

**Missouri ASA Board of Directors**  
**Minutes of Meeting of October 7, 2009**  
**The Centre, Rolla, Missouri**

The meeting was called to order by State Commissioner Joey Rich. All members were present except Mark Hewett from Sedalia. All in attendance signed and dated the Conflict of Interest Statement and Confidentiality Statement.

The minutes from the meeting of October 1, 2008 were accepted by motion from Kermit Daniel; second by Ken Kwantes; approved unanimously.

Copies of the UIC reports about the umpires that worked in this year's three National Tournaments in Missouri were passed around so District Commissioners could relay the information back to the local level.

The Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Convention will be at Tan Tar A this year and there was discussion whether MASA should host a booth or sponsor a session. The motion was made to host a booth at the convention by Rick Petty; seconded by Mark Nelson; motion was approved unanimously.

There was discussion about the Travel Funds and whether it was an incentive to teams, whether it should just go to the highest finishing team wishing to advance and whether state tournament entry fees should be lowered to encourage more teams to enter. Joey Rich suggested an option to lower state tournament entry fees to \$250 for all adults, and still be able to pay for the state champion to advance to nationals. No action taken.

Copies of the 2009 Adult State Tournament Teams Survey were passed out. Positive comments about the survey were made by Carol Riney. No changes are being planned contrary to the survey outcomes. MASA Code changes were offered later in the meeting.

Discussion about the umpire travel to state tournaments was discussed as part of an over-all effort to reduce tournament costs. Qualified local umpires are the first choice to fill state tournaments. Use of the Umpire Training DVD has been very beneficial for improving the quality of officiating. If the number of qualified local umpires locally cannot meet the needs of a state tournament then the state commissioner's approval should be obtained before guaranteeing mileage and approving hotels and number of cars for travel.

There was discussion about the State Convention and the numbers of players representing the Missouri teams that won an ASA National Tournament might outstrip the capacity of the banquet hall. The banquet capacity is 150 and extra room for the silent auction would need to be available. Possibly the need to have the teams recognized on another night was discussed. There is an increased cleaning cost of \$45 per condo but the \$50 per night with a 2 night minimum remains the same. State Commissioner Rich indicated the basic registration fee would increase to around \$85.00.

A request from Rick Petty to offer a special award to Leonard Lutz was discussed. Lutz is a long-time ASA umpire and has cancer. A motion was made to present such an award at the state convention in February by Ken Kwantes and seconded by Robert Davis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ken Kwantes also discussed some type of special award for Jim Hawkins from West Plains. A motion was made by Robert Davis and seconded by Rick Petty to present such an award at the state convention in February. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Mid State Oil Team was submitted by Joey Rich to be considered for the Team Induction into the Missouri State Softball Hall of Fame. The motion was made by Tim Glascock and seconded by Ken Kwantes. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was discussion about the need for more local ASA tournaments at all levels. The Missouri Series needs to be ideally in the 4 corners of the state. Local districts need to have the opportunity to host these tournaments with the format and registration fees determined by local tournament officials. The Missouri State Tournaments need to kick back \$10-\$20 per team registration fee to the state. There was discussion about the individual insurance covering a J.O. team for one tournament as an encouragement to play ASA.

The Umpire registration fee has increased from \$40 to \$43. The fee back to the National ASA Office has increased from \$12 to \$18. The ASA background check will cost \$7 and the additional umpire sports insurance coverage will be \$25. Individual registration fees for the \$250 deductible will remain at \$8.00, but the zero deductible will increase to \$15.00. All MASA team registration fees remain at \$20.00 per team (\$15.00 for fall leagues) with the district commissioner to forward \$18.00 to the state office (\$13.00). All items were approved unanimously.

2010 State Tournament requests were then considered, with the following results

### 2010 STATE TOURNAMENTS

Division/Classification	2009 Tournament Site	SITE FOR 2010
Girls 10 U	<i>Rolla</i>	St. Joseph
Girls 12 U A	<i>Sedalia</i>	Springfield
Girls 14 U A	<i>Rolla</i>	Cape Girardeau
Girls 16 U A	<i>Sedalia</i>	Rolla
Girls 18 U A	<i>Cape Girardeau</i>	Jefferson City
Girls 12 U B	<i>Springfield</i>	Rolla
Girls 14 U B	<i>Cape Girardeau</i>	Springfield
Girls 16 U B	<i>Springfield</i>	Cape Girardeau
Girls 18 U B	<i>St. Joseph</i>	St. Joseph

Men's B/C Slow	August 7-8	Springfield
Men's D Slow	August 7-8	Jefferson City
Men's E Slow	August 7-8	Springfield
Co-ed A	July 31-August 1	Columbia
Co-ed B	July 31-August 1	Columbia
Women's Superball	TBD	Rolla
Men's Church Slow	TBD	Rolla

Region 12 Events	
Girls 12 A USA/ASA National Qualifier	Springfield: Suggested June 5-6, 2010
Girls 18 A Regl Natl Qual/HOF Qual	Springfield: Suggested June 5-6, 2010

The 18 U "B" Northern nationals will be held in St. Joseph in 2010.

## MASA CODE CHANGE PROPOSALS

**ITEM #1 - Proposed by: Joey Rich; Article 3.01**

**3.01 - TEAMS** All teams properly registered with the Amateur Softball Association will be entitled to compete in their respective division and classification of championship play, and otherwise be entitled to all benefits afforded by the Amateur Softball Association. Team managers will receive all publications afforded membership through the Amateur Softball Association National Office in Oklahoma City. Team registration fees are \$20.00 for adult and Junior Olympic teams **during the championship play season. Registrations received and paid after July 1 for championship play teams must pay \$25.00. Fall team registrations are \$15.00 per team, for league play that starts after August 1. The district commissioner will forward \$18.00 per team for spring/summer registrations and \$13.00 for fall registrations to the Missouri ASA State Office. Registration materials that must be mailed to the team manager will incur an additional \$5.00 service charge.** and \$15.00 for all fall league teams that begin play after August 1. Two dollars of every team registration fee is kept by the District Commissioner to be used for expenses of local district operations. ~~NOTE: Registrations received from teams by the district commissioner after July 1 will be \$25.00 for adult and J.O. teams. For registrations received after July 1, the district commissioner will retain a total of \$7.00 per team.~~

Reason: To more clearly explain current practice.

Motion to approve, Mark Nelson; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristy Rich; approved unanimously.

**ITEM #2 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 3.02**

Fees for registering on line will include any administrative fees or costs, including credit card charges.

Reason: To clarify the need, and allow for, these additional costs.

Motion to approve, Ken Kwantes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kermit Daniel, approved unanimously.

**ITEM #3 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 3.02 a, b**

**3.02 – INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION**

a) The Missouri A.S.A. will offer individual registration for Junior Olympic softball and baseball teams **and adult softball teams. Fees will be approved annually by the Board of Directors**, as follows:

- ❖ ~~Zero deductible plan is \$12.00 per player, manager, coach, team parent.~~
- ❖ ~~\$250 deductible plan is \$8.00 per player, manager, coach, and team parent.~~

b) Individual registration for Adult softball teams is \$16.00 per registrant with a \$500 deductible.

~~Specific benefits of individual registration will be explained and promoted by the Missouri A.S.A. state office. Fees for registering on line may include any administrative fees or costs.~~

Reason: To remove specific fee from the Code to allow for ease in making changes as needed.

Motion to approve by Kermit Daniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Kwantes, approved unanimously.

**ITEM #4 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 3.03 (delete portions as noted)**

**3.03 - ROSTERS** All roster and related eligibility requirements including, but not limited to age, sex, suspension due to misbehavior, and classification will follow National A.S.A. guidelines, unless additional requirements are set forth in the Missouri A.S.A. Code. Teams must register and be a part of the championship play process based on the district in which the highest number of **active, rostered** players resides. All ~~other~~ roster requirements, including rules regarding pick-up players, will follow the national A.S.A. Code. **ROSTER DEADLINES.** Roster freeze deadline for all divisions and classifications shall be Thursday 5:00 p.m. prior to the start of the respective state tournament. If no state tournament is held, roster deadline will be the same date as the respective national tournament entry deadline.

Reason: To clarify with which district a team should register with, in some cases, no roster is ever used (league only teams, for example).

Motion to approve by Bob Garner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Riney, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #5 - Proposed by: Joey Rich; Article 3.05 e</b>
In ALL divisions and classifications of play, a team that wins <del>TWO</del> <b>ONE</b> games in the current year state tournament WILL NOT be reclassified in a lower class the following season of participation if they have FOUR or more returning players. <b>Only teams that are 0-3 may move to the lower classification the following participating season, with permission of their district commissioner.</b>
Reason: To continue the process of improving classification.
Motion to approve by Bob Garner, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Robert Davis, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #6 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 4.01</b>
All <b>registered</b> Missouri ASA <del>State Tournaments are Open Tournaments with</del> teams <del>advancing</del> <b>advance</b> directly to the state tournament. Team managers are responsible to ensure their team follows the Missouri ASA <b>and National ASA</b> Code requirements as to classification.
Reason: It didn't read right the way this was originally written.
Motion to approve by Kermit Daniel, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Rick Petty, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #7 - Proposed by: Joey Rich (AS AMENDED AS SHOWN); Article 4.03 a</b>
<b>(State Tournament Entry fees for adult tournaments were approved at \$250.00 for 2010) Actual code item approved: 4.03 a Each respective state tournament champion, or the highest finishing team that advances to nationals, will have their entry fee reimbursed after participation at the national tournament. Exception: Women's slow pitch will continue to have a 4-game guarantee and no travel funds will be provided.</b>
Reason: To lower fees and eliminate or reduce travel funds.
Motion to approve, <b>as amended</b> , by Ken Kwantes, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Mark Nelson, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #8 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 4.03 c (new c and re-letter balance)</b>
<b>A church team player is one who regularly attends the service of the sponsoring church congregation and is on the membership roles by March 1 of the current year. With prior approval of the State Commissioner, two churches may combine for one team and participate at the Missouri ASA Church State Tournament. This team cannot advance to the National ASA Church Tournament.</b>
Reason: To state current practice.
Motion to approve by Bob Garner, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Mark Nelson, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #9 - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 4.03.d AMENDED/CHANGED TO Article 6.04 b</b>
<del>The hosting organization and the umpire in chief must try to assign local umpires first to the respective state championship prior to using out of town umpires.</del>
<b>6.04 b Mileage costs, if requested, must be approved by the state commissioner</b>
<b>1. Umpires traveling over 30 miles one way may be entitled to reimbursement of fifty cents per mile.</b>
<b>2. The maximum mileage paid for each car is 200 miles, roundtrip, or \$100.00, if approved by the state commissioner.</b>
Reason: At one state tournament in 2009, ALL umpires were from more than 60 miles away. This increased expenses due to lodging and mileage.
<b>As amended, the motion to approve was made by Ken Kwantes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kermit Daniel, approved unanimously.</b>

<b>ITEM #10 - Proposed by: Mark Nelson; Article 403.d (4<sup>th</sup> bullet point)</b>
<del>Steel or metal cleats are not allowed in any tournament, with the exception of men's or women's fast or slow pitch</del> <b>AMENDED: Rules concerning steel or metal cleats will follow those of the Official ASA Rule Book.</b>
Reason: It is currently permitted in the ASA National Tournaments. I think we should allow them to use them in the state play also. There were several questions at the "C" and "E" of why they cannot use them.
<b>As amended, motion to approve made by Ken Kwantes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kermit Daniel, approved unanimously.</b>

<b>ITEM #11</b> - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 403.e
The Missouri ASA will ensure that softballs for all <b>fast pitch</b> state tournaments are shipped to the tournament directors. <b>Softballs for all slow pitch state tournaments will be provided by each participating team with prior approval of the tournament director.</b>
Just to clarify that the MASA office will provide softballs for all fast pitch tournaments and the slow pitch teams will provide their own softballs.
Motion to approve by Bob Garner, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Mark Nelson, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #12</b> - Proposed by: Joey Rich; Article 403.e
Change time limits from the 1 hour + 1 inning to <b>One Hour Ten Minutes</b>
Change time limits from the 1 hour, 10 minutes + 1 inning to <b>One Hour Twenty Minutes</b>
Reason: to re-evaluate prior decision, based on comments from many JO team managers.
Motion to approve by Mark Nelson, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Carol Riney, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #13</b> - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 4.03 g ADD NOTE
NOTE: When two or more state tournaments are held on the same weekend, same site, the total number of teams participating will be combined to determine the host guarantee amount.
Reason: To clarify current practice and list in the Code.
Motion to approve by Jack McCracken, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Mark Nelson, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #14</b> - Proposed by: Joey Rich; Article 4.04
<b>4.04 - REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS</b> will be conducted in accordance with all Mid-America A.S.A. requirements. <del>Dates, entry fees, umpire assignments and fees, trophies, and all other related operational requirements are listed in the Code of the Mid-America A.S.A. Following the conclusion of a regional tournament, a completed team bracket, team listing with records, and \$10.00 per team is to be sent to the Missouri A.S.A. In addition, a completed tournament bracket, team standings listing with records, and \$15.00 per team must be forwarded to the National A.S.A. Office, and a bracket plus team listing with records must be sent to all state/metro commissioners within the Mid-America Region. All these mailings MUST be completed within ten (10) days of completion of the tournament.</del> <b>Missouri ASA hosting cities of regional events will work directly with the state commissioner to ensure all Code requirements are met.</b>
Reason: As national Code requirements change, this leaves this section open to ensure all of those requirements are met, through working with the state commissioner
Motion to approve by Susan Provance, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Kristy Rich, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #15</b> - Proposed by: Joey Rich; Article 6.02
<b>6.02 - FEES</b> to become an A.S.A. registered umpire in Missouri are payable each year. Fees to register in Missouri are renewable annually. Umpire registration <del>\$40.00</del> <b>\$43.00</b> Fall umpire registration <del>\$25.00</del> <b>\$35.00</b> (registration on or after August 15, umpire not eligible to officiate any ASA championship play)
Reason: To reflect current practice. Costs are the same for all umpire registrations. <b>Optional background check will be \$7.00 and additional sports coverage will be \$25.00.</b>
Motion to approve by Robert Davis, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Susan Provance, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #16</b> - Proposed by: Kristy Rich; Article 6.04 f
The State Tournament UIC shall be paid a minimum of <b>\$100 for a one day tournament</b> ; \$125.00 for 2-day tournaments and \$150.00 for 3-day tournaments. Multiple divisions of play at the same site shall be defined as one tournament for the UIC fee. This fee shall apply only for UIC's who do not umpire games during the tournament. <b>The payment of the UIC shall come from the host guarantee.</b>
Reason: Several of our state tournaments have become one day tournaments. Also, need to clarify where the UIC fee comes from.
Motion to approve by Kermit Daniel, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Bob Garner, approved unanimously.

<b>ITEM #17</b> - Proposed by: Mark Nelson & Jack McCracken; Article 4.03.d or locate as appropriate <b>AS AMENDED</b>
All tournament locations are <del>required</del> <b>recommended</b> to use tabs on corners of both batters boxes in order to locate the official batters' boxes.
Reason: During the course of play, the chalked batters' box lines are no longer visible to the plate umpire and therefore makes the job of declaring a batter out of the box nearly impossible. This will clean up that problem, and it also makes the boxes easier to mark between games.
Motion to approve Kristy Rich, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Tim Glascock, approved unanimously.

A discussion of requirements and importance of the Missouri ASA Softball Hall of Fame and Hall of Blue was held. State Commissioner Joey Rich and President Mike Halloran will look at making changes to the application form for these two awards.

The Board then voted on nominations for Hall of Fame, Hall of Blue, and Student Scholarships, by secret ballot. State Commissioner Joey Rich counted the ballots, with the following results for awards:

- Student Scholarships (\$400 each): Katelynn Tolle, Bevier; Bailey Winguard, Clarksdale; Morgan Wood, Hopkins.
- Hall of Blue: Bob Garner, Cape Girardeau; Jack Walker, Albany.
- Hall of Fame (Meritorious Service): Mark Nelson, Springfield; Ray Reinagel, Kelso

A discussion on a bad check situation from 2008 was held. A Mr. Jamie Johle of the Cape Girardeau area has failed to correct his returned check. Attempts to contact Mr. Johle have been unsuccessful. Motion to send a letter to Mr. Johle to set a hearing date was made. Mr. Johle shall not be allowed to play in ASA competition, pending a hearing on this issue. Motion made by Ken Kwantes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Halloran, approved unanimously.

A discussion on a youth team manager, Anthony Wickam, was held. Mr. Wickam's team Voodoo was disqualified from the Northern Nationals in St. Joseph this summer for using ineligible players. A motion was made to instruct state commissioner to forward a letter to Mr. Wickam reminding him of the need to follow the ASA Code and ensure this situation does not happen again. Motion by Mike Halloran, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Kwantes, approved unanimously.

State Commissioner Joey Rich gave a financial report. The Missouri ASA office has reduced expenses and been as efficient as possible so that this year's projected deficit budget could actually be a balanced budget. The last of the expenses coming in and the last of the fall ASA registrations fees coming in, in addition to travel to the national ASA convention in Reno will complete 2009 operations.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan Provance*

Susan Provance, Secretary  
Missouri Amateur Softball Association



Joey Rich, State Commissioner