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IPRIDE SOFTBALL ANNOUNCES LANNETTE STRANGE AS UMPIRE OF THE YEAR FINALIST

HONORED FOR DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF UMPIRES THROUGH EDUCATION, GUIDANCE, AND SUPPORT.

Dallas, TX - August 1, 2026

International Pride Softball (iPride Softball) announced Lannette Strange as a finalist for the 2026 iPride Umpire of the Year Award, recognizing her commitment to officiating excellence, mentorship, education, and service to the LGBTQ+ softball community.

Serving as Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) for Spring, Summer, and Fall seasons, as well as the Dallas Easter Classic, Strange has demonstrated exceptional leadership in creating a culture of fairness, consistency, and respect. Since assuming the role in 2023, she has helped strengthen umpire development while ensuring players and officials are supported through clear communication and education.

Strange's impact extends beyond local league play through her involvement at regional and national tournaments, where she collaborates with other umpire leaders to improve officiating standards and support the growth of the umpire community. Her professionalism, calm approach, and sound judgment have earned the trust of players, coaches, and fellow officials.

A dedicated mentor, Strange invests significant time in developing new umpires through clinics, training opportunities, and ongoing support. She works to create confident, knowledgeable officials who understand not only the rules of the game but also the importance of respect, accountability, and community.

About the iPride Awards

The iPride Awards recognize the volunteers and member associations whose leadership, service, and excellence strengthen International Pride Softball and the LGBTQIA2S+ community. Presented annually, the awards celebrate achievements that advance inclusion, sportsmanship, volunteerism, and community, honoring those who make a lasting impact both on and off the field.

COMPETITION. HERITAGE. INCLUSION. COMMUNITY.