

USA SOFTBALL™ of Washington



THE BEST PLAY #USASOFTBALL

February 2021



of Washington



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Commissioners Corner

Rick Hansen

I would like to again thank all the Managers, Coaches, Team Admin and Player for working with USA Softball of Washington that were registered for the 2020 season it has not been easy.

As we start looking forward to the 2021 season, we are optimistic as to what and how the season will go for the teams and tournaments. At this time, we are planning on running tournaments and registering teams both adult and JO. As of now we have about 110 teams in the system as approved, submitted or Pending. Some are finding places to play in tournaments in and out of State. Please remember as a Coach or person working with teams you need to be background check and be Safe Sport Trained through USA Softball. As well one coach is to be ACE Certificated which does include the background check. We are here to help you in any way we can. You can find contact information on The Washington State Softball Web site (<http://www.washingtonasa.com/home.php>) or RegisterUSA (RegisterUSASoftball.com).

We will be moving forward in hopes of playing games in 2021 and have league play for both adults and youth.

Again, thank you so very much for all you have done to promote and develop the game of softball in your area. I know it has not been very easy and members and family are wanting to play.

New for 2021

1.) We are working on a new program called the High-Performance Program with USA Softball of Seattle. If you are interested in to finding out more at this time you can go to (<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/high-performance-program>) to get an overview of what is coming in the spring in Washington.

2.) You should see tournaments in TournamentUSA coming online shortly for the 2021 season so you can start planning on getting you teams on their tournament lists (<https://gfp.tournamentusasoftball.com/92/>) this is the link for the State of Washington.

3.) If you have not checked our website lately you will find a new link Titled Amateur Resource Center (<https://www.mlb.com/usa-softball/coaches>) This is where you can go to find coaching tips and information to improve your program.

Wishing you all a successful season.

JO Journal

Lori Chafe

JO Coaches and Players; as 2021 dawns we are looking forward to all teams, across the state, being able to get back on the fields. We stand ready to Play Ball in 2021! Our 2021 State Championship tournaments dates and locations are listed in the newsletter for your reference.

USA Softball, in partnership with MLB, has created a softball resource page that includes information for players and parents. This page contains topics related to health and safety which includes information on nutrition, strength and conditioning. In addition, there are segments on coaching your child, college and recruiting, fundamental drills in addition to indoor drills. Members of the National Team demonstrate numerous indoor drills that players can utilize during this indoor season in an effort to prepare to hit the fields in the spring! Check out the [USA Softball Resource Center](#) for some great information.

Thank you for playing USA Softball. Cheers to a great 2021 season!

Umpire Alcove

John Wright

From the other team on the field, “The Umpire Crew”

Last year and into this year Covid-19 has played havoc on our softball game. As much as the players have missed being on the field, also have the umpires. They have missed the thrill of seeing great plays, being in the right position to make a tight call, the sound of the players hyped up about playing the game, but most of all they have missed the commadore on and off the dirt.

Not being able to get out and train outside or even inside has put a challenge on keeping the umpires abreast of current rules and mechanics. Zoom is a great tool, but it is not a substitute for live training. Some areas around the state have used Zoom to hold informational exchanges and some book training. But it is not the same.

On the odd numbered years, the first weekend in February, UICs and umpires travel to Oklahoma City to attend the USA Softball UIC Clinic. There they attend breakout sessions dealing with the most current rules, mechanics, and philosophies of this great game of softball. This being 2021 the UIC Clinic was cancelled due to Covid-19. But the National Office developed a virtual program that encompassed the training elements that would have been presented. Starting February 2 through 12 Zoom sessions will held and viewed across the nation. All the sessions will be recorded so those umpires not able to attend can pull them off the USA Softball Website and watch them. These sessions are available to be downloaded by coaches and players. Want to be an umpire? These are a good way to start.

Each year the USA of Washington Umpire Staff select an umpire who exemplifies traits of one of our past umpires, Terry Vance. Terry was one who always was available to work any game at any time. He was around to help with the weekend tournaments and weekday leagues. If asked, and at a drop of the hat, Terry would show up and cover a game because another umpire was sick or could not make it.

We usually present this award at our state meeting but due to COVID-19 it could not be done. So, the award was sent to District10 Deputy UIC Dean Anderson, and during a Zoom Meeting presented the award to District 10 UIC Joe Martin. Here are Dean's words, "I had the honor and privilege to present the USA Softball Terry Vance award, for giving back to the community thru umpiring, to Joe Martin, District 10 USA UIC. Joe's dedication and commitment to go above and beyond has made USA Softball in the State of Washington a better experience for umpires and for all involved. Thank you for your service Joe. Well deserved.



State Spotlight



In 2021 USA Softball of Washington says farewell to our District 14/Lewis County Junior Olympic Commissioner Julie Liseth.

Julie has been involved in USA/ASA Softball for nearly 40 years attending her first ASA state meeting in the early 80's. Julie recalls being "dragged" to her first ASA meeting by her boss at the time! While she states she didn't know what she was getting herself into at that time, she has been a true advocate of our sport over her tenure as JO Commissioner.

Julie became Deputy JO Commissioner for District 14 in 1989 and shortly thereafter become the district JO commissioner. Julie's first state tournament was at Borst Park in Centralia in 1992 and was the 12 U age group which included A, B and Rec teams. Julie has held numerous state tournaments in Centralia over the years with each tournament very well received by players, parents and coaches.

From notarized paper rosters, travel permits, WSP background checks, qualifying district tournaments and numerous personnel changes over the years, Julie has seen it all. We thank Julie for her tireless dedication over the years. She has been a wonderful softball colleague and she will truly be missed by all.

Julie thanks all that she has interacted with over the last decades. She has appreciated the softball comradery and friendships she has made. She will always be a big fan of the game and those who promote and support it.

Julie leaves USA Softball of Washington to embark on a new life adventure as she also retires from her Parks and Recreation position with the City of Centralia. Lilly Wall will replace Julie as the District 14 JO Commissioner.

We wish Julie and her family the best as she enters this new phase of her life journey.

Julie, thank you for all you did for USA Softball!

RegisterUSAsoftball.com is open for team, umpire and individual registration. Be sure and send your invoice along with payment to the appropriate District contact. When requesting certificates of insurance, please use registerusasoftball.com for the request and notify your Commissioner/JO Commissioner to approve the request.

Contact your local Commissioners for any questions. District Commissioner information can be found on our website: [USA Softball of WA](http://www.usasoftball.com).

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/usasoftballofwa>



2021 USA Softball of Washington JO Girls Fastpitch Championship Play Tournaments

10U A/B State Tournament, July 9-11

Chehalis Parks and Recreation

TD: Lilly Wall

1321 S Market Blvd

Chehalis, WA 98532

Ph: 360-748-0271

lwall@ci.chehalis.wa.us

Fee: \$510

12UA/B State Tournament, July 2- 4

Regional Athletics Complex Lacey, WA

TD: Jeremy Taylor-Sparks

7024 Stone Street SE

Lacey, WA 98503

Ph: 360-789-7683

pnw_force@yahoo.com

Fee \$460

14UA/B State Tournament, July 2-4

Borst Park

TD: Todd Walling

West Coast Premier Tournaments

1087 Lewis River RD. #348

Woodland, WA 98674

Ph: (503) 881-7653

todd@wcptournaments.com

Fee: \$510

16UA/B State Tournament, July 9-11

Columbia Playfields

TD: Stan Johnson

PO Box 1702

Richland, WA 99352

Ph: (509) 942-7541

sjohnson@ci.richland.wa.us

Fee: \$510

18 A/B State Tournament, July 9-11

Salmon Creek Sports Complex

TD: Scott Smith

1505 NW 96th St

Vancouver, WA 98665

Ph: 360-910-1253

ssvgsapres743@gmail.com

Fee: \$510

Register for these tournaments at tournamentusasoftball.com

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