

WELCOME TO THE PWSA WEBSITE

Don't forget to honour your volunteers and athletes! Deadline is September 1st!! For more information, please contact Marianne Allen at 905-682-3068 or by email at mallen@mergetel.com

PLEASE NOTE: The PWSA is seeking one representative from each division to sit in on the PWSA draw committee meeting in September to review all draws and make recommendations for the AGM.

All interested parties should email Fred Bostock at fbostock@cogeco.ca and copy the PWSA President, Debbie Malisani at littlehands1@rogers.com

Deadline to contact Fred and Debbie is September 6th, 2010.

Please click [here](#) for a copy of the participant survey for all teams that participated in a Canadian Championship in 2010. Please complete and send to Mike Branchaud, Manager, Canadian Championships at mbranchaud@softball.ca

We have been having problems with our group email directory. Please visit our website for the following information:

- 1) Canada Games Age change from 19 and under to 21 and under
- 2) International Softball Federation Youth World Cup tryouts for players born in 1994 and 1995.
- 3) Coaching Opportunities for the ISF Youth World Cup and the Canada Summer Games. Application for deadline is extended to August 22nd.
- 4) 2011 Canada Game tryouts.

For information on 2013 Canada Games and application for Coaching Pool, please visit the Canada Games page.

For information on ISF 16U Youth World Cup, please click [here](#)

For information on ISF Youth World Cup Tryouts, please click [here](#)

P.W.S.A. HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT - ST. CATHARINES

Congratulations to John F. Ross C.V.I. for winning the 1st Annual PWSA High School Classic!

We would also like to thank the other teams that participated to make this first event so successful. Our appreciation also goes out to the City of St. Catharines and the St. Catharines Minor Softball Association for all their support and for providing such a great site for our tournament.

See everyone next year! Watch the PWSA site for further details for next year's event!

Jennifer Chadwick

PWSA - High School Liaison

For information regarding the Ontario Summer Games, please click [here](#).

The PWSA Skills Camp held the long weekend in May was very successful and we would like to thank all those who participated in the camp.

If you are missing a bat or batting glove from the camp, please contact Debbie Malisani at littlehands1@rogers.com to claim.

If you picked up a Wilson glove (black/charcoal and gray) in error, please contact Debbie Malisani at littlehands1@rogers.com

Welcome to the Provincial Women's Softball Association (PWSA) The PWSA has a rich heritage in promoting female softball in Ontario since 1931. The PWSA never ceases to change and grow and annually sends teams to all classifications offered by Softball Canada. The PWSA also maintains a leadership role in Softball Ontario.

According to Sandy Walters of Toronto, it all began in an automobile!

A small contingent of enthusiastic but discontent ball players were discussing the "sad" state of women's softball...there was no controlling body for women; they were just an afterthought of the men's organization. "Let's form a softball union for all of Ontario", suggested Bobbie Rosenfeld.

The very first notation in the PWSA minute book reads, "minutes of the meeting of those interested in women's softball was held in Room 15, Central Y.M.C.A. on the evening of May 9th, 1931, at 8:00 p.m. There were 38 persons present." The late John DeGruchy acted as the Chairman of this important meeting, which gave birth to the PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL UNION OF ONTARIO. They elected Anne Spalding as the first President, with H. Thomas as Secretary and J. Moffatt as Treasurer.

From 1931 to 1942 the Association consisted of but one Division, Intermediate "A". It wasn't until 1942 that a Senior Division was created. Then in 1945, a Junior series was formed; in 1947 Intermediate "B"; in 1951 Intermediate "AA" and "C", 1952 saw the addition of Juvenile; 1957 Senior "AA" and Juvenile "B"; 1961 Intermediate "D" and Minor Zone Series; 1964 Junior "C" and "D"; 1966 Minor "A" and "B"; 1971 Midget "A" and "B" and Novice "A" and "B".

In 1953, the PWSU stopped using the OASA Rule Book and printed their own. In 1954, the PWSU conducted their first Coaching and Umpiring Clinics. It wasn't until 1958 that men were permitted to run for that office; until that time, only women were allowed to stand for the Executive. Mr. Gar Landers, of Stratford, was to be the first male President.

In 1961, the PWSU consisted of six Executive members and 51 affiliated teams. In 1966, Art Van Nest, of St. Catharines, was appointed Chairman of the very first Minor Softball Tournament to be held by the PWSU. In that same year, the first PWSU Bulletin was circulated. Then yet another change was made in 1970 when Playoffs changed from two-out-of-three series to the Tournament-style playoffs, on a trial basis.

In 1976, the PWSU became incorporated and requested to change the word "Union" to "Association". Sade Widmeyer, PWSA Umpire-In-Chief, developed the first Umpire's exam in this Province. In 1976, there were 260 teams affiliated and 656 Umpires. This same year saw the inaugural "Awards Dinner" at the Annual Meeting.

Gone by the wayside are two-out-of-three series, telegrams ordering teams to play and all our Umpires and our clinics, which were transferred to Softball Ontario. The PWSA never ceases to change, grow and expand. In 1990, the Tier II structure was introduced in the minor Divisions, on a trial basis, for the smaller communities and first year clubs. It was highly successful and was made a permanent part of the PWSA in 1993, expanding to include all Divisions of the PWSA. Zone Tournaments disappeared to be replaced by Qualifying Tournaments leading to Grand Championships.

The PWSA annually sends teams to all classifications offered by Softball Canada, and maintains a leadership role in the technical arm of our sport, as offered by Softball Ontario.

In our 75 years of history, many volunteers have contributed to the success of PWSA, without whom our girls could not play this game and advance to National and International events. It is time to pause and say a quite "thank you" to all who made this possible.