



USA Softball of Michigan



Blues Across Michigan

USA Softball of Michigan Blues Across Michigan wants to recognize multiple USA Softball umpires from the USA Softball of Michigan program every month for their accomplishments on the field in the local area, state or national championships as well as how they have given back to the game off the field.

Being recognized does not always relate to the number of national or state championships an umpire has participated in. This honor encompasses an umpire's accomplishments, both on and off the field, in their local area and district in addition to their contributions at the state or national level.

These umpires represent what being a member of the USA Softball of Michigan umpire family is all about and bring attention to the widespread and diverse umpire community in our program across the state.

For January, we are recognizing two individuals from opposite sides of the state that have given a lot of time in helping out at the local level.

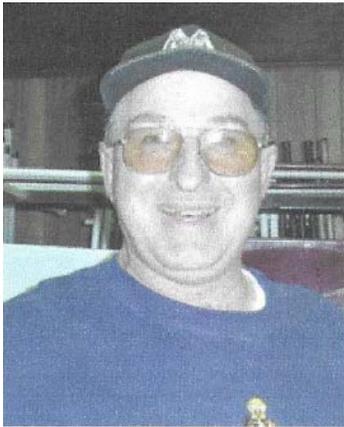
From District 8, Hubert Timmer



In the Holland (MI) area there are a number of people that have had a major impact on the softball scene. However, very few have had the kind of impact that Hubert Timmer has had. This long-time educator and umpire has been the ultimate teammate since 1977. Hubert has umpired approximately 6760 games including baseball (20), adult fast

pitch (20), middle school girls' fast pitch (200) and adult slow pitch (6520) including a total of 320 games, alone, in 1985. That year included umpiring a perfect game on June 22, 1985, at the old Maplewood Complex in the city of Holland. To be honest, if you asked Hubert, he would tell you that he umpired multiple "perfect" games...but someone always seemed to reach base for both teams.

Hubert has been a valued member of the USA Softball umpire family since 1978. He has been a vital and instrumental part of the Holland area softball program for both the city of Holland and Holland Charter Township for that time, also. Not only was Hubert a quality umpire, but he helped behind the scenes with umpire coordination and scheduling, umpire training, rules suggestions, and even offers a scorekeeper training for those that have been and are interested in doing that. When it comes to softball, there is very little that Hubert has not positively impacted for Holland area softball and beyond.



Gary Dummitt, of Port Huron, will be celebrating 50 years of umpiring with ASA/USA of Michigan in the 2020 softball season.

Gary got started in umpiring when a friend in a bowling league told him they needed softball umpires and he should try out. He switched to finding strikes at the ball field instead of the bowling alley.

Gary started doing recreation softball, he felt the first five years were the toughest, learning the rules, the players, and developing a tougher skin! He has worked many state tournaments in Modified, Men's & Women Fast Pitch, Coed, and Slow Pitch.

Gary has volunteered in all four National Modified tournaments that Port Huron has hosted including grounds crew, bat tester, and umpire hospitality.

Among Gary's other accomplishments, he was the president of Port Huron Umpires Association for two years and an umpire coordinator for BW Church Modified League for 25 years. He has also been a registered softball umpire for the Michigan High School Association softball for 22 years. His mentors include: Bill Toles, Jack Vargo, Roger Vargo, Jack Sauder, Joe Redfield, Tom Ridas, and Don Button.

A little-known fact that retiring USA Softball of Michigan Commissioner Jerry Hanson was Gary's first UIC for a Modified State Tournament.

Gary feels education is important for all officials, in his 50 years, he has only missed FOUR MASA State Clinics. Another thing that Gary feels is important as an umpire is presentation. He feels the umpire uniform represents you as an official and having polished shoes shows the pride you have as an umpire.

Congratulations to Hubert Timmer and Gary Dummitt for being recognized this month. Thank you for what you do at the local level in representing the USA Softball of Michigan program.

#