



# Biography

Rick Azevedo

In August 1977, I enrolled at BYU to obtain my Masters Degree in Health Education with a minor emphasis in physical education. I quickly learned that twice a year BYU had large intramural programs in men's and women's slow-pitch softball and they needed umpires. With very little training, I signed up and began umpiring games.

By the spring of 1978, I was involved with the Utah County ASA program and umpiring Men's ASA slow pitch. BYU did not have a fast pitch program, and ASA never told me about the opportunity to work fast pitch. So from 1977 until I graduated in April 1980, I did a great deal of umpiring for slow-pitch for the university and for ASA.

In April 1980, I moved to Salt Lake City and immediately contacted the ASA. I was informed I would continue to work a full schedule. I was also told I would need to work men's and women's fast pitch. I accepted the challenge and learned all I could about fast pitch as well as I improved my game in slow pitch.

For the next 15 to 20 years, I worked 350-400 games every spring, summer and fall. I was blessed with the opportunity to work men's and women's major fast pitch and slow pitch as well as all other divisions of the game. The softball landscape over the past 10-12 years has changed dramatically, and ASA works very hard to keep up with the changes in the sport.

As for my umpiring career, I take it a year at a time and will continue to do it as long as I enjoy it. In this sport, you build friendships that are hard to walk away from. Approximately five (5) years ago I was asked to be a District Commissioner, and I have enjoyed that job immensely. I wish everyone—players, coaches, parents and umpires—who affiliate with the ASA good luck. I am here to serve, and if there is anything I can do to help you, all you have to do is ask.