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Subject: New Divisional Changes and Policy Letter

To All Teams:

World Softball Association (W.S.A.) is receiving an abundance of emails and phone calls from teams interested in playing WSA, some feel they cannot compete in our popular 2-homerun-hitter division. I have explained to the coaches of these teams how WSA work, and WSA is not for everyone & everyone is not for WSA.

After speaking with these coaches in depth, WSA has decided to make some divisional changes; with the implementation of these changes, WSA expects growth of the association. WSA currently have the following divisions: 3 Homerun Hitters division, 2 Homerun Hitters division, 1 Homerun Hitter division, 40 & Over 3 Homerun Hitters division.

The changes are as follow and effective beginning February 1, 2008: 3 Homerun Hitters division change to Class "A" = 4 Homerun Hitters, 2 Homerun Hitters division change to Class "B" = 2 Homerun Hitters, 1 Homerun Hitter division change to Class "C" = 1 Homerun Hitter. WSA will add the following divisions or programs for the 2008 season: **Class "D" = 0 Homerun Hitters. The Black American Program will feature the following divisions: Black American Men's Super – Recreational division = 2 Homerun Hitters, Black American Men's Recreational division = 1 Homerun Hitter, Black American Women's Competitive division = 2 Homerun Hitters, Black American Women's Recreational division = 1 Homerun Hitter. Added 35 & Over division for 2008 play in WSA, 35 & Over division will have 3 Homerun Hitters, 40 &**

Over 3 Homerun Hitters division no change, also the 35/40 & over teams can play on the open side of WSA 2 homerun hitters division.

For the 2008 tournament season WSA will feature a Senior's 50 & Over division, **WSA will only have a 50 & Over World tournament in 2008. The 50 & Over division will have the following divisions of play in 2008: Major = 4 Homerun Hitters and AA = 1 Homerun Hitter.**

Currently, the State of Georgia does not have a true Class A classification in any association, **any team considered Class B+ & B in USSSA and Class C+ in ISA in the State of Georgia must play WSA Class "B" = 2 homerun Hitters division. Any team considered Class C in ISA, NSA and USSSA must play WSA Class "C" = 1 Homerun Hitter division and any Team considered Class D in ISA, NSA and USSSA could play either WSA Class "C" = 1 Homerun Hitter division or WSA Class "D" = 0 Homerun Hitter division.** Your division of play with WSA will depend on the highest classification of play with ISA, NSA and USSSA. The Black American Program division of play will depend on the highest classification of play with BASA, ISA, NSA and USSSA Black American Programs.

As stated earlier, WSA is not for everyone and everyone is not for WSA. We are an association that listens to the teams that play WSA; we are making these new division changes to expand team participation. WSA believes that all will not be happy. Example: In 2002 WSA played it's tournaments on a time limit, we put out a survey to the teams that played WSA in 2002 and they voted to get rid of the time limit in WSA. In removing the time limit we added the following to help keep the tournament on time: **1. All divisions except Men's Class "A" & Class "B" teams have the ending inning out rule. 2. All teams must be ready to play 30 minutes before their scheduled game, if the team is not ready to play the game will be forfeited. 3. Men's Class "A" & Class "B" teams will play on a 1 hour and 30 minutes time limit.**

The above are just a few changes WSA put into effect for the 2008 season. WSA will always continue to listen to the teams that play WSA, without you WSA would not exist. Any time a team, player or coach have suggestions they would like to see, they must submit the suggestion in writing.

WSA goal is to be a players association, with that being said WSA has double its tournament participation in 2004. In every new organization you are going to have growing pains, WSA will never tell a team that they can not play with us because of who you have on your team, but those players will determine what division your team plays. If you are planning to bring a loaded up team to WSA to win prizes you are going to have to play in the respective division placed on the player's ranking. There is a division in WSA for everyone out there who wants to play by the WSA rules, what happen to the good old days when everyone just showed up to play and had fun doing it, instead of crying about who is playing with who. WSA knows times have change. We can remember back in the 1990's USSSA was the only association with homerun hitters: Class A=4 homerun hitters, Class B=2 homerun hitters, Class C=1 homerun hitter and Class D=0 homerun hitters then they changed their format to conform to ASA & NSA homerun format.

PRIZE PACKAGE EXAMPLES:

CASH TOURNAMENTS: WSA will need to have 20 teams in each division in order to give a \$1,000.00 away, if we have less than 20 teams in each division \$50.00 from each entry will be set aside to make up the prize fund. The \$1,000.00 prize fund will be awarded as follows: **1st Place: \$1,000.00, when WSA does not have the required teams the prize fund will be awarded as follows: Example: 10 teams * \$50.00 = \$500.00 1st Place: \$500.00.**

MERCHISE TOURNAMENTS: WSA will need to have 20 teams in each division in order to give away the prize package. If we have less than 20 teams in each division the prizes will be given away as follows: **1. 16 Teams = 1st thru 4th Place individual prizes and team plaques, 2. 14 Teams = 1st thru 3rd Place individual prizes and team plaques, 3. 12 Teams = 1st thru 2nd Place individual prizes and team plaques.**

With WSA being the new association on the block, we know teams are not satisfied with some of the things that are going on in the softball community. WSA feels that our tournament packages are just as good or better than some of the others out there. All we ask is that you give WSA a try for yourself, do not believe everything you hear or read on the Internet. The people that leave those comments on the Internet message boards about all associations are not man or women enough to leave their name. Most of them just want to keep some type of drama going, because they have nothing better to do with their time.

WSA has and will always award the prizes that are advertised for these tournaments, the only prize that WSA will not be able to fully award would be the **CASH** award if we do not get the required teams. **Example: Fox Trophies \$1,000.00 Shootout based on 16 teams, 1st place would be awarded \$1,000.00. Only 10 teams participate in this tournament, \$50.00 from each team entry was taken to make a prize fund of \$500.00, 1st place will be awarded \$500.00.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, please feel free to contact me via email: elspikes@wsasoftball.com or by cell phone: (678) 758-0256.

Yours in softball

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