

# PRESS RELEASE

## League Encourages Players to Use Protective Equipment

*Use of batting helmets and catcher's masks recommended to reduce risk of injury*

**Toronto, ON (June 9, 2008):** The TMFSL would like to formally reinforce the fact that players throughout the league are strongly encouraged to use protective equipment at his/her discretion to ensure their personal safety when participating in league games.

Any sport bears with it the risk of injury – and, while softball is a non-contact sport, there are inherent injury risks associated with participation including the possibility of being struck by an errant throw and/or hit; collisions between base-runners and defensive players; and, injuries related to running, diving or sliding.

**In particular, the TMFSL would like to encourage the use of a batting helmet and a catcher's mask for any player wishing to take extra precautions when participating in these situations.**

Team Captains are not required to provide these pieces of equipment but are encouraged to do so if resources permit. As permitted by Slo-Pitch Ontario and TMFSL rules and regulations with other protective equipment, players are welcome to provide their own helmets, masks or other equipment to ensure their personal safety.

Furthermore, players are expected to use safety of themselves and others as the foremost consideration of judgement when participating in any league game or event. Players are expected to use their best judgement and avoid making any throws that carry an increased risk of injury. Players are also expected to avoid collisions at all times.

The TMFSL currently takes protective measures in accordance with Slo-Pitch Ontario rules and regulations including the use of a safety bag at first base, the "no-touch" home plate rule, the "no jewelry" rule, and other precautions.

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ABOUT THE TORONTO MUTUAL FUND SOFTBALL LEAGUE ("TMFSL")

*The Toronto Mutual Fund Softball League ("TMFSL") is a non-profit organization based in the City of Toronto. The league strives to actively promote and offer a recreational source of co-ed slo-pitch softball to employees of Mutual Fund and other Financial Services organizations throughout the City of Toronto and its immediate surrounding municipalities.*

*In existence since 1991, the league has grown to host between 20-26 teams through a full schedule of Regular Season and Playoff games between the months of May and September each year.*

*The TMFSL operates with a volunteer staff of league Executive, Captains and Assistant Captains representing over 500 players from the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).*