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Newsletter of the BEANTOWN SOFTBALL LEAGUE

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Greetings & Happy Opening Day!

At last, after a string of damp weekends, the 1992 season begins. This is the fifteenth season for the Beantown Softball League and one that has some changes from last year.

We have the same number of teams (14) but the 3 divisions and the format are slightly different. Instead of every team playing in a positional round to determine which division they'll be in, we'll begin this season with three teams in the A division voluntarily. The other eleven teams will participate in a positional round of games to see which division, B or C, they will play in.

Please note this year we have dropped the "Competitive" and "Recreational" labels. This new approach is in line with the three division approach used for the Gay World Series--NAGAAA now will allow each member city to send up to three teams to participate in the GWS.

There are a few other changes which helped mold this year's format. This year, Division A teams and Division C teams won't be playing each other. Also, it was decided that in order to give teams at least one weekend off, it would be necessary to play doubleheaders.

This year's schedule reflects all of these factors and it took many hours to come up with a format that satisfied every team. The schedule and format are included in this newsletter with the schedule broken down by team to make it easier for you.

THE BSL and GAY PRIDE

As usual this year all teams have Sunday, May 31st off so people can participate in the From All Walks of Life march. It was suggested last year that players who were going to march could challenge other teams to top the amount they raise and perhaps march together with the BSL banner. It's just another way we can show the community that, as individuals and as a group, we care. Anyone interested should have their team reps contact me (league Secretary Seth Hyde) and we will attempt to coordinate for this year's march.

All teams also have Saturday June 13th off for Gay Pride Day. This year it appears we'll renew our annual Gay vs. Police Charity Game before the parade (exact time and site to be announced). This should be a friendly game which can help both sides know each other better and hopefully break down stereotypes while raising money for a worthy cause.

Another idea being considered is to have a Gay Sports Picnic with all the different gay sports organizations in Boston invited to help us celebrate our 15th year and gay pride!! Any ideas, suggestions, and help would be appreciated. This has the potential to be an annual demonstration of gay pride in sports!

