



January 2, 2007

Fellow ASA softball umpires,

Another year of ASA softball is just around the corner and we will be starting with some changes in alignment and personnel. As Lee Shiflett informed you last year, he has retired as Piedmont VA ASA Umpire in Chief (UIC) and I have been appointed by Commissioner Andy Dooley to assume that position.

The region has also reorganized and entire state of Maryland is now in one region with Washington D.C. being part of Maryland ASA and Jack Mowatt being the commissioner. Virginia now has three state/metro groups with the Tidewater Metro being essentially unchanged. Most of the Northern Virginia localities have been removed from the DC Metro group and are now part of the Central Virginia group (Richmond). Loudon County was split off from the other Northern Virginia localities and returned to Piedmont Virginia state. Andy Dooley remains the commissioner of our group. Also, in addition to the three metro/state UIC's, Judy Cole has been appointed as the statewide JO UIC. Her role will be more clearly defined later. Another change is that our Regional UIC, Bob Savoie retired and was replaced by his deputy, Mark Ingrao.

Attached you will find the application to be used to register as an ASA umpire for 2007, please take the time to complete the application legibly as I am not as familiar with all of you as was Lee. The application and the \$30.00 fee can be returned directly to me at the address listed or through your local UIC or association if that is the way you have done it in the past..

Please be aware that Piedmont Virginia has a section on its website (www.piedmontvaasa.org) for umpires. A copy of the application will appear there as will the notice for the Regional clinic coming us in January (January 20 and 21 in Washington DC). There is also a National Umpire Clinic in Pittsburgh this year that will be noted on the website. The 2007 rule changes and change in umpire mechanics are already appear on the website.

I intend to post rule interpretations on the website as they become available and would like to use e-mail to provide you with timely information as needed. Tournaments will be posted on the website and hopefully we can use it to better communicate available tournament umpire positions and your interest in working the tournament.

We have the Men's "D" National Slow Pitch in Salem this year. Anyone interested in working the tournament will be required to attend the regional clinic on January 20 & 21, or the National Umpire School on March 17 & 18.

Wishing you the very best in 2007.