

O.A.S.A. High & Inside

The Official Newsletter of the Ontario Amateur Softball Association

Volume 1 Issue 4

June 2010

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AFFILIATIONS

Intermediate Men, Senior Men & Masters – June 10

Jr. Mite, Mite and Squirt – June 15

Mary Myers OASA Registrar – mjnm@sympatico.ca 905-727-5139

AWARDS

Do you know a coach that has gone above and beyond the call of duty? Has made a difference to your association and teams? Has shown exceptional leadership to his/her team? We would like you to nominate him/her for the Gil Read Coaches Honour Roll Award. This award is presented annually at the Ontario Amateur Softball Association Annual General Meeting in November. It is presented in honour of a past president that made a difference within the OASA as well as coaching a number of National level teams. What better way to honour that great coach than to submit their name for this prestigious award. Nomination forms can be found online at www.oasa.ca under information then forms.

We are also looking for nominations of outstanding associations for the Association Merit Award. This is presented at the Annual General Meeting to honour those associations that do much for softball within the province.

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Awards Committee Chair - Christine Patenaude - lat@love-a-tree.com.

Minor Committee

Minor Division Springs into the New Season

The OA has completed two successful Springboard Clinics in Napanee and Kitchener during the month of April. 150 plus players, 30 plus coaches and a score of score keepers took advantage of the day to hone up on their skills and renew their fastball contacts. The efforts and contributions of the senior ball players and coaches were appreciated by our next generation of ball players.

The Minor Committee is now working to organize the upcoming Provincial Elimination Tournaments. Final affiliation numbers are being confirmed and the Elimination draws and schedules will be tackled in early June. There always seems to be unforeseen challenges as the OA attempts to meet the needs of the participating teams, the hosts, the umpires and the Elimination philosophy. Your patience is appreciated as we plan for these tournaments.

All teams that affiliate are expected to participate in a Provincial tournament. All teams are encouraged to participate in their Elimination tournament. Eliminations are used for seeding of teams for the Provincials as well as selecting the top teams for out of province competitions. The OA will do its best to accommodate the needs of respective teams while adhering to the above OA policies.

A reminder to affiliating teams as you ready your teams for OA competition. Please take a moment to inventory your equipment. Does it meet OA requirements for safety? Helmets and bats (ASA approved bat list) are checked by umpires, safety base is required at first, squirt and under teams require batting helmets with protective face guards. No metal cleats are allowed and chin straps are required on all helmets for player's Bantam division and below. Checking ahead of time can avoid any unpleasant surprises on tournament days.

Minor Committee members are ready to help with any questions or concerns as you plan for the OA season. Cheers to a fun and competitive upcoming season!

Bruce Young bruce_h_young@teksavvy.com 519-884-6960

NEW INFORMATION

Please remember that according to our bylaws, nominations for executive and Bylaw and Constitution Amendment forms must be in the hands of the secretary by September 20. This date is fast approaching. Forms can be found at www.oasa.ca under Information, then Forms.

Senior Canadians

I would like to introduce myself as the host chair of this year's Labatt Senior Men's fast pitch National Championship. Working with me is perhaps the best group of committee members I've ever worked with and together, our goal is to make this year's tournament one of the most successful events on the field and off the field.

We said going into this that we want to make the entire week "AN EVENT"!!!! The product on the field draws the best talent in the nation by default so our job is pretty easy there and we will make sure things run smoothly. BUT, we are also working to provide a memorable experience off the field for everyone associated with the week as well. To go with our naturally friendly PEI hospitality, we are planning festivities off the diamond such as "Islander Weekend" in the beverage tent, featuring great Island food products and entertainment. We also have a host bar that is committed to entertaining everyone and the rest of the bars and restaurants in town are on board as well. One of our committee members actually owns one of the most popular restaurant/bars in town and he is looking very forward to having 10 to 12 great teams around for the week.

However, judging by the provincial representation, at the last couple tournaments, we are fearful that this great NATIONAL product is turning into more of a regional event, which is a shame for each host committee and the sport itself. We understand that time and financial commitments sometimes make it difficult to travel, especially long distances like western Canada to eastern Canada and vice versa. Having said this, we also know that it is vital to the success of not only the tournaments each year, but to the sport as a whole, to have representation from all across the country.

So, I am sending this e-mail to you personally, to ask you to consider this year's event. As stated, if you can find the resources, we will assure you a top notch product on and off the field. Our goal is to have everyone leaving here raving about the great time they had - win or lose - and we will work with you to do what we can on this end to accommodate your needs. If any of you have any questions, please drop a line or give me a call (902-393-3247 cell) and we will certainly assist in any way we can to get you here. Our website is <http://www.seniormensfastballcharlottetownpei.com/>

Thanks for your time and good luck in your upcoming season. Hopefully you can end it right here in beautiful Prince Edward Island!!

Cheers,

Trent BirtTB Promotions

10 MacBeth Crt

Stratford, PE

C1B 2X2

902-393-3247 cell

902-569-1865 home

INSURANCE

O.A.S.A. team insurance is available by selecting the application on the O.A.S.A. website www.oasa.ca or by contacting Ron and Sharon Taylor srtaylor@heydon.com 705-778-2637

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Please send your news article/stories/tournament information to Paddy Fitzgerald-Nolan fitzno1@hotmail.com by the 25th of each month.

If you know of anyone interested in receiving the High & Inside electronically please send an email to jeffgeddes@sympatico.ca

