

Al Hortop Meritorious Service



The name Al Hortop is synonymous with the game of softball. Hortop played both fast and slow pitch softball from 1961-1981, but he is mainly recognized for his umpiring. Hortop has umpired numerous state and regional tournaments from 1978-1981 and has served on the MDASA umpire staff for 12 years. Hortop was selected to umpire the super slow pitch national in 1981, but had to decline due to health problems.

Hortop served as senior deputy Umpire-in-Chief on the MDASA umpire staff from 1983-1990 and has attended five national umpire clinics. His most recent accomplishments include supervising the Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority ASA softball leagues and its umpires from 1982 to present. Hortop served as umpire coordinator for the 1992 men's masters 35 & over tournament in Rochester Hills and Troy, and will duplicate that feat for this year's prestigious Girls 16 & under national championship in Novi and Farmington Hills.

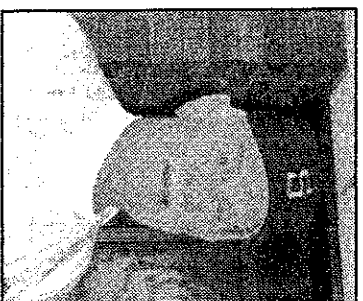
Shelley Larned Fast Pitch Player



Shelley Larned is a name well-known on the fast pitch diamond. Larned pitched for class A Daly Restaurants of Livonia making a remarkable 314 appearances en route to an impressive 230 wins and only 50 losses. She amassed 1883 strikeouts while pitching in 1987 innings.

Larned was named Most Valuable Player at numerous invitational, regional and national qualifying tournaments during her career. Larned competed in seven national championships and was selected to the ASA All-American team three times. She was also named the Most Valuable Player and first team ASA All-American in 1986 and 1989 while leading her team to national runner-up finishes. In 1989, Larned pitched 80 innings (42 in one day) with an ERA of .780 while striking out 60 and walking only four batters.

Another amazing feat includes Larned having 149 shutouts out of her 230 wins as a pitcher . . . and 15 were perfect games!



George Lerchen Slow Pitch Player

The name of George Lerchen not only appeared in the softball ranks, but also at the professional baseball level. After his professional baseball career ended in 1956, Lerchen received a call from MDA SA Hall of Famer Jim Snyder informing him that he was starting a slow pitch team in Redford Township. This started a whole new career for George Lerchen.

Lerchen played 10 years with the infamous Snyder Softball Club. Lerchen also was called upon to be a member of the 1963 East Side Sporting Goods team in the 1958 World tournament. When Lerchen hung up the glove, he then coached the Snyder Softball team for two years before taking over the managerial role for two years.

Frank Pilarowski Player/Manager



The name of Frank Pilarowski is synonymous with the game of softball - fast pitch player, slow pitch player and now a manager. Pilarowski has played the game of fast pitch as a member of Nothdurft capturing 10 ASA metro Detroit fast pitch championships and eight ASA regional fast pitch championships.

His honors include eight ASA regional first team all-star team selections, three consecutive Most Valuable Player awards (1968-1970) and selected twice to national All-American teams. Pilarowski's slow pitch accomplishments include participation in seven national championships and four selections to the All-American team. Pilarowski has also managed or co-managed all of the Nothdurft senior softball national championship teams from 1991 through 1997. Pilarowski was recently elected to the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame in 1996.

Al White Modified Player



Al White started his pitching career in the metro Detroit area in 1966 in the Livonia league. He pitched in his first state championship in which his team capturing the state title. White also pitched in the next three state championship being victorious in 1973 and 1974.

In 1975, the first year of ASA sanctioned men's modified softball, White's team finished third in the state tournament. He pitched in the metro Detroit area from 1975 to 1984 going to the nationals every year except in 1978 and 1982. White was selected to the first team All-American team in 1977-1983. White then took his show on the road from 1984-1991 where he played in Miami, Florida. His team won national titles in 1984 and 1991 as White was named the Most Valuable Player in the 1984 tournament.

White has pitched in national tournaments for 20 years compiling a record of 53 wins and 25 losses.