

# TOUCHING BASE

# NSF ♦ MSF Softball

## An Official Newsletter of the Minnesota Sports Federation

WINTER-SPRING 2017

### **NSF ♦ MSF SOFTBALL PROGRAM RANKS FIRST IN STATE IN TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION**

The Minnesota NSF ♦ MSF Softball program continued its broad appeal in 2016. NSF ♦ MSF Softball continually strives to improve the game for players and fans alike.

### **ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS**

Again this year softball meetings will be held in each district to encourage greater participation and more efficient dissemination of team membership materials. All meetings will be held on a weeknight so that members will not be required to tie up their weekend. The adult softball meetings begin at 7:00pm and J.O. meetings begin at 8:00pm.

Staff members from both the district and state office will be in attendance to answer your questions and highlight the 2017 Sports Federation/NSF softball program.



#### **District 1/2**

Monday, April 3  
Mankato Lincoln Center  
Room 157  
110 Fulton Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

#### **District 3/4**

Wednesday, April 5  
Inver Grove Heights Community Center  
Community Room 3 (enter Door E)  
8055 Barbara Ave  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

#### **District 5**

Tuesday, April 4  
Lake George Municipal Complex  
1101 7th Street South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301

#### **District 6**

Thursday, April 6  
Grand Hinckley Inn  
(across from Casino) 777  
Lady Luck Dr Hinckley,  
MN 55037

#### **District 7**

Wednesday, April 12  
Shooting Star Casino  
Calloway Room  
777 S Casino Rd  
Mahnomon, MN 56557



*Serving Minnesota Through Sports<sup>SM</sup>*

### **ACTIVE REWARDS AND LOYALTY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED FOR SOFTBALL**

In an effort to promote more participation in postseason play an "Active Rewards and Loyalty Program" (ARLP) was established. This program rewards participation and loyalty in the MSF program, providing financial rebates for various forms of participation in the MSF program allowing softball communities to earn as much as \$300-400 per year in participation rebates to be used for reducing tournament entry fees.

### **TEAM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

MSF continues to be the only softball organization in the state that provides each member team a softball program guidebook, member bag tag and quality scorebook. All for the very low team membership fee of just \$15.

### **52/300 SOFTBALL ADOPTED FOR MEN'S AND CO-REC 12" SLOWPITCH LEAGUE AND TOURNAMENT PLAY**

Out of a concern for safety and cutting down on excess homeruns the new 52/300 softball will continue being used for men's and co-rec slowpitch 12" league and tournament play. The change is the result of survey results from players and league directors last fall. **Women may use the 52/300 ball or 44/375 ball in 2017.**

While it may make more sense to reduce the liveliness of the bats rather than making the ball deader, that is not the current direction probably for the same reason golf clubs keep getting better and livelier, so players can try to hit the ball farther.

### **LEGAL BATS**

For a complete listing of legal bats for NSF◆MSF play, see <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball>.

### **BOARD MEETING**

The next Sports Federation Board of Directors meeting is on Wednesday, May 17 at a site to be determined. The meeting starts at 6:30pm and your attendance and input is always welcomed.

### **SOFTBALL SCORECARDS AVAILABLE**

Official Federation softball scorecards are now available. These cards are a must for a smooth running league or tournament. Includes area for umpire to record line-ups, substitutes and home run totals. Eliminates disputes and controversy and is printed on durable card stock. The cost is just \$5.50 per package of 50. To order, use the enclosed order form.

### **SOFTBALLS AVAILABLE AT REDUCED PRICES**

Dudley and Starr softballs are available at tremendous savings again in 2017. Both 11 and 12 inch balls are available. Your support of this program and other auxiliary programs offered by the MSF will permit the continuance of low membership fees. To purchase 2016 softballs from the Federation, please use the **enclosed** order form. To avoid shipping charges you may pick up your softballs at the district meeting provided sufficient notice is given. The synthetic covered ball is just as good or better than leather for slowpitch and fastpitch and more affordable.

### **NO PLAYING RULE CHANGES FOR 2017**

No playing rule changes were recommended or necessary for 2017.

### **BOARD MEMBERS SOUGHT**

Board of Directors openings exist for youth softball, adult softball, basketball, broomball, volleyball, touch football members, league directors from District I or II (Southern MN) or a female softball player rep.

Board members meet three or four times per year in metro area. Service is voluntary and term of service is three years. If you are interested in serving, please contact [perry@msf1.org](mailto:perry@msf1.org) or call our offices at (651) 451-3140. If there is more than one applicant for a district an election will be held.

### **DRAMSHOP (LIQUOR LIABILITY) INSURANCE (Adult Only)**

Again this year liquor liability insurance will be available through Sports Federation offices at tremendous savings if placed on a group basis. This type of insurance is a must to those dispensing alcoholic beverages during league or tournament play. A brochure for securing this coverage can be requested from Sports Federation offices.



Visit the  
Minnesota Sports Federation  
online at  
**WWW.MSF1.ORG**



for tournament results,  
upcoming special events and  
much, much more!

MSF1.ORG, join us as the  
MSF continues to  
“Serve Minnesota Through Sports”

Minnesota Sports Federation  
118 12th Ave. N.  
South St. Paul, MN 55075  
651/451-3140  
[www.msf1.org](http://www.msf1.org)

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HOPKINS, MN  
PERMIT NO. 47



*Serving Minnesota Through Sports<sup>SM</sup>*