



Increases expected from JO program upgrades, weekend tournament changes
Association eyes registration growth in 2011

JAMES ELLIS, TENNESSEE ASA STATE Commissioner, is optimistic about the 2011 softball season, although his association saw a small decrease in 2010. As part of the South Atlantic Region, Tennessee registered 883 adult teams, 2,041 JO youth teams, and 442 umpires. Adult teams decreased by 64 while the JO program lost 5 teams. The individual registration dropped 309 players.

"We want to provide the best possible service and the best product," said Ellis who is optimistic that the JO individuals will increase due to major changes and upgrades to the program. "We feel that with several new communities registering with us this year and with a change in our weekend tournament program, that the adult registrations will reflect an increase for 2011."

The tournament changes will allow teams to utilize any bat except those that are non-approved in ASA as well as the other three associations. Along with opening the bat restrictions, the 52-core, 300-compression softball must be utilized in these tournaments, which will be strictly invitational play and not championship play.

This "field testing" will hopefully prove beneficial to the national office when it comes time for the Equipment Standards Committee to visit the equipment issue for 2012.



Receiving their Award of Excellence at the 2010 Tennessee ASA Hall of Fame induction banquet Dec. 4 in Hendersonville are, from left: Phil Davidson, state umpire-in-chief, Kim Swafford, Dist. 10 Junior Olympic commissioner, Dave LeMarbre, Dist. 15 commissioner/ deputy state commissioner. State commissioner James Ellis, far right, presented.

"Due to the economy," Ellis noted, "the Adult State Tournaments have been divided into an East and West format which is already being played in the JO Class B and Class C/Rec States to make the cost of travel a little easier for our teams."

Commissioner Ellis praised his district

commissioners and UIC's. "They are out here working diligently promoting our program, and they do a remarkable job," he said. "We wish all the teams the very best of luck with the 2011 season and stress that the staff and district officers are here to assist you in making this year an enjoyable and successful season." □

Tennessee ASA Hall of Fame inductions headlined by Joe Lynch and 10 others

JOE LYNCH OF WATERTOWN, TN, HEADLINED the Tennessee ASA fifth annual induction banquet, December 4, 2010, at the Hyatt Place Hotel in Hendersonville with 11 people inducted and more than 190 people attending.

Lynch, who was inducted into the ASA National Hall of Fame in 1989, had an outstanding career, winning 576 games and losing 94, and won 24 games and lost 10 in 14 ASA Nationals before retiring after the 1981 season. He is the third player from Tennessee enshrined in the ASA National Softball Hall of Fame

The evening began with state commissioner James Ellis presenting Commissioner Awards to Dave LeMarbre, Kim Swafford, Sherrell Gage, and Phil Davidson for their outstanding performance during 2010.

The other inductees included: Meritorious Service: Jim Dodson, Athens, TN; Dennis

Please see INDUCTIONS next page

Inside

Tennessee ASA Benefits	2
Tennessee ASA Briefs	2
State ASA Directory	3-4
2011 StateTournaments	5



ASA offers most benefits at reasonable cost

FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENTS, civic groups, and local leagues there are many options when trying to choose which organization can provide your program with the most benefits at a reasonable cost. When you review all the offerings, the clear choice is ASA. The Amateur Softball Association is a non-profit organization recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as "The National Governing Body of Softball." Through its 76 local associations, the ASA has a membership of over 1.2 million girls, 1.8 million adult players, and over 35,000 umpires. Whether it is a six-year-old or a 75-year-old, slow-pitch, fast-pitch, or modified pitch player, the ASA program truly has something for everyone. Examples include:

- **Insurance:** Competitively priced plans for municipalities, field owners, teams, tournament and clinic insurance.
- **BG Checks:** We offer background checks for all volunteer coaches and umpires. These checks are mandatory for championship play.
- **Umpires:** Umpire training through Local, District, State, and National clinics/schools.

INDUCTIONS (from pg. 1)

Miller, Kingsport, TN - Ward Gossett, Signal Mountain, TN; Marvin "Stump" Martin, Rossville, GA; Fred Richardson from Chattanooga, TN. Player: Steve Dixon, Knoxville, TN; Jim McMillan, Athens, TN; Manager: Rick Taylor, Ooltewah, TN; Rod Turner, Rossville, GA. Sponsor: Charles Bell, Lebanon, TN.

Commissioner Ellis stated that "this was an honor for us to be able to recognize these individuals who were such an important part of the history and success of the Tennessee ASA program. We will be adding complete bios on the Tennessee ASA website in the coming months." □



Whether it is a six year-old or a 75 year-old, slow-pitch, fast-pitch, or modified pitch player, the Tennessee ASA program truly has something for everyone.

All ASA umpires are required to complete/pass the ASA National Umpire Exam. Insurance is provided for registered umpires.

- **Training:** ASA offers clinics, camps, videos, and publications to assist players of all ages to advance their playing skills. ASA offers the ACE Certification program for its volunteer coaches.

- **Materials:** Every registered team receives a copy of the ASA rules of Softball, a team scorebook, *Balls & Strikes* online publication, and other softball related materials.

- **Equipment:** ASA maintains high equipment standards ensuring the utmost safety to all its participants.

- **Tournaments:** ASA has Championship Play beginning at the local level and con-

tinuing to the District, State, and National Championships for teams of all ages. In addition, cities that register their teams and umpires are eligible to host such events, thus realizing a large economic impact for their community.

- **Support:** Tennessee ASA is divided into Districts with each having a District Commissioner, JO Commissioner, and a Umpire-In-Chief. These individuals are available to you when you need them. Whether it pertains to questions concerning registration, rule interpretations, playing equipment, fundraising programs, etc., we are here to assist you in ensuring a successful season.

For more information on registering with Tennessee ASA, please visit our website at <http://tennesseesa.clubspaces.com>. □

Tennessee ASA Briefs:

Tennessee to host two 2011 JO National Championships

This is an historic year for the Tennessee ASA, as it will host not one but two of the USA/ASA JO Fast Pitch Championships, July 31-Aug. 7. Johnson City will host the USA/ASA Girls' 10-under Championship, and Chattanooga will host the USA/ASA Girls 16-under Championship.

"This has never happened in Tennessee and we were very fortunate to have been selected to host these prestigious events," said State Commissioner James Ellis. "I'm confident that both cities will meet and exceed ASA's expectations for hosting these events." Ellis said he appreciated the ASA National Council's trust in Tennessee.

Tennessee ASA now offering baseball

Because of requests from some of the teams, the Tennessee ASA is now offering baseball, according to state commissioner James Ellis. "It is our goal to offer an enjoyable and affordable alternative," said Ellis.

Teams should visit the Tennessee website at www.tennesseeadsaclubspaces.com for information on registering, obtaining insurance, tournament listings and how to host fundraising tournaments.



Hall inductee Fred Richardson and family.



2011 Tennessee ASA Staff



TENNESSEE STATE COMMISSIONER

James Ellis
4131 Bradford Lane
Johnson City, TN 37601
423-747-8272
Email: ellisjmha@charter.net

DEPUTY STATE COMMISSIONER/PRESIDENT

Dave LeMarbre
101 Maple Drive N
Hendersonville, TN 37075
615-824-2912 or 615-822-3898
Email: dlemarbre@hvilletn.org

JO COMMISSIONER

Fred Richardson
129 Hendricks Blvd
Chattanooga, TN 37405
423-875-9473
Email: tennesseeasa@aol.com

STATE UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Phillip L. Davidson
1028 Beech Tree Lane
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027
615-331-8430 or 615-386-7115
Email: phil@pldavidson.com

DEPUTY STATE/UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Ed Rowe
3907 Lake Haven Circle
Chattanooga, TN 37416
423-954-3376
Email: coachrow@hotmail.com

2011 Tennessee ASA Board of Directors

Joe Bridges – Phil Davidson - Sherrell Gage - Dave LeMarbre - Kim Swafford

District and JO Commissioners/Umpires-in-Chief

DISTRICT 1 – JOHNSON CITY

DISTRICT & JO COMMISSIONER

Sherrell Gage
423-926-1708
Email: sgumpire01@charter.net

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Tom Whittemore
423-282-4787 or 423-833-3932
Email: thomasnbetty@charter.net

DEPUTY JO COMMISSIONER

Keith Jeffers
423-833-2915
Email: asaeasttn@embarqmail.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Ken Bowman
423-929-1929 or 423-502-9167
Email: kenbwm@aol.com

DEPUTY UMPIRE IN CHIEF

Rick McKinney
423-542-8529 or 423-213-0587
Email: tarheelfan111@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 2 – MARYVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Joe Huff
865-681-6346 or 865-983-9244
Email: joehuff@parksrec.com

MARYVILLE (continued)

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Brook Hemphill
865-983-6264
Email: bhempfill@parksrec.com

JO COMMISSIONER

Kris Sanders
865-388-6559
Email: ksand226@gmail.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Cecil Hale
865-983-9244
Email: cecil.hale@att.net

DISTRICT 3 - ATHENS

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Tim Jennings
423-506-7065
Email: timjennings15@gmail.com

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Joe Bridges
423-336-2332 or 423-462-4154
Email: njbridges@bellsouth.net

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Danny Wilson
423-507-0048 or 423-381-5470
Email: umpiretn@comcast.net

DISTRICT 4 – OAK RIDGE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Contact James Ellis

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

(Interim) Joe Bridges
423-336-2332
Email: njbridges@bellsouth.net

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Contact Phil Davidson 615-331-8430

DIST. 5 – MURFREESBORO

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Mark Messick
615-428-0879
Email: mmessick40@yahoo.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Bill Fee
615-867-0975 or 615-554-3997
Email: wrfee@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 6 – COOKEVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Pat Huckeby
931-510-7316 or 931-823-1738
Email: overtonfarm@twlakes.net

(continued next page)

District and JO Commissioners/Umpires-in-Chief

COOKEVILLE (continued)

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Tracey Welch
931-260-6822
Email: rwelch@phoenixusa.com

DISTRICT 7 - CLARKSVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Josh McWhirter
931-241-0355
Email: jamac4172@yahoo.com

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Barry Guthrie
931-320-1138
Email: blamfamily@hotmail.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Contact Phil Davidson 615-331-8430

DISTRICT 8 - COLUMBIA

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Glen Rose
931-381-2879 or 931-446-1936
Email: rs_gln@yahoo.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Kathy Pedrick
931-388-8009 or 931-626-8739
Email: pedrickkathy@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 9-DYERSBURG

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Randy Hulme
731-589-9057 or 731-286-3274
Email: randynewbern@aol.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

James Purnell
731-612-0534
Email: jamesumpire@bellsouth.net

DIST. 10 - CHATTANOOGA

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Dwayne Hale
423-899-3967 or 423-280-7960
Email: dwayneasa@aol.com

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Kimberly Swafford
423-886-7154 or 423-987-4402
swaffordhome@bellsouth.net

CHATTANOOGA (cont.)

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Edward Rowe
423-954-3376
Email: coachrow@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 11 – KNOXVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Norman Bragg
865-215-1408 or 865-216-8180
Email: nbragg@cityofknoxville.org

DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Lynn Butler
865-215-1407 or 865-256-3286
Email: lbutler@cityofknoxville.org

DISTRICT 12 - TULLAHOMA

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Wendy Wilkerson
931-273-1007
Email: wendywilkerson22@yahoo.com

DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

David Wilkerson
615-653-8711
Email: davidwilkerson81@gmail.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Terry Daniel
931-247-5184
Email: twdaniel11@gmail.com

DISTRICT 13 - MORRISTOWN

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Derwin Helton
423-586-3378 or 423-586-0260
Email: heavydhelton51@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 14 – KNOX COUNTY

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Jennifer Gentry
865-215-6609 or 865-659-1786
Email: jennifer.gentry@knoxcounty.org

DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Jeff Mayberry
865-215-6611
Email: jeff.mayberry@knoxcounty.org

DIST. 15 – HENDERSONVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Dave LeMarbre
615-824-2912 or 615-822-3898
Email: dlemarbre@hvilletn.org

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Christi Lewis
615-594-4213 or 615-822-3898
Email: clewis@hvilletn.org

DISTRICT 16 – CLEVELAND

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER/ DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER/

Rita Hannah
423-479-8793 or 423-559-3322
Email: rhannah@cityofclevelandtn.com

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

Randy Moore
423-780-9377 or 423-504-3839
Email: moorejc1386@aol.com

DISTRICT 18 – NASHVILLE

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Bill Collins
615-554-2488
Email:
asadistrict18nashville@comcast.net

DISTRICT JO COMMISSIONER

Larry Spear
615-860-2119 or 615-519-1222
Email: nashville.asa@comcast.net

UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

R. Lane Easterly
615-244-1366 or 615-957-0969
Email: rle@bellsouth.net

TENNESSEE



**For more information on
Tennessee ASA, go to:**

<http://tennesseeasa.clubspaces.com>



TENNESSEE
AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION



2011
STATE TOURNAMENTS

Junior Olympic

Girl's 18-16-14-12-10-8/U Class A FP	Chattanooga	July 8-9-10
Girl's 18-16-14-12-10-8/U Class B FP East	Athens	June 3-4-5
Girl's 18-16-14-12-10-8/U Class B FP West	Columbia	June 10-11-12
Girl's 18-16-14-12-10-8-6/U Class C/Rec FP East	Athens	June 3-4-5
Girl's 18-16-14-12-10-8-6/U Class C/Rec FP West	Columbia	June 10-11-12
Girl's 18-16-14-12-10/U Slow-pitch	Athens	June 3-4-5

Note: Class A Entry Fee is \$250.00 (three-game guarantee)
 Class B – Class C/Rec & Slow-pitch Entry Fee is \$150.00 (three-game guarantee)
 Softballs Furnished
 Class A Winners Receive a Berth to the ASA National Championships
 Class B Winners Receive a Berth to the ASA National Championships

Adult

Men's B Open East	6HRS	Knoxville	August 5-6-7
Men's B Open West	6HRS	Clarksville	August 5-6-7
Men's C Open East	4HRS	Knoxville	August 5-6-7
Men's C Open West	4HRS	Clarksville	August 5-6-7
Men's D Open East	2HRS	Knoxville	August 5-6-7
Men's D Open West	2HRS	Clarksville	August 5-6-7
Men's E/Rec Open East	0HR/IE	Chattanooga	August 12-13-14
Men's E/Rec Open West	0HR/IE	Hendersonville	August 12-13-14
Men's Industrial	6HRS	Athens	August 5-6-7
Men's Church	6HRS	Maryville	August 5-6
Men's Church Class C	2HRS Progressive	Maryville	August 5-6
Women's D Open	2HRS	Athens	August 5-6-7
Co-Ed Open-Church-Industrial	Per ASA	Cleveland	August 12-13-14

Note: Entry Fee is \$200.00 (double elimination)
 Softballs Furnished

To enter:

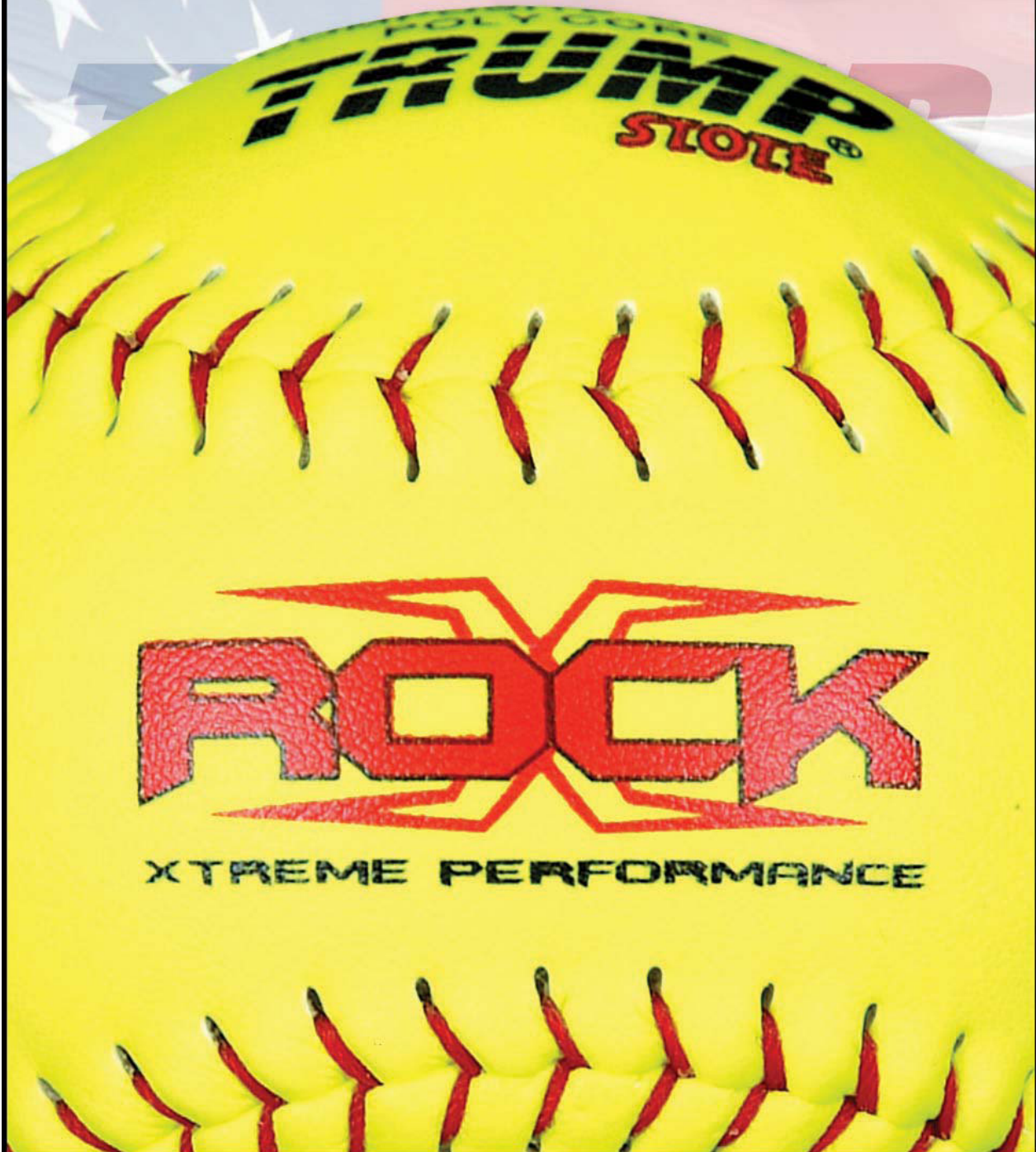
Contact your Local District Commissioner by going to <http://tennesseesa.clubspaces.com> then select District Contacts. Each team must submit to their District Commissioner a completed ASA Championship Roster and Entry Fee. The deadline for submission by your District Commissioner to the State Host is 7 days prior to the start date of the tournament. The District Commissioner will forward the team materials to the tournament host.

For a complete listing of all Tennessee ASA tournaments, please visit our website at <http://tennesseesa.clubspaces.com> and click on the Calendar

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