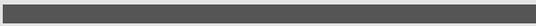




**ASA OF MINNESOTA
MINNESOTA SPORTS FEDERATION
SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL
2011 TEAM MANAGER SURVEY RESULTS**

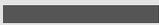
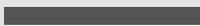
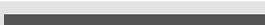
1. Does your team prefer the 10 ft pitching arc used last year in Minnesota or the 12 ft arc used in previous years? (please check with your pitcher)

	Response Percent	Response Count
10 ft arc 	30.3%	37
12 ft arc 	69.7%	85

Comments:

- (12) Seems to be safer - higher arc eliminates line drive
- (12) Would like to see 15' arc
- (10) The 10 ft arc gives the hitter more to hit, and pitcher can use the corners more since the hitter has less time to pick up the ball. It's good both ways
- (12) Batters already have the advantage with technology. A good pitcher can have little influence with 12'. A 6-10' strike zone is nothing but batting practice.
- (12) prevents many line drives at pitcher
- (12) this isn't fast pitch
- (12) allows pitchers to stand farther away also
- (12) Pitchers will get hurt at 10 ft
- (12) Home runs were still too many, lazars were common, but the 2 feet did help the good pitchers
- (12) try pitching
- (12) Help the pitchers, go to 14 ft (batters boxes)
- (12) Especially with the more powerful bats
- (12) It's safer for the pitcher and infield players, especially the girls

2. How many weekend tournaments does your team play in per summer? What's your primary reason for not playing more?

	Response Percent	Response Count
0 	20.5%	25
1-2 	27.1%	33
3-4 	18.0%	22
5+ 	34.4%	42

Comments:

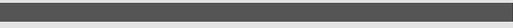
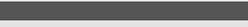
- Common responses for primary reason for not playing more....
- **difficult to get enough players to commit to playing/too busy**
 - travel
 - costs
 - kids activities

3. Does your team regularly play in ASA postseason play? (districts/state) If no, what is the primary reason you do not?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	54.1%	66
No 	45.9%	56

Same comments as question #2

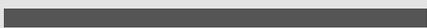
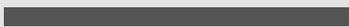
4. Do you think the current bats and balls have made the game too fast/dangerous?

	Response Percent	Response Count
No 	67.2%	82
Yes 	32.8%	40

Comments:

- Not in ASA since they regulate bats as opposed to other organizations which allow some of the hotter bats to be used.
- the more you attempt to slow it down the more they find ways to speed it back up, that is what is dangerous
- When pitchers and infielders cannot react fast enough that is a problem. Also, a pitcher should not have to wear a mask in slow pitch. The ball is coming so fast you need to wear one for protection.
- no cuz if u cant react fast enough u shouldn't be out there
- I think they are the right combination now.
- The bats are fine. We would like to continue to use Dudley Thunder or Super Gold Dots at the State tournament
- But all the restrictions on both have cause a lot of cheating
- Too many people swinging for the fence
- This has been dealt with already.
- Just move the bases back and the fielders can move back as well since they will have more time to make a play.
- The defensive game is more difficult than baseball now. Pitchers have to wear masks in "soft" ball!
- Need stiffer penalties for abusing the rules of the game.
- The Upper classes can hit anyway, need to find a happy medium for both the ball and bats
- most of our players are in their 50's and playing an infield position is becoming dangerous
- I think what people do to alter bats makes the game dangerous, but there are gloves for a reason. More bat testing to regulate shaved/altered bats.
- A pitcher or 3rd baseman is at a great risk of injury.
- I think the bats make 3B and P defensively dangerous, although I have never seen any injuries
- No, but lowering arc would be a step in this direction
- danger is one reason for older players with responsibilities leaving the game.
- Line Drives are fast and can hurt someone.
- pitcher has little time to react
- To dangerous if people need helmets to protect themselves in the field. Lets go to wood bats!
- Accidents happen.
- There is some risk involved in just about every sport. Our biggest issue is batters charging the ball as they bat and ending up 4-5ft in front of the plate when they make contact with the ball.
- Back down to double wall
- I would prefer softball to go to a hard ball and wood bat but I understand the revenue with the bat makers.
- But if you don't have the newest great bat, you are at a disadvantage with teams that have them.
- I would say yes and no here.. I think the bats are just fine as long as grown men aren't cheating to get better. Most balls are just fine as far as .44 core, some just seem a lot worse than others..ie. Thunder Advanced
- I think ASA standards are set pretty good right now.
- Have had no issues with bats, the game is dangerous due to bad field conditions.
- With the new balls NSS uses, all bats should be legal
- 52/300 ball is good with any bat
- If ASA wants to take player safety seriously, they need to have bat testing equipment available to all league directors. The bats and balls are fast enough, the shaved/rolled bats need to be caught before people get hurt.
- the 52 core balls are not fun to hit and bounce like a super ball
- The new Tattoo ball for the NSS/ASA tourneys is not good.
- No, the new bat standards are fine, and the new balls that ASA is implementing work great with the composite bats. I've heard some people complain of bad hops and such with the new ball, but I haven't noticed any of that personally.
- Would like to see unlimited home runs again, but to do that the equipment we used would have to go away. It is hard to see a guy punished for hitting a home run when they are all used up.
- the bats are too hot, used harder balls in the 80s and the game was fine
- problem with bats is players rolling/shaving bats
- We're a D team, I haven't seen a lot of dangerous bats at this level
- People get hurt so others can feed their ego
- Maybe in men's
- Not at all
- 20 years ago who ever would have played with mask
- I would like to see better bats (98 mph) or harder ball—we are adults and not children. If you can't field your position then don't play.
- It's fine like it is (make batters actually stand inside a batter box)
- Bats are
- It is sad to see pitchers wearing masks the past few years

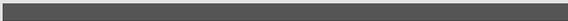
5. Do you think individual players should be classified or teams should be classified?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Teams 	54.2%	65
Players 	45.8%	55

Comments:

- hard to police though
- In co-rec it only takes a couple top-flight players to make your team class B or A.
- In our league we are all intermixed and we play all classes so either way is really fine
- Certain amount of classified players allowed per class team.
- One or two players can only affect so much.
- I think it would be way to hard to classify a player, it takes a team to win a game
- I'm old school - if you do well move up as a team
- too many B league players in EE league tourneys - not fair for true EE league player
- Mostly teams, however once you hit a certain class (higher than DD) maybe some players need to also be classified
- players switch teams all the time
- Unsure, really... but I guess I'd lean toward players.
- Accurate National database of players, each player assigned a player card and they must produce it in order to play in a sanctioned tournament game.
- by doing the players, you are punishing them for what their teams have done, one or two people don't make a team
- We play in the lowest possible league, most of the teams we play against also play in a higher league, after 5 games we are 1-4 and have been 10 runned four times. Last night it was 30-3 with the other team having more than 50 hits in 5 innings and they are in D-league.
- You get some A/B/C class ball players playing in a D/E league and there's no sport in seeing or being on a team that loses 50-0 because the higher class ballplayers are more experienced.
- Don't know what that means
- don't really care that much
- A and B players should not be playing with D and E
- Depends on how players would go about being classified...
- It'd be nice if there was also a system in place to assure that really good players aren't playing leagues too far below their levels.
- Both
- A lot of players play on different teams all over the state of MN.
- Except for the players that are B and Above
- I think ASA needs to do a better job bumping more teams up at state
- don't think
- certain guys could carry a team to victory
- Seem like the most effective way due to teams changing from year to year
- I think both should be classified.
- It would take awhile but its worth it in the end
- I think players should be. If someone just gets put on a roster and never plays or fills in once, thats ridiculous that they should have to move up if the team ends up moving up.
- Both some how --- 2 or 3 (C-B) players can make a huge difference on a D team
- Teams get reclassified and break up or change their name and then MSF has no clue that the same teams are winning or doing very well at D.
- Both some teams are really good together
- I think both should be
- let a player play where they want
- a player classification would lead to team classes (points system?) We've played teams in D league that could beat my old B team
- It would be hard to regulate, but would be best (player)
- seems to work okay as is (team)
- too many A & B teams playing C. Why? Some teams change their name and play where they want.
- you think teams sandbag, try this
- individuals lie too much
- I think all players should be classified
- I've seen teams with one or two "upper level" players who "make" the team
- I would like to see players classified. I don't have a clue how you would do it.

6. If the Minnesota ASA had the official roster form on-line in a manner it could be completed there would you complete your roster online or continue to use the 3 part paper version?

	Response Percent	Response Count
prefer online 	74.0%	88
prefer paper 	26.1%	31

7. How many of the players on your team played youth or high school baseball?

	Response Percent	Response Count
None 	3.5%	4
Few 	20.7%	24
About 1/2 	16.4%	23
Most 	35.3%	41
All 	24.1%	28

8. Currently only one class of men's slowpitch softball has district tournaments (EE) which adds one weekend of tournament play before state. Do you prefer one or two weekends of postseason play?

	Response Percent	Response Count
One 	73.3%	85
Two 	26.7%	31

9. In the 70's, 80's, and 90's participation in slowpitch softball was much higher. Why do you think it has dramatically declined?

- playstation and xbox
- NO IDEA
- I think kids are sitting on their butts playing video games and playing with their phones and laptops. They aren't introduced to enough outdoors activities. The game is still the same no matter what decade it is, but the people and technology are changing how and what we do during the course of a day, week, etc.
- the cost is much higher, back in the day you only needed one sponsors and they paid everything, all fees, uniforms, tourneys etc. The cost has gotten so high we have 4 sponsors and we still end up holding funds raisers if we want to go to a tournament. Also the smaller hometown traveling leagues no longer exist partially because the cost to upkeep the fields and getting someone to run the league. Now you have to travel 45-60 miles just to find a league if you don't live in a big city. That is costly and your sponsors are really not getting the benefit they should from their advertising so they give you less money.
- I would say people are just interested in other things and don't have the time to commit
- The price has increased and yet over the years, what we get for that money hasn't.
- I think rates are pretty high to participate. Also, easier to get sponsors back in the 70-80. Now they want to sponsor youth teams and not adult softball. Also, less young people playing softball due to other lifetime sports--biking, jogging, disc golf, golf, etc.
- League fee's are outrageously high. Players don't want to pay the extra money for the league fee's and sponsors can not afford to pay the whole league fee for them. Out of town players quit coming to Rochester to play when there was an extra charge added for players not living in Rochester. The rental fee's for fields in Rochester are too expensive to host any tournament's
- Everyone is busy with their kids. I think that the kids are involved more in traveling leagues and weekend tournaments. Way more kids activities now a days than in the past. Also it is harder to get sponsors due to the economy. It's a struggle every year to get money for league fees.
- Economy
- We play church league. We see high numbers of teams in the "Recreational", (22). The competitive teams is "8". Just a move to more casual "fun". We like the tournaments which draw more teams from the Twin Cities area. The more competitive the more fun it ends up being for us. i would rather drive to MSP for a good tournament than to host a mediocre one.
- the cost of the league.
- all the other teams sandbag-no fun
- Bad economy, has alot of people working mids and nights. Others have families and gets to be too much as kids grow older.

- Cost & more things for kids to do
- Everyone has become competitive....the kids are taught to compete in school so they continue that throughout their life. I don't think anyone plays for fun anymore.
- other sports, more playing amateur baseball team
- People are getting lazier
- That is a good question. I think the economy has put a strain on sponsors for teams. This makes it hard for managers to come up with the money up front to fund the team.
- Cost is one factor and people are just more busy these days and do not as committed in years past to the sport.
- The distance teams have to travel and not big enough pay outs. Don't change the balls we use.
- Many reasons I believe, my parents played during that time and there is so much more liability at tournaments now days, no one wants to take that on. Also with more people working more hours they don't want to give up the little time off they have. Plus, more people are doing things with their kids now then they did back then, there are more organized activities for kids now then back then.
- I have a feeling that cost of equipment and amount of cheating causes it to no longer be an even playing field might be part of it. ASA would've been alot better off either banning all composites or let all bats be legal and restrict the balls. With the way ASA handled it, there are so many players looking for that edge that they are rolling and shaving bats to get an advantage. I think there are probably alot of leagues who have jumped to other orgs to eliminate the cheating
- today, there are many other activities for adults to choose from
- cost, league fees are getting out of hand it is much more competitive and there is more focus on winning now, not as much a rec beer league
- too many young kids are wrapped up in the new technology like internet n video games to get interested in softball. in my opinion kids are just lazier now a days
- video games
- Rise in popularity of soccer in schools, as well as other programs.
- Bats cost too much. Too many rules and hoops to jump through.
- The fields are poorly maintained in most cities. The cost is thru the roof.
- Players did get to choose when to hit their homeruns back then. Only the best players could even hit them. Now anyone can hit homeruns using a □ bat.
- Declined because of costs. You have a lot higher team fees for leagues and equipment costs have gone up
- Along with what has been mentioned previously in this survey. Too many costs and large prize purses at other tournaments have hurt the overall numbers. Money has created an environment of cheating in equipment and player classification. Fair play and respect for your opponent has been lost with the me generation attitudes.
- Money is a big factor nowadays, league fees and uniforms have really spiked the last few years, while our economy has declined. Also, by having one good run, gets you bumped in class. you can finish top 8 and get bumped, when in reality the only ones who should be is the top 2-3 teams.
- I have been playing since the mid 70's. I quit playing for ten years and resumed last year. We thought it would be fun to get the old gang together along with a few sons, nephews. I could not believe the difference in ten years. We played in the B division at one time and eventually played in the C division. We played in numerous district tournaments and a couple times at a state level. From then until now the talent isn't that different it's the bats that have changed the speed of the game. I truly believe that if the bats were more restrictive more of the older players would still participate.
- Rules got to strict from ASA, teams started to stack & killed alot of teams and poorly run leagues.
- For our team it has become more and more difficult to find players willing to commit. Every year we are struggling to find players.
- I think it has changed due to the economy and businesses not seeing a positive return in sponsoring a team, and players funding out of pocket becomes expensive for league fees, uniforms, equipment, tournaments, etc.
- Cost of the leagues
- There are less 30-50 year old people in good enough shape to play.
- Higher class players are playing on lower class teams now, in turn other teams don't want to play them!
- costs are up and gas is a huge reason to stay home. there are more rules governing the fun factor while at the same time restricting the players personalities.
- people are lazy now.. to many tv channels to watch
- Other things to do. Very few new teams are getting formed. It can be difficult to form a team and often there is a lack of a leader. Also, it is expensive to play in a league and there seems to be less sponsors willing to pay all or part of a league fee.
- Not sure. Maybe people dont have time or are lazy.
- I see three things drastically different from the 70's (I'm 58). 1. Cost - bats were 1/3 the price and were still productive after 15 years of 75 games/year, tournaments were □, and had basically same payouts as now. I used to play for Howard Wong's (Class A industrial) in Bloomington, for example, and he would pay for all our tournaments, two complete uniforms, traveling bags, jackets, the works. Our current sponsor pays for our league entry fee. Different economic times, inflation, etc., but I would think it is deterrent to a bunch of high school or college buddies deciding on whether they should get a team together for social/ athletic purposes. Also, on a lesser note, less regulations that aren't in regard to the playing of the game. Some people like to play softball just to get together so they can have a beer with their friends, this was less restrictive in the 70's.
- people getting older and people dont have the time and or money to play.
- It's become a game for fat lazy people who can hit homeruns. Bats are to powerful. Need to go back the way the game is supposed to be played.

- really not sure why it has. Maybe kids now a days have more stuff to be interested in with all the electronics.
- The economy has changed and it is tougher for people to do leisure activities that cost extra money. It is also getting tougher to find sponsorship.
- Not sure really. Could be a combination of things. People keep getting lazier and are too lazy and out of shape to participate. It gets expensive with travel, and bats and entry fees all keep going up. Some is just the nature of softball; it gets very political and that just isn't as fun
- Many different sports and it has become dangerous
- My guesses for declining participation is increased cost for leagues and equipment, as well as other conflicting activities gaining popularity.
- I think the expense has a lot to do with it, when I was playing C level ball, it was at the time of the "arms race" in bats, which made it more about the technology than the player
- Cost. Other commitments.
- The rise in local amateur baseball has hurt softball. But what really killed it was the forming of all these super teams with the intent of going to nationals or winning state tournaments. I have talked to a lot of people who have went to national tourneys and I think they are overrated. These super teams beat up on the other squads taking the competitiveness out of the game. A few years of getting beat up on and you turn to golf. The rise of all these super lively bats has made the sport too dangerous for some. It has had a compounded effect on the elite athletes that play the game, making them even better in comparison to the average athlete. I put a lot of the blame on the Bat Manufacturers, and the ASA was slow to regulate this equipment. As one who started playing in 1974 and still plays today, I have seen the demise of the game. The thing I miss most are the small town tourneys we had around St. Cloud. You could play any weekend back then, now you can't find a single tourney, well maybe one or two the entire summer.
- There are a lot of opinions on this question and I have heard many different responses.. I think it's mostly because money has a big reason to do with it. Teams cant get sponsors in rough economic times and most guys dont like to pay out of pocket to play every weekend.. Also guys cheating really irritates myself and many others. I know this is a tough thing to watch for but boys growing up and being men would change it quickly. Lack of organization and advertising is a problem in the community that we currently play in. (Faribault, MN) Our qualifier apparently got canceled recently because of lack of interest, but I talked to guys pre season/start of season and most didnt even think there was going to be one at all. Our city league had over 100 teams over 2 years ago and now down to around 60 due to high league costs with no money going back into the league itself as far as 6 softballs at beginning of season (0 past 2 years), maintaining facilities (scoreboards, new bathrooms, etc).. Small stuff in reality but makes huge difference.. Not sure any of this helps but was trying speak on more than just my behalf..
- Price of the Leagues has gotten out of control
- Well for one thing, the cost for player fee's is gone up alot!
- rule changes
- I don't think there is enough information out there about joining softball teams. That is the issue in our county "Chisago" girls want to join or start teams, but don't know where to look or how to get enough players.
- I play in several leagues around the Twin Cities metro, and one thing that makes the game not fun are the over competitive teams, people with egos, and leagues not always having an even level league where all the teams can compete with each other.
- Money. It has become a high dollar game
- Not sure why. It's gotten way more expensive, which I'm sure has something to do with it.
- expenses, leagues cost 700 to 1000. just to play and get sanctioned. doesn't leave much money left for tourney's, bats
- It was cheaper to play, less dangerous, and less kids are playing now a days so less people are skilled on the ball diamond.
- Expensive equipment, expensive league fees, expensive tournaments. Also, players and teams don't waste their time playing in 'D' tournaments that should actually be sanctioned as open. Perfect example is POV's sportsbar in Minnesota. Any player, any level can play a D tournament there... It's a joke. Why would teams pay money to play a tournament filled with C, B, A level guys? ASA needs to do two things to drastically improve their league, enforce equipment rules (checking bats) and strictly enforce player eligibility rules (check tournament rosters/player ID's).
- I wasn't alive in the 70's only half of the 80's but the 90's was amazing harder balls that maintain throughout A GAME and the bats were better (ie Ultra, Wicked, OG Synergys etc.....) it was a hitters game isn't that what it about? I feel today's game is the new "church league" bring back the bats and balls make infielders wear masks.
- All these new classifications and too many divisions (A-EE). There should be way more upper teams (A,B).
- cost of play. If rules on bats and balls, the more equipment has to be replaced. Also hard to find business sponsorships.
- Not enough kids playing Baseball in High School, so no interest in softball after High School. Too many other hobbies and interests now. Baseball and Softball has dropped in popularity.
- travel expense and more lazy peeps.
- Other choices for people during the summer, people are lazier now, and others want to spend time with their family doing family activities
- No youth stepping up, I think sport can have a "blue collar" connotation, I think we lose players to family commitment, golf, soccer.
- more town team baseball then before. Older guys are quitting sooner because of awesome equipment that could cause a bad injury.
- In our city (Brainerd, MN) The level of teams is much greater and that makes the less talented teams not want to play in a league that has so many good teams. I think thats one reason numbers might be down.
- \$\$\$ and big teams sandbagging. Honestly 35 "D" and "DD" teams could be C

- people just aren't into physical activity anymore. The hot bats turned off a lot of the older players too
- not enough influx of younger players to compensate for players retiring, youth seem to be working more, with less free time. Also, costs to a certain degree.
- it used to be a family event — for some reason it is not now
- People want to be safe and have fun with players not playing at the correct level people get hurt
- children's activities have taken over our lives
- sadly kids don't go outdoors to play backyard games like they used to
- people's kids are involved in so many activities now and failure to have people to take charge of league
- I don't think as many kids play baseball as we used to. LaCrosse, soccer, video games are more prevalent
- cost, game has been watered down—strikes and balls limit, time limit, etc. Our team has been together 37 years and all these changes are making it a different game.
- not enough interest shown by the younger players
- constant changing of equipment, banning bats, changing balls. Many players prefer other orgs because they don't restrict equipment and ban bats every few years.
- too many teams load up, taking away the fun for less talented teams and some teams are classified too low
- cost, stupid rule changes such as pitching arc
- bats, balls, league player fees, youth baseball, youth softball, youth soccer. Something has to give
- the economy and youth involved in other programs
- cost of equipment (\$300 bats), cost of tournaments, competition has weeded out weaker towns
- lazy people
- You got a lot of 28-34 year olds with kids in sports. In 5 years there will be a new group of moms and dads playing. Like myself, I was out of SB for 10 years with 3 kids
- Age demographics. Many more different sports today than 25-30 years ago.
- Moms and dads both working—less time for extras. More activities available for kids and at younger ages.
- Less choices for entertainment in the 70's. Life is just too busy. The young people today won't make a commitment. Equipment has gotten too expensive.

10. What changes would you like to see to the program?

- I would like to see that a team could play everybody in their line up and bat everyone. Our team typically has anywhere from 14 - 17 players show up for league play.
- Go back to 12 ft arc. Restrict bats (they are way too hot now).
- watch the radar and not call all games when one lighting strikes
- There should be more public awareness. We need to get out and promote the sport more. Also league directors should be held to higher standards.
- do not know what changes you could make
- more recognition for elite players
- Control cost, Emphasize fun, Develop Senior programs
- Give teams the ability to pick up a couple players for districts off your roster (classify players).
- It won't happen but the bats should be mandated just like the ball and limited to affordable very basic styles. The ball should go back to cork as polycore is too hard and dangerous. We started using cork balls again and our league numbers began to grow with lower ability teams leading the way. The women's ball is even worse. They should be playing with a 12" ball to slow the game down and bring in average players to participate. The women's game today is made only for very high ability female athletes and that has killed the sport for the masses.
- I don't condone swearing, but do we need to regulate it on a softball field? Having a player ejected from a game could have an effect on the outcome of the game - this isn't youth leagues, but adult leagues - again, I don't recall this rule back in the 70's. My grandkids attend games, and they are taught at home what is appropriate or not, so kids are not at risk if parents/families are doing their job. My wife drives school bus, and I can assure you all kids have heard much worse from their peers than what they might hear at a softball game. This would also allow teams/umpires to devote more of their attention to the actual game. Last of all, my generation played sports all year round, as did most of the "kids" on this team. I follow high school sports closely, and see more and more high school kids who don't play baseball, because they feel they need to specialize on one other sport, so this is probably decreasing the number of players who might go into softball to prolong their post HS/college appetite for athletics.
- The only change would be to get umpires to be more consistently the same compared to other umpires.
- Players play below their ability just to win. National rules need to be applied across all states and adhered to by all participating players. Penalties need to be stiff enough to deter the infraction.
- I would like to see more bat testing to make the game a little safer and strict disciplinary policies on altered bats.
- I like to see the incorporation of EE and DD teams. The players and teams are not being bumped up to A and B, so C and D are saturated with too many A and B players.
- More things for people to do. The program is just fine!
- I recommend wood bats so people play defense and can use speed more.

- The only change I can think is that I'd like to see the plate count as a strike to encourage more swinging and less walking.
- Need more support for larger tournaments. This will draw fans and new players and bring some of the sponsors back. 70' bases and the new 52/300 softballs are a step in the right direction. No national tournament for E division. Player and team classification system will help keep players at the proper level and help prevent sandbagging.
- Return the mat behind home plate in order to call balls and strikes. There is too much emphasis on the umpire. Keep it simple. Also, remove the courtesy foul, it speeds up the game and there is no reason for it. I remember playing softball with my dad in high school after baseball practice and it was simply more fun. The game was simple. Hard balls, pipe bats and not everyone on the team could hit a bomb. I prefer wood bats and hard balls as it makes it a game.
- I think ASA screwed up when it bumped everybody down a half class a few years ago. I think they need to do a better job of bumping teams up at state. A team wins D state and they only get bumped up to DD. I'm for doing whatever kind of a classification helps with the sandbagging teams.
- I want to see the double elimination come back for league playoffs. This current single elimination is for the birds!
- More emphasis on ASA. Other organizations have taken many of the quality teams from Women's softball.
- no reason to start playing because of sandbagging, eliminate all the double letter classes
- Moving on to classes, personally I don't believe EE/E should have any sort of post season play at all!!! If you're competitive enough to want to play post season move up to D. The state needs to do away with the double letter classifications also, I don't see the purpose they serve anymore. Move more teams up every year. Maybe instead of only moving up the top 2, move up the top 5, or top 10% whichever is higher. Start to try to build the upper program a little bit better in our state.
- I maintain my stance that (2) pickup players should be allowed for postseason. I believe this would create many more teams participating. It is too difficult to get 10 players to commit to August postseason play by the July 1st roster deadline, and consequently many of the "roster" players can't make it for postseason
- state and qualifiers should be more like national play/crack down more on players using illegal bats
- fees reduced... makes it quite difficult to get business' to sponsor teams with such high fees with the state of the economy
- everything seems fine, just a change in society. We have church softball at our town to get kids involved early and that helps our league
- with bat technology, even the worst D players can hit it out. High end A & B games are painful to watch. Big boys hitting homers every other at bat.
- bring back original rules—let us play the whole game
- Eliminate the batter and runners are not required to run the bases rule. It's a BULL CRAP rule and not the way the game was meant to be played!!
- allow pitcher to stand further away, stop banning bats/balls, stiffer rules for players/teams who shave bats/cheat
- make sure teams are classified where they should be
- cash prizes for division winner—1/2 off entry fee for next season?? a lot of teams are saving entry fee and using money to play tournaments only because of cash prize
- Lower HR limits! Higher Arc! All courtesy runners allowed!
- get equipment under control your 38 you have to go to work top teams buzzing the tower until you just lay it in there from what I see you can fix it or forget it
- Higher arc—14 plus. Have umpires scratch a batters box if not chalked.
- Classify by players, add a B classification for women, better training for certain umpires—rules

My team is...								
Division				Men	Co-Rec	Women	Response Count	
				79.3% (96)	11.6% (14)	9.1% (11)	121	
Team Class	A	B	C	DD	D	EE	E	Response Count
	0.9%(1)	3.4% (4)	22% (26)	12.7% (15)	32.2% (38)	22% (26)	6.8% (8)	118