

LOVE IS A KICKBALL FIELD

True Tales of Wild WAKA Romance

(CHANTILLY, Virg., March 1, 2006)—Who says a playa can't get no love? Scores of players in the World Adult Kickball Association (WAKA) have found true love with another kickball player. Mike Travers won a first date with his future bride in a WAKA charity auction. Meryl Florance and Dusty Hughes signed up as WAKA board members—and committed to much more than volunteer work.

After playing kickball for a season in Charleston, SC., Ms. Meryl Florance, 25, decided to volunteer as the Charity Chairperson for the following season. At her first board meeting, she met Mr. Dusty Hughes, 24, who was signing up as a Referee. He was captivated; she was oblivious. "When Meryl and I first met, we were on different teams," said Hughes. "So I made sure that I reffed all the games she played in." Friendly banter turned into flirty emails, which eventually turned into true love: the two WAKA players have planned a September 2006 wedding date. "Now I cannot imagine living a day without him," said Meryl. "Thank God for kickball."

When Ms. Kelly Maloney, 29, heard a radio DJ in Washington DC talking about kickball at the national mall, she figured, "How hard can kickball be? Plus, everyone goes to a bar afterward? I am *all* over this." She and two girlfriends signed up and were placed on Mike Travers' team. Instant friendship, just add kickball. Although Maloney didn't want to start dating—she'd just ended a five-year relationship—Travers was instantly lovestruck.

And persistent. Travers, 30, attended the midseason charity bash that Maloney was organizing, in which she and other board members would be auctioned off for a date with the highest bidder. When it was Maloney's turn on the block, Travers engaged in a bidding war with another fellow. "But every time the MC looked at Mike, he would simply nod his head that he was good for another five bucks," said Kelly. "I was the most expensive auctionee of the night!" Mike ended up winning a date with Kelly for \$250, and the rest is history—and a great story to tell their grandkids. In Travers' words, "How many other people can say they won their future bride in an auction?"

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Note to Media: To set up an interview, request a press kit or B-roll, please contact Heather Taylor at Alliance Worldwide Communications. To join the World Adult Kickball Association, visit online registration at www.kickball.com. Depending on the division, registration costs approximately \$65 per season and includes team and division membership, an official WAKA player T-shirt, gear for the game, and other WAKA player perks.