

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

ROUND 2

JULY 2003

President's Address

Another season, new scars and lots of new friends!! I would like to say that I've had a great season, by far one of the best.

Sending out appreciation to the Executive gals, ALWAYS working really hard and helping me through the season. You guys truly rock! On behalf of the Victoria Women's Fastball league a BIG THANK YOU.

Competition was tough, and congratulations to everyone for playing hard and fair. Always great sportswomanship in this league and everyone should be very proud to be a part of it. What's ball without having fun?

I wish everyone good luck in the playoffs, as well in the Sue Beischer tournament. The Wild will be playing in the BC's that weekend, so we'll try to make it to Vic West to watch as many games as possible, and would appreciate any fans that can make it out to our games!

Alia Kelly, President

Social Concerns

Another season is fast approaching its end, and I for one cannot figure out how this happens so fast. It seems the months in between drag on forever, and then we get to ball season and with a few swings and sliders, it's over!

Thanks to all of those who participated in the 3rd Annual Golf Tourney. It was full of good laughs, and this year a superb winning score. Congrats go out to Kris, Cheryl, Mike and Phil from the Wild. They actually shot a 3 under...sure that's off the Ladies tees, but still, very impressive!!!!!! Way to go you gals and guys! Uta from the Storm had the longest drive, and it was a "BOOMER". That a girl Utes. Yours truly managed to put one on the green for KP, think that may have been one of about 3 good shots I had all day, however...it's all good. Thank you to all for your prize contributions, they were greatly appreciated.

The Sue Beischer is just around the corner and I will be hitting all teams up once again for a couple of prizes. Your team reps will have a letter you can use if you wish, all contributions will be gladly accepted.

While I am disappointed that the Wild will not be joining us at the Sue B, I would like to extend "Good Luck Wishes" to them as they play in the B.C.'s. If you win here next year, we will still consider it a threeppeat!! You go girls!!

Good luck to all in the Playoffs, see you on the field.

Kim Graham, Tournament Director

Championship Round Playoff Schedule

July 7	July 9	July 14	July 16	July 21	July 23
Wild vs. Lightning @ Vic West 1	Lightning vs. Wild @ Vic West 1	Wild vs. Lightning @ Vic West 1	TBA @ Topaz Skinned	TBA @ Topaz Finlayson	TBA @ Topaz Skinned
A's vs. Panthers @ Topaz Finlayson	Panthers vs. A's @ Topaz Finlayson	A's vs. Panthers @ Topaz Finlayson			

Take a moment for the V.W.F.L. Awards

Hey y'all! As players in the VWFL, we have the opportunity to honor a couple of players in the league that go above and beyond the call of the field. Two very important awards will be given out at the Sue B. tournament in just a few short weeks. These awards are named in honor of women who were involved in our league for many years, and are a great source of inspiration.

The first award is the Sue Beisher award. Sue Beischer played in the P.G.W.S.L. for 12 years; her last season being in 1993. In 1994, she was taken from us much too young after a valiant fight with ovarian cancer. I am certain that they were looking for someone in Heaven to get a good womens team organized. Sue would be the one who could do it. Sue spent many years on the Executive devoted to keeping up the interest in the league and encouraging all caliber of players. She wanted it to be fun, fair, and of course, good quality ball. Sue's knowledge and respect for the game and the people around her made a great combination. Her own love of the game, of people and life in general made it that much more special for everyone.

Our other individual award is the Joannie Dillabaugh Award. We have come to know this as the "Spirit" Award. Joannie played in our league for ten years. She had an operation for an aneurysm that sadly left her with limited use on the left side of her body. However, that didn't seem to dampen her spirits. She continued to come out, batted with one hand on the bat and ran to the best of her ability. In Joannie's mind this was not a handicap, merely something that slowed her down a little. Joannie also served on the Executive and as a team rep. She was always willing to somehow participate in a game she loved, with people who judged her for who she was, and not the physical disabilities she had. A final aneurysm added her to the team of angels in 1992.

Many players in the league have fond memories of these ladies, and some of us who didn't know them just don't know how important they were to the league and the players. Please keep this in mind when casting your votes for this year's recipients. Look at **ALL** the players on **ALL** the teams, and you will come up with a deserving recipient.

Kim Graham and Dawn Evans

Beer Round Playoff Schedule

July 7	July 9	July 14	July 16	July 21
Heat vs. Storm @ View Royal	Storm vs. Reds @ Topaz Glasgow	Reds vs. Extreme @ Topaz Glasgow	Extreme vs. Storm @ Topaz Glasgow	Reds vs. Heat @ View Royal
Sliders vs. Extreme @ Topaz Glasgow	Extreme vs. Heat @ Vic West 2	Heat vs. Sliders @ View Royal	Sliders vs. Reds @ Vic West Skin	Storm vs. Sliders @ Vic West Skin

Web Wonders

The last time I checked there were over 800 hits on the league website. We are averaging 100 hits per week! These numbers show how much people are using the site to find league information and perhaps the latest team standings. I even heard that someone from Halifax was poking in on us! We've gone national! Although there is still room for improvement on the site and it's a vicious cycle of updates after updates, I've tried to keep the site informative and current.

The past few executive committees have had a theme of trying to see our league grow, and I think being on the web has contributed to this goal. For example, teams have used the message board to advertise the need for players and to thank sponsors; out of town leagues have linked to our site; and most importantly, new players have found us on-line.

Keep checking the website for new information, schedules and standings.

Thanks to all of you for your support, feedback and suggestions. This site is for you, so keep sending me ideas, and I'll keep trying to get them available on line.

Sophie LeBlanc, Web Mistress

Round 2 Standings

	Wins	Losses	Ties
Wild	12	4	0
Tudor House A's	10	5	1
Panthers	9	4	3
Lightning	9	4	3
Storm	8	7	1
Heat	6	9	1
Reds	6	10	0
Sliders	4	11	1
Extreme	4	12	0

Congratulations to the Wild for winning the 2003 season!!

Panthers On The Prowl

Wow this year has just flown by! Didn't we just start last week? Another season has come and gone so quickly. This is our 2nd year in this league and we want to thank everyone for making it so enjoyable for us. This year we have nabbed a few new girls, who have been a great addition to our team this year. Thanks to Jen Mooney, Meghan Anderson, Lindsay Ward, Krista Atchison, Christie Holyhead, and Lindsay Halkett. It took us a while to learn to play together, but when finally did it was great. In round two of this year we have won almost all of our games, and we hope to keep winning for the rest of the year!

Regrettably, we won't be competing in our Provincials this year, as we were unable to field a team for districts on such short notice. There is always next year though. That just means we can play in the Sue B tournament YEAH!!!! We get to drink at that tourney! Last but not least, we would like to thank Gene and Mike for another great year. Gene is off to Europe for the next month and will not be with us. His hard work and effort is always appreciated! Thanks Gene and Mike!

Good Luck to everyone! See ya around the yard!

Chels, Panthers

Just What Exactly Is LIGHTNING, Anyway?

light'ning, n. — 1 : flash of light produced by atmospheric electricity 2 : a sudden stroke of fortune

There's also 'white lightning' (moonshine that our Maritimer teammates are familiar with), and 'sheet lightning' (as in "Oh *sheet*, I struck out *AGAIN!*")

But through this season, it has mostly been plenty of electricity and good fortune for The Lightning. As a group, we're thrilled with our final team standing, although a teeny bit glum to not have the potential payoff of the 'beer round' playoffs to look forward to.

We'd like to thank the other teams and our own teammates for lots of laughs and an atmosphere of intensity with ample sportsmanship. Our appreciation also goes to our sponsor, Electric Avenue bar, and to our coach Deb Duke and playing coach Suzi Charlton – you've led us well.

The May team trip to the LIL tourney in Vancouver, with 20 teams, was a great time for our players that weren't playing the "F" game (football) that weekend. The tourney teams hospitably kicked our butts, but that just gave us more time to watch the awesome "SuperHeroes" team with their costumes (or lack thereof...)

After the initial blows of losing the very spirited threesome of Monique, Kelly and Chris to injuries, we made it until June without a major injury, which for a bunch of old chicks is pretty darn good. It was well into the season when we lost Cath due to a fly ball cleverly dodging her glove to nest in her nose. Despite the crushed cartilage, she was out to cheer us on just one week later, being self-proclaimed "good farm stock".

Undoubtedly one of our most memorable moments of the season was thanks to "Levitating Linda" Shaw, who while heading home decided not to go around or through the backcatcher – but over and above her. She should have been called safe just for having the grit to try it!

As a team, we've come together well both on and off the field, thanks in part to our 'mandatory' nights at our sponsor's, and a bunch of grrrrls who just wanna have fun. We're looking forward to the playoffs, and to many more laughs and 'flashes of lightning' during the Sue Beischer tourney.

Marg, Lightning

Sliders

It's official! The Sliders have once again assured themselves a spot in the Beer Round. Now that beer is on the line, we plan on turning it up a notch.

We've had a busy season this year. Niki got married, Tara had baby Taylor, Treva went from five to eight months pregnant, Dawn graduated, Darcy got lost on the rugby field, Christa got a part-time job which is interfering with ball, Erin B. went to Korea which she insists is too long of a commute, and much, much more! Nevertheless, we made it through the season, and some of us had to learn new positions on the diamond. Although we hate to see another season end, we're looking forward to seeing everybody at the Sue B. We'll be the ones trying to sell you chocolate covered almonds to go with your beer. On a final note, we'd like to thank all our sponsors: Bank of Montreal, James Bay Hair Salon, and Discovery Computers. Without their support, we'd have no insurance, wiffle balls, or jerseys.

Sophie, Sliders

Reds

The second half of the season has been fairly uneventful for the Reds, though we have participated in some strange games this round. We are, however, quite happy to welcome Shea back to the team after she moved back to Victoria from Duncan. We also added Gerry who, as luck would have it, had literally bumped into Karen on the road as they both stopped to help a fellow who was having car trouble. Gerry had played very briefly with us a couple of years ago, so we are also pleased to have her on board. We have been playing most games with only 9 players so it has been quite a novelty having spares...that means scorekeepers! Thankfully, Brian our 'Super Fan' (Bert where's the cooler?) has made it to a number of games and has been keen to learn to score keep. Thank you much Brian! You've done a GREAT job!

We are hoping to peak at just the right time of the season (now), so we can try to repeat as Beer Round champions. We had to start buying beer around game 4 or 5 as the supplies from last year's winnings finally ran out.

Have a great playoffs everyone, see you at the Sue B.

Shelley, Reds

Extreme

Despite the lack of success in the wins column the Extreme's first venture into senior-level fastball has been a mostly positive experience.

Initially, the primary objective was to form a team, so that players graduating out of minor softball could continue playing. Once that was accomplished and the season under way our attention turned to the field and improving our team play. While improvement there has not been as fast, nor extensive enough for the liking of some, our team play is getting better. And there is still more time, and more ball, to keep us on that track.

Player-wise, Jacquie is off to the Greek islands for six weeks, while our other Jacquie has not played since the first week of May because of a non-softball-related injury. Another player, Mel, got herself a full-time job and hasn't been able to get out to the diamond much since.

Thanks to the Executive for keeping everything going, thanks to the Central Saanich and Peninsula club for sponsoring us this season, thanks to our diehard fans and thanks to all the other teams for the lessons.

Brian, Extreme