

# Victoria W o m e n ' s F a s t b a l l L e a g u e

ROUND 1

MAY 2003

## Ice Breaker Success

A "BIG THANKS" to all the teams who made the Ice Breaker a positive experience. I noticed that although some of the teams were still scrambling for players, they had no problem getting volunteers from other teams. Way to show good sportsmanship ladies!! I'm sure it will continue throughout the season. Just to let you know that there was a tie for the most inspirational team with the Storm and the Reds both receiving two votes. We will present the trophy at the end of the season as our old one seems to have left with the Jammers. Thanks also for supporting the 50/50 draw. We made \$195 for the League. The winners were Banjo and Karen Freeland on Saturday, both old players from the League. Sundays draw went to Donna Sereda. Hope they at least toasted the League for their good fortune. Our next "League Event" will be the Golf Tournament to be held on June 22 at Metchosin. Your Team Rep will keep you posted as to when fees, prizes and teams are to be submitted. See you on the field...

*Kim Graham, Tournament Director*

## Feel the Heat!

In their second season with the VWFL, the View Royal girls, have shown their creative talents by coming up with a scorchin' new name, the View Royal Heat!

And with a new name, comes a new team rep contact address. You can reach Shawna or Ken Logue at shawna@blueshoe.ca.

## Extreme Fastball

Central Saanich Extreme is a new, young team in every sense. They are the newest team in the league and the youngest as most of the players are first-year juniors. Only one of the players (Jacquie Styles, a second-year junior) has ever played any games at the senior level.

The Extreme is also new in the sense that it did not exist before the start of this season. Despite its name this is not a team that progressed through the ranks of the Central Saanich and Peninsula youth softball association and has now graduated into the junior division. However, four of the team's 14 players are Central Saanich graduates, and in its support of developing softball throughout the region at all levels, the Extreme program offered to sponsor a junior "C" team this season.

Other players on the team have played for numerous youth softball associations, including Oak Bay, Central Saanich and American Little Leagues, Cedar Hill and Gordon Head Softball B.C. clubs and for various teams in the senior high school league.

In addition to bringing together players from a variety of clubs onto one team, most of the players on this team did not play fastball last year, and are returning to the sport through the Victoria Women's Fastball League, knowing full well that it is going to take them some time to gel as a team in a higher-level league than they last played in at youth.

But tough, high-level competition is not foreign to most of the players on the Extreme. At least eight of the players have been on youth teams that qualified for and competed at Softball B.C. provincial championships and two of the players have won Canadian national youth championships in other sports.

*Brian Davis, Extreme Coach*

## Slidin' into the Future

Look out V.W.F.L. the Sliders have the team of the future!! In four years, we've welcomed five future Sliders stars, four lovely girls, Hayley, Olina, Demi, and Taylor, and their handsome coach, Oliver. And we've still got one on the way!

This year we welcome back new moms Christa and Candace, and Tara and Treva are taking their turns on in the pregnancy rotation. Tara delivered her baby girl May 7, and Treva is expecting baby #2 this summer.

Other new arrivals... The softball goddesses were smiling on us when they sent us Meghan, our new chucker, and little did we know that she would bring along her chucker Mom, Catherine. And Corey, our superfan from last year, has been promoted to player this season. They are all great additions to the team and we are glad to have them!

We've seen some great games, good luck to everyone in round 2. And keep the beer on ice, playoffs are just around the corner!

*Woaaaaahhhhh Sliders!!*

## Round 1 Standings

	Wins	Losses	Ties
Wild	7	0	0
Lightning	5	2	1
Panthers	3	2	2
Tudor House A's	4	3	0
Sliders	3	3	1
Reds	3	4	0
View Royal Heat	2	5	0
Storm	2	5	0
Extreme	1	6	0

Thanks to all the teams that contributed to the newsletter! Established in 1999, the VWFL Newsletter is meant to provide a forum where players can communicate to the league or simply find out what's going on.

*Dawn Evans, Secretary*

### LEAGUE EXECUTIVE

<i>President, Alia Kelly</i> .....	920-3577
<i>Vice President, Shelley Garner</i> .....	652-4101
<i>Secretary, Dawn Evans</i> .....	708-0337
<i>Tournament Director, Kim Graham</i> .....	592-9779
<i>Treasurer, Sophie LeBlanc</i> .....	995-8466
<i>Statistician, Uta Willman</i> .....	479-0441
<i>Registrar, Rose Stanton</i> .....	474-3403

### TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

#### SLIDERS

Sarah Ross .....	382-7193
Brooke MacLeod .....	727-6552

#### EXTREME

Brian Davis .....	598-6274
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#### REDS

Sharon Stewart .....	385-3819
Lisa Maas .....	920-7229

#### TUDOR HOUSE A's

Sarah Whitten .....	978-9100
Donna Sereda .....	391-9888

#### STORM

Uta Willman .....	479-0441
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#### ELECTRIC AVE LIGHTNING

Marg LeGuilloux .....	595-8218
Chantal Brodeur .....	598-0072

#### CORDOVA BAY PANTHERS

Chelsea Chang .....	658-2064
Andrea Palmer .....	658-2064

#### VIEW ROYAL

Ken Logue .....	479-6947
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#### WILD

Nicole Rioux .....	474-1516
Michelle Freddette .....	882-0538

# More Chatter From Around the League

## Still Stormin'

This has and will be a season of change for the Storm. First of all I would like to welcome on behalf of our team, Bailey and Candace. Thank you for coming out and giving us a chance, we thoroughly enjoy you playing with us. Secondly, I would like to say good luck and congratulations to Joanne, she has moved up in the world, to Whistler, BC, for a new job. We will miss her very much. GOOD SHOT!!!! Congratulations are also in order for Rene and Uta. They are both getting married!! YAHOO!!! Maybe they can work on the next generation of fastball players????? Some of our players are leaving for greener pastures (????), Kiki is moving, as is Kat, and hopefully they will be able to finish most of the season with us.

Having asked for input for this submission, almost everyone of the team said the same thing. We have such a diverse team, let alone a diverse group of phenomenal women who make up the rest of the league. From 19 to 40ish year old players on our team and possibly older in this league playing for 15 years or more has to say something, every year we come back. A little older, not always wiser, but the same great attitude and spirit that brings us back year after year. There is just the right mix of competitive spirit and relaxed attitudes that we all look forward to.

Welcome to the young women who have joined our league. Hopefully you will find out what this league is all about; winning is great, meet and get to know the other players/teams, relax and have fun. On that note, a wise woman said, "Keep your eye on the ball from the hip, and most importantly KEEP YOUR ASS TO THE GRASS". Have a great season ladies. See you on the ball field.

*Uta Willmann #11 The Storm*

## Girls Gone Wild!!

And so another season rolls around . . . after three years in the league, the Wild girls would just like to start off by thanking all the teams and players who have made our experience here so wonderful. You are truly a talented and kind group of women, and we learn from you each and every game.

Speaking of people we learn from . . . the Wild girls would also like to thank Mike and Phil for stepping up to coach us rowdies once again. Phil, your intensity and desire for us to succeed inspires us to try that much harder. Mike, what would we do without you?! The support, the jokes ("Did you hear the one about Dan Coutier? How 'bout Hugh Hefner?"), and your overall positive attitude are what keep us coming back each year. Well, maybe not the jokes!

Along with the returning players (Alia, Andy, Carlie, Jill, Kris, Krystle S., Michelle, Nicole, and Tanya), the Wild have a number of new faces this year. Stephanie's back from Edmonton, joining us after a year off. She's happy now that she's no longer the "baby" of the crew - Jacqueline's taken that title from her. Natasha's come back to ball after a few years, and is quickly become a threat in the lineup (we think she's eyeing the number four spot!). Ashley and Cathy are plugging up the middle for the Wild, playing the game with infectious enthusiasm.

Then there's our DL: Heather should be back soon, once she's done her summer classes, and Val will be joining us mid-season, after she gets back from Europe. Oh, and after the cast comes off her foot!!!

Many of you may have noticed that the Wild have a large hole to fill in the lineup this year. Our # 5 batter and # 1 sweetie, Krystal W., has had to take the year off. We wish her the best of luck and can't wait until she's back in the lineup again, turning plays and "creaming the cheese."

Want to learn more about the "Wild"? Visit our website: <http://www.geocities.com/wildfastball/home.html>.

Good luck everyone - see you on the field!

*See you on the ball field!*

## Rock Down to...Electric Avenue

The Electric Avenue Lightning is a team with a new purple look, new name, great new players, and a new attitude.

A solid core of 10 players return from last year's *Family* team, under the wily guidance of coach Deb Duke.

Some new additions are bringing much to the team:

Susan Atkinson is impressing the heck out of us infield and at bat, coming to the team from the Kamloops Ladies Softball league, after taking last season off to have her second bambino.

Wendy Schultz and Sadie Macdonald — stalwarts of the ol' Dragon team many years ago — are back, playing great, and strong advocates of 'let's hit the bar after the game', which every team needs.

Monique Turgeon returns with her fab talent, great team spirit, her cell phone, and cool 'sunglasses-on-the-top-of-her-head' look.

The legendary Linda Shaw and Deb Hoole took a year off last season, and are now upping our fun factor, as a stron recharged battery.

Diana Frizell is our impenetrable wall at third, joining our league for the first time after playing in Topaz and Vancouver leagues.

And we can't forget our secret weapon direct from Japan, Satchko Suzuki.— *zoom zoom!*

Our new attitude? With a renewed team and solid coaching, we are aiming for great fun combined with great ball. So far so good, we're having plenty of each.

Our much-appreciated new sponsor is the Electric Avenue Bar and Lounge, right below Swan's. Thanks Mike for your support! Now get the Corona cold! We'd love it if any and all of our competitors for the night would join us for a drink there afterwards.

## Running with the Reds

First of all, we would like to welcome The Extreme, our newest junior team to the ranks of the VWFL. We hope you will enjoy playing ball in our league and that you'll be around for a long time to come - All the best for a successful first season!

The Reds have gone through some more personnel changes. As you may remember the Reds and the Dragons came together last year as we were both short of players. The Reds name stayed because the new jerseys had already been purchased the year before. It actually took everyone until the 2<sup>nd</sup> round before it was just 'us' and not 'us' and 'you guys'. We also gelled in that 2<sup>nd</sup> round and ended the season on a very successful note (we still have beer and coolers left over – no big drinkers on this team). Maybe this year we could change the name from the beer round to the Starbucks round?!

This year, we found ourselves struggling for numbers yet again (seems we're not the only ones) as some players didn't rejoin us. Our best wishes for a safe return home go to Mandy as she is representing our country on a ship in the Gulf. It turns out the Middle East is just a bit too far to commute for games. Krista joined the Cordova Bay Panthers after playing with them last summer as a pick up in the Sue B and then went with them to the junior provincials. We did get her back for 1 game in the Ice Breaker which was great! Sorry we didn't have your bat for you Krista. Lisa is taking some time off to recover from injury while Tania and Janet decided that ball wasn't for them this year. We hope they have a great summer and maybe we'll see them next year.

On the up side, we also added a few new faces to the group. Jen has returned after a year off from getting married and recovering from an ankle injury (no, she didn't trip down the aisle). She's getting her pitching arm warmed up, so watch out! Judy joined us for the month of May as she was on a contract in Victoria with the military. She resides in Campbell River and will be heading to Vernon in June until August. Thanks for joining us Judy! Manon was a lucky pick up from out of the blue. She got Shelley's name from Softball BC (thank you Auntie Pat); it comes in handy having someone from the team on the executive. Manon made her presence felt in her very first game (against the Lightning) as she made a stellar catch on the run. Every out counted in that game as it was a close one in the end. Welcome aboard!

Debbie, our Keeper of the Cooler, will be the next one to bite the dust...oh, I mean get married :-). She and Darren will be tying the knot in August. We want to wish them all the best for a wonderful life together. Be fruitful and multiply; just make sure it doesn't interfere with ball season.

That's it for the Reds 1<sup>st</sup> round update. Have a great season everyone!!