

Ron Kubicki named president of the Chicago 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame

Chicago, Il., The Board of Directors of the Chicago 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame have elected board member, Ron Kubicki as it's 3rd president in the 14 year history of the Hall of Fame Committee. He replaces Gary Thorsen who stepped down from the position after a successful leading the HOF for 11 years. Gary will be past president and remain on the board. Ray Topps and Stan Patek were voted vice president and treasurer again. New secretary is Bill Wadington replacing Debby Cornacchia who also remains a board member. Other remaining board members are Mark Frighetto, Mary Pat McGuire, Art Lurie and co-founders Tony Reibel and Al Maag.

Tony Reibel stated, "Gary was the guiding force to keep our Hall of Fame efforts going for over a decade. His successful organizing of our dinner programs and events was a significant to our sports history.

Ron has been the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation for the Hodgkins Park District since 1985 and worked for the Hodgkins Park District for 38 years. Since 2003 he has served as the President of the Board of Trustees for the Pleasantview Fire Protection District, which has a budget of just over \$22 million. He was first elected to the Board of Trustees for Pleasantview in 1985. He is also very involved with the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts serving as their President for almost 20 years.

He has been involved in softball for over 40 years since I started in the church leagues. He was elected into the Chicago 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame back in 2000 as an organizer. He has been a HOF Board member for 4 years. In that time he was one of the leaders of the building of the Hall of Fame Inductee Park at Forest Park.

Ron noted, "I have been very blessed to have coached some of the greatest teams in softball, Whips Sportstation, Splinters, Bucks and the 45's along with many 7th and 8th grade boys and girls softball teams. I have been lucky to win 10 ASA National Championships and 7 Forest Park No-Glove Championships".

He attended College of DuPage and George Williams Collage. Ron is 56 years old, married and has 2 daughters and 5 grand kids.

Ron added, "We hit a single when we started the Hall, a double when we started all our successful inductee award dinners, the Forest park inductee park was a triple and our home run is when we build the museum to preserve our history...that is my main objective. But it will only be done as we get more support from the board and the many interested folks in our sport, enhanced branding, more events and sponsorships...I look forward to the challenge".

“ Ron’s extensive background on boards and knowledge of the softball community is stellar. He is very respected as a past player and organizer and still involved in the sport today. Thus he is the perfect leader going forward as we enhance our efforts in marketing the sport and building our museum”, noted Al Maag.

The Chicago 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame started in 1996. It’s mission is to continue the legacy and history of the game, recognize the exceptional men and women players, teams, umpires, media, organizers and fans in the sport and market the great game of 16 inch softball to new generations. The next inductee awards dinner is January 23rd.
16inchsoftballhof.com

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