

VIRGINIA NATIONAL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION 2008 NEWSLETTER

TEAM NSA VIRGINIA THANKS ALL FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN 07

We want to take this opportunity to thank the 400 plus teams that participated in NSA sanctioned events in 2007. As you read this newsletter you will see that 2008 promises to be another quality year in Virginia. We strongly believe that on a local and national level our tournaments provide the players with quality competition, good sportsmanship and outstanding officiating. We look forward to seeing you all between the lines in 08.

Thank you again from TEAM NSA VIRGINIA

WORLD SERIES LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED

NSA has announced locations for the 2008 World Series. Class A will be in Columbus, Ohio and the Class B will be held in Charlotte, NC. Both from Jul 20-27 for ages 10 through 16U (also, 8U for Class B). The 18U World Series for all teams will return to Birmingham, Al from July 15-20. More information and links can be found at www.playnsa.com.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN JUNE

Salem will be the site of the 10,12 & 14U state championships June 28-29 , the 16& 18 U will be held in Richmond June 21-22 . More information can be found at www.virginiansafastpitch.com

Reminder that all teams must play in the states to go to the World Series.

STATE RANKINGS FOR 2007

Congratulations goes out to the **Yorktown Revolution 10U, Roanoke Valley Vipers 12U, Virginia Lady Titans 14U, Sudden Impact 16U**, and the **Renegades 18U** for finishing ranked #1 for 2007. Each player received a shoulder bag with their team name and ranking printed on it.

2008 TEAM REGISTRATION

Teams can go to www.playnsa.com and register for the 2008 season effective immediately. NSA registers teams on a calendar year basis so ALL teams must register for 2008.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2008 we will be awarding a \$500 scholarship, by blind draw, to an eligible player in each of our areas. That means each area director will designate one tournament to award their scholarship. This will give more players an opportunity to win. The \$1000 high school senior scholarship will be terminated.

TEAM INSURANCE

Team rates for insurance through NSA has been reduced significantly from last year with the same coverage. These rate reductions were made possible due to a low number of claims

over past years. Rates are as low as \$51 per team. NSA allows teams to use any insurance company but it may be worth checking our rates first. Insurance forms and information is located at www.playnsa.com

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

This past year, has seen a significant increase in cancellations (after the cutoff date) and no shows at tournaments. Many teams are “shopping” for tournaments and jumping back and forth. This causes a major problem for directors that need to make schedules to post start times and affect the other teams that are playing.

In 2008, we will be enforcing the cutoff date published as the date that payment must be received. **If payment is not received by that date, you may find your team dropped from the tournament.** Any team that no shows without payment **will be suspended** from further NSA play until payment is received. All directors realize that there can be situations that are unavoidable and will work with you. We recommend that you contact the tournament director when an issue arises. Also, registering for tournaments at www.playnsa.com will ensure proper entry. Our goal is to make sure that all teams have a great experience playing NSA. Remember that you can also view all teams registered in a tournament at playnsa.

WOMEN'S TEAMS FORMING

In 2008 there will be a few dates for tournaments for Women's Adult Fast Pitch. This is unlimited age group for players 16 and over. We tried a 23U group the past 2 years with no success, so talking with some coaches we decided Adult was the way to go. This will allow for a larger pool of players to form teams. We will be very lenient about uniform requirements, also as an adult team insurance is optional. Contact your local director for more info. First tournament will be the in Williamsburg June 7 & 8th.

23U TEAM WORLD SERIES AND UPDATE

The 23 U will need to purchase the insurance coverage under the Adult rate plan. Starting with the 2008 season the 23 & Under division will be maintained by the Youth Fast Pitch State Directors. The new online system* will allow for registration to be taken by the GFP State Directors for the 23 & Under Division. NSA feels this will better serve the 23 & Under Division, as the players are coming from the Youth Fast Pitch program and a majority are still participating in the Youth Fast Pitch division.

23U is a separate program from Girls Fast Pitch for Rosters so let your teams know they can participate in both programs without roster eligibility issues.

2008 Female 23 & Under Fast Pitch World Series

July 11-13, 2008

Patriot Park - Michigan City, Indiana

Teams will only be accepted through their GFP State Directors.

We will have a World Series packet posted at www.nsanorth.com in mid January with more details.

METALCLEATS

NSA has not approved metal cleats for tournament play so if you have players that wear them

in high school or college, please note they can not wear them playing NSA.

SALEM AREA NEWS

Mike Walthall and John Counts have a host of tournaments scheduled. Once again, NSA is proud to host the **Commonwealth Games in July**, a tournament that brings together over 90 teams.

Don't forget the **Fall College Showcase that grows every year with over 50 -60 teams competing in this classic fall event.**

NOVA UPDATE & KEY DATES

Kevin Norris has a full slate of tournaments in NOVA this year. He has taken over the program in full stride, providing quality tournaments that have been maxed out with teams. Kevin will be handling all the tournaments in NOVA. Some featured tournaments include the **Memorial Day STARS & STRIPES Tournament which will be the NOVA scholarship event. The Virginia Invitational (VIT) and ending with the Prince William Fall Challenge in October.** All in all 7 tournaments are on tap in NOVA. The full schedule can be found at state web site. Frank Rachubka will be focusing his efforts in the Williamsburg & Newport News area. Frank would like to thank all the teams that made the Valley View tournaments a great success over the past 3 years.

OUTER BANKS IS BACK with 3 dates

What a great tournament this has become. The 3rd Outer Blanks Classic will be held in May, space is limited so enter early. We will have 12 & 14U age groups. June 14-15 we will have 10 through 16u. Teams that have aged up to 16u have asked if we can have another date for the "older" girls. You asked and we listened. There will be an Outer Banks/Nags Head tournament for 16 & 18U in September. Check our website for more info.

WILLIAMSBURG AND PENINSULA TOURNAMENTS

As many of you know Tony Schultz our director in 2007 for Tidewater has decided to sign on with USSSA. What that means is all NSA tournaments in 2008 will be run by Frank Rachubka, who will handle Williamsburg, Newport News and the Outer Banks. Check our website for the full 2008 schedule. **Don't forget the Colonial Invitational is entering its 7th year and is a 50 plus team tournament. Several teams that played in the past years were shut out in 2007,** due to waiting too late to enter. **This holds true for the Busch Gardens Classic in August,** as well. This one promises to be bigger and better with more incentives from Busch. In the fall we will award prize money to winning teams which will be applied to the season finale entry. Check out details at playnsa.

All teams receiving this newsletter are invited to play in the Colonial.

RICHMOND AREA NEWS

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of Allan Spencer, NSA has established a strong program in

the Richmond area. We want to thank all the teams that continue to support NSA Richmond and we promise to continue to provide great tournaments with top awards and umpiring. Allan has several dates on tap for 2008 and his full schedule can be found on our web site. Richmond will start things off with the 2nd Dust off the Rust Tournament March 29-30. There are several tournaments scheduled for the Richmond area.

REMEMBER TO REGISTER AT WWW.PLAYNSA.COM FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS. AND PUT YOUR ROSTER ON LINE AS WELL

YOU CAN ALSO SEE WHO IS PLAYING IN A TOURNAMNET BY GOING TO WWW.PLAYNSA.COM AND LOOKING AT THAT TOURNAMENT.

THANKS TO ALL AND GOOD LUCK IN 2008

As always, if you every have a question, concern, or suggestion, please contact your area director. Contact info can be found here: <http://www.virginiansa.com/contacts/>

Sincerely,

Your 2008 Virginia NSA Fastpitch Directors

**Mike Walthall
John Counts
Kevin Norris
Billy Pearson
Alan Spencer
Frank Rachubka**