournament Entry Form **must** be included with entry fee. Absolutely no refunds after tournament draw. Local ground rules may apply. Players must provide proper photo ID to be eligible.

CARRY-INS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED into Zenoff Park and parking lot area.
Failure to obey no carry-in rule may result in expulsion from tournament.

<u>TOURNAMENT AWARDS:</u>	1 st	\$400.00
	2 nd	\$300.00
	3 rd	\$200.00
	4 th	\$100.00

***** Prize Monies Based on 24 Entries *****

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION: ASA National Championship Rosters and Wisconsin ASA Tournament Entry Form including entry fee should be mailed to:

**Stevens Point Softball Association
PO Box 663,
Stevens Point WI 54481**

For further information contact the SPSA at (715) 341-2804 or e-mail info@stevenspointsoftball.com

HOTEL INFORMATION: Contact the Stevens Point Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
715-344-2556 or on the web at www.stevenspointarea.com

**2011 STEVENS POINT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
MEN'S CLASS "D" STATE TOURNAMENT
STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN**

DATE: July 15-17, 2011

ENTRY FEE: \$275.00

ROSTER & ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday, July 8, 2011

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: Teams wanting to participate in ASA championship play must be registered with the Wisconsin ASA for 2011. The tournament will be a Double Elimination format. Official ASA tiebreaker rule will be applied if the tournament cannot be completed as scheduled.

TEAMS MUST BE PREPARED TO PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT!!

Official ASA National Championship Roster and Wisconsin Official Tournament Entry Form **must** be included with entry fee. Absolutely no refunds after tournament draw. Local ground rules may apply. Players must provide proper photo ID to be eligible.

CARRY-INS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED into Zenoff Park **and** parking lot area.
Failure to obey no carry-in rule may result in expulsion from tournament.

<u>TOURNAMENT AWARDS:</u>	1 st	\$400.00
	2 nd	\$300.00
	3 rd	\$200.00
	4 th	\$100.00

***** Prize Monies Based on 24 Entries *****

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**Stevens Point Softball Association
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Stevens Point WI 54481**

For further information contact the SPSA at (715) 341-2804 or e-mail info@stevenspointsoftball.com

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