



## Iowa Amateur Softball Association

1534 Penrose St., Grinnell, IA 50112-1203

(641) 236-5766 FAX (641) 236-6779 Website: [www.softball.org/iowa](http://www.softball.org/iowa)

*"Providing Iowa's Softball Services Since 1936"*

Dear Iowa ASA Adult Open Tournament Softball Teams:

Welcome to Iowa ASA Softball in 2009! We are looking forward to another great year of Amateur Softball and have many new things to share with you. Enclosed you will find the Team Registration Form and Open State Tournament Entry Form, along with a brochure listing the insurance coverage's for Teams and Leagues. We look forward to your team playing Iowa ASA Softball and hope your team will take advantage of the many membership benefits offered.

The Iowa ASA website continues to be very popular with coaches and players with over 65,000 visitors each year. The website is loaded with very beneficial information including rule changes, legal equipment, state, regional, and national codes, insurance information, team award and action photos, frequently asked questions and hotel information, just to name a few items. The Adult Fast Pitch and Adult Slow Pitch pages not only have all of the forms for registration, but a complete listing of all Championship Play Tournaments and Invitational Tournaments throughout the state. We also post all pre-tournament information, maps, and tournament brackets, as well as tournament results as soon as they are available for all to download and use. The website address is [www.softball.org/iowa](http://www.softball.org/iowa). Sanction your tournament with ASA and you can also advertise your own tournament on our Invitational Tournament page! You will also want to check out the ASA/USA Softball website at [www.softball.org](http://www.softball.org). In addition, the Iowa ASA registration offers the Iowa ASA Guide Book, which lists information on all Iowa ASA State Tournaments, as well as other qualifying and advancement tournament information and contact information.

The state of Iowa will host two adult National Qualifiers in 2009 in addition to over 30 championship play tournaments in seven divisions of play, including the Men's Class C & D Slow Pitch Northern National Qualifier in Nevada, IA June 7-8. Men's Class C & D Slow Pitch teams from the Mid-America Region will compete for 4 berths. If you aren't playing in one of these tournaments, plan to come and watch some of the best softball action in the U.S. in these various divisions of play.

### **Here are just a few quick facts and benefits of your registration with ASA Softball:**

- The ASA annually registers over 245,000 softball teams comprising over 3.5 million players
- The ASA annually registers over 43,000 certified umpires
- The ASA was formed in 1933 and has remained the **official** rules writer and interpreter for the sport of softball
- The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of softball pursuant to the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act of 1978**
- Under the banner of USA Softball, the ASA is responsible for training, equipping and promoting, women's, men's, junior girls' and junior boys' National Teams that compete in international and domestic competition
- ASA conducts youth and adult softball programs in every state and virtually every city in the United States through a network of 83 state and metro local associations
- Every season the ASA conducts over 100 National Championships in which 30,000 players compete
- Membership publications are produced on a bi-annual basis and are distributed twice a year to 300,000 softball players and coaches
- The ASA has 83 local associations across America capable of implementing any event or promotion at the local and regional level
- Collegiate scholarship opportunities for local players (over 80% of all collegiate softball players played in ASA league and tournament programs)**
- The ASA's website, [www.softball.org](http://www.softball.org), averages over 4,000 "visitors" per day focusing on updated softball player and team information, trivia contests, and other fan giveaways.
- A very structured national grassroots organization involved in all facets of softball including youth fast/slow pitch, adult fast/slow pitch, modified pitch, coed, seniors and umpiring

*continued on back*

- ASA softball related publications
- Championship Play competitions in every state and major metropolitan area
- ASA Insurance Program •ASA Equipment Certification Program
- ASA family of websites
- USA Softball National Team program
- National Softball Hall of Fame & Stadium
- In 2008, Iowa ASA reimbursed nearly \$8,000 to teams who advanced on to regional and national tournament play.

Each Iowa ASA registered team receives:

- Copy of the Official Rules of Softball
- "Balls and Strikes" Softball Magazine
- ASA Scorebook
- Iowa ASA Guide Book
- Team ID card featuring additional membership benefits like discounts off rental cars, airline travel ASA merchandise and much more...
- Opportunity to receive quality insurance benefits for any player regardless of age or skill level
- The ASA is the largest softball organization in the United States, but prides itself on being able to provide local service
- The ASA maintains an office with a local commissioner, youth coordinator, athlete representative and umpire-in-chief in every state and major metropolitan area in United States
- All ASA state offices use district commissioners to ensure a direct local contact at every level to communicate directly with leagues and park/recreation departments
- Each of the 83 ASA local associations have voting privileges deciding how the organization is run at the National level through commissioners, elected player representatives and regional appointments
- The ASA has approximately 260 voting members ensuring that a democratic process is followed and the best interests of softball player's tournament organizers and league directors are met
- ASA National Coaching Certification Program**; a.k.a., ACE (Achieve, Certify, Educate)
- ASA National Coaching Schools
- ASA Youth Clinics and Camps
- Complete ASA insurance coverage for league teams and league administrators if all teams are registered
- Tournament opportunities for each recognized classification of play
- Structured and enforced classification system allowing for fair competitions among local leagues and travel teams
- Opportunity to host events that generate millions of dollars for the local community
- The ASA can provide insurance for every softball game through very affordable liability coverage for field owners
- Opportunity for member teams and individually registered players to purchase accident insurance at low group rates
- Comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$5 million for league officers if 100% of the teams are registered with ASA
- Comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$5 million for the local umpire association if 100% of the umpires are registered with the ASA.

On behalf of the entire Iowa ASA Staff across the state, we want to welcome you to the 2009 season and look forward to working with you to provide you with the best softball program possible to meet the needs of your league and tournament teams.

**Have fun playing softball and "Play Iowa ASA"!**