

## LETTER FROM THE ALASKA STATE COMMISSIONER

April 29, 2009

ASA Softball Managers and Players,

I hope this message finds you in good health and everything going well as you prepare for the 2009 softball season.

Alaska ASA is well and good, we have more teams this year than we had in 2008. We look to register more JO players and coaches than before and the umpires look to have about the same number as last year.

Our umpire program, under the direction of State UIC Mike Greaber, is doing fine. We just had our second State Umpire School/Clinic hosted by Anchorage with 45 umpires attending from around the state. Fifteen umpires went outside last year to Regional or National Tournaments and we look to send about the same this year. Thanks to Mike and all the District and Deputy UICs around the state for all of their hard work in making the umpire program as good as it can be for all the teams and players.

Roger Garcia, Alaska ASA President, has replaced Kevin Smiley as the new State JO Representative. Alaska ASA would like to thank Kevin for implementing the individual JO registration program and many thanks to Roger for taking it to the next level. Our JO program is growing as more and more towns are putting JO teams together to compete on the statewide level.

The State Classification Committee that consists of Don Brooks, State Player Representative as Chair, Wade Morgan from Kenai, Greg DeArmond from Mat Su and Jill Cole from Fairbanks, and Roger Garcia from Anchorage and they are working hard to insure that we have a fair and level playing field for the classification of teams across the state. I would thank each member for the very important involvement in this process, which is never ending.

I would like to encourage all teams to enter some tournaments and travel to other cities whenever it is possible. We have some really great people running the various organizations around this wonderful state and you should check them out.

Have a great summer playing softball and please feel free to email me at any time if you have questions or concerns. Thanks for playing ASA softball.

Rod

Rod Hill, Commissioner

Alaska ASA

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