

Special points of interest:

- 2007 USSSA Team of the Year
- 2008 Fundraisers
- Player of the Month

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Welcome to a new season!

We had our first kick-off meeting this year, which was a great success. We would like to thank La Foret for the great food and the use of the facility, Maria Johnson for all the great table centerpieces & decorations, and Mary Schroeder for the fantastic slide presentation. We also want to thank the coaches, and Brad Pervale from Anderson for the prizes for the girls. Finally, we would like to thank all of the parents for coming and bringing your players with you. You are what makes CST a success!

John Henry started the evening off by giving a history of the club, and detailing some of the many highlights of past

seasons. He also went over the stats for the organization as a whole. John then introduced the different Thunder teams, including the 3 new teams added to the club this year. We now have a total of 8 teams which consist of one 18B, one 16A, one 16B, two 14B, one 14C, one 12B, and one 10 & Under. We finished the evening with each coach recognizing his/her players individually, and what she brings to her team, and in turn the entire Thunder organization.

Thanks again to all the parents and players who attended the first annual kick-off meeting, and helped to make it a success.



Webpage Highlights and Changes

We would like to inform everyone of the new webpage for the Colorado Springs Thunder organization.

The web page address is Csthunder.org

Please visit the site for all the latest tournament, and team information.

It is a work in progress, but we are making great additions. If you or your company would like to advertise on the web page

or in this newsletter please contact advertising@csthunder.org

Please let us know what you think of both the newsletter and the web page.

Thanks.

2008 Fundraisers

The Thunder organization is hosting its first major fundraiser this year.

We will be hosting a Golf Tournament on Monday, May 12 at Kings Deer Country Club. It will be a 9am shotgun with registration from 8-8:30 am.

The format will be a 4 player scramble. The entry fee will be \$100.00 per golfer which includes: a gift package at registration, green fees for 18 holes, cart rental, practice range balls, 2 drink coupons, lunch, awards ceremony with prizes, and an additional complimentary 18 holes per golfer to be used for a fu-

ture round.

We will be offering opportunities raffle tickets for sale which will allow you to participate in events such as longest drive, closest to the



pin, longest putt, etc.

We will be looking for hole sponsors, and volunteers to work the tournament. Please help make this event a success by either volunteering or by sponsoring this event.

Please visit the web site, www.csthunder.org, or contact your coach for further information.

The registration forms, and sponsor sheets can be downloaded from the Thunder website as well.

Tip of the Month

Remember it's a game!

Please never forget that softball is a game. Games are supposed to be fun. Yes, it's great to win, but that shouldn't be your only focus. I certainly go out on the field every time to do my absolute best, but I also remember to enjoy the game. The best players



out there play because they love to play. She loves the challenges the game presents, and she thoroughly enjoys competing. She strives to be her very best regardless of who is watching. She isn't out there just because she wants others to see her

win or because she wants her name in the paper or to possibly win a trophy. She plays because the game is fun for her. Softball is often the highlight of her day. It's something she truly looks forward to. Enjoy yourself, and create some memories!

It's not how good you are. It's how badly you want it.

Tournaments — And the Thunder Booms!

The first tournament for Thunder this year is:
Thunder at the Rock

Hosted by John Henry
March 15 in Castle Rock.
Non-sanctioned Friendly

Jelly Bean

Hosted by the Fosters, March 22 in Castle Rock
Qualifier for 18U, 16U, 14U, 12U, 10U

Memorial Day Bash

Hosted by 14U Schroeder, May 24 and 25
open to all classes and ages—Qualifier.

Thunder down Under

Hosted by Kris Johnson, May 22 and 23
open to all ages—Qualifier.

Plan to attend, and support all the teams in these tournaments

2007 USSSA Team of the Year!

Congratulations to Travis Peterson's girls for being the 2007 USSSA fast-pitch team of the year. Travis' 16B team had a total in class USSSA win/loss record of 35-6, and a winning percentage of .854. We are very proud of their



accomplishments last year. For 2008, Travis' team has moved to the 16A level, and should continue to do quite well. We look forward to following

their progress in this upcoming season. Their successes have gone a long way in helping this Thunder Club develop a great reputation as a strong, club to reckon with.

Champions aren't made in the gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them -- a desire, a dream, a vision.

Muhammad Ali, American Boxer

Player of the Month

Megan Gricius plays for Mary Schroeder's 14C Thunder Team. This is Megan's 4th year playing competitive softball. Her first year she played for the Pikes Peak Flash 10U team, where she had her first taste of pitching. In 2006 she played 12B for Thunder in which she played right field, and some pitching. Her softball highlight occurred during the Top of the Rock-

ies Tournament in which she batted .800 and received the MVP award. In 2007 she played for Thunder 12B in right field, and as a slap hitter. This past season she was co-captain of her school team with fellow Thunder player Shannon Sundeen. Megan is a great kid with a great attitude. She works very hard on her pitching, and is a fantastic team player. We wish her

the best of luck this season.!



Pitchers/Catchers

Pitchers and Catchers are two integral parts in the game of softball. Why? Because they are involved in every pitch, more so than anyone else on the field. Once they start playing games, they will usually



be playing at least four games each weekend. This means that not only do they need to be ready physically, but mentally, and emotionally too. A pitcher and catcher need to be able to work together. Communication is key!

Catchers need to learn her pitcher's strengths and weaknesses, and she needs to know what's working for her and what's not.

Please join us every Thursday at our Pitchers and Catchers practices at 7:30 at Corpus Christi Catholic School Gym.

