

## 2012 Midwest Sports Officials Planning Letter

Fast-Pitch Softball Umpires,

It is very hard to believe that we have just put the 2011 fast-pitch softball season behind us. It is already time to begin the planning for the 2012 fast-pitch softball season. Each year the leagues start earlier and earlier, which means our **MANDATORY MEETINGS** and training are to be held earlier each year as well.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of some key dates so that you can get them on your calendar's and make the necessary plans to attend the meetings/training that apply to each one of you.

The registration fee for the 2012 season will remain the same as 2011, \$75.00. The registration fee must be received by Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. If the fee is not received by March 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be a \$25.00 late fee. If you are an out of town umpire and will work 4 or more tournaments for Midwest Sports Officials, you must register as well. Your cancelled check will serve as your tax deductible receipt for the registration fees. You can begin sending these in as soon as you would like. The larger we get, the more important it is to have all umpires properly registered prior to the start of each season. The registration fee covers the ASA/Midwest Sports Officials annual fees. All umpires that work for our organization are required to pay this fee.

If you are receiving this letter and no longer wish to umpire for Midwest Sports Officials, please send me an email to [rblatcher85@yahoo.com](mailto:rblatcher85@yahoo.com) and I will remove you from the Arbiter and all future correspondence. This is very important that you do this ASAP, as we have to renew our subscriptions with the Arbiter and need to get an accurate count of returning umpires.

Below, please find the listing of key dates you need to know for the 2012 meetings/training session. All Jr. Umpires are required to attend at least 2 of the Jr. Umpire training sessions as well as work the pre-season tournaments. Any umpires are welcome to attend the advanced training

and we recommend you all attend if you can. **All umpires are required to attend one of the two Mandatory meetings.** If you can't make the meeting, you need to have an excused absence from me. These meetings are critical to each of you so that you can get all the rulebooks and other materials needed for the 2012 season as well as be updated on any league rule changes, etc.

## **2012 Key Dates:**

**January 16<sup>th</sup>** – All 2011 Games will be deleted from the Arbiter. If you use the Arbiter to track your games for tax purposes, please make sure you get your reports prior to this date. This includes all college games assigned by Midwest Sports Officials as well.

**February 19<sup>th</sup>** – Mandatory Umpire meeting @ 2:00 PM at Prince of Peace

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** – Registration fees are due of \$75.00. Any registration fees not received by March 1<sup>st</sup> will incur a \$25.00 late fee.

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** – HS/Advanced Umpire Clinic @ 6:30 PM at Lone Elm(\$25.00 clinic fee). Form available on [midwestsportsofficials.com](http://midwestsportsofficials.com).

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** – HS/Advanced Umpire Clinic @ 12:30 PM at Lone Elm(\$25.00 clinic fee). Form available on [midwestsportsofficials.com](http://midwestsportsofficials.com).

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Mandatory Umpire meeting at 6:30 PM at Prince of Peace

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** – Jr. Umpire Training Session #1 @ 6:30 PM at Lone Elm

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** – Jr. Umpire Training Session #2 @ 10:00 AM at Lone Elm

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** – OGSA practice tournament for Jr. Umpires and new Umpires

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Jr. Umpire Training Session #3 @ 6:30 PM at Lone Elm

**April 9<sup>th</sup>** - Jr. Umpire Training Session #4 @ 6:30 PM at Lone Elm

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** - Jr. Umpire Training Session #5 @ 6:30 PM at Lone Elm

**April 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>** – OGSA Fun Tournament – All new Jr. Umpires, current Jr. Umpires, and new Adult Umpires