



EXTRA INNINGS - OCTOBER 2005

By Jim Jones - Executive Director

SOFTBALL ALBERTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Delegates from all across Alberta will be in Camrose for the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, October 15 & 16, 2005.

Nominations for President and two Directors positions will be accepted until October 1, 2005 at 5:00 pm.

These must include a nomination by a member of Softball Alberta along with an acceptance letter and a softball resume.

The Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday night beginning at 6:00 pm at the Norsemen Inn in Camrose. Hall of Fame Inductees will include: Walter Brault - Ellerslie (Sport Builder), Peter Brown (posthumously Athlete), Joe Feller (posthumously - Official) and the Calgary Timac Tire Ladies Fastball team (Team Category)

As usual - there will be the **Spalding Awards of Excellence** handed out to the top Coaches and athletes for the 2005 season along with Scholarship award winners.

Dale McMann - former President of Softball Canada and current VP of the International Softball Federation will be present and speak on the ongoing lobbying to get Women's Softball back in the Olympics as well as losing boys from the Canada Summer Games and the Pan Am Games. Softball is on the docket to be added to the Commonwealth Games.

Award Winners are:

Minor Male Player of the Year (FP)
Minor Female Player of the Year (FP)
Minor Coach of the Year (FP)
Adult Coach of the Year (FP)
Adult Male Player of the Year (FP)
Adult Female Player of the Year (FP)
Adult SP Coach of the Year (SP)

Adult SP Female Player of the Year
Umpire Recognition Award

Kirk Shuck - Calahoo Chiefs
Amanda Howard - Calgary Illusion
Lyle Normand - Calgary Rockies
Rob Morton - Calgary Stingrays
Dwayne Singer - Calgary Rangers
Sherry Knutsvig - Bonnyville Masters
Andrew Keats - Calg Big League Express
Robyn Johnston - Calgary Impact
David Triska Jr. - Edmonton Minor

Scholarship Winners are:

United Cycle Male Scholarship
United Cycle Female Scholarship
Royal Bank Scholarship
Umpire Memorial Scholarship

Board of Directors Scholarship
Memorial Scholarships

Jeff Leskow - Edgerton, AB
Jenna Meers - Calgary, AB
Rayell Rowland - Red Deer, AB
Brent Coleman - Leduc, AB
Battle River Branch
Anali Seitz - Medicine Hat, AB
Becky Berstrom - Bashaw, AB
Parker Williams - Wabamun, AB
Megan Wood - Calgary, AB

Merit Award Winners

Zone 1 Kent & Cheryl Friedt - Medicine Hat
Zone 2 Sherry Bamber - Oyen, AB
Zone 3 Diane Battams - Calgary, AB
Zone 4 Pete Pastuck - Camrose, AB
Zone 5 Dale Currie - Hinton, AB
Zone 6 John Colombina - Edmonton, AB
Zone 7 Tracy Harvie - Lloydminster, AB
Zone 8 Verna Milford - Wembley, AB

If you or anyone that you know would like to attend the banquet - tickets are available by calling Michele Patry at Softball Alberta - (780) 461-7735 or emailing her at michele@softballalberta.ca Tickets are \$30 each.

MEN'S SOFTBALL REMOVED FROM THE XV PAN AM GAMES

The Pan Am Softball Association has removed softball from the program for the XV Pan Am Games in Rio, Brazil.

Softball Canada's Men's team has captured every gold medal in every Pan Am Games since softball was added to the Games in 1979. That is seven gold medals in a row!

Also cut from the Games were in-line hockey and racquetball. Added to the program was bowling, futsal, individual roller sport, karate, squash and water skiing.

A large part of the reasoning was that Brazil does not have men's fastpitch softball teams in Brazil.

CANADA SUMMER GAMES RESULTS



The Canada Summer Games are now in the books and our Men's and Women's Softball teams both did well at the Games.

The Girls team, under the leadership of Cliff Lawrick and Cheryl Freeman brought home the bronze medal losing to BC and Ontario in their gold medal hunt. This is a great finish for Alberta - Congratulations to all the team members.

The girl's team was given an award by the City of Moose Jaw for their friendliness and spirit at the Games. The Girls softball portion was held in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

The Boys team finished out of the medals and in 7th place. Their record was 4 wins and five losses and if they had beat Manitoba on the final day it would have put them in the top four and competing for a medal. They ended up losing to Manitoba in the morning 3-2 and then were beaten by Ontario 9-0.

The boys team was coached by Kelly Wenstrom and Brian Thomas of Calgary.

SOFTBALL CANADA CHANGES LOCATIONS

Softball Canada's National Office will move on Friday, September 16th to:

223 Colonnade Road
Suite 212
Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7K3

ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES

Softball Alberta is still looking for Coaches for the following Alberta Summer Games Zone teams that will compete in the Alberta Summer Games in Red Deer, Alberta in July of 2006.

- ▶ Zone 2 Boys Team
- ▶ Zone 8 Boys Team

Softball Alberta will consider coaches from outside the zone at this point. If you have interest in coaching one of these teams, please contact the Softball Alberta office in Edmonton at (780) 461-7735.

WESTERN CANADA SUMMER GAMES

Softball Alberta has received six applications for Western Canada Summer Games Girls and Boys Coaches that will steer the team that will participate in the Western Canada Summer Games in August 2007 in Strathcona County.

The Association will be in contact with these coaches in the next month to set up interviews for the Head Coaching position for both the boys and the girls.

Tryout camps will begin in 2007 for positions on these Bantam Aged teams for 2007.

HOSTING OF NCCP CLINICS IN 2006

Softball Alberta is presently looking for hosts for NCCP Clinics in 2005. We will be sending out applications in the very near future. If your community, team or Association would like to host a Level I or Level II Clinic, please contact Jim Jones at the Softball office (780) 461-7735 or by email – jim@softballalberta.ca

BEST EVER PROGRAM

The Best Ever programs and camps are now completed for this year. We capped it off with a camp in Camrose the weekend of September 10 & 11.

Special thank you to the parents of the 50 kids that attended as all the weekend's activities were done indoors due to rainy and cold weather all weekend long.

I would like to personally thank the instructors Scott Galenza, Ryan Galenza, Dean Klein, Andrew Papenbrock, Tracy Harvie, PennyLee Leshenko, Gayle Soulieres and Dale Currie for their help on this weekend and to Sharon Falk for her assistance with registration and the coordination of the meal.

The Best ever program involved over 400 kids from all across Alberta this past year and other than the weather in many locations, it was a total success.



We hope to evaluate this program at our November meeting and offer a similar program in 2006 but for the Squirt age group. We will be asking communities across Alberta to partner with us in the offering of this program to local softball enthusiasts. Watch for more information coming soon.

LEVEL III THEORY AND TECHNICAL COMBINED CLINIC

Softball Alberta is looking for individuals that may require their Level III Theory and Level III Technical in the year 2006. Softball Canada plans to run a pilot course that would combine these two into one over two or three weekends in the spring of 2006 in the Edmonton area.

If you are interested in this please contact Jim Jones at Softball Alberta – (780) 461-7735 or by email – jim@softballalberta.ca

Have a great winter.....

