

LETTER FROM THE ALASKA STATE COMMISSIONER

May 21, 2010

ASA Softball Managers, players and softball friends,

I hope this message finds you in good health and everything going well as you prepare for the 2010 softball season.

Alaska ASA is well and good, we have more teams this year than we had in 2009. We look to register more JO players and coaches, teams and umpires than in 2009 because of all the good work by the local associations around this great state of ours. I have set goals of a 10% increase in individual JO registrations, teams and umpires and as of today it appears that we may reach those goals.

Our umpire program, under the direction of State UIC Mike Graeber, is doing fine. Fourteen 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, and State JO Commissioner, has done a tremendous job of implementing the individual JO registration program and many thanks to Roger for taking it to the next level. Alaska ASA is much better off now because of the efforts that Roger puts forth. Our JO program is growing every year 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 Gary Mitchell 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. We made some big changes for 2010 in regards to classification and it will be interesting to see how it all plays at the end of the season. I would thank each member for their very important involvement in this process, which is never ending. Classification is the backbone for any softball organization and we must work hard to keep it right.

I would like to encourage all teams to enter some tournaments and travel to other cities whenever it is possible. Anchorage, Mat Su, Kenai and Fairbanks all put on great tournaments I encourage all teams to try to travel at some time and you will have a great time playing softball in a tournament environment. We have some really great people running the various organizations around this wonderful state and you should check them out.

I would like thank Anchor Town Sports here in Anchorage for coming back to Alaska ASA softball. Many thanks go out to Mike Bloom, Linda Sinclair, Jan Erickson and the Anchor Town Sport Board for their fine

work with this endeavor. Check out the Alaska Tournament listings on this website for Anchor Town's tournaments and go visit them.

At this time I would like to give a shout out to B-Roe and his band of merry men.

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 Hill, Commissioner
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