

# TENNESSEE ASA SOFTBALL DISTRICT 10



**ASA** - "the National governing body of softball"

## THE INSIDE PITCH

ASA District 10 **September/October** Newsletter

[www.chattanoogaasa.com](http://www.chattanoogaasa.com)

Greetings! It has been a long hot summer and we survived ASA 16U Nationals and lived to talk about it. I was interviewed by ASA's Balls and Strikes Magazine about what it was like to host the largest ASA tournament ever. That interview is supposed to appear in the September issue of this on line magazine.

Sign up for Chattanooga ASA Fall Tournaments on our website. All tournaments will be held at Warner Park or The Summit. We will be hosting our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual ASA Middle School Tournament on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Warner Park.

# **CHATTANOOGA ASA FALL TOURNAMENT DATES (TENTATIVE TOURNAMENT DATES FOR SPRING 2012 IN CHATTANOOGA and maybe Athens):**

<b>ASA Middle School Tournament</b>	<b>9/9-9/10</b>	<b>Warner Park</b>
<b>ASA Fall Brawl 8U-18U</b>	<b>10/21-10/23</b>	<b>Warner Park</b>
<b>ASA Halloween Havoc</b>	<b>10/28-10/30</b>	<b>Summit</b>

## **Spring 2012 Tentative Dates**

<b>ASA March Friendly</b>	<b>3/16-3/18</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA H.S. Tourney</b>	<b>3/23-3/25</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA April Fool's Tourney</b>	<b>3/30-4/1</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA April Classic</b>	<b>4/13-4/15</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA Diamond Classic</b>	<b>4/27-4/29</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA May Day Qualifier</b>	<b>5/4-5/6</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA Play for the Cure</b>	<b>5/18-5/20</b>	<b>Summit</b>
<b>ASA Memorial Qualifier</b>	<b>6/1-6/3</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA June Qualifier</b>	<b>6/8-6/10</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>ASA Eastern Elite Showcase</b>	<b>7/5-7/8</b>	<b>Warner</b>
<b>ASA State Tournament</b>	<b>7/13-7/15</b>	<b>TBA</b>

**As you are planning your 2012 schedule, keep in mind that teams planning on playing in the ASA Nationals must play in the ASA State Tournament.**

**Congratulations to all the juniors and seniors from Tennessee/North Georgia who have verbally committed or signed college softball scholarships in 2011. I hope all of you will make the most of this unique opportunity.**



## **SAVING SECOND BASE – a softball blog**

### **Random Softball Thoughts This Summer.....**

As this long hot summer wore on, I became delirious and had numerous random thoughts about softball and even just life. Therefore, instead of one long droning blog, I decided to write down some random thoughts. Below is what I can decipher from my ramblings.

### **Before ASA 16U Nationals.....**

I have to be honest, the three weeks prior to ASA 16U Nationals were my most stressful since the long weeks of the summer of 1989 when I was studying for the Tennessee Bar exam. The incessant phone calls, texts and emails kept my adrenaline flowing. Even sitting in court, I found myself answering softball texts and emails. The hardest calls and emails were from those who were seeking a “fill in” berth. I admire these coaches and ASA Commissioners who made passionate pleas for these girls to be allowed to come. Saying no was the hardest part of this job, especially to the local teams.

### **Hosting ASA 16U Nationals.....**

What an incredible experience! Hosting the largest ASA National ever was way cool, even beyond my imagination. However, believe me when I say, at 48, you will need more than 4 hours sleep per night. The pre-tournament events went well thanks to all the help we had from the City and our tournament staff. By Tuesday night, I felt like I had followed the rabbit and fallen down the hole. However, once bracket play began and everyone found their place, it was awesome. The fact that 516 games were played without rain was a miracle on the order of loaves and fishes. The sportsmanship was outstanding, no one protested or complained and I never once felt the urge to go all “Bonaduchi” on a coach or a parent. By Saturday, I even saw a few games and had the privilege

to watch teams like the Atlanta Vipers-Giles, Ohio Lasers, Southern Force – Thomas and Archibald, GA Impact Strother, TNL and the Salt Lake Pegasus find their “feng shui” and make a great run at the title. Kudos to the Dayton Recreational League and all the other younger players who came down on Saturday and Sunday to watch the final games.

### Tennessee ASA Moving Forward.....

We are in the process of finalizing our 2011 total team registrations right now. It is my hope that we will have enough registrations for at least five berths in each age group for 2012. We still need the Middle TN leagues to get on board and register their teams. Middle TN travel coaches: If you have a league connection, please encourage that league to register their teams with ASA. I hate to sound like “one note Nancy” but East TN continues to carry the burden of registering 70% of our total registration numbers. Representatives from Chattanooga will attend the ASA Council Meeting in Myrtle Beach this year and we will be bidding on the 12U ASA Nationals for 2013. ASA has limited each Territory to bidding on one age group and this year the Southern Territory must bid on 12’s. If you have suggestions regarding rule or code changes in ASA, please let me know.

### ASA Hosting a Showcase in Early July.....

It has been suggested that since only a handful of teams from this Region attend the various Colorado tournaments during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week, we should take advantage of our beautiful facilities and start a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Showcase event. This year, since 4<sup>th</sup> of July falls mid-week, Chattanooga ASA will host a Showcase tournament which will begin on Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> and go through Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be called the ASA Eastern Showcase and we will have a website up and running soon providing details so that teams may start entering. It will essentially be a 5 game round robin with a single elimination round on Sunday. I will try to keep the cost down as I know some of these showcase tournaments (especially Colorado) overcharge like Haliburton and can do some damage to a team budget.

I’m out. Have a great Fall season!

**If you would like to order Anaconda/Trump softballs in either 11 inch or 12 inch, please contact me asap. The cost is \$42 per dozen. This will again be the softball used by Tennessee ASA at qualifying tournaments.**

## **ASA District 10 Website and Tennessee ASA Website and 2012 Registration:**

The ASA District 10 website is located at [www.chattanoogaasa.com](http://www.chattanoogaasa.com) and the Tennessee ASA website is now located at [www.tennesseeasa.clubspaces.com](http://www.tennesseeasa.clubspaces.com).

### **What is individual registration?**

Individual registration is a way for ASA/USA Softball to provide accident and liability insurance for all participants in the Junior Olympic program. This is accomplished by registering individually each participant in the program including coaches, managers and score keepers.

### **Do we have to do the individual registration?**

Yes, ASA requires all travel teams to complete the individual registration if they plan to compete in ASA Championship Play. However, if you do not have access to a computer or are afraid to sit in front of one, I will do the individual registration for you if you will send in the information required. Please contact me and I will forward a form that can be filled out by hand.

The biggest positive for individual registration program is the convenience of the cards and the fact that since the insurance is for each individual, it goes with the player and not with the team. Another advantage is the registration does not have to be redone every year except to the extent that players change.

### **How hard is it to do the individual registration process?**

It is a painless process that merely requires internet access and a digital camera. There ASA website now contains an easy to follow instruction page. Just click on Player I.D. Cards and Info About Player I.D. Cards and follow the instructions. The cost is \$16.00 per player and this includes insurance.

### **LEAGUE REGISTRATION with ASA**

As always, recreational leagues will continue to be able to register with ASA at a cost of \$15.00 per team in exchange for which the league will receive sanction cards, scorebooks and ASA Rulebooks. After league sign ups are complete and teams are drawn, please contact me regarding the ASA paperwork and getting ASA rulebooks.

#### **EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

If you know of any other coaches that would like to receive ASA updates, please forward their email address to me.

**BEST,**

**Kim Swafford  
TN ASA District 10 Commissioner**