

2023 SSUSA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Quest to Be Best

Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS – The largest softball tournament in the world, the Senior Softball World Championships, kicks off Sept. 14 here and draws the biggest divisions in the sport through Oct. 1.

In addition to favorites such as the International Co-Ed division and 90+ Game, SSUSA will introduce two very special events this year.

The first is a game pitting a galaxy of Las Vegas Celebrities against the Wounded Warrior softball team.

And, the night before each session, managers and players are

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Maui Spirit: Strength From Ashes

Ancient Call to Rebuild Lives

Softball News Report

MAUI, Hawaii – Not far from the ashes that was Lahaina, a Kahuna lapa'au or traditional Hawaiian priest stood on the fresh green grass of a softball field and recited Ho'oponopono.

That ceremony took place on a bright morning in 2012, more than a decade before the devastating fire that consumed the town and took more than 100 lives.

Three Senior Softball USA teams from the mainland were being hosted by three Maui teams for a tournament. This SSUSA tournament has

Continued on page 5



A Kahuna lapa'au, or traditional Hawaiian priest on field in 2012



Baden

2023 SSUSA

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Senior Softball News

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Maui: After the Fire

The news from Hawaii, more specifically Maui, has been nothing short of horrific. The raging fires that swept through the peaceful island community have taken more than 100 lives, burned hundreds of homes and commercial properties and left a vast wasteland along the shores of the Blue Pacific.

Thousands of Senior Softball USA players and their families have visited the island and several hundred proudly call it their home.

Maui players have welcomed groups of mainland SSUSA players for more than 3 decades with warm and traditional Hawaiian hospitality. Over the years, these trips – and the trips Maui teams have made to play in mainland tournaments – have spawned deep and lasting friendships.

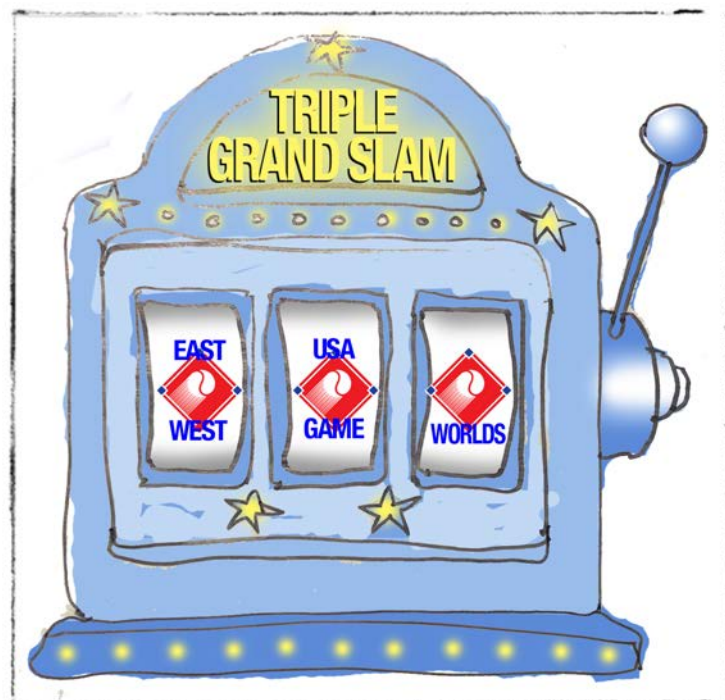
Editorial

These friendships represent one of the biggest strengths of our sport – and one of the most fulfilling.

Today, the overriding question for those of us now is what can we do to help? Certainly donations ...big and small...are welcome and very much needed.

But once the smoke has cleared, the cleanup begins and the rebuilding process kicks into high gear, there's another way to help.

Book a Maui vacation when the time is right for visitors to return. That will go a long way in the massive effort to put people back to work as they begin to rebuild their lives.



By Sue Ballenger

Maui Fire: 3 Teams Still Plan on Playing Worlds.

Continued from page 1

been repeated on Maui more than a dozen times since 1992, bringing hundreds of players together and establishing long-lasting friendships.

The ancient prayer is defined as many things, including a call to balance all good things in life. It also asks to repair all things in life.

"Nowhere is this prayer more needed than today for the 140 SSUSA players and thousands of their fellow Maui citizens," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA chief executive officer.

"It embodies the positive and powerful Hawaiian

spirit."

In large part, the story of the nation's deadliest fire in more than a century no longer gets the media coverage it once did.

But to recap briefly, here's what we now know. At least 115 people died in the fierce blaze and several hundred remain missing.

Lahaina, as thousands of Senior Softball players know, is the one-time capital of former Hawaiian kingdom and as the home to high-ranking chiefs for centuries.

In recent years, the oceanfront town became popular with our players and their families who made annual visits to enjoy the warm waters and relaxing atmosphere.

For Senior Softball players everywhere, the Maui fire story has hit too close to

home

Tragically, just as Senior Softball USA prepares for its largest tournament of the year with more than 650 teams coming to Las Vegas in the coming days, some but not all teams from Hawaii have understandably had to cancel their plans to compete.

But remarkably, three teams from Maui will be on the fields in Las Vegas, playing their hearts out for their island state and for those teams that could not come this year.

Senior Softball USA will be honoring those three teams at the World Championships by awarding them the Steve Simmons Memorial Sportsmanship Award for 2023.

Those three teams being honored are:

Sandlot a 40s Major team

managed by John Rivera.

Shootz, a 60 AAA team managed by Nic Poree.

Fresh Poke 65, a 65 AAA team managed by Mark Daniels.

The two Maui teams that are understandably not going to be able to come to Las Vegas this year are:

Defend Pono, a 40 Major team managed by Peter Delima.

Waste Pro Hawaii, a 70 AAA team managed by Stephen Cramer.

"The recent Maui Wildfires have affected and taken a toll on all of us," said Nick Poree, manager of Shootz 60AAA. "The days following the fire, I and other players started several donations drives to help those individuals, both from Lahaina and our family and

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Have Your Say in the SSUSA Rules Process

Softball News Report

Rules for rosters have evolved over the past three decades and become more complicated as we address issues that give some teams advantages over other teams.

We call it the 5 percent rule.

While 95 percent of the teams could follow just a few roster rules and maintain fair competition, about 5 percent of the teams continually look for loopholes for advantages.

Every time that happens, we are forced to address the loophole. And, poof, another rule.

Senior softball is not alone. Other sports, and indeed other parts of life, face

the same issue.

Once a rule is made, we strive to make no exceptions during the season.

Why?

If we make an exception for one team, it is nearly impossible for us to inform other teams so that all teams get the same advantage.

So, we ask players and managers to send us notes during the season about any rule that needs changing – or if a new rule is required to even the playing field. We address all notes we receive at the National Convention in December, where our National Rules Committee can discuss the recommendations.

Sometimes, rarely, we address a rule change during

Covering the Bases

By Terry Hennessy

the season.

We will be addressing a rule change that I suggested and was voted in concerning 75 and 80 division rosters in a special Rules Committee meeting during the World Championships.

Because of the increased number of 75 and 80 players, we adopted a rule that would get make those divisions “pure” with no underage players. That rule would be implemented over the next two seasons. However, after talking with multiple 80s

managers, it became apparent that the 80 division faces unique difficulties because of the players’ ages.

To address those concerns, the Rules Committee will hold an earlier meeting in September because this rule affects rosters composition, which begins after the World Championships.

The purpose of all our rules is to maintain an even playing field and make it possible for as many Masters and Seniors as possible to play the game.

Terry Hennessy is the Chief Executive Officer of Senior Softball USA and can be reached at terryh@seniorsoftball.com

Maui Fire: Where to Send Donations.

Continued from page 5

friends.

“On our first Sunday practice I proposed to the team, do we still want to attend the Worlds? There was no vote, we were going,” said Poree, whose Shootz team had competed in the Worlds since 2012.

“We knew that we would not have the “talent” that we would normally have, but we all agreed we needed to get back to a sense of normalcy and show our Ohana and friends that we can face adversity and remain Maui Strong,” said Poree.

“One of many reasons we look forward to coming to the Worlds is that we appreciate the game, the sportsmanship and most of all the camaraderie of our

team and families” he said. “Over the years we have had the opportunity to meet many other players and their families with whom we have become very close.”

In an effort to help support those affected by the fire, SSUSA has overnighted nearly 400 pounds of requested new clothing including shirts, jackets and caps for those in Maui dealing with the devastation from the wildfires.

If you are interested in donating or learning how to help, here are some links to visit:

Maui Strong: <https://www.hawaiicomunityfoundation.org/maui-strong>

Hawaii Red Cross: <https://www.redcross.org/local/hawaii.html>

Aloha United Way: <https://ignite.stratuslive.com/.../get.../donate/mauirelief>



Shootz Maui, 60+ AAA of Hawaii, managed by Nick Poree, is still attending the Worlds in Vegas despite the Maui Fire's devastation.

Maui Food Bank: <https://mauifoodbank.org/>

Maui Humane Society: <https://www.mauihumanesociety.org/donate-olx/>

We sent our clothing to Maui's Emergency County Shelters organization. The address is:

Maui Emergency County Shelters
Fire Relief Donations
700 Halia Nakoa Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

They are in need of: Non-perishable food, Bottled water, Hygiene items, Blankets, Pillows, Slippers, Clothing, Men's underwear, Large duffel bags, and Storage containers.

“We believe, in the near future, a kahuna lapa’au will again stand on the Maui softball field and offer a prayer of thanks for the strong spirit of the Maui people who will restore and rebuild their lives,” Hennessy concluded.

All-Tourneys: From West Coast to Deep South

Congratulations to the All-Tournament selections from the TOC Tournaments from the SSUSA/CAN-Sirs Northern California State Championships to Rocky Mountain Championships. First place teams earn five all-tournament selections, second place gets four, while third place earn three. Managers, if your All-Tournament selections are missing, please email in your honorees to nic@seniorsoftball.com.

Northern CA Champs

Men's 40+ Platinum:

Gold Nation 40s (CA): Raul "Rowdy" Ruelas, Dustin Nelson, Gregg Pentony.

Men's 40/50+ Gold:

C.B.C./A&B PLBG 50 (CA): James Kaul, Angel Rubio, Gunner Rocha, Tim Landrum.

Men's 55+ Platinum:

Acme (CA): Joe Kraft, Chris King, Albert Lopez, Tony Marelich, Chuck Rufkahr.

Worth Miken KM Sportz (CA): Marvin Himenez, Glen Salling, Doug Dalton, Eric Swartz.

Men's 55/60+ Gold:

North Valley Seniors (CA): Greg Knight, Craig Wagner, Taylor Welz, Chuck Davidson, Pat Napoli.

Men's 60/65+ AAA:

It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere (CA): Darrell Heim, Bill Remitz, Tim Kesner, Bill Christine.

Men's 70/75+ AAA:

Nor-Cal 70s: Kerry Gates, Ray Lucas, John DiRe, Larry Underwood, John Moran.

Southern CA Champs

Women's 40+ AAA:

Pro Moves 40 (CA): Ebony Allen, Lori Jarrells, Irene Jones, Tina Hamelau, Jen



SoCal Riptide Batter in Mid-Swing During the 2023 Southern California State Championships.

Forbes.

Monster Mash Up (CA): Teri Caster, Diamond Lucas, Ondrea Saude, Christine Dominguez.

Women's 50+ Seniors:

Takin' Chances (CA): Kristen Moger, Sherri Peterson, Deanne Wegehaupt, Jennifer McLaughlin.

Stix With Impact (CA): Sabrina Bobkowski, Toni Sabel, Lisa Donlea.

Men's 40+ Major:

Genesis/One 5 Sports/BG (CA): Alex Kahn, Jermaine Lewis, Javier Fierro, Keith Williams, Aaron Neeley.

Men's 50+ Major:

Never Forget (CA): Rick Vasquez, David E. White, Joe McCallum, Donald Finn.

Top Gun Diamonds (CA): Phil Saenz, Hector Miranda, Brad Schreck.

Men's 50+ AAA:

Top Gun Renegades (CA): Edward Fernandez, Sonny Coon, Billy Loard, David Perez, George Ramsey.

Men's 50/55+ Major

Plus:

J.K. Inc. 55 (CA): Dean Aldridge, Johnny Bailey, Ernie Gutierrez, Ron Hayes, Bruce Kelly

L.A.F. 55 (CA): Jim Roach, John Patterson, Pete Jump.

Men's 55+ Major:

Ink Games (CA): Freddie

Camarena, Ronnie Reid, Joe Jordan, Doc Ames.

Men's 55+ AAA:

Top Gun Storm (CA): Tim Arebalo, Ross Chapa, Jeff Callahan, Jorge Gurrola, Jose Cotto.

Dirty Sox (CA): Eric Morrison, Sean Jones, Harvey Crosthwaite.

Men's 55/60+ AA:

Advil Knights 60 (CA): Chip Harkey, Jerry Harkey, Randy Ross, Ted Bennett.

So Cal Riptide 60: Joe Kramer, Robert Pinder, Steve Brozzoski.

Men's 60+ Major:

Enforcers (CA): Frank Riese, Ray Orta, Greg Rojas, Mark Fitzgerald, Tom Ristau.

Top Gun Warriors (CA): Robert "Bobby" Jones, Joel Glassman, Paul Buchler.

Men's 60+ AAA:

Michael's Automotive Group (WA): Scott Pfeiffer, Russ McDuffie, Todd "Tex" Arndt, Kevin Devine, Dick Revay.

Men's 65+ Platinum:

Arizona Scorpions 65s: Mark Meekins, Rod Prather, Harold Halldorson, Howard McCasland, John Leavitt.

R&R 65s (CA): Steve Stafford, Barry Bluhm, Danny Nunnelee, Tony Murray.

Men's 65/70+ Gold:

No Guts No Glory (CA): Alan Jackson, Ken Kowalski, Randy Van Essen, Jack

Brunschmid.

Men's 65/70+ AA:

Git-R-Done 70 (CA): Robert Fishburn, David Delgadillo, Mike Cross, Mike Sanchez.

Majestic 65 (CA): Bryan Robinson, Andy Van Derpoel, Steve Hess.

Men's 70/75+ Gold:

D & K Softball (CA): Ron Hansen, Dario Del Rosa, Tom Steinhauer, Ernie Regalado.

Mustangs 70s (CA): Jerry McIntyre, Don Cuzick, Steve Jankowski, Paul Dahlgren.

Men's 75+ AAA:

So Cal Warriors 75s: Bob Morago, Joe Ruvolo, Mike Drennan, Jim Dionne, Larry Ekema.

J Squared 75s (CA): Mike Goodison, Jim Langley, Chuck Anderson.

Men's 75/80+ Gold:

Top Gun 80 Gold (CA): Jim Kenney, Frank Sperling, Frank Mazzeo, Ed Hawthorne, Tom Harwood.

Northeast Champs

Men's 40+ Gold:

First Capital (NY): Steven Kuss III, Michael Roselli, David Ponza, David Pritchett, Fausto Mota-Ramirez.

Mutants/JVA Sports (PA): Keith Donahue, Daniel Leiphart, Nathan Lapp, Jonathan Thelen.

Vinnie's Hitmen (PA):

Continued on next page

All-Tourneys: Post Reno TOC Qualifiers Take Us to Calif., Oregon, and New York.

Continued from previous page

Jordan Seese, Tommy Sommer, Chris Crighton.

Men's 50+ AAA:

Magic Softball (MA): Jeff Silveira, Steve Johnson, Ken Stuart, Dave Cappuccino, Greg Justice.

Men's 55+ Gold:

Finance of America (NJ): Peter Appolito, Darren Wilton, Damon Roth, Scott Mugele, Bill Prezioso.

Bishop Electric (RI): Keith Mackey, Doug Haynes, Ron Charchafiah, Rick Sousa.

Katama Air Park/JJM (CT): Edgard Sevilla, Keith Worthy, Kenny Dibble.

Men's 60+ Major:

Building Innovation Group/TJ Plumbing (NY): John Fitzgerald, Steve Harter, Mark Gaisser, Nelson Huertas.

Men's 60+ AA:

New York Capitals: Scott Robertson, Marc Sanford, Mark Capano, Mike Shea, Dan Rivers.

Men's 65+ Major:

Talaga Construction 65 (CT): Rich Bettley, Tom Kapitan Don Brennan.

Men's 65+ Silver:

Spring Ford 65+ (PA): Dave Villa, Brad Hanson, John Cokley, Bill Lowe, Paul Koch.

Men's 70+ AAA:

JAG-ONE/Jersey Master Red: Mike O'Shea, Don Montefusco, Richard Traub, John Newton, John Baldino.

Upstate Xtreme/Boombah 70s (NY): Bob Mills, Mike Liquori, Rick Bennett, Paul O'Brien.

Jim Sherman/NW Champs

Women's 40+ Silver:

Royal-T Real Estate/The LaFlamme Group (WA): Tracie Dalke, Shanika Peacock, Amber Anderson, Andi Jones, Estella Getty.

Ol' D BYBs (OR): Amy Forconi-Beach, Heidi Otteni, Velen Peña, Jamie Osborn.

Vintage 208 (ID): Wendy Shell, Amber Enochson, Sheree Willhite.

Women's 50+ Gold:

Takin' Chances (CA): Tressia Hammonds, Angela Broadbent, Michelle Adkins, Michele Dahl, Trisha Thelin.

Snap, Crackle, Pop (WA): Michelle Jacoby, Christine Sundby, Robyn Rieger, Kat Sherer.

West Coast United (CA): Marcee Martinez, Mary Thomas, Rhonda Higgins.

Men's 40+ Major Plus:

NorthWest Legions 40 (WA): Rigo Castillo, James Wilson, Juan Ventura, Daniel Hawkins, Boyd Gebers.

Headcase (WA): Daniel Van Daele, Kenny Jobe, Brian Plenkovich, Ryan Wallin.

Men's 40+ Major:

Simon Homes (OR): Fidel Nanez Jr., Brian P. Moody, Kevin D. Lewis, Michael S. Powers, Willie Metcalf.

Men's 40+ AAA:

Style Motors/Integrity Home Loans/Sutton Sign Solutions (OR): Darnell Wright, Brandon Klocko, Tyler Falconer, Tim Croasmun.

Men's 50+ Platinum:

Cody Staffing/A3 (WA): Matt Rich, Tim Young, Neal Homan.

Men's 50+ Silver:

Hitmen (ID): Ed DeCouto, Kyle Stratton, Ray Roman.

Men's 55+ Silver:

Bend Dirtbags (OR): Chris Peters, Mike Nelson, Paul Broberg, Karl Johanssen.

Men's 55/60+ Platinum:

Damage NV: Thomas Wood, Mark Buchanan, Kirk Godfrey, Casey Hann.

Men's 60+ Major:

Precision/Wolfpack (WA): Steve Dzubay, Steve Cady, Jim Perry, Todd Deck, Jerry Herrington.

Washington Legends: Bruce McCartney, Scott Riley, Brett Kreuger.

Men's 60+ AAA:

Chelu (OR): Jose Villapando, James Taylor, Gary Keiser, Raleigh Rowland.

Michael's Automotive Group (WA): Troy Sutter, Mike Jones, Pete Velasco.

Men's 60+ AA:

Spin Tees (WA): Steve Zacharczyk, Grant Brown,



Jerry Garnett of DeMarini, Sponsor of the 2023 Jim Sherman/NW Championship, Receives Appreciation Award from SSUSA.

Kevin Johnson, Bill Jones.

Men's 65+ AAA:

Scrap Iron Heavy Metal (CO): Bruce Edstrom, John Kirar, Josh Elvove, Mike Trosper, Arthur Talbot.

Scrap Iron Xplosion 65 (CO): Arlis Bader, Dave Fukumoto, Al Sato, Ed Dilley.

Hustlers (CA): Greg Houle, Ray O'Rear, Terry Brown.

Men's 65+ AA:

Scrap Iron 65 Rockies (CO): Rick Frahm, Max Holloway, Jose Valiente, Fred Ruiz.

East/West Aircraft 65s (ID): Jeff Kelly, Mike Summerfield, Ted Dedden.

Men's 65/70+ Platinum:

Texas Crush Sixty Fives: Mike Garibay, Joe Read, Mark Henson, Dave Cherry, Murray Williams.

North Idaho Softball Club: Don Owen, Tim Colwell, Don Freund.

Men's 70+ AAA:

W.E. Ruth Realty 70 (WA): Mike Spellman, Mel Schaefer, Jerry Sparks, Mike Ryan, Jim Glockner.

Spot Bar & Grille (OR): Charlie Moon, Les Gipe,



Canadian Team, Pelley Stix (ON) Competes in the 2023 Northeastern Championships in Syracuse, New York as Their Runner Crosses the Scoring Line.

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GAMER SERIES

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All-Tourneys: Eastern Nationals Starts the First Leg of the Triple Grand Slam.

Continued from page 9

Woody Statler, Richard Marquand.

Men's 75/80+ Gold:

Al's Sport Shop (CA): Roy Rodriguez, Greg Singleton, Jim Ryan, Rob Pardo, Steve Lombardi.

Eastern Nationals

Women's 40+ Major:

Redz/California Bat Company (NC): Pam Usry, Ameaka Maye, Angie Blair, Brandy Ide, Tabatha Robinson.

Allstate/ACS/K&G Softball (OH): Kelli Carlson, Sara Olson, Staci Eubanks.

Women's 40+ AAA:

Fireballs (MA): Noelle Aucoin, Kelly Barker, Cheryl Lee-Scecina, Lindsay Gauthier, Kelly Walsh.

Lady Legions (PA): Dawn McGrath, Hallie Miller, Jennifer Benoist, Angela Levarto.

Cherry Bombs (MD): Heather Alder, Marti Stepner, Keisha Owens.

Women's 50+ Gold:

50 Shades Women's Team (IN): Marvelyn Greene, Renee Fuller, Andrea Speelman, Anita McCall, Sandy McGee.

Men's 40+ AAA:

Prime 40s (VA): Wil Padilla-Vargas, John (Lee) Smith, William "Train" Neitring, James Gough Jr. Phillip Primmer.

Men's 50+ Major:

PulseChain.com/Feet Heat Customs (OH): Jamie Caterino, Scott Sorenson,

Allen Dina, Gary Lynce, Gary Noonan.

PhoenixTube –

DreamWorn (PA): Ron Patterson, Eric Dunn, James Raymo.

Men's 50+ AAA:

4 Season Paint & Remodeling/Evil Sports/Sundial Cocktails (MA): David Quarto, Jeff Jeanotte, Steve Lefebvre, John Gionet, Rodney Erickson.

Warpath 50 (MD):

Rodney Webb, Derrick Deal, Damon Bond, Thom Wolfe.

BACKSIDE (VA): Brian Lee, Dan Needham, Jeff Crowe.

Men's 50/55+ AA:

Flatline/Van Metre Homes (VA): Chuck Rose, Chris McCauley, Freddie Jobe, Bucky Gilley.

Men's 55+ AAA:

George Renegades: Ed Bennett, George Colbert, Greg Floyd, Jimme Bradford.

Men's 60+ Major:

Top Dawgs (FL): Scott Atkin, Steven King, Howard Albritton, Mark A. Golden, Hank Culley.

Men's 60+ AAA:

BJM Bomb Squad 60s



Player from N.E. Merchants 55 (MD) Running the Bases at the 2023 Eastern National Championships in Loudoun County, Virginia.

(IN): Ricky Bowlds, Tonny Gilchrist, Curt Youngblood, Fred Schueb.

Gaithersburg Rental/TC Backer (MD): Mike Chmielowicz, Ed Rodriquez, Pat O'Conner.

Men's 65+ Major:

Omega IT Services LLC (MD): Michael Watson, Horace Jefferson, Kenneth Sanders.

Men's 65+ Silver:

Spring Ford 65+ (PA): Dave

Villa, Don Mohr, Paul Koch, Jim Weiss.

Men's 70/75+ Platinum:

Venom 75s (FL): Jim Davidson, Bruce Fairchild, Phil Farmer, Dave Clover, Clyde Smith.

Men's 70/75+ Gold:

JAG-ONE/Jersey Masters Red: Steve Ferro, John Newton, Vincent Stella.

Continued on next page



Players from Cherry Bomb (MD) High Five Each Other After a Successful Game. They placed third in the Women's 40+ AAA Division.

Photos by Clover Shultz.

All-Tourneys: Western Teams Have Their Chance a Week After Easterns

Continued from previous page

Men's 75+ AAA:

JAG-ONE/Jersey Masters (NJ): Dick Lillich, Barry Cohen, Gary Krause, Joe Maines, Lou Vilotti.

Men's 80+ Gold:

NorEasters (NY): Bob Killiam, Ray LePage, Joe Broun, Ron Vandenburg, Al Hicks.

Blazers (NC): Paul Math, Al Avant, Evan Lloyd, Richie Ronollo.

Men's 80/85+ Gold:

Center For Sight (FL): Bill Brotherton, Walter Taylor, Ray Bosetti, Tom Sides, Jim Mattingly.

Western Nationals

Women's 40+ Major:

TABU (CA): Alice Liu, Bernie Stone, Cheryl Roeper, Gidget Blaquera, Diane Bruss.

Women's 40+ AAA:

Utah Relics: Amanda Dalley, Patty Weaver, Penny Varoz, Jayme McWidener.

B.O.O.B.S. (CA): Maya Luna, Roilynn Bennett, Kat Dippert.

Men's 40+ Platinum:

JK Inc. Easton/Miken (CA): Bryson Baker, Chris Boggs, Pilar Amaya, John Brown, Johnny Bailey.

Supreme 40s (CA): Jeff Pappa, Lee Sherbo, Ismael Vera.

Men's 40+ AAA:

T.N.T. (Tacos & Tequila) (CA) Eddie Garcia, Pat Baugh, Mike Kinsella.

Men's 55+ AAA:

Kamikaze 55 (CA): Bill D. Loard Jr., Carlos Quezada,

Jeff Lawless, Stephon Randolph.

Men's 55/60+ Platinum:

Legacy Sports USA (AZ): Jimmy Ferguson, Robbie Robinson, Dwayne Curry, Dave Thompson, Isac

"Chito" Alvidrez.

CANVAS Softball (CA): Fernando Lopez, Paul Hendricks, Nick Miller, Marcos Gonzalez.

ManCave (TX): Michael Spencer, Rick Smith, Michael



2023 Western Nationals Awards and Trophies.



Batter in Mid-Swing During Day 2 of the 2023 Western National Championships in Sacramento County.

McKellop.

Men's 55/60+ AA:

Tri City Legends/D-bats (WA): Jeff Jensen, Jon Cox, Carl Wilson, Kenny Fergen.

Men's 60+ Major:

California Energy: Ken Block, Shawn Rogers, Ricky Ishimaru, Dino Gay, Paul Supat.

Top Gun Warriors (CA): Paul Buchler, Jeff Blakeman, Rich Cruz.

Men's 60+ AAA:

Michael's Automotive Group (WA): Todd Arndt, Scott Pfeiffer, Troy Sutter, Sam Tinned, Ruben Silva.

Men's 65+ Platinum:

New Dawn Awning (CA): Ricky Ishamaru, Joe Cuneo, Butch Maciel, Mike Wiley, Mike Cacy.

Oregon Crabs 65: Randy Eatherton, Tony Schmidt, Steve Clark.

Men's 65+ AAA:

Trachsel Auto Body 65s (OR): Gerhard Greve, Bill Borrelli, Joel Patnode, Gerge Ladenburg, Mark Markarian.

Men's 70+ AAA:

No Dice/Costa Rica (CA): George Lamb, Kevin Buchanan, Jack Wabinga, Rob Weiss, Ray Rojas.

Nor-Cal 70s: Kerry Gates, Dennis Barrett, Ray Lucas, John Moran.

Men's 75+ AAA:

Solano Senior Enforcers (CA): Mike O'Leary, Eric Hoff, Brian Bates.

Men's 75+ AA:

Mustangs (CA): Wingfield Downing, John Vanderpool, Jack Boniface, Don Brazell, Jim Gancos.

Men's 75/80+ Platinum:

Valley Fog (CA): Rich Ponce, Ken Leppke, Bob Hardwick, Dan Garcia, Clarence Taylor.

Al's Sport Shop (CA): Wayne Dillingham,

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GRAB THE NEWEST 2023 ELITE PRO GRIP TURF



All-Tourneys: Midwest & Southern Champs Mark the Last Month of TOCs

Continued from page 12

Alfred Ramos, Johnny Suniga, Robert Jackson Jr. San Francisco Seals 80s: Arnie Bray, Tom Bussey, Joe Cors.

Midwest Champs

Men's 50+ Major:

Big Hurt Softball 50/Draft Picks (IL): Gordie Loukota, Chris Moon, Jon Fullenkamp, Mike Gomez.

Men's 50+ AAA:

Faithletes United/Mastery (AR): Michael Hamilton, Keith Burns, Shane Johnson, Timothy Sandborn, Brian Riga.

Men's 55/60+ Platinum:

K.C. Elite 55s (MO): Eric Gault, Michael Jackson, Bruce Cole.

Men's 60+ Major:

Dudley Lightning 60 (MO): Martin Gulley, Stephen Cartwright, Karl Lewis, Murray Wortman, Gary Basset.

Sea Glass (AR): Buddy Holman, Randy Owens, Larry Lott, Jaime Pagan.

Swingcoast Roofing (MO): Terry Hale, Mike Peel, Steve "Hoyt" Wilhelm.

Men's 60+ AAA:

Triple Crown (MO): Bill Volk, Steve Schmidt, Dan Krassinger.

Men's 65+ Major Plus:

Texas Crush Sixty Fives: Murray Williams, Bob Hendren, Anthony Hinojosa, Tom Brown, John Roach.

Men's 65+ Major:

Dudley Lightning 65 (MO): Murray Wortman, Dean Emerik, Bob Wessel, Bruce

Whitesides, Neil Fiala.

Men's 65/70+ Gold:

Big Daddy's Donuts 65 (MO): Dave Schneider, Larry Potter, Harry McFadden, Gary Pumphrey, Mark Ramsey.

KC Kids 70 (MO): Dave Cook, Charlie Daniels, Dan Potter, Billy Radford.

50 Caliber 65s (MO): Dean Joerling, Keith Bell, Mark Mirth, Wes Poore.

Men's 70+ AA:

Chicago Hitmen 75s: Jim Kupiec, Ron Flathers, Jim McIntyre, Felix Garcia, Mike Sabatino.

Men's 75+ AAA:

KC Kids 75 (MO): Marvin Carr, Jim Jenkins, Dennis Bampton, Terry Patnode, Melvin Carr.

Southern Champs

Men's 55+ AAA:

Peacemakers (TN): Ronnie Frasier, Chuck Williams, Stacy Pack, Jimmy Strickland, William Nolf.

Men's 60+ Major Plus:

Next Level/Incrediwear (GA): Harold Kelley, William Kelly, Henry Flint.

Men's 60+ Major:

Montgomery Swarm 60 (GA): Buddy Majors, Tim Lee, Allen Brown, Rodney

Waters, Les Barnes.

DT Express (GA): Jeff Farney, Kelly Caudill, Don McClelland.

Men's 60+ AAA:

Mobley Brothers Roofing (TN): Butch Womack, Arnold White, Scottey Lewis, Joe Geist, Garry Morelock.

Southern Boys(GA): Barry Whitener, Travis McDaniel, Johnny Thompson.

Northern Champs

Men's 50/55+ Major:

Chi-town Ballers (IL):

Ransley Presley, Nate Benson, Derrick Peterson, Eugene Laird.

Lansing Legends Softball Club: Jeff Hohlbein, Scott Embrey, Dan Bukovcik, Ken Duchene.

Men's 50/55+ AA:

Buddies, Sampson's, Mid-Michigan Merchants: Mike Miller, Eric Binkowski, D.J. Barr, Vinny Caporale, Justin Bowerman.

Windy City 50s (IL): Matt Goumas, Noel Corral, Brian Roye, Rick O'Rourke.

Midwest Eclipse 55 (IL): Paul A. Williams, Dan Rypma, Mike Reddy.

Men's 55/60+ Gold:
MHP Logistics/Larry's Tire/

Wolfpack (MI): Jeff Kocsis, Pat Sipkovsky, Danny Geatches, Faron Lubbers, Kirby Herschberger.

Men's 60+ Silver:

BJM Bomb Squad 60s (IN): Jeff Horn, Ron Mote, Alex Brown, Rick Bowles.

Buckeye Classics (OH): Gary Busson, Edward Schepp, Edward Berichon.

Men's 65+ Major:

Ohio Elite/Schones/Safe Step Tub: Gery Whelan, Cliff Carpenter, Stu Johnson, Tommy Vinci, Jimmy Biernesser.

Bricks (MI): Floyd Ellis, Marty Harrison, John Johnson.

Men's 65+ AAA:

MP Components/Bomb Squad (MI): John Hoffius, Mike Carlson, Mike Ott, Jeff Toburen, Doug Reska Jr.

Men's 65/70+ AA:

Doc Martens/Ropes Courses (MI): Joe Orr, Jim Bellingier, Jim Cloud, Larry Vitale, Chris Collier.

Region 65s (IN): Dennis Tilford, Dan Kairis, John Bathurst.

All-Tourney Selections for Rocky Mountain Championships will be the Winter edition of the Magazine.



Riverbend Park in Dalton, GA, home of the Southern Championships. Opened in 2022.

Compressing Bat Barrel Helps Produce Power

Hitting Column

By Art Eversole

Softball News Report

The fact that softball bats (either metal or carbon fiber) are hollow adds power to your swing via a spring like action from the barrel adding power to your hits. This phenomenon is referred to as the "Trampoline Effect," causing the ball to gain energy when hit from a springing barrel creating a greater exit speed.

On the other hand, the wooden bat is solid and absorbs more energy without transferring it to the ball and consequently moving the ball slower than does a hollow bat. MLB baseball uses a solid bat and high COR/compression baseball to create the exit-speed. Senior softball uses a "limited flight" softball and a hollow bat to do the same.

As seniors, we are fortunate to be able to use bats that trampoline the ball to the outfield regaining some of our youthful power. The trampolining of the bat-barrel adds to all the hand and body forces you have built up in your swing process. The hollow senior softball bat's barrel compression is more elastic than solid bats and reforms quickly.

To take full advantage of the trampoline effect use a flat lead arm wrist at contact by not bending the lead wrist back toward the elbow in a hinging action. A bent wrist reduces the trampoline effect. Consequently, a flat lead arm wrist at contact keeps the bat-

barrel flush with the incoming pitch allowing for the full trampoline effect (see insert).

Extending both arms fully through contact results in a throwing like action with the bat; then releasing the top hand for a fluid follow thru around your body. In addition, by keeping your hands inside of the ball when going to the ball and allowing the bat-barrel to lag behind your hands will also support trampoline, resulting in increased ball-exit speed. It's also a good way to hit those inside pitches directly on the barrel and keeping them in fair territory.

The characteristics of all softball bats and balls are regulated by softball associations making sure the bats and balls are compliant with their standards that will promote safety and at the same time allowing the game to be fun. Barrel compression is measured by a device in how many psi it takes to compress the bat barrel a certain distance. If the force to compress the barrel is below what the association's specifies, then the bat no longer complies with standards for performance and will be removed from play.

With a higher compression bat-barrel you'll find that the walls of the barrel are stiffer or more rigid and much harder for a senior to compress for an effective trampoline. Senior bats start in the neighborhood of about 200-210lbs compression. As the bat is used and begins to break-in and the compression gets down to about 175psi is when the bat is at its best and is game ready.



Softball compression of hollow softball bat barrel



The very strong/younger senior hitter can compress those higher compression bat readings which can carry the ball a long way. However, if the bat-barrel compresses too easily it may be maxed out by the stronger player and not as effective. On the other hand, the softer barrel can help the weaker hitter be a better hitter. A bat with a lower compression value means the barrel walls are more flexible or elastic. It is believed that a more elastic barrel wall will produce faster exit speeds at lower swing speeds.

In summary, spend the time experimenting with bat-barrel compression to find the one that fits your strength and

hitting style.

Happy hitting,
Art Eversole has played on Major and Major Plus teams in the Northwest. Eversole can be reached via email at rtmyboy01@gmail.com.

Heard From The Dugout

"Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example."

Mark Twain

Receptions & Celeb Game New to Worlds

90+ Game, International Co-Ed & Hall of Fame Return

Continued From Page 1

invited to a softball equipment expo. In addition to seeing all the vendors in the same place, managers will be able to register and discuss the tournament with SSUSA officials.

Each reception will be at Boulder Station Hotel & Casino at 7 p.m. on the following dates:

Session 1 - Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Session 2 - Sunday, Sept. 17.

Session 3 - Thursday, Sept. 21.

Session 4 - Wednesday, Sept. 27.

Women's 50-55+ teams and Co-Ed teams will have separate events a day before their start date.

The first session features

the Wounded Warriors vs Sin City All-Star celebrity game at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. (see story on Page 17). Three raffle winners will be selected to play on the Wounded Warriors team and will be announced at the reception.

In the second session, the historic elders of the sport take the field for the second annual 90+ Game on Monday, Sept. 18, at 9:30 am at Big League Dreams.

In a very special ceremony immediately after the 90s game, five exceptional people will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. The inductees include Kurt Mahaney (CA), Joseph G.

90+ Game: Western Team

Mgr: Guy Anderson (CA)

Norm Blackwell - 90	CA
Dennis Craig - 87	CA
Raymond Everingham - 88	CA
Alfred Fiori - 87	CA
Murvin Granderson - 90	CA
Paul Janke - 94	CA
Roe Kennedy - 89	OK
Bill Krane - 90	NV
Al Lenski - 93	TX
Fred Mattos - 87	CO
Robert McElrea - 91	WA
Dale Myers - 88	WA
Ray Newman - 89	CA
Stuart Sellinger - 89	AZ
Eloy Solis - 91	CA
Roland Stiarwalt - 91	CA
Alonzo "Smiley" Trevino-92	TX
Artie Wachter - 91	AZ

90+ Game: Eastern Team

Mgr: Dick Anderson - 92 (MN)

A. Mgr: Hugh Brotherton-92 (FL)

Art Barnes - 87	PA
Ray Bosetti - 89	PA
Rocco Cambareri - 88	FL
Bobby D'Amadio - 89	FL
John Gratzek - 92	MN
Norman Haltrich - 87	FL
Andy Horn - 87	NY
Bobby Johnson - 88	FL
Roland Johnson- 89 (Coach)	FL
Dwight McVickers - 88	FL
Roger Schroder - 88	IN
Mike Smieja - 94 (Coach)	MN
Fred Swenson - 88 (Coach)	MN
Joe Sykes - 89	TN
Willie Wood - 89	FL

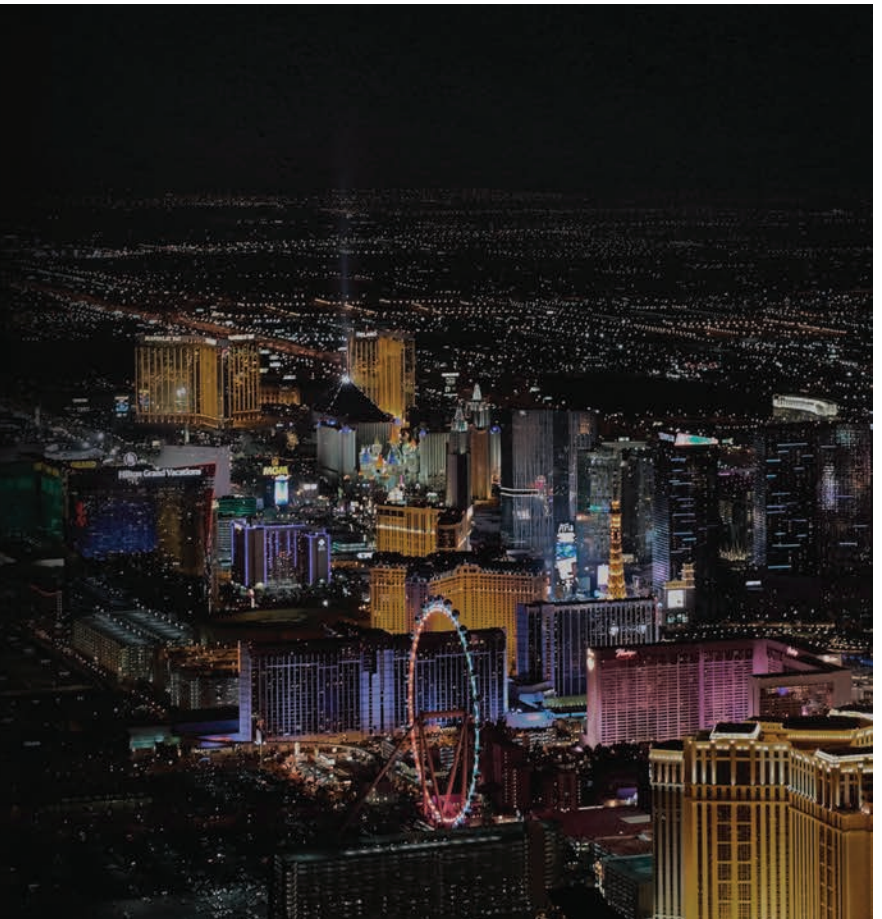
Continued on page 18

THE GREATEST ARENA ONEARTH

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It is our pleasure to welcome the SSUSA World Championships to Las Vegas, the ultimate sports destination. Get ready to experience fabulous entertainment, world-class dining, legendary shopping and unparalleled nightlife that keep the party going well into the night. Unleash adventure and welcome yourself to the greatest arena on earth.

Learn more at VisitLasVegas.com



Celebrities Sparkle in Special Game

Sin City All-Stars Play Wounded Warriors Session One

Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS – Elite celebrity athletes in several sports in Las Vegas will take on the Louisville Warriors, soldiers who lost limbs in combat, in a special game here on Saturday Sept. 16 at Big League Dreams.

The game, to raise money for the Wounded Warrior team to travel, features celebrities including a three-time Gold Medal winner for

Team USA, former MLB player, NBA player, head coach of the University of Nevada/ Las Vegas (UNLV) basketball team, top coach for the UNLV baseball team, former UNLV quarterback and a number of to former college players.

In addition, the commanding officer of Nellis Air Force Base, and the Chief of Police for Henderson will play. The top lounge act in Las Vegas – The Dueling

Pianists, Tam and Kim Pinegar – will help coach the team, and nationally renown singer Kasey of the Marilynds will sing the National Anthem.

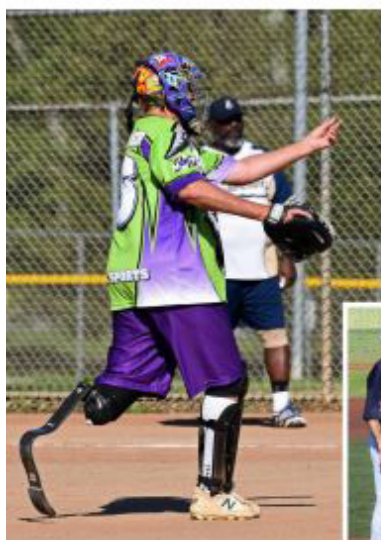
In addition, some top senior softball players will be helping the celebrities.

Here are the celebrities on the roster:

Kevin Higgins: Celebrity team manager who played for San Diego Padres in the early



Continued on page 23



Worlds: USA National Games Return, Game to Be Played During Seeding

Continued From Page 16

Cors (CA), Vincent Melograno (FL), Anatol "Tols" Mihailoff (FL), and Carl Gustafson (WY). Kathleen "Kat" Ray, founding Miss Senior USA/Universe will sing the National Anthem for the ceremony.

The fourth and final session of the Worlds, the International Co-Ed Championships return. The 11-team division will include teams from Bavarian Royals of Munich, Germany, and the Panama Police of Panama City.

During all four sessions, the Western Champions will play the Eastern Champions for the USA Champion titles in more than 20 divisions.

The Eastern National Championships (July 25-30) and the Western National Championships (Aug. 1-6) took place in Loudon County, Va., and Sacramento and Placer Counties enabling division winners to take the first step toward the coveted Triple Grand Slam.

The winners of the Eastern Nationals will play the winners of the Western Nationals in a one-game winner-take-all USA National Championship Game during the seeding play of the 2023 World Championships. (See list of games on this page).

The USA National Games are the second leg of the TGS. Teams win-

ning their Eastern/Western Nationals division, winning their USA Game, along with winning their Worlds' division, complete the formidable Triple Grand Slam.

Additionally, teams winning their USA Game are seeded first in their bracket for the Worlds, while teams losing their USA Game are seeded second. Singleton teams, teams without a USA Game opponent, are seeded second in their Worlds' bracket.

Winners of the USA National Games will receive first place plaques and jackets.

These Singleton teams will receive first place plaques and are eligible for the Triple Grand Slam:

- GTR (OR) - 40+ AAA
- Expert Ind. Supply (NJ) – 50+ AA
- BPA/Rawlings 55 (PA) – 55+ Major Plus
- Legacy Sports USA (AZ) – 60+ Major Plus
- Timberworks/Suncoast (CA) – 70+ Major Plus
- Pastimers (WA) - 65+ AA
- No Dice/Costa Rica (CA) - 70+ AAA
- Last Call 75 (NV) - AAA
- Mustangs (CA) – 75+ AA
- Gold Rush (CA) - 80+ AAA
- Center For Sight (FL) – 85+ Major

These Singleton teams receive first place plaques but are not eligible for the Triple Grand Slam (teams must win two of the three legs):

- Arizona Dream Team 55s – W55+ Major
- Tri City Legends/D-bats (WA) – 60+ AA
- Cal Energy – 65+ Major Plus
- Spikes (WA) – 70+ AA
- Florida Investment Properties - 80+ Major Plus

2023 USA National Game World Championships

Western Teams

Women's 40+ Major

TABU (CA)

Women's 40+ AAA

Dynasty Sisters Mood Swings (CA)

Women's 50+ Major

Snap, Crackle, Pop (WA)

Women's 50+ AAA

Old Nasty Curves (CA)

Men's 40+ Major Plus

JK Inc. Easton/Miken (CA)

Men's 40+ Major

Cheap Suits/Republic Realty (CA)

Men's 50+ Major Plus

Scrap Iron Havoc (CO)

Men's 50+ Major

Gold Nation 50s (CA)

Men's 50+ AAA

Rolfe & Company (CA)

Men's 55+ Major

CANVAZ Softball (CA)

Men's 55+ AAA

D'Amore Law (WA)

Men's 55+ AA

California Coast Plumbers Inc.

Men's 60+ Major

California Energy

Men's 60+ AAA

Michael's Automotive Group (WA)

Men's 65+ Major

New Dawn Awning (CA)

Men's 65+ AAA

Trachsel Auto Body 65s (OR)

Men's 70+ Major

Last Call 70 (NV)

Men's 75+ Major Plus

Omen 75 (CA)

Men's 75+ Major

Valley Fog (CA)

Men's 85+ AAA

Jaguars (CA)

2023 USA National Game World Championships

Eastern Teams

Women's 40+ Major

Redz/California Bat Company (NC)

Women's 40+ AAA

Fireballs (MA)

Women's 50+ Major

50 Shades Women's Team (IN)

Women's 50+ AAA

Shots Fired (RI)

Men's 40+ Major Plus

Suncoast Adidas 40s (FL)

Men's 40+ Major

Shin Biscuits/Potomac Sports (MD)

Men's 50+ Major Plus

Suncoast/Adidas 50s (FL)

Men's 50+ Major

PulseChain.com/Feet Heat Customs (OH)

Men's 50+ AAA

4 Season Paint/Evil Sports/Sundial Cocktails (MA)

Men's 55+ Major

.50 Core Sports & Apparel/Grit Hounds Softball (VA)

Men's 55+ AAA

Xtreme Home Improvements/New York Fitness

Men's 55+ AA

Longshoremen 55 (VA)

Men's 60+ Major

Top Dawgs (FL)

Men's 60+ AAA

Turn 2 Electric (NC)

Men's 65+ Major

Prime Time (IL)

Men's 65+ AAA

Northern Virginia Force 65s

Men's 70+ Major

REI Nation (TN)

Men's 75+ Major Plus

Venom 75s (FL)

Men's 75+ Major

Northern Virginia Force 75

Men's 85+ AAA

New York Statesmen





**DENNIS
RULLI**

BALANCED

Dennis Rulli

**RONNI
SALCEDO**

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2024 SUNCOAST

MELEE MEGALOAD SERIES MELEE RELOADED 3 SERIES

HIGH-PERFORMANCE SENIOR SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL BATS

\$239.99

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NEW | SENIOR FOR 2024 | SOFTBALL

SM12SM / MELEE MEGALOAD 12" 2-PIECE

Barrel Type: 12" Barrel, 2-Piece Design

Weighting: MEGA-POWER End-Load

Weights: 34" / 25.5oz, 26.5oz, 27.5oz

Signature: JD Genter

Warranty: None

SMR3SE12 / MELEE RELOADED3 12" 1-PIECE

Barrel Type: 12" Barrel, 1-Piece Design

Weighting: Power End-Load

Weights: 34" / 25.5oz, 26.5oz, 27.5oz, 28.5oz, 29.5oz

Warranty: None

APPROVED FOR PLAY IN SSUSA, ISA & SPA

TECHNOLOGY FEATURES...



Ultimate Fiber Compression Technology

Engineered with our UFC Barrel Technology for enhanced durability and consistent performance on every hit!

Max Speed Handle

Both the Melee Megaload and Reloaded3 Series Bats are engineered with a smaller handle diameter to maximize barrel whip resulting in your max speed with excellent control of the bat.

Stick & Spin Barrel Technology

A tackified barrel surface that "grips" the ball on a cut swing, spinning the ball faster for a higher ball trajectory and max distance on your blast!

OPTI-DURA Performance Composite

Aerospace-Grade Carbon Fiber combined with Suncoast's Proprietary manufacturing process results in max performance and durability - hit after hit.

2024 TOC Berths: SoCal to Rocky Mountain

Softball News Report

Some 159 teams earned berths by winning their divisions from Winter Nationals to the Northern California State Championships. An additional 154 teams earned berths between Southern California State Championships and Rocky Mountain Championships.

Women's 40+ Major

HTS-Here To Smash (CA)
Redz/California Bat Company (NC)
TABU (CA)

Women's 40+ AAA

Dynasty Sisters Mood Swings (CA)
Fireballs (MA)
Pro Moves 40 (CA)
Royal-T Real Estate/The LaFlamme Group (WA)

Women's 50+ Major

50 Shades Women's Team (IN)
LOL-Legit Ol' Ladies (CA)
Snap Crackle Pop (WA)

Women's 50+ AAA

Takin' Chances (CA)

Women's 55+ Seniors

Arizona Dream Team 55s

Men's 40+ Major Plus

JK Inc. Easton/Miken (CA)
NorthWest Legends 40 (WA)
Suncoast Adidas 40s (FL)

Men's 40+ Major

Cheap Suites/Republic Realty (CA)
First Capital (NY)
Genesis/One 5 Sports/BG (CA)
Midwest Elite (MO)
Shin Biscuits/Potomac Sports (MD)
Simon Homes (OR)

Men's 40+ AAA

GTR (OR)
Prime 40s (VA)
Shoots (CA)

Men's 50+ Major Plus

Hara's/Bay Equity/J & R Wood Products/Rawlings (WA)
Scrap Iron Havoc (CO)
Suncoast/Adidas 50s (FL)

Men's 50+ Major

Chi-town Ballers (IL)
Gold Nation 50s (CA)
Michigan Showtime
PulseChain.com/Feet Heat Customs (OH)
STL Stars Reloaded (MO)

Taylor Made Construction/BPA (PA)
Team Shadow (CA)
Texas Steel/California Bats (TX)
Vicious Cycle Softball (50) (CA)

Men's 50+ AAA

All-Quip/SOWC North (OR)
Drouillard (ON, Can.)
Faithletes United/Mastery (AR)
Magic Softball (MA)
Quality A's Reloaded (OH)
Rolfe & Company (CA)
Roof Masters (AL)
SSC/Persauders (KS)
Top Gun Renegades (CA)

Men's 50+ AA

A3/NW50s (WA)
Expert Ind. Supply (NJ)
Lobos 50 (TX)

Men's 55+ Major Plus

BPA/Rawlings 55 (PA)
J.K. Inc. 55 (CA)

Men's 55+ Major

.50 Core Sports & Apparel/Grit Hounds Softball (VA)
CANVAZ Softball (CA)
Damage NV
Finance of America (NJ)
Mitchell's 55 (FL)
Vectra International/Big Biscuit (KS)

Men's 55+ AAA

Cotton Eye Joe (TN)
D'Amore Law (WA)
KC Stampede (MO)
Mo Town Classics/P.E.A. Group (MI)
Peacemakers (TN)
Top Gun Storm (CA)
Xtreme Home Improvements & Restoration/New York Fitness Clubs/
Fredrick's (PA)

Men's 55+ AA

Buddies, Sampson's, Mid-Michigan Merchants
California Coast Plumbers Inc.
Longshoremen 55 (VA)
So Cal Riptide 55

Men's 60+ Major Plus

CornerStone (OR)
Legacy Sports USA (AZ)
Monster Softball (MS)
Texas Crush Sixties

Men's 60+ Major

Buell Fuel 60s (NY)
California Energy 60

Dudley Lightning 60 (MO)
Enforcers (CA)
Montgomery Swarm 60
MPH Logistics/Larry's Tire/Wolfpack (MI)
Peak Softball/Storage Time/Scrap Iron 60s (CO)
Precision/Wolfpack (WA)
Top Dawgs (FL)

Men's 60+ AAA

Alliance/Scrap Iron 60 (CO)
Avalanche (OH)
CPOA Cleveland/Northern Ohio Printing
Hudson Valley Cyclones (NY)
KC Stampede (MO)
Michael's Automotive Group (WA)
Mobley Brothers Roofing (TN)
Tri-State Kings (AK)
Turn 2 Electric (NC)

Men's 60+ AA

Advil Knights 60 (CA)
Lobos 60 (TX)
Mike's Bar & Grill (WA)
New York Capitals
Tri City Legends/D-bats (WA)

Men's 65+ Major Plus

Arizona Scorpions 65s
Texas Crush Sixty Fives

Men's 65+ Major

Dudley Lightning 65 (MO)
Empire Monroe 65 (NY)
New Dawn Awning (CA)
Ohio Elite/Schones/Safe Step Tub
Prime Time (IL)
Scrap Iron High Octane (CO)
Trachsel Auto Body 65 (OR)

Men's 65+ AAA

Big Daddy's Donuts 65 (MO)
DT Express (GA)
MP Components/Bomb Squad (MI)
Northern Virginia Force 65s
Scrap Iron Heavy Metal (CO)
Spring Ford 65+ (PA)
Texas Legends 65
The Power (TN)
Top Gun Stealth (CA)
Trachsel Auto Body 65s (OR)

Men's 65+ AA

Cascade Thunder (OR)
Duke City Dynamite 65 (MN)
Indy Fog (IN)
Lights Out-65 (CA)
Pastimers (WA)

Softball: 'Doing Is Better Than Watching'

Softball News Report

I just returned from playing in the Northern Championships in Lansing Mich., and my team didn't hit well as we won only one game. Doing the seven-hour drive back home, my teammates and I agreed that we really must love the game to do all this driving, spend money on hotels, and then lose.

Well, I guess we do!

Losing reminds me of a line that comes true all the time: "If softball hasn't made you humble, it's about to."

I just need to give a shout-out to the Senior Softball USA ump's that do our tournaments. They consistently do an outstanding job, just one guy's opinion.

It's often wondered how beneficial to our health (longevity specifically) exercise is. Studies have shown a few interesting things; one is that a person's walking speed is a good barometer of their life expectancy. In other

Senior Moments

By Dave Weinman

words, if you walk fast you're probably going to live longer than the slow walkers your age.

Another interesting finding is that the major benefit of exercise (as relates to life span) doesn't require an intense workout. It was found that even just being on one's feet, doing light work, is nearly as beneficial as long distance running or other more intense workouts. By being on our feet, our brains and cardiovascular systems must work a little harder and that's a good thing.

The "Bottom" line: Don't spend too much time on your butt! Anyway, doing is more fun than watching.

On another subject, I'm still reading baseball books and I'd like to share thoughts from my most recent reads: "Ty and the Babe" by Tom

Stanton and "The Kid- The Immortal Life of Ted Williams" by Ben Bradlee Jr.

"The Kid" is a very comprehensive biography of Williams, a little longer than it needed to be at 771 pages, but it was interesting nonetheless. Williams was brilliant, talented and complicated. He flew fighter planes in both World War II and in Korea, and lost five years of his career to his military service. Some said he was the "real" John Wayne. And no one studied hitting like he did.

The "immortal life" mention in the title refers to the fact that his son John Henry manipulated him in his later years to accept having his body frozen after death, hoping that in the future the technology is invented to restore someone to life.

"Ty and the Babe" is a mini-biography of these two baseball greats, whose careers overlapped. Their styles and personalities were quite different- Cobb the slap hitting

base stealer always looking for an edge; and Ruth, physically talented and powerful.

The most interesting thing I learned from this book is that Cobb was not quite the unlikeable cur he was made out to be. He actually had a lot of friends in baseball. And he swore he never actually sharpened his spikes, but he didn't deny that the basepaths were for the runners and the fielders who forgot that might pay a price.

As their careers went along, they developed a friendship and respect for one another, and in 1941, before the war, they staged a charity golf match of three rounds on three different courses. They called it "The Left Handed Has-Beens Golf Championship."

Dave Weinman is a long time Senior Softball player and Senior Softball News Contributor who travels and helps coordinate most of SSUSA's international tours and trips.

TOC: East and West Give Most Berths

Continued From Page 21

Pastimers (WA)
Shannon Fence/CPOA (OH)

Men's 70+ Major Plus

Timberworks/Suncoast (CA)

Men's 70+ Major

KC Kids 70s (MO)

Last Call 70 (NV)

Oregon Crabs

REI Nation (TN)

Men's 70+ AAA

Chicago Strikers 70

D & K Softball (CA)

JAG-ONE/Jersey Masters Red

No Dice/Costa Rica (CA)

Scrap Iron 5280' (CO)

Simmons-Day All-Stars 70 (MD)

W.E. Ruth Realty 70 (WA)

Men's 70+ AA

Chicago Hitmen 75s

Doc Martens/Ropes Courses (MI)

Git-R-Done 70 (CA)

Not Dead Yet (KS)

Spikes (WA)

Men's 75+ Major Plus

Venom 75s (FL)

Men's 75+ Major

75 Scrap Iron Diamonds (CO)

Midwest Fossils (NE)

Northern Virginia Force 75

Valley Fog (CA)

Men's 75+ AAA

Al's Sport Shop (CA)

JAG-ONE/Jersey Masters

KC Kids 75 (MO)

Last Call 75 (NV)

So Cal Warriors 75s

Syracuse Cyclones

Men's 75+ AA

Mustangs (CA)

Top Gun Olde Dawgs 75 (CA)

All 80+ and 85+ teams are automatically invited, however the following have earned invitations:

Men's 80+ Major

Scrap Iron 80s (CO)

Top Gun 80 Gold (CA)

Men's 80+ AAA

Gold Rush (CA)

Men's 85+ Major

Center For Sight (FL)

To see where the teams qualified at or to see the full list, please use this link: [https://seniorsoftball.com/multimedia/2024_toc_qualified_teams_\(2023_season\)_u1.pdf](https://seniorsoftball.com/multimedia/2024_toc_qualified_teams_(2023_season)_u1.pdf).

Lottery, Dreams and the Realism of Retirement

Softball News Report

Well, I woke up early one morning a few weeks past to discover that I had lost a virtual fortune. Without any warning more than \$1.5 billion was gone as were my dreams of buying an island vacation home and by that I mean the entire island.

Yes, I lost the Powerball Lottery. Someone or some group in Florida had stolen my dream...and I imagine the dream of thousands of others nationwide.

Having plunked down my \$10 for five snappy looking quick picks, I thought I had a shot at fame and fortune and I was certainly willing to settle for fortune. Fame? Who cares?

I'm not sure what the odds of winning were, but I imagine it was something like one in 14 jillion or more, but for a few hours I kept the dream alive.

Every time I play the lottery and I only seem to get excited about it when it's well up to stratospheric dollar levels, I think about this friend of mine who I've known for 30 years or more.

She played the lottery

Money Matters

By Jack Sirard

religiously and when I asked her why, she said it was the key to her financial plan of living well in retirement. Sadly, she never won and after a series of financial and personal missteps, now lives in an apartment with Social Security as her primary source of income.

Maybe it was her best shot at a great retirement, but I'm still going to come down on the side of putting saving far ahead of frivolous spending. While plunking down \$10 or \$20 a week may not seem a great deal, over time it all adds up.

In recent weeks we've seen reports that 50 or 70 percent of people can't come up with the cash to meet a one-time emergency bill of just \$1,000 or so. And that's not speaking of low-income families where you can readily see the strain, a car repair bill or a trip to the emergency room can have.

No, they were talking about a broad sample of people across the county who haven't built up their cash

reserves at all.

I believe that many of these same people never...ever...have put pen to paper and come up with a realistic monthly budget and stuck to it. If they did, I'm sure you wouldn't see \$20 lottery tickets or daily \$8 café mochas on it.

No, my friend just couldn't see that that was the path to easier times ahead and now lives a much more scaled-down apartment life. Who knows, maybe she will hit the big one someday...

if she can come up with the money to buy lottery tickets.

Postscript: While we didn't hit the \$1.5 billion prize, we were able to turn our \$10 ticket into a \$4 winner (a mere loss of 60 percent) so I will have a couple bucks to buy a ticket the next time the Lottery gets up to \$1 billion or more!

Jack Sirard is a retired nationally syndicated financial columnist and senior editor of Senior Softball News.



Celeb Game: More Stars

Continued From Page 17

1990s. He's the associate head coach for UNLV's baseball team.

Derrick Williams: Former professional softball player who lives in Las Vegas.

Edarian Williams: Derrick's son, Edarian, just finished an excellent career for UNLV Baseball team as a

four-year starter.

Steve Stallworth: Former UNLV Quarterback. Steve GM for South Point Event Center.

Evric Gray: Former NBA player, Evric played on the UNLV Runnin' Rebel National Championship and Final Four team.

Anderson Hunt: Former UNLV Runnin' Rebel. Named MVP of National Championship team in 1990.

Lori Harrigan-Mack:

All-American UNLV Softball Player and 3-time Gold Medalist as the pitcher for Team USA.

Amie Stewart: Former UNLV softball player and a member of UNLV Athletics Hall of Fame. Led UNLV to Women's College World Series in 1995.

Hollie Chadwick: Former excellent UNLV softball player. Currently the Chief of Police for City of Henderson.

Kevin Kruger: Former

Runnin' Rebel and led histeam to the Sweet 16 in 2007. Currently the head basketball coach for UNLV.

Col. Joshua DeMotts: Commanding Officer, Nellis Air Force Base.

Coaches: Tam and Kim Pinegar: Dueling Pianists, the leading Las Vegas Lounge Act, playing at Harrah's.

Kasey of the Marilynds: National Anthem Singer.



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SSUSA/ISA 2023 Convention in Ft. Myers, FL.

Softball News Report

FT. MYERS, FL. – The annual SSUSA/ISA National Convention will be hosted December 5-8, 2023, at the Embassy Suites – Ft. Myers. The convention is open to all players, managers, directors, umpires, and all interested parties and will host the annual rules committee meeting to discuss possible rule changes, the Hall of Fame Banquet, a classic wood-bat game against SSUSA/ISA staffers, and much more.

Last year's 2022 Convention was cancelled after the devastating Hurricane Ian swept through Ft. Myers and Central Florida in late September of that year.

We had to cancel our annual National Convention last year in Ft. Myers because of the devastating Hurricane Ian, but we are extremely happy to be able to bring it back to Ft. Myers in 2023 and appreciate the long-time support of host: Lee County Sports Authority, said Terry Hennessy, Senior Softball USA chief executive officer.

Upon arrival, all attendees will check-in at the registration desk where they will receive a name tag, agenda and a welcome pack, including a brocher of what to do in Ft. Myers area. Registration will run throughout the convention for attendees arriving at different times.

The convention will kick off Tuesday, December 5 with an open house at the Hospitality Suite starting at 5pm until the end of the evening. The next day, after an open forum for attendees, a Director/UIC Meeting and the Welcome Luncheon for everyone, the Open Rules Committee Meeting will begin.

The open rules committee meeting is open for all attendees to learn what rules and proposals are to be discussed and have a chance to address the committee if desired. The rules committee members are: Donna McGuire (Chair/MO/Regional UIC), Terry Hennessy (C.E.O./CA), Fran Dowell (Executive Director/CA), Don Brooks (Director/TX), Dave Dowell (Director/CA), Ron Grassi (Director/WA), Tim McElroy (Eastern VP/MD), Doug Robbins (Director/CA), Rick Seifman (Umpire VP/AZ), Jerry Smith (Director/CA), Michael Boone (Director/NJ), Felix Mendiola (Director/NV), and Mike Hula (Director/NV).

After the open rules meeting, the day will conclude with the Texas Hold'em Tournament, open to all who wish to join the poker game. Chips will be used in lieu of currency. To join this event, please contact Emily at emily@seniorsoftball.com or call 916-326-5303.

The next day, the rules committee will reconvene to discuss the rule amendments. Discussion is limited to committee members, however individuals who proposed amendments may be called to speak if they wish. After a lunch break, the Annual Wood-Bat Softball Game will start. Anyone can join and teams will be created there at the field. SSUSA staff and Hall of Famers plan to join. More information about where to meet or watch the game will come soon.

After the game, there will be the Exhibitor's Night Buffet for all attendees where the exhibitors will showcase and sell their newest softball products, all in one place.



You are invited!

**To the Annual Senior Softball USA
National Convention
December 5-8, 2023
Ft Myers, FL**

*Don't miss your chance to help shape Senior
Softball for the 2024 season.*

Convention highlights include:

- *Discussion of Rule Changes
- *Hall of Fame Banquet
- *Exhibitor's Night featuring new products
- *Participation in a wood bat game

2023 SSUSA NATIONAL CONVENTION

DECEMBER 5-8, 2023

AGENDA

Tuesday, December 5

5pm – 8 pm Registration/Open House at Hospitality Suite

Wednesday, December 6

9am – 5pm Registration
9am – 10am Open Forum
10am – 11:30am Director/UIC Meeting
11:30am – 1pm Welcome Luncheon
2pm – 5pm Open Rules Committee Meeting
7pm Texas Hold'em Tournament

Thursday, December 7

9am – 5pm Registration
9am – 12pm Rules Committee Meeting
12pm – 1:30pm Break for Lunch
1:30pm – 2:30pm Director/Vendor Meeting
3pm – 5pm Annual Wood-Bat Softball Game
6pm – 7pm Exhibitor's Set-up (Exhibitors only)
7pm Exhibitor's Night Buffet (All Attendees)

Friday, December 8

9am – 5pm Registration
9am – 10:30am Rules Meeting
10:45am – 12pm Directors Round Table (Softball General Discussion)
12pm – 1pm Break for Lunch
1:00pm – 4pm Rules Meeting Concludes
6:00pm Dry Run Banquet Speakers only
7:00pm 2023 Hall of Fame Banquet





Convention Host Hotel, Embassy Suites, 10450 Corkscrew Commons Drive, Estero, Florida, 33928.

Convention: Hall of Fame Banquet

Continued From Page 22

The final day, the rules committee will reconvene for the last time to vote upon the amendments. Everyone may attend, but audience participation will be closed. After reviewing the rule changes and approving the minutes, the convention will conclude with the 2023 Hall of Fame Banquet, where Dick Anderson (MN, Manager),

Louise O'Donnell (NJ, Player), Mike Sisavic (OR, Manager) and Chen Zhaoli (Japan, International Director), will be inducted.

If you wish to attend the convention, please contact Emily at: emily@seniorsoftball.com or call 916-326-5303.

If you are interested in being an exhibitor, please contact Emily above.

If you are interested in sponsoring the convention, please visit the "Convention" tab on seniorsoftball.com, scroll down and click on "Sponsor Form" or please email Emily.

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Newest Recommendations for Daily Activity

**By Stan Reents, PharmD,
Health Coach
Senior Softball Report**

Late last year, researchers at Vanderbilt University in Nashville published yet another study evaluating how daily activity affects health. They concluded that 8,000 to 9,000 steps per day were best for reducing the risk of hypertension and diabetes.

Numerous studies like this have been conducted. In 2019, Harvard researchers reported that 4,400 steps per day were enough. I reviewed it in the Spring 2022 issue.

So which recommendation should you follow?

These two studies aren't identical. A fundamental distinction is that the Harvard study focused on how much activity was needed to lower the risk of death, whereas the Vanderbilt study focused on lowering the risk of several chronic diseases.

Further, to capture activity data, the Harvard researchers utilized an ActiGraph accelerometer. It's an accurate device, but not one that consumers buy. The

Vanderbilt participants wore Fitbit trackers, a very popular brand.

In addition, the Harvard study only assessed four to seven days of activity. The Vanderbilt researchers collected a minimum of six months of activity data for each participant. Thus, the Vanderbilt study was based on a much better assessment of each person's typical activity level.

The Vanderbilt researchers found that the risk of depression and obesity decreased steadily as step counts increased, all the way up to 20,000 steps per day. However, the decrease in risk of hypertension and diabetes leveled off at about 8,000 and 9,000 steps per day, respectively. More than that didn't lower the risk further.

How can you apply these details to your own life?

The most important take-away is that being active is always better than being sedentary. Keep in mind that even if you exercise for 30 minutes, those health benefits are lost if you are sedentary for the rest of the day. Sitting all day long is the new smoking: Don't do it!

The other concept to

clarify is this: Don't confuse total steps-per-day in these research studies with how far you should go on a walk. These researchers tracked virtually every minute of a person's activity throughout the entire day: walking around the house, walking from your car to the post office, walking in the grocery store, etc.

And, while the Vanderbilt researchers identified 8,000 to 9,000 steps per day as the ideal amount to reduce the risk of hypertension and diabetes, they also report that benefits increased with each additional 1,000 steps. This was especially true for diabetes. In other words, if you currently only accumulate 1,000 to 2,000 steps per day,

any amount above that (up to 9,000) will help to lower your risk of diabetes.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Stan Reents, PharmD, is a health care professional and health/fitness coach. He created the web site www.AthleteInMe.com®, a resource on the health benefits of exercise. He is also the author of the sports medicine text "Sport and Exercise Pharmacology."

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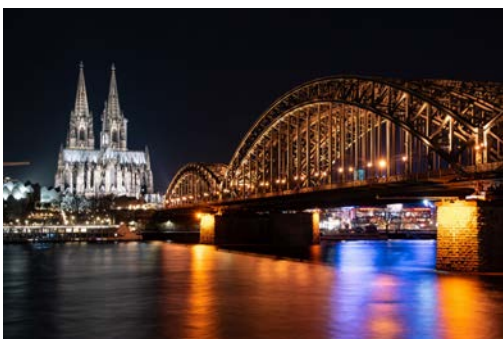
Switzerland, Germany, and France Replaces Scotland in the Black Forest; Caribbean Back

Softball News Report

The 2024 Senior Softball USA (SSUSA) International European Tour is moving south – to the mountains of Switzerland, towns of eastern France and into the Black Forest of Germany from June 13-26.

The Heart of History Tour begins in Zurich and takes travelers through the alpine wonders of Switzerland, up the Rhine River into the Black Forest, through northeast France and beautiful medieval towns.

“The original 2024 European Tour was planned for Scotland, but prices skyrocketed,” said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA chief executive officer, “so we decided to create a Tour to areas we have not visited before in Switzerland, France and Germany.”



Hohenzollern Bridge crossing the Rhine River in Western Germany, with Cologne Cathedral (Kolner Dom) in the background.

As soon as the final itinerary and costs are set, SSUSA will send out a notification to past international travelers and post the information on the International Page on www.seniorsoftball.com.

For the past three decades, Senior Softball USA has been setting up tournaments around the world to give American players the opportunity to experience other countries in a way no other tour can match.

For more information, email Nic@seniorsoftball.com or call SSUSA at 916-326-5303.

The 2024 Caribbean Classic will be played once again just steps from the guest rooms and beach at the Barceló Bávaro Palace Grand Resort here Feb. 21-26.

The 2023 tournament featured three TeamUSAs going up against each other and three Dominican teams in a five-game round robin format.

“We’re always trying to make improvements,” says tournament founder and director Jim Goff, “but everyone seemed to like the fairness and variety of playing every other team just once, so we plan to stick with that.”

“Because this is a recreational, draft-format tournament, we have flexibility to do what a majority of the players want,” he added. Many of the same players have returned multiple years, and Goff relies

on their input to decide on many of the game rules and other matters related to the tournament.

Tournament co-director Tulio Ontiveros has some improvement goals as well. “Even though the infield is beautiful golf course fairway grass with base paths, the quality of the dirt on those base paths is important, and in 2024 one goal is to have new soil, and to re-chalk and re-smooth around home plate more often,” he said, “and even though the grandstand is in shade most of the day, I have some ideas for providing additional shaded areas for spectators and players.”

Sign-ups for the 2024 edition of the Caribbean Classic are coming in strong, despite this tournament being half a year away. “It looks like we’re going to have nice mix of veterans and ‘rookies’ for 2024,” remarked Goff.

Players and their guests and family members will need to arrive at the resort no later than Feb. 21, and stay at least five nights, flying home on Feb. 26, although many participants elect to make a longer vacation out of it by arriving earlier or staying longer.

This tournament is open to all players at least 40 years of age, of both sexes. For more information, go to seniorsoftball.com and click on the green INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURS box, or call Jim Goff at 563-650-1003.

Hong Kong Pacific Rim Canceled; 2024 Site Talks

Softball News Report

The Pacific Rim Championships, scheduled for Nov. 2-9, 2023, in Hong Kong has been canceled.

“We deeply appreciate the work of the Host Hong Kong group, but a number of members are unable to send teams because of different obstacles that were not able to be overcome,” said Terry Hennessy, president of the Pacific

Rim Slow-Pitch Softball Federation.

The Pacific Rim Federation members include Japan, China, Taiwan, Canada, Hong Kong, Macau, Guam, South Korea and the United States.

Hennessy said discussion has already begun on a site and date for the Pacific Rim Championships in 2024.

The purpose of the Pacific Rim Slow-Pitch Softball Federation is to build international friendship through sports.



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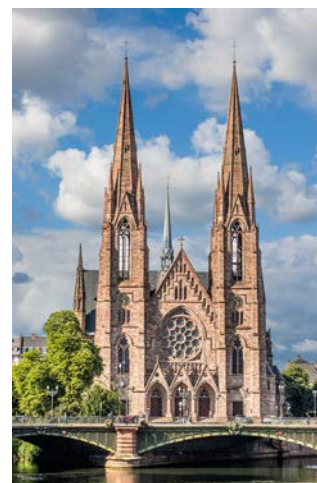
2024

Fourth Annual Caribbean Classic
in the Dominican Republic.

■ February 21-26

The Heart of History Tour in
Switzerland, France and Germany.

■ June 13-26



For Details on these Adventures: <https://seniorsoftball.com/?page=35>

For more information: email Nic@seniorsoftball.com

Umpire Corner: First Time for Everything

Softball News Report

Three times in the last three months, uncommon situations occurred during senior softball games.

Two involved fair/foul calls in the infield.

The third revolved around a batting-out-of-order appeal complicated by a courtesy runner being on base when it was his turn to bat.

All three plays left players and spectators shaking their heads.

"First time I've seen that happen," several people said in each case.

All three situations also show the importance of knowing the rules of the game.

Case 1: A Colorado senior league player hit a pop fly, loaded with backspin, that landed fair on a turf field about eight feet behind third base. The ball spun back, toward home, and rolled out of bounds in front of third base before anyone touched it.

The players, who umpire their own games, hesitated to make a fair/foul call. They'd never seen the ball do that.

By rule, the ball was fair because it landed in fair territory behind the base. It didn't matter that it later rolled into foul territory in front of the base.

Case 2: During a June tournament in Missouri, a right-handed batter hit a ball about 18 feet high that landed in foul territory halfway between home and first base. It hit the ground at least eight feet on the foul side of the baseline, which

almost always means a foul ball. This time, everyone, including the batter and catcher, stood still as they watched the side-spinning ball roll left, toward the pitcher. It finally slowed to a stop just inside the chalked baseline.

"It's fair!" someone yelled from the dugout. "Run!"

Too late.

The defense reacted more quickly and threw the batter-runner out.

Case 3: During the Rocky Mountain Championships in August, umpires called directors to the backstop to handle an appeal for batting out of order with runners on first and second bases and no outs. The offense had skipped a batter. The incorrect batter had grounded into a fielder's choice with the defense recording an out at second base. By rule, the out recorded on the play stood. The batter who failed to bat was called out for not batting. The runner who had advanced to third base was sent back to second base.

Then a director asked to see the scorebook to see the name of the batter who had been skipped. The correct batter due up would be the one whose name followed the batter called out for not batting.

The manager announced the player's name and pointed toward second base. "He's standing out there," the manager said.

Uh, oh.

The skipped batter had entered the game as a courtesy runner. The defense didn't notice that he was



standing on second base when it was his turn to bat. Neither did the umpires. Someone else batted instead, at which point the defense noticed.

"First time I've seen that," one director said to the other.

"Me, too," the second replied.

Normally, the courtesy runner would have been called out on the base and then taken his turn at-bat. If the defense had stopped the incorrect batter's at-bat, even after a pitch had been thrown, then the courtesy runner would have been out at second and would have entered the batter's box and assumed the count.

But that opportunity had been missed. The runner standing at second base already had been called out for not batting. He no longer was due up to bat.

So, whose turn was it to hit?

As Yogi Berra famously

said, "It's déjà vu all over again."

The player who had grounded into the fielder's choice returned to the plate.

This time, though, there were two outs and only one runner on base.

Donna McGuire is SSUSA's Central Region Umpire in Chief and Chair of the SSUSA National Rules Committee and can be reached at donna@seniorsoftball.com.

Heard From The Dugout

"In the last resort, nothing is ridiculous except the fear of being so."

Henri Fauconnier

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