



AROUND the HORN

A SOFTBALL CANADA PUBLICATION

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

November 2013

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NEWS

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WORTH

DALE MCMANN

Elected President of the International Softball Federation



(Cartagena, Colombia) Softball Canada is pleased to announce that Dale McMann (Surrey, BC) was elected as President of the International Softball Federation (ISF) at the ISF Congress in Cartagena, Colombia today. Long-time President Don Porter previously announced his retirement from the position as of the end of this Congress.

"I am honoured with the great trust the membership of the International Softball Federation has offered me" said Dale McMann. "I want to acknowledge the many decades of service Mr. Don Porter has given to our sport and I look forward to his continued guidance and efforts. I would also like to thank my family for their ongoing support and I share this honour with them. It is a daunting challenge for me to follow Don Porter's long list of accomplishments."

McMann served as President of Softball British Columbia from 1986 to 1990 before serving as President of Softball Canada from 1990 to 2001. He acted as North American Vice-President of the International Softball Federation from 1993 to 2009 before being elected First Vice-President in 2009.

"Softball Canada is extremely pleased that Dale McMann has been elected as the President of the ISF" stated Softball Canada President Kevin Quinn. "Dale has worked diligently on improving Softball around the world for the better part of his life and it is wonderful to see his hard work and dedication recognized. We feel extremely confident that Dale will do an outstanding job in his new role as President of the ISF. We do wish to thank outgoing president Don Porter for his decades of dedication to expanding softball throughout the World."

Don Porter joined the International Softball Federation as Secretary General in 1965 before being elected President in 1987. Porter has done an excellent job of developing the sport of softball throughout his tenure, including softball's presence in the Olympic Games from 1996 to 2008. He is also currently co-President of the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC).



Mike Piechnik Accepted to International SOFTBALL FEDERATION HALL OF FAME



(Cartagena, Colombia) Softball Canada is pleased to announce that Mike Piechnik (Victoria, BC) – who was inducted to the Softball Canada Hall of Fame as an Athlete in 2012 – has been accepted into the International Softball Federation (ISF) Hall of Fame. The ISF Hall of Fame recognizes people who have contributed to the sport of softball on the international stage. The vote took place at the ISF Congress which took place in Cartagena, Colombia this past week. The actual induction ceremony will take place in Canada at a later date.

Mike Piechnik enjoyed a distinguished international career. Starting out as an outfielder with a strong arm and bat, he was amazed by the pitchers on his team and started to practice by pitching to his older brother Andy at home. His dedication to fitness and his strong work ethic quickly shaped his softball career as one of the top left-handed pitchers in the game as he won multiple provincial Championships and would go on to win four Canadian Championships and represent the Canadian Men's National Team.

After playing Senior ball in Victoria in the early 1980's, Mike spent some time playing in New Zealand and in the United States before returning to Victoria in 1990. He went on to win four Canadian Championship gold medals (1991, 1992, 1997 and 2001) and earned numerous awards, including Top Pitcher (1990, 1993, 1995 and 1998), Most Valuable Player – Qualifying Round (1993), and Top Player – Championship Round (1992 and 2001). One of his major accomplishments was pitching back-to-back perfect games and pitching six games in two days to win gold at the 1993 Canadian Championship.

At the International level, Mike had the honour of being a member of the Men's National Team program from 1987 to 1999, winning two Pan American Games gold medals (1995 in Argentina and 1999 in Winnipeg), and played in two ISF World Championships, winning gold in 1992 (Manila, Philippines) and silver in 1996 (Midland, Michigan). He also played in three North American Challenge Cups, winning Gold in 1991 and Silver in 1992 and 1993, and was Most Valuable Pitcher and Most Valuable Player at the event in 1992.

Softball Canada would like to congratulate Mike Piechnik on his induction into the prestigious ISF Hall of Fame.

Canada Awarded Pair of International Softball Federation World Championships

(Cartagena, Colombia) At the International Softball Federation (ISF) Congress held in Cartagena, Colombia last week, Softball Canada was awarded two upcoming ISF World Championships – the 2016 ISF Women's World Championship in Surrey, British Columbia and the 2017 ISF Men's World Championship in Whitehorse, Yukon.

The 2016 ISF Women's World Championship has been awarded to Surrey, British Columbia. Surrey has a long history of hosting major international softball tournaments since 1991 and has been hosting the Canadian Open Fastpitch International Championship since 2010. The 2014 ISF Women's World Championship is scheduled for August 15-24, 2014 in Haarlem, Netherlands.

The 2017 ISF Men's World Championships will be going to Whitehorse, Yukon and will be hosted by Softball Yukon. Whitehorse has previously hosted the 2008 ISF Junior Men's World

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Championship and the 2012 ISF Women's World Championship, and will also be hosting the 2014 ISF Junior Men's World Championship from July 11-20, 2014.

"We are delighted that the international softball membership has entrusted us to host these two championships" said Softball Canada President Kevin Quinn. "Both Surrey and Whitehorse are experienced hosts that have proven their ability to put on great events and combine that with warm hospitality for visitors."

During the same meeting at the ISF Congress, the 2016 ISF Junior Men's World Championship was awarded to Midland, Michigan. The International Softball Federation is currently seeking bids for the 2017 ISF Junior Women's World Championships.

All ISF World Championships are held on a two-year cycle.

Softball Canada Announces 2013 AWARD WINNERS

Softball Canada is pleased to announce the following award winners who will be recognized at the Softball Canada Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet on November 16th, 2013 in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. The Banquet will be held in conjunction with the Softball Canada Congress and Annual General Meeting, which will take place from November 14-16. As previously announced, Jimm Barr (Official, Northwest Territories), Paul Gard (Builder, Northwest Territories) and Adam Smith (Athlete, Ontario) will be inducted into the Softball Canada Hall of Fame during this Banquet.

The Home Run Sports Coach of the Year award will be presented to Haylee O'Neill from Oakville, Manitoba. Haylee coached Team Manitoba to a Silver medal at the Canada Summer Game – Manitoba's highest finish at the event – and was also named a Women's National Team Pool Coach earlier this year. As Softball Manitoba's Master Learning Facilitator, she trains and develops Learning Facilitators to deliver the NCCP as well as passing her knowledge and experiences on to coaches by facilitating NCCP clinics. In addition, she is the Coordinator for Softball Manitoba's Junior Clinician Program which trains young adults to be skills clinicians and is also involved in the Inner City Youth Softball Development Program.

Brent Chadwick, from Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, has been selected as the recipient of the Home Run Sports Umpire of the Year award. Brent has been umpiring for over twenty years, and was very busy with major tournaments this year. He umpired at the ISF Junior Women's World Championship in Brampton and served as Deputy Umpire in Chief at the U21 Men's International Championship in Saskatoon in addition to working the local Senior Men's and Women's tournaments and Western Collegiate Softball Association games in Saskatchewan. He is a master instructor/evaluator for Softball Saskatchewan, and has served on their Umpire Development Committee for almost 14 years.

The Rose Hodgson Volunteer of the Year award will be presented to Floyd Daniels from Hay River, Northwest Territories. For nearly a decade, Floyd has donated his time to sit on the Board of Directors for NWT Softball. Currently, Floyd serves as the Vice-President of Minor Ball in the Territory. The community of Hay River, NT is the main beneficiary of Floyd's hard work where he is recognized as the driving force behind the Bantam, Midget and Junior programs. Floyd helped coach Team NWT at the U21 Men's International Championship in Saskatoon, SK this summer, and has been helping develop young pitchers in the territory.

This year's recipients of the Claude Deschamps Memorial Fund are Jessica Raymond from Waterloo, Ontario and Tom Fischer from Teeswater, Ontario.

Jessica Raymond, a fifth year Bachelor of Applied Media Studies student at the University of Guelph – Humber, is the captain of the Humber Hawks Varsity Softball team of the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association and also played with the Brantford Intermediate Lady Red Sox this summer. She led the Humber Hawks to the OCAA Championship the last two years, and recently competed in the Canadian Collegiate Softball Association Championship in London, ON.

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Tom Fischer recently began his second year at the University of Western Ontario in the Bachelor of Engineering Science program. He is a member of the Warton Red Devils, who won the Gold medal at this year's U21 Men's Provincial Championship and went on to win Gold at the U21 Men's Canadian Championship in Owen Sound. He also played with his local Belmore Stingers and Chepstow Aces teams.

The Ethel Boyce Memorial Award will be awarded to Rachel Proctor from Surrey, BC and Nicole Swett from Kelowna, BC.

Rachel Proctor is in her second year at Simon Fraser University, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Health Sciences. As a player, she competed with the Simon Fraser Clan in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference in NCAA Division II – finishing second place – and was also a member of the Senior Women's White Rock Renegades who won the Women's Elite Division of the Scotiabank Canadian Open Fastpitch International Championship.

Nicole Swett, from Kelowna, BC, recently began her first year of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Engineering at the University of Waterloo. She graduated from Rutland Secondary School in June, and competed with the Kelowna Warriors of the Kelowna Minor Fastball Association this summer, winning three Most Valuable Player medals in 2013.

The Softball Canada Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet will be streamed on Softball Canada's website starting at 8:00pm MST (10:00pm EST) on Saturday, November 16. The video will also be available on Softball Canada's Google+ and YouTube pages to be viewed anytime.

Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!

NATIONAL TEAMS

Alison Bradley

Named Manager - Women's National Teams



Former Women's National Team player Alison Bradley has taken the role of Manager - Women's National Teams with Softball Canada. Bradley was a member of the Women's National Team from 2001 through 2008, playing in both the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. Following her playing career she has been a coach with the program, most recently as Assistant Coach with the 2013 Junior Women's National Team. She will be working remotely from her home and can be reached by email at abradley@softball.ca or by phone at 702-755-8161. Mike Branchaud will continue to be responsible for the Men's National Teams and Canadian Championships.

Softball Canada Supplier Pool Partners



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FEATURED WORTH BALL



The Worth 10" Sof-Dot is the Official Softball of Softball Canada's Learn to Play Program. It has a Level 1 RIF (Reduced Injury Factor), which means that the ball is soft enough to be used by children aged 5-10 years old. The 10" size allows young children to be able to grip the ball with their smaller hands, and also steers them in the right direction to progress to the 11" and 12" balls as they grow.

Softball Canada's 2013 Annual Congress

This is a reminder to mark your calendar for Softball Canada's 2013 Annual Congress hosted by NWT Softball.

Dates: November 14-16, 2013

Place: The Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife NT

Agenda: November 14th – Registration and Welcome Reception
November 15-16th – Workshops and AGM
November 16th – Hall of Fame Banquet in the evening

For more information contact Kathy Stewart at kstewart@softball.ca or 613-523-3386 ext. 3104.

TRIPLE PLAY

Triple Play Team Photo Contest

Show off your team pride by entering your team photo in Triple Play's November contest! All you have to do is follow these simple steps and you will be entered to win a Softball Canada Prize pack!



HOW IT WORKS!

Step 1: Submit your team photo (by November 30th) by emailing it to tripleplay@softball.ca!

Step 2: In order to be eligible for entry, you must "Like" Softball Canada on Facebook.

Step 3: In order to be eligible for entry you must be a registered member of Triple Play!

Step 4: At the end of the month Triple Play will pick three finalists that we will feature on our Softball Canada Facebook page.

Step 5: You can share the photo and ask your friends and family for likes.

Step 6: After a week, the photo with the most likes will be the winner & will be announced on the Facebook page & Tripleplaysoftball.ca!



LTP Jamming in Southeast, MB

Southeast Girls Softball League held a Learn to Play Jamboree in Mitchell, Manitoba, June 21 & 22 in conjunction with our league tournament. There were 12 teams participating in the three levels of Learn to Play. We had over 100 players registered from three different communities – Steinbach, Mitchell, and Blumenort.

The Jamboree was a great success and everyone had a blast. The Level One teams played on Opening Night with two mini softball games and an Olympic Hit, Run & Throw Target circuit to showcase their skills and then a water ball catch station to add to the excitement and cool off. All the players got goodie bags along with Learn to Play T-shirts and participation medals. At the end we had hotdogs, drinks and ice cream to wrap up our evening! The Level Two and Three Learn to Play teams were included in our league playoff tournament and played two full games on the following day. These players all received participation medals. As well, the Level Two group received T-shirts. It's great for these young players to observe older players and teams playing softball at a higher level while participating at the same time. Many memories with laughter and excitement along with skill development gained throughout the season were celebrated at the Jamboree. Players and parents alike enjoyed themselves and it's great to see the players coming back each year with new excitement.

Thanks to Softball Canada and Softball Manitoba, our area continues on with Softball as we are able to reintroduce the game to our youth through the Learn to Play Program. The development assistance provided to our coaches and volunteers helps allow our children to play as the game of softball develops and continues to grow. The Softball Canada LTP t-shirts are awesome and work well in promoting Softball in the communities while being worn proudly by players throughout the year. The Southeast League provided each participant with a medal that were worn proudly. Many thanks to Mitchell Parks and Recreation for the great facility and also to the volunteers who have put in lots of time and effort into making softball happen in Southeast Manitoba. Thank you all for getting involved in a great summer sport and I hope to see you all back on the softball fields next season.

Submitted By Candice Dueck
Softball Manitoba LTP Coordinator
Southeast Region



Special Thanks to Softball Canada, Home Run Sports and Worth-Rawlings for providing us with the assistance and resources required to successfully offer the Learn To Play Program throughout the Province of Manitoba. In 2013 over 2,500 participants were involved in the Program.

Provincial Program Contact:
Don Klym, Executive Director
Softball Manitoba

Email: donklym@mts.net

Phone: (204) 925-5673

Web: www.softball.mb.ca

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FUTURE CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2014

U14 Girl's Jamboree	Bid Pending	TBD
U16 Girl's	Stratford, ON	Aug. 13-17
U16 Boy's	Fredericton, NB	Aug. 6-10
U18 Women's	Saskatoon, SK	Aug. 4-10
U18 Men's	Gander, NL	Aug. 5-10
U21 Women's	Montreal, QC	Aug. 13-17
U21 Men's	Irma, AB	Aug. 11-17
Senior Women's	Open	TBD
Senior Men's	Charlottetown, PEI	Aug. 26-31
Senior Men's and Women's SP	Fort McMurray, AB	Men: Aug. 10-16 Women: Aug. 12-16

If you are interested in bidding on any of the open Championships, please contact Mike Branchaud, Manager of National Teams and Canadian Championships, at mbranchaud@softball.ca or 613-523-3386 ext 3103. Please note that all bids must be approved by your local Provincial/Territorial office.



Hosting a Slo-Pitch Tournament?



50 Slo-Pitch Canada t-shirts
2 Dozen Worth Softballs
Scorebook
Added Bonus from Combat Sports: 5 backpacks and 5 t-shirts
\$1,200 Value, yours for \$250
Note: Package does NOT include insurance



For more information and to apply, please complete the following form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Team/Organization Name: _____

Event: _____

Location: _____ **Facility Name:** _____

Start date: _____ **End date:** _____

Are you affiliated with your Provincial/Territorial Association? YES / NO

Please send completed form to Mike Branchaud (mbranchaud@softball.ca)
Suite 212, 223 Colonnade Road Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7K3
B) 613-523-3386 ext. 3103 F) 613-523-5761
www.softball.ca

SOFTBALL CANADA

STAFF CONTACTS

Chief Executive Officer – Hugh Mitchener – hmitchener@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3106

- General Management
- Board and Provincial/Territorial Liaison
- Strategic and Operational Planning
- Financial Management
- Policy Development
- Liaison with external funding partners (Sport Canada, COC)
- International Liaison and Hosting

Manager – LTPD/Coaching Services – Lise Jubinville – ljubinville@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3108

- Long Term Player Development
- Coaching

Manager – Officials/Publications Services – Donna Ozarko – dozarko@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3101

- Officials
- Blue Convention
- Newsletters (Around the Horn, Between the Lines)
- Rule Book
- Volunteer recognition
- Publications

Manager – Financial Services – Kathy Stewart – kstewart@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3104

- Budget preparation
- Financial Monitoring/reports
- Accounts receivables/payables
- Tax receipts
- National Teams financial reporting to external funding bodies
- Annual General Meeting organization

Manager - National Teams/Canadian Championships
Mike Branchaud – mbranchaud@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3103

- National Teams
- Canadian Championships
- Slo-Pitch
- University/College initiatives
- Technical standards

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Manager – Marketing/Communications Services – Gilles LeBlanc – gleblanc@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3105

- Revenue Generation
- Sponsor/Supplier liaison
- Development of promotional programs
- Media Relations
- Web site
- Hall of Fame and awards
- Ball Approval Program
- Canada Summer Games/Male Equivalent

Manager – Domestic Programming – Angela Ballantyne

aballantyne@softball.ca
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3107

- Learn to Play
- Player Development
- CANpitch
- Adapted softball (Wheelchair, Blind, Special Olympics)
- Future initiatives
- Competition Review follow up, National implementation and associated rule changes

Manager - Women's National Teams – Alison Bradley

abradley@softball.ca
Phone: 702.755.8161

- Women's National Teams

Administrative Assistant – Melissa MacKinnon

info@softball.ca
613-523-3386 ext 3100

- Receptionist and administrative duties
- Resource orders
- Membership database and event registration
- Logistical support for meetings
- Assist in the development of resource materials



Softball Canada

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