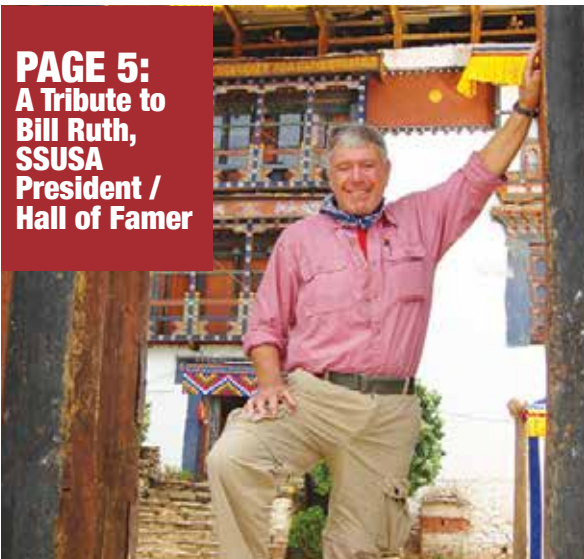




Photos by Jack
Eberhard,
photo Illustration by
Sue Ballenger

PAGES 16-17 ■ Check Out the Current List of 2022 SSUSA Qualifiers, More to Come!

PAGE 5:
A Tribute to
Bill Ruth,
SSUSA
President /
Hall of Famer



PAGE 6:
SSUSA Annual Convention
held in hometown of
Sacramento, Calif.



PAGES 20, 22



D99

HIGHEST QUALITY

Hand Sanitizer



GAL.



24 oz



3 oz

**DECREASES BACTERIA
ON THE SKIN.**

**RECOMMENDED FOR
REPEATED USE.**

**LEAVES NO
RESIDUE**



**UNSCENTED
FORMULA**



NDC: 77089-075-01, 77089-075-02, 77089-075-03

INGREDIENTS: ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL, HYDROGEN PEROXIDE, GLYCEROL, AND PURIFIED WATER USP

ORDER # - 714-898-4377

www.tiodize.com



Support U.S.A manufacturing.

Senior Softball News

9823 Old Winery Place, Suite 12
Sacramento, CA 95827
(916) 326-5303
(916) 326-5304 FAX
info@seniorsoftball.com
www.seniorsoftball.com

Publisher
W.E. Ruth

Editor
Terry Hennessy

Managing Editor
Anthony Ramos

Contributing Writers
Art Eversole, Tim McElroy, Donna
McGuire, Stan Reents, Jack Sirard,
Dave Weinman

Internet Director
Scott Flodin

Art Director
Sue Ballenger

Photographer
Jack Eberhard
JacksActionShots.com

Marketing Manager
Fran Dowell

Nothing in this publication shall be deemed to constitute in any fashion whatsoever an endorsement by Senior Softball USA, LLC. (SSUSA), of any information in this publication. SSUSA, LLC., disclaims any and all liability with respect to any use of, or reliance on, such information. No information in this publication shall be construed in any manner whatsoever as a recommendation of any industry standard, or as a recommendation of any kind to be adopted by, or binding on, any person or entity. Nor shall information contained in this publication be deemed to constitute in any fashion whatsoever an endorsement by SSUSA, LLC., of any product or service advertised herein. The material set forth in this publication is provided on an informational basis only. SSUSA, Inc., is not engaged in the practice of any profession, including but not limited to law, medicine and accounting, and nothing in this publication should be relied upon in lieu of appropriate competent professional advice.

Index

From the Cover:

2022 Season Preview
Pgs. 16-17

Bill Ruth Tribute
Pg. 5

SSUSA Convention
Pg. 6

Winter Nationals Recap
Pg. 20

Winter World Recap
Pg. 22

News Index:

2022 Rules.....Pg. 7
SSUSA HOF 2020/2021.....
Pg. 8

2022 SSUSA HOF.....Pg. 9
Editorial.....Pg. 10

Umpire Dilemma.....Pg. 10
Covering the Bases...Pg. 11

New National Directors.....
Pg. 11

Finance Column.....Pg. 12
Satashi Tanabe Obit.Pg. 12

Fitness Column.....Pg. 14
Hitting Column.....Pg.15

World All-Tourney...Pg. 26
Senior Moments.....Pg. 30

Int'l Tour Update.....Pg. 30

Sponsor Index:

BSN Sports - Official Ball
Supplier of SSUSA.....Pg. 4 

Elite Sports USA - Official
Uniform of SSUSA.....Pg. 21 

Bat Sponsors:

 **EASTON** Pg. 31

 Pg. 13

 Pg. 27

 Pg. 23

 Pg. 28

 Pg. 32



TRUMP : OFFICIAL BALL of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA
BSN SPORTS: OFFICIAL SUPPLIER of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

bsnsports.com/seniorsoftball
BSN SPORTS • 800-327-0074 EXT.127



**PROUD
TO BE WITH
SSUSA!**

BSN SPORTS

BSNSPORTS.com/SENIORSOFTBALL

FRANK SOTTILE

SALES PRO

800-327-0074 ext.127 • *fsottile@bsnsports.com*

Bill Ruth: A Tribute

By Terry Hennessey
Senior Softball News

KENT, Washington – Longtime Senior Softball USA President Bill Ruth, 87, died Sept. 8 after suffering a major stroke a few days earlier in his home here.

Bill has sponsored, managed and played on Senior Softball teams for almost 30 years. His teams, WE Ruth Realty, played at the highest level for many years.

Bill was also president of the Independent Sports Association, and was a partner in fishing lodges in Alaska, as well as a gold mine near the Yukon. Bill's main business was real estate throughout the Northwest and in Cabo San Lucas in Mexico.

Bill was elected into four Hall of Fames: The USSSA Hall of Fame, Senior Softball National Hall of Fame, the SSUSA Hall of Fame and the ISA Hall of Fame.

Bill became president of Senior Softball USA in 2000 and was a guiding voice behind the growth of SSUSA in both America and around the world.

Bill was a very close friend and partner, a fierce competitor with a wry sense of humor and a twinkle in his eye every time he and his wife, Susan, started a new adventure.

In fact, Bill Ruth's life was an adventure. And he loved it.

Big game hunting when he was young, trekking in the Himalayas, helping his mother with the family real estate business after his dad died – and building it into an empire -- and always, always sports.

Basketball, baseball, softball, soccer: Bill either played it or coached it for more than 60 years.

We met at the first National Senior Softball Summit in 1999 and for the first 15 years I knew Bill, he never aged a day – literally. Whenever anyone asked his age, he was always 55 – and he looked it! He routinely played on much younger teams in the most dangerous position on the field: pitcher.

And he competed at the highest level of the sport. The Senior Softball Teams that Bill built and played on were some of the best in the nation. Not just for a year or two, but for more than two decades.

Bill was a fierce competitor. He hated it when he made a mistake.

One time when we were playing a tournament in Ketchikan, Alaska, Bill missed a hot grounder up the middle. He took off his glove, threw it on the ground and stomped on it. With both feet. Susan was not happy, but the rest of us players understood – and loved it.

On another softball trip to Mexico we had to rent a Mexican bus because they were hijacking American buses – I'm not sure Bill ever told Susan about that one. When we got to Victoria, Bill suggested we visit the mayor's office and invite him to that evening's games.

We did, and the mayor was so taken with Bill, that he set up a party for the teams after the games in the stadium with live music, dancing and great food. Bill was in his element...and the rest of us



Bill and Susan Ruth on a boat in Bangkok.

were happy to be along for the ride.

Bill could talk to anyone about anything at any time and become friends in no time at all. It was a gift. And he made friends all over the world.

Susan, Bill and I took many international trips that turned into the kind of adventures that make you smile – later.

Most of these international trips were softball tours, but one of the best trips took us to a place where they didn't even know what a softball was.

We had heard that Bhutan, a small country high in the Southern Himalayans had opened to Western tourists for the first time and we decided to visit before the country's culture had a chance to change.

The first stop was Bangkok, largely because Bill wanted to order some suits from a tailor he knew there ... and it was on the way to Bhutan.

We landed in Bangkok in the middle of the Red Shirt Revolution. You could hear the fighting on the way to the hotel and we knew it was

close when the soldiers guarding the hotel used a mirror to check under the car for a bomb.

None of that really phased Bill, who was anxious to see his tailor and show us the sights the next day.

So, the next morning, here comes Bill into the lobby, ready to go, with a bright red shirt.

"Bill," we said, "you know there is a Red Shirt revolution going on, right?"

Bill looked surprised and said, "I thought that was just the name of it, and I really like this shirt."

About that time, the hotel manager came running over and said, "Sir, you cannot wear that shirt!"

Bill grumbled a bit, then went upstairs to change.

A couple of days later, we boarded a 737 Jet for Parro, the only airport in Bhutan.

The flight was smooth until we began our descent.

Suddenly, the plane turned sideways and dipped way down between the mountain peaks. Out one window, we could see a shepherd with his flock and the out the other

Continued on Next Page

Ruth: A Lasting Legacy Left Behind

Continued From Previous Page

window was a house that was very close. We thought we were going to die.

As it turns out, that is the normal flight path for this airport because it is at such a high altitude and the runway is pretty short.

However, Bill and Susan and I didn't know that.

As we were coming in to land, I looked over at a smiling Bill, who said, "That was fun."

I count myself exceptionally fortunate to have met Bill Ruth and shared adventures with both Bill and Susan. I will miss Bill's smile, his uncensored humor, the sparkle in his eye, and his love of life.

The memories of this very, very special man are the best legacy Bill Ruth could leave us.

Terry Hennessy is the chief executive officer of Senior Softball USA.



Bill Ruth in Mexico on a Goodwill Softball Tour

2021 SSUSA Convention Overview

Softball News Report

SACRAMENTO – Senior Softball USA's (SSUSA) National Convention – held in its hometown here for the first time – saw a few major rule changes, inducted six people into the Hall of Fame, promised to post results online and recognized some of the top directors and umpires in the nation.

The Convention, from Nov. 30 to Dec. 2, kicked off with an Open House at SSUSA's home office to welcome sponsors, city representatives, directors, umpire-in chiefs and players to Sacramento.

One of the main functions of the Convention – the National Rules Committee annual meeting – reviewed more than 35 rules recommendations submitted throughout the year by players, managers and directors.

There were three (3) major actions:

- Adding an 11th player to the 65 Division.
- Increased the number of

teams moved up and down in rating based on World Championships results.

- Limiting artificial noise-makers at the complexes.

For more information, see the complete story on Rule Changes in the Umpire's Corner on the next page (page 7).

"The Convention is designed to thank our directors and umpires for their work during the year – and give us a chance to brainstorm about ways to improve the game," said Fran Dowell, SSUSA's executive director. "We also honor those who have made outstanding achievements in the sport."

Six individuals – three from 2020 and three from 2021 – were inducted into the Senior Softball USA Hall of Fame at the packed Hall of Fame gala on the last evening of the Convention. (See story on Page 8).

The banquet and convention was dedicated to Bill Ruth, longtime SSUSA president who died on Sept. 8.

The 2020 Hall of Fame inductees included:

- Tom Amundson, Player
- Don Brooks, Director
- Dave Somerville,

Sponsor

The 2021 Hall of Fame inductees included:

- Mike Smith, Player
- Shane Verley, Director
- Richard Yarbrough,

Sponsor

In addition, four individuals were voted into the Hall of Fame for 2022 (See story on page 9):

- Carl Gustafson, Lifetime Award
- Doug Robbins, Special Category
- John Fournier, Player
- Rocco Cambareri, Manager

The top association award of the year, the **Award of Excellence**, went to Dave Carver, of Loudoun County (VA) Parks & Recreation, and Torye Hurst, of Visit Loudoun.

"Dave and Torye have helped us to establish one of

the premier tournaments east of the Mississippi River," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA's chief executive officer. "They have helped us build the Eastern Nationals into a signature, premier event in the nation."

The **Executive Director Award** went to Donna Dotti of Placer Valley Tourism (CA).

"Donna is always there when we need her," said Dowell. "We count on Donna for so many different things with Senior Softball."

Other award winners included:

Tournament Director of the Year: Gayle Collins of Florida.

Umpire of the Year: Kenzel Jessie of Maryland.

Regional Director of the Year: Mike Dembicki of Michigan.

Complex of the Year: Walnut Creek Softball Complex of Raleigh, North Carolina.

Adjusted SSUSA Playing Rules for 2022

Men's teams in the 65+ age division have joined their older counterparts in getting to employ 11 players on defense under a new rule unanimously approved by the Senior Softball USA National Rules Committee.

During the SSUSA convention in Sacramento, the committee also addressed music played during games, set parameters for re-rating teams following the World Championships, and tweaked or changed several other rules.

Whether to allow 65+ teams to play 11 defenders has been discussed for several years, usually following requests from East Coast, Ohio Valley or Southeastern teams that also play SPA and ISSA tournaments. Both associations allow 11 defenders for some or all 65+ teams. In addition, USSSA allows 11 defenders on 65+ teams.

Committee members felt consistency would help managers and teams in this age group. Plus, the new SSUSA rule answers complaints from 65+ teams that sometimes compete against 70+ teams.

For example, in August at the Rocky Mountain Championships, several 65+ AAA managers considered it unfair that the lone 70+ Major team in their bracket got to play 11 on defense. Though SSUSA did not consider that to be an equalizer, the 65+ teams did. Now, all teams that play in the 65+ and older session of a SSUSA tournament will have the same number of defenders except for the 85+ division, which plays 12 on defense.

The committee also solid-

Umpire's Corner

By Donna McGuire

ified what had been an unwritten policy governing the use of artificial noise-makers and the playing of music.

Both still are allowed, but they cannot interfere with any game being played and cannot contain foul or offensive language. In other words, the ringing of cow bells and the volume of music should not interfere with on-field communications and umpire calls. Violators will be asked to tone down, turn down or even cease the sounds. If they fail to comply, the team's manager could be ejected.

Starting with the 2022 World Championships, SSUSA will employ the following rules for moving teams up or down in the ratings based on how they placed in the tournament:

- Champions in all brackets of more than five teams will be bumped higher and must stay at that higher rating for one year before appealing.

- In brackets of 36 or more teams, the top 10 percent will move up and cannot appeal for one year. Teams finishing in the top 11 to 20 percent will move up but may appeal after June 15 of the new season. Teams finishing in the bottom 10 percent will be offered a move down with roster restrictions put in place.

- In brackets of 20 to 35 teams, the top 10 percent will move up and cannot appeal for one year. Teams finishing in the top 11 to 15 percent will move up but may appeal after June 15. Teams finishing in the bottom 5 percent will be offered a move down with roster restrictions put in place.

- In brackets of 10 to 19 teams, the second- and third-place teams will be bumped higher but may appeal after June 15.
- In brackets of six to nine teams, moves not involving the first-place team will be left to SSUSA's discretion.

More than 35 items were submitted to the rules committee for consideration. All were discussed but some died for lack of a motion to implement a change. The committee tabled a few items, including a recommendation to add a Central Nationals tournament in the middle part of the country that would mirror the Easterns and Westerns and give division champions a chance to compete for a National Championship and Triple Grand Slam. SSUSA plans to research this possibility.

Approved rule changes not already mentioned:

- Alaska will be grouped into a region with Washington, Oregon, Hawaii and Western Canada. This had been requested to help grow Senior Softball participation among Alaskans.

- The waiting period for players seeking a rating re-classification for medical reasons now will be 120 days instead of 45 days.
- Open Division rules were tweaked to clarify that Open teams will give equalizers to Major or Major Plus teams in all play.
- The courtesy runner rule will gain a sentence making it clear umpires are to prevent the entry of courtesy runners after a pitch has been thrown to a batter. This already was SSUSA policy, but some defensive teams have expected umpires to remain silent and call the runner out when he or she touched a base. As a reminder, the rule prohibiting entry during an at-bat started with the 2018 season to help speed the game, not to give the defense a cheap out. Since that rule's inception, umpires have been trained to prevent entry of a courtesy runner after a pitch has been thrown to a batter.

Donna McGuire is SSUSA's Central Region UIC and Chair of the SSUSA National Rules Committee.

As a Senior Softball USA member, you now have easy access to high-quality, full-service, individual vision benefits through VSP®. Enjoy personalized care from the nation's largest network of doctors and a wide selection of eyewear to fit your style and budget—all at the lowest out-of-pocket cost.

ENROLL NOW

For more information, visit www.seniorsoftball.com or call 844.641.6718



SSUSA 2020/2021 HOFers Enshrined

Softball News Report

SACRAMENTO – Six individuals achieved the highest honor in the sport and were inducted into the Senior Softball USA Hall of Fame during the SSUSA National Convention here Dec. 2.

Touching and heart-warming speeches captivated the crowd at the gala banquet held high above Sacramento's downtown in a room with walls made of windows for a magnificent view.

Because of the pandemic, the 2020 National Convention was canceled, so the three 2020 inductees were also presented with their awards and rings at the 2021 gala banquet, along with three 2021 inductees.

The two players inducted -- Tom Amundson and Mike Smith -- excelled in all aspects of the game at the highest level of the sport for several years.

The two directors -- Don Brooks and Shane Verley -- helped build the sport on opposite shores of the country, in Mid-Atlantic Coast and in the Northwest.

And the two sponsors -- Dave Somerville and Richard Yarbrough -- represented more than four decades of building not only teams, but softball in California.

The 2020 Inductees included:

Tom Amundson, 2020 Player, suffered a tragic accident in 2019 that has left him paralyzed from the chest down and unable to play ball at the excellent level of competition that had become his hallmark. Amundson has played on the top teams on



Tom Amundson

the West Coast, including MTC, Joe Brown's All Stars and Timberworks. As an outfielder and a high-average hitter, Amundson maintained a high profile in the top Major-Plus divisions for more than a decade. In his last two championship runs with Timberworks, he hit a homerun in 50 percent of his at-bats.... which is amazing in itself.

Don Brooks, 2020 Director, ran one of the first Senior Softball World Championships qualifiers in a complex he designed in Glen Burnie, Md., in 1992 (the year the Senior Softball World Championships was launched). Over the next 28 years, Don continued to build and run qualifiers in Maryland and later in El Paso. Along the way, Don was named National Director for his leadership in running SSUSA Regional and Nation-



Don Brooks

al Championships throughout the nation -- from Wisconsin to Louisiana to Colorado and Kansas -- and especially at the largest tournaments SSUSA runs throughout the Southwest: Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico and Texas.

Dave Somerville (not in attendance), 2020 Sponsor, has supported teams that have played in 24 Worlds winning 16. His teams have won five Triple Crowns. Since 2012 he has sponsored at least two age groups a year. In 2009, when The Mavericks were having financial problems and it looked like the team might fold for the season, David stepped up and took the team from California to Georgia to compete at the SPA World Series. The Mavericks won that World Series as well as SSUSA World Championships a few months later.

The 2021 Inductees included:



Mike Smith

Mike Smith, 2021 Player, also has been elected into the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame, the Washington DC Metro Hall of Fame, the Florida Legends of Softball Hall of Fame, and he has been on six teams that were elected into softball Hall of Fames. Smith has been awarded nine

MVPs and 25 All Tournament Awards enroute to 102 National or World Championships in his senior softball career. He has played on the elite teams in the sport, including the Old A's, Dan Smith Plastering, Capitol X-Ray, Thomas Engineering, REKCO, Turn Two and Ham-mil Superior Softball. Mike Smith was a Colonel and Attack Squadron Commander in the Marine Corps, serving for 30 years.



Richard Yarbrough

Richard Yarbrough, 2021 Sponsor, has been a longtime silent figure and pioneer of development of Senior Softball in California's Ventura County. Yarbrough has sponsored senior teams three decades -- and sponsored the fabled "R&R" teams since 2005. More than 500 players have competed on R&R teams. Those teams have won 14 National and Regional championships, including two World Championships (2007 in Seattle and 2016 in Las Vegas) and the 2007 Tournament of Champions. Yarbrough, owner of R&R Pumping of Southern California, elicits loyalty and respect from players...some of whom have been playing on his teams for

Continued on Next Page

SSUSA HOF Class of 2022 Announced

SACRAMENTO -- A player and manager, John Fournier and Rocco Cambarelli, were elected to be inducted into the 2022 Hall of Fame during the Senior Softball USA National Convention here earlier this month.

In addition, the Executive Board selected two men for special Hall of Fame recognition; Carl Gustafson will receive a Lifetime Recognition Hall of Fame induction and Doug Robbins will be inducted in a Special Category.

The four individuals will be inducted at next year's convention.



John Fournier

John Fournier, 2022 Player, has played on some of the top teams in Southern

California for almost two decades before moving to Florida in 2017 and joining some of the top teams there. John has been an ambassador for the sport overseas for more than a decade, winning MVP and Best Defense awards for tournaments ranging from Japan to China in the East, to Ireland, France, Spain, Germany and Italy in Europe with U.S. teams.



Rocco Cambarelli

Rocco Cambarelli, 2022 Manager, has managed and played on Florida Investment Properties (FIP) since 2006 and has been playing senior softball for 30 years. Rocco is also an excellent player, being inducted into the National Se-

nior Softball Hall of Fame as a player in 2006. In his years as manager, FIP has won the National Championships of SSUSA, ASA, USSSA, ISA, SPA and ISSA. Rocco led his team to the coveted Triple Grand Slam 5 times. He has also represented the country in several international tournaments, including Italy, England, Scotland, Ireland and Spain.



Carl Gustafson

Carl Gustafson, 2022 Lifetime Recognition, worked tirelessly in Southern California for more than 20 years to develop Senior Softball USA leagues and the sport. In addition to being Southern California Director, Carl was on

the National Rules Committee for several years, managed a number of teams and was an excellent hitter. He has been a guiding force in the sport for many years.



Doug Robbins

Doug Robbins, 2022 Special Category, has helped at every level of the sport. He is an excellent director at many SSUSA major tournaments, has provided help in SSUSA National office on several major projects, and has created, sponsored and managed one of the best teams in the sport: Timberworks. Doug was selected for the Special Category because he could have been inducted in several categories.

HOF: Verley Honored Posthumously

Continued From Previous Page

20 or more years.

Shane Verley, 2021 Director, died June 2, 2017 at the age of 61. Shane was a longtime Senior Softball USA director, player and Washington State UIC.

Shane was an exceptional example of how senior softball transcends the sport through the life-long friendships that touch so many



Shane Verley

players, umpires and their families. Shane was a friend to many in the sport. His usual calm demeanor – always with a twinkle in his eye – is etched in our memories.

A lifelong Washington State resident, Shane played for some of the best-known teams in the Northwest and as the Washington State UIC, Shane had been instrumental in the successful running of some of the sport's premier

tournaments, including the Reno tournament, Northwest Championships and the Worlds in Las Vegas.

Heard From The Dugout

"I do not have a psychiatrist and I do not want one for the simple reason that if he listened to me long enough he might become disturbed."

James Thurber

Opinions & Letters

Happy Holidays!

There are many reasons for joy this season:

- Our sport has fully rebounded in 2021.
- Cities and states are opening (although there are still a few restrictions in some).
- We are learning to live with this seemingly never-ending pandemic.

And, perhaps most important, we can step on the freshly mowed grass of the softball field and enjoy playing ball with – and against – our friends.

We are lucky to be able to continue to play as we grow older. The sport, the friendship and the camaradery provide us with the incentive to get new knees and hips and shoulders and even backs.

All so that we can be part of a positive experience that lifts our spirits and give us joy.



Terry Hennessy
Editor

Sue Ballenger

Solving Umpire Supply & Demand Dilemma

By Tim McElroy
SSUSA National Director

Whether it's tournaments held by regional directors or events hosted by the national office, the Senior Softball USA program continues to grow. That demand has triggered an umpire supply issue.

Umpires are harder to come by for a variety of reasons, and finding people who are available, committed and qualified is a challenge that we are working to resolve.

Why are we short on umpires?

There are a number of reasons, including:

- A nationwide shortage of officials (in all sports) because some participants and specta-

tors treat them poorly. Many officials have walked away from the abuse.

- In the senior softball arena, there are more associations in the market than there were 10 years ago. Tournaments were once spread out on the calendar and across a wider geographic area. Finding enough umpires to travel for our events when they could stay home and officiate is difficult.

- Finally, there is the pandemic. We have to recognize that many umpires on the senior circuit are just that – seniors. We lost a few to COVID deaths and illness. We also had a group that retired because they were uncom-

fortable travelling, staying in hotels and being out in other public settings.

Solving the supply issue isn't as simple as throwing money at the problem. SSUSA increased umpire game fees by 13% in the past two years, hoping to retain existing umpires and attract new ones. The competition responded by matching our fees or paying more.

It will take more than money – although money always helps.

For the 2022 season, umpire registration fees are dropping to \$15 and will include a medical insurance component. Registration fees with other associations are as much as

\$80 per year. We view this as a significant benefit, particularly for umpires who might work just a weekend or two with us all year.

SSUSA has always offered travel compensation, but significantly upgraded the benefit package for airfare, hotels and rental cars this year.

In addition to the financial benefits, SSUSA umpires can expect an increased level of communication, training and travel opportunities.

If you are interested in working with SSUSA, please contact Tim McElroy (Tim@SeniorSoftball.com).

Help us to help the sport.
Continued on Next Page



TRUMP

OFFICIAL BALL of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

BSN SPORTS: OFFICIAL SUPPLIER of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

bsnsports.com/seniorsoftball

BSN SPORTS • 800-327-0074 EXT.127

SSUSA Slightly Raising Fees in January

No one likes to hear that prices are going up and the reaction can usually be summarized in one word: Yuk!

And, frankly, we hate to raise prices because our goal is to make the sport as affordable as possible.

For 2022, we will have little choice.

The prices for softballs, renting softball fields, insurance, as well as things like car rentals and hotel rooms for officials and umpires at tournaments also have shot up.

We will be raising the prices as little as possible across many services so that it will have less of an impact on your pocketbook.

Player registrations will be raised \$5 and team registration \$10 per year.

Registrations received or postmarked **before Jan. 15, 2022** will be able to pay the old rate.

Covering the Bases

By Terry Hennessy

Here are the New Fees:

2022 Player Registration Fees:

One year: \$35
Two years: \$45
Three years: \$55
Four years: \$65
Five Years: \$70

Snowbird Registration:

\$40/year

Replacement Card fee:

\$40

New Region fee:

\$40

2022 Team Registrations:

\$50/year

In addition, we are going back to our 2019 Entry Fee prices for tournaments.

We had dropped the entry

fees about 15 percent in the 2020-2021 season because we dropped individual prizes at most tournaments and gave coupons for discounted items from sponsors. We did this to help teams and our sponsors when the country was going through assorted shut-downs.

We hope, as I'm sure all of you hope, that inflation -- and prices -- will stabilize in the coming months.

Reminder that Major Tournaments are 3 days

Most major SSUSA tournaments run three days. Please check the dates of the tournament you wish to attend. The dates are posted on our website: www.seniorsoftball.com. Please plan on playing all three days.

Recently, a number of teams have withdrawn from tournaments after seeing the schedules and calling the

office saying they cannot compete on the first day of the tournament (Fridays).

This results in an expensive and time-consuming schedule redraft, often at the last minute. Even more important, it creates changes and potential hardships for the other teams in the tournament.

If your team cannot participate on every day of an SSUSA event, please do not enter. We do not intend to defer tournament starts into the second day and will, instead, simply assess forfeits for those first day games.

Later-start requests made by the entry deadline are almost always accommodated.

Please know, we deeply appreciate your support.

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

Umpires: Play a Key Role in Future of Sport

For additional information, please visit the Umpires **Continued From Previous Page**

section of the SSUSA website, <https://seniorsoftball.com/?page=8>

If you would like to get registered, you can access the SSUSA Umpire registration form by clicking the following link: https://seniorsoftball.com/forms/form_umpire.pdf



SSUSA Umpires at the 2020 Tournament of Champions

Eight Directors Elevated to National Status

SACRAMENTO – Senior Softball USA (SSUSA) announced the appointment of eight (8) new National Directors, this week.

“We are very happy to make these well-deserved National Director appointments,” said Fran Dowell, SSUSA Ex-

ecutive Director. “All of these directors have been excellent representatives of the sport.”

“These appointments are based on their experience and contributions to the sport.”

The eight new National Directors include:

*Tom Bussey (CA)
Doug Doolittle (NV)
Hank Heffner (GA)
Bill Hill (CA)
Mike Hula (CA)
Felix Mendiola (NV)
Roger Ogden (NV)
Jerry Smith (CA)*

Congratulations to all of the directors on their promotion to SSUSA National Director!

Architect of Senior Softball in Japan, Dies

Softball News Report

TOKYO – Satashi

Tanabe, 84, the architect of Senior Softball in Japan and one of the founding members of the Pacific Rim Slow-pitch Softball Federation, died here earlier this year.

Tanabe led a delegation representing the Japan Ministry of Health and Sports that approached Senior Softball USA (SSUSA) in 1999 requesting help setting up a Senior Softball program in Japan.

Those meetings led to Japan establishing Senior Leagues and Tournaments in

2000.

SSUSA agreed to send teams to compete in the Japan National Senior Softball Tournaments to promote the program.

“We sent SSUSA teams for the next nine consecutive years to Japan,” said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA chief executive officer, “developing close relationships with Satashi Tanabe and both Japan and Taiwan softball officials.”

A few years later, Tanabe helped coordinate a meeting between Zhaoli Chen on behalf of China Softball and SSUSA. The meeting blos-

somed into the first senior softball tournament in China.

A few years later, in 2015, Tanabe was again instrumental in a meeting between Taiwan, Japan, China and the United States in establishing the Pacific Rim Slow-Pitch Softball Federation.

“Satashi’s sage counsel and stature in the sport in Asia has been the key to the development of the sport,” said Hennessy, who is current president of the Pacific Rim Federation. “His contribution cannot be overstated. He was a good friend and will be missed by many in the sport.”



Satashi Tanabe

Know Where Your Money Is Invested

By Jack Sirard

Senior Softball News

As we head into the New Year, there’s certainly no shortage of stock market forecasts for 2022. And as one would expect, the prognostications are all over the map.

For every stock market bull out there who sees nothing but blue skies ahead, there’s an equal number of bears who see investment chaos around every corner.

The only thing that I can see that’s for certain is that about half of them will be wrong...and, of course, half will be claiming victory for their forecast brilliance come this time next year.

Personally, I’ve never put much investment consideration into what a group of talking heads has to say about the prospects for the next year or so. If they’re just someone whose job it is to

make forecasts such as a bank or government economist, then I really don’t care. On the other hand, I like to listen to those who have money in the game such as a corporate chief executive officer who likely has thousands if not millions of company shares in his portfolio.

Now if that person says there’s trouble brewing for his or her company, then you have a real reason to be concerned. You can usually pick up on this information when a publicly held corporation releases its quarterly earnings reports. Usually, an hour or so after the information is disseminated, the company will hold an investor report with Wall Street analysts which you can tap into on the internet. Here’s where you’re more likely to hear something of note that could affect your investment decision making.

For instance, today on CNBC, a chief executive told viewers that his company was the fastest growing in its industry, other than two other competitors! What that tells me is that he’s sitting in third place and I’d generally rather be with the No. 1 company... and not his.

What it boils down to is focusing your attention on those who are in a position to know what’s really going on inside a company -- those who offer informed insight, not only about the past quarter, but also their longer-term outlook.

It’s certainly challenging to invest in this Covid-based environment as we seem to face one new variant after another. That’s why it’s critically important for investors to become more tuned into their portfolio’s assets.

No longer should you

be content to buy a group of stocks or mutual funds and just sit back and ignore them. This coming year, you should make it a goal to not only know where your money is invested, but also to know something about that investment’s likely performance in 2022.

The first of a new year is always a great time to become an active investor so that by next year-end, you’ll really know where your investment stand.

After all, it is your money – and your future depends on your investments.

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



TRUMP : OFFICIAL BALL of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

BSN SPORTS: OFFICIAL SUPPLIER of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

bsnsports.com/seniorsoftball

BSN SPORTS • 800-327-0074 EXT.127

DUDLEY®

NEW HOTW™ SENIOR SB BATS

AVAILABLE 1/15/20

HOTW™ 1 PIECE SIGNATURE BAT SERIES



Model: DLSR14

1 PC. 14" BARREL FULL END LOAD - MIKE McCARRON



MIKE McCARRON

Item #

49073: 34" / 25 oz

49074: 34" / 26 oz

49075: 34" / 27 oz

49076: 34" / 28 oz

MSRP: \$199.99



Model: DLSR12

1 PC. 12" BARREL W/ 0.5 OZ END LOAD - BOBBY NIFONG



BOBBY NIFONG

Item #

49081: 34" / 25.5 oz

49082: 34" / 26.5 oz

49083: 34" / 27.5 oz

MSRP: \$199.99

HOTW™ 2 PIECE BAT SERIES



Model: DSR145

HOTW™ 2PC W/ 0.5 OZ END LOAD



Item #

49156: 34" / 25.5 oz

49157: 34" / 26.5 oz

49158: 34" / 27.5 oz

MSRP: \$219.99



Model: DSR142

14" HOTW™ 2PC FULL END LOAD



Item #

49077: 34" / 25 oz

49078: 34" / 26 oz

49079: 34" / 27 oz

49080: 34" / 28 oz

MSRP: \$219.99

All bats in stock made to ORIGINAL HOTW™ performance specs and process.
Check out our new Manufacturing Date Code

MADE THE 16TH DAY OF
THE 7TH MONTH IN 2019

160719

0019

19TH BAT MADE THAT DAY

1607190019

NEW

MANUFACTURED DATE CODE ON
EACH BAT... NO ONE IS THE SAME!



AthleteInMe.com®

High-Intensity Interval Exercise for Older Adults

**By Stan Reents, PharmD
Senior Softball News
Contributor**

For several years, high-intensity interval training (HIIT) has been popular with athletes and weekend warriors.

This type of training is characterized by short bursts of high-intensity aerobic exercise alternating with periods of moderate effort. Typically, each burst lasts 30 seconds to 4 minutes, and, heart rate is pushed as high as 80 to 95% of maximum.

But is this type of exercise safe for older adults?

First, older adults should discuss any new exercise plan with their personal physician, especially if they have existing cardiovascular disease. Nevertheless, HIIT has been beneficial for older exercisers:

For Cardiovascular Disease:

Aerobic fitness is critical for health. In 2016, the American Heart Association recommended physicians assess aerobic fitness as routinely as other vital signs: temperature, blood pressure, heart rate and respiratory rate.

Studies have shown that, when HIIT sessions are compared with moderate continu-

ous aerobic exercise (brisk walking, slow jogging), HIIT produces a greater increase in aerobic fitness and better improvement in vascular function. In a review of nine studies, aerobic fitness improved by 10% after moderate continuous aerobic exercise but improved by 19% after an HIIT program. Similar results have also been documented in older adults.

So HIIT is better than moderate continuous exercise for improving aerobic fitness, but continuous exercise has a greater impact on blood lipids. However, a fascinating report from the ongoing Cooper Center Longitudinal Study in 2012 revealed that the risks of an elevated cholesterol can be offset by maintaining a high degree of aerobic fitness.

For Diabetes

Several studies show that fasting glucose and insulin sensitivity improve more with HIIT than with moderate continuous exercise.

For Dementia

Last year, researchers at McMaster University in Canada showed that HIIT was better than moderate continuous exercise for improving

memory in older adults. The HIIT regimen consisted of four 4-minute high intensity intervals (treadmill running) alternating with four 3-minute recovery periods. This was performed 3 times a week.

Another advantage for HIIT: the sessions are typically shorter than continuous exercise. Shorter sessions might cause less wear-and-tear on weight-bearing joints such as ankles, knees and hips.

Shorter, yes, but not by much. In some studies, the HIIT session lasted 41-43 minutes.

Researchers at McMaster also showed that 10 minutes of HIIT could achieve nearly the same increase in aerobic fitness and a much better improvement in glucose metabolism than a 50-minute continuous session. In this study, a stationary bike was used: during HIIT, bursts of 20 seconds were alternated with 2 minutes of lower-intensity exercise.

Here are some guidelines for older adults considering HIIT:

- Before initiating an HIIT exercise program, obtain clearance from your physician.
- Using a heart rate moni-

tor and working with a certified personal trainer is highly recommended.

- The intensity of the bursts should not push heart rate higher than 90% of maximum. Older adults should be even more conservative. All out effort should be avoided.

- The duration of a high-intensity burst has typically been 3-4 minutes. But new research suggests much shorter intervals might also be effective.

If HIIT exercise is done properly, older adults – including those with cardiovascular diseases such as heart disease and hypertension, and/or metabolic diseases such as diabetes – can realize improvements in these chronic health conditions.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Stan Reents, PharmD, is a 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."

Take This Off-Season to Repair Your Swing

By Art Eversole
Senior Softball News
Contributor

This point in the year, just after the Winter Worlds, is the optimal time to adjust or rework your swing mechanics in preparation for the 2022 season. This time period is also commonly used for letting those nagging injuries heal. If no injuries are impacting you, it's a great opportunity to make those swing changes and fixes you could not find time to do during the regular season.

Tiger Woods once said "The golf swing is dynamic; it's always changing, so you just can't drive a stake in the ground to hold your swing constant once you've got it where you like it." I also believe the softball swing needs constant attention. Most likely, you will be adjusting and fixing your swing from time to time.

Have you ever had a coach or teammate point out to you that you're doing something different than just a month ago with your swing when you are struggling at the plate? Or that you have stopped doing a technique that you took time to incorporate into your swing which had improved your performance?

I'm not talking about a major remake of your swing, which requires much more time and resources and is normally addressed in a formal swing clinic. However, just by addressing a few troubling faults that are now part of your swing and fixing them, can be of immediate benefit.

So, how can you identify

swing flaws? Viewing video is an excellent way to see yourself when evaluating your swing flaws. You may be surprised at what you are actually doing when you swing versus, what you think you're doing. For example, in looking at video of yourself you can see where you are contacting the ball in relation to your body, which can be a problem for many senior softball players.

By utilizing self-video, swing flaws can be detected and targeted for fixing. While reviewing your swing on video, you might see that you're leaking out early on pitches and topping the ball for ground outs; or you're allowing the pitched ball to travel too deep into your stance and then fighting the pitch off, resulting in opposite-field pop ups and easy fly balls.

Aside from video, you can ask a teammate who knows their stuff to evaluate your swing by observing you and then identifying problem areas and making suggestions to correct defects. After you have identified your obvious swing flaws, use indoor batting cages, batting tees, dry swings, and most importantly, live batting practice to commit your swing changes to muscle memory.

Below are a few primary things to look for when evaluating your swing video:

- Maintaining a balanced batting stance with proper foot placement
- Having an effective weight transfer to the frontside
- Hands should be moving



directly down to the ball for an ideal hand path

- Turning the bat-head deep into the pitch plane that facilitates hitting to all fields
- Creating bat-lag that stays behind your hands until contact
- Checking your swing for proper rhythm and tempo

Rhythm is the sequential connecting of imaginary dots that make up your swing path. Tempo is how quickly you connect those dots which affects bat speed. Make certain you don't skip over a connecting dot in your swing, or you will disrupt both rhythm and tempo which are essential for bat-speed. Having pre-movement with your bat gives your bat-head a running start that will add to overall bat-speed. Don't forget that relaxed muscle moves faster than tense muscle which supports our principle of

being quick to the ball.

Use the links provided below to review my previous hitting articles for SSUSA to help identify your existing swing flaws, along with a link to a video explaining what swing flaws look like.

My hitting articles since 2011: <https://www.bashman01nwseiorsoftball.com/hitting-articles>

Identifying swing flaws video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h57B-gq6-b4>

Happy hitting,

Art Eversole has played on Major and Major Plus teams in the Northwest. Eversole can be reached via email at rmyboy01@gmail.com.

2022 SEASON PREVIEW

Attend An SSUSA Qualifier Near You!

More Than
70 SSUSA
Qualifiers to Be
Held Across the
U.S. in 2022

Softball News Report

With the 2021 Senior Softball Season officially in the rearview mirror, Senior Softball USA is setting sights on the 2022 campaign, which is already off to a stellar start with 314 teams beginning their seasons.

How much pent-up demand is out there for tournament play?

During November, 223 teams competed in the Winter World Championships in Arizona, setting a tournament record, with another 91 teams taking the field at the Winter National Championships in Florida.

Teams will once again have the opportunity to compete in more than 70 qualifiers throughout the season in order to qualify for the largest tournament in the sport – the World Championships in Las Vegas in September/October, 2022.

Of those qualifiers, 21 are select TOC qualifiers, with division winners earning a berth to the original Tournament of Champions in February. The TOC will take place in Polk County, Florida, February 2023.

Division winners from the Winter World and Winter Nationals this past November have already secured their berths to the 2023 TOC.

Additionally, teams competing in the Eastern and Western National Championships will again have their chance to begin their quest towards the Triple Grand Slam!

PAGE 18
2022 Tournament
Listing

**Tournament of Champions**

**World Championships**

**Eastern and Western Nationals**

**TOC Qualifiers**

**National Qualifiers**

2022 Qualifiers: Dalton Set to Host Southernns

Continued From Previous Page

Many tournaments in 2022 will again return to many of your favorite locations, which some new ones on tap.

One new location will be the Southern Championships heading to Dalton, Ga., at Riverbend Park – a new turf complex set to open April 2022. The Southern Championships will be played Aug. 12-14.

Keep an eye on other locations that will be announced shortly.

Here is a list of qualifiers for 2022 that have been announced so far:

WINTER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (2022 Roster Event) - TOC

Nov. 9 - Nov. 14, 2021 / Lee County, FL

WINTER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (2022 Roster Event) - TOC

Nov. 16 - Nov. 21, 2021 / Phoenix, AZ

Top Gun Winter Classic
Jan. 15 - Jan. 23, 2022 / Bullhead City, AZ

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (2021 Roster Event)

Feb. 9 - Feb. 13, 2022 / Polk County, FL

Top Gun Invitational Classic
Feb. 16 - Feb. 20, 2022 / Cathedral City, CA

Gold Glove Classic
Feb. 17 - Feb. 20, 2022 / Phoenix, AZ

FL Spring Training Challenge

Feb. 25 - Feb. 27, 2022 / Ft. Myers, FL

40s Gold Glove Classic
Feb. 26 - Feb. 27, 2022 / Phoenix, AZ

Spring Training Classic
March 3 - March 6, 2022 / Phoenix, AZ

SPRING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC
March 18 - March 20, 2022 / Polk County, FL

SPRING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC
March 18 - March 27, 2022 / Mesquite, NV & St. George, UT

TIDEWATER CLASSIC - TOC
March 29 - April 3, 2022 / Virginia Beach, VA

Chili Pepper Classic
April 2 - April 3, 2022 / El Paso, TX

Cow Town Classic
April 7 - April 10, 2022 / Overland Park, KS

Wayne Gilmore Memorial
April 8 - April 12, 2022 / Westminster, MD

Music City Classic
April 9 - April 10, 2022 / Nashville, TN

SOUTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC
April 19 - April 24, 2022 / Las Vegas, NV



Riverbend Park (Dalton, GA) is a brand-new four-field (turf) complex set to open in April 2022. Riverbend will host the 2022 Southern Championships, Aug. 12 - 14, 2022.

Iowa Spring Warm Up
April 21 - April 24, 2022 / West Des Moines, IA

TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC
April 26 - May 1, 2022 / Grapevine, TX

Brickyard Invitational
April 28 - May 1, 2022 / Indianapolis, IN

Oil City Classic
May 5 - May 8, 2022 / Tulsa, OK

Cinco De Mayo
May 5 - May 8, 2022 / Prescott, AZ

ATLANTIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC
May 10 - May 15, 2022 / Raleigh, NC

Iowa Senior Open
May 12 - May 15, 2022 / Waterloo, IA

Top Gun Spring Classic
May 18 - May 22, 2022 /

Perris, CA

Wes Weddle Classic
May 19 - May 22, 2022 / Olathe, KS & Lees Summit, MO

Bobby Chapp Memorial
May 21 - May 22, 2022 / Lansing, MI

ROCK 'N RENO CHALLENGE CUP - TOC
May 27 - June 5, 2022 / Reno, NV

Missouri Open
June 2 - June 12, 2022 / Columbia, MO

Steve Simmons Memorial/Mosquitoland Classic
June 2 - June 5, 2022 / Little Canada, MN

Heart of Texas
June 2 - June 5, 2022 / Waco, TX

Continued on Next Page

2022 Qualifiers: All Roads Lead to Vegas

Continued From Previous Page

Lake Orion, MI

Don Brooks Crabtown Classic

June 2 - June 5, 2022 /
Glen Burnie, MD

SSUSA/CAN-Sirs NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC

June 10 - June 12, 2022 /
Sacramento & Placer Coun-
ties, CA

Mountain Madness I June 10 - June 12, 2022 / Flagstaff, AZ

Hawaii Qualifier June 15 - June 19, 2022 / Waipahu, HI

40s Cool Country Classic I June 18 - June 19, 2022 / Prescott, AZ

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC June 21 - June 26, 2022 / Hemet, CA

Quad City Classic June 21 - June 26, 2022 / Rock Island, IL

Holiday Classic June 25 - June 26, 2022 / Sturgis, MI

Aggieland Classic July 7 - July 10, 2022 / College Station, TX

NORTHEAST CHAMPI- ONSHIPS July 8 - July 13, 2022 / Syracuse, NY

Swings For Rings July 9 - July 10, 2022 /

JIM SHERMAN MEMORIAL NORTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 12 - July 17, 2022 /
Salem, OR

Bert Bennett Memorial July 15 - July 19, 2022 / Westminster, MD

40s Cool Country Classic II July 16 - July 17, 2022 / Prescott, AZ

ISA SENIOR WORLD - TOC July 21 - July 24, 2022 / Columbus, IN

Mountain Madness II July 22 - July 24, 2022 / Flagstaff, AZ

EASTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC July 26 - July 31, 2022 / Loudoun County, VA

WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC July 26 - July 31, 2022 / Sacramento & Placer Coun- ties, CA

Milwaukee Classic July 28 - July 31, 2022 / Brookfield, WI

Midwest Qualifier July 28 - July 31, 2022 / Shawnee, KS

Kansas City Classic Aug. 4 - Aug. 7, 2022 / Lees Summit, MO

DFW Classic Aug. 4 - Aug. 7, 2022 / Grapevine, TX

40s Mountain Madness Last Chance Aug. 6 - Aug. 7, 2022 / Flagstaff, AZ 40s Wild West Qualifier Aug. 6 - Aug. 7, 2022 / Lacey, WA

Arizona Last Chance Aug. 11 - Aug. 14, 2022 / Prescott, AZ

SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC Aug. 12 - Aug. 14, 2022 / Dalton, GA

Top Gun Summer Classic Aug. 16 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Perris, CA

NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC Aug. 18 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Lansing, MI

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC Aug. 18 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Aurora, CO

Rochester 10,000 Lakes Classic Aug. 19 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Rochester, MN

40s East Coast Round- Up Aug. 19 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Loudoun County, VA

Washington Last Chance Qualifier Aug. 20 - Aug. 21, 2022 / Lacey, WA

Mid-Atlantic Last Chance Qualifier Aug. 26 - Aug. 28, 2022 / Loudoun County, VA

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - TOC Sept. 15 - Oct. 2, 2022 / Las Vegas, NV WINTER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (2023 Roster Event) - TOC Nov. 8 - Nov. 13, 2022 / Lee County, FL

WINTER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (2023 Roster Event) - TOC Nov. 15 - Nov. 20, 2022 / Phoenix, AZ

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (2022 Roster Event) Feb. 1 - Feb. 5, 2023 / Polk County, FL

Be sure to contact SSUSA
(916-326-5303) / [info@se-
niorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com) to enter your
team in any of these 2022
qualifiers.

Also, be sure to visit
[https://seniorsoftball.
com/?events](https://seniorsoftball.com/?events) to view the tour-
nament pages for each of the
above listed qualifiers to get
more information.

Please continue to visit
the events page of the SSUSA
site as additional tournaments
are planned to be posted.

REMINDER: *All teams
must play in a qualifier to
secure a qualifying roster for
the Eastern National Cham-
pionships, Western National
Championships, and World
Championships.

*Exceptions are made for
teams on a case-by-case bases.
If your team is unable to play
in a qualifier, please email
info@seniorsoftball.com to
apply for an exemption.

Berths to the TOC are
secured by winning a TOC
qualifier.



TRUMP OFFICIAL BALL of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

BSN SPORTS OFFICIAL SUPPLIER of SENIOR SOFTBALL - USA

bsnsports.com/seniorsoftball

BSN SPORTS • 800-327-0074 EXT.127

2022 Season Begins With Winter Nationals

LEE COUNTY, FL – The 2022 Senior Softball USA (SSUSA) season kicked off in the Sunshine State with 91 teams competing here during the 22nd annual Winter National Championships. Games were held in Naples, Cape Coral and Ft. Myers, Nov. 9-14.

The tournament began with the Men's 65 – 85 age divisions, playing Nov. 9-11.

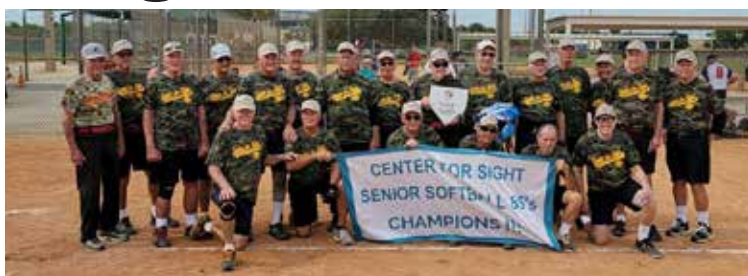
In the four-team Men's 65 Major Division, top seed Via Citrus (FL) completed a perfect week, going 2-0 in seeding, and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 17-10 win over Talaga Construction (CT) in the championship game.

Ohio Elite/Schones finished in third place.

The eight-team Men's 65 AAA Division came down to the "if" game, as Long Island Jaguars Red (NY) came out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip top seed Playmakers (WI), winning the championship (17-9) and "if" (15-8) games. The LI Jags won three straight games to complete the championship run.

Steve Levin Ameri-prise (FL) made a valiant run through the elimination side of the bracket with four straight wins en route to their third-place finish.

In the six-team Men's



Center For Sight 85 (FL)

70/75 Platinum Division, Venom 75 (FL) went 4-0 in bracket play, including a thrilling 22-21 win over New Jersey Hitmen 70 in the championship game.

Dr. Vinyl 70 (IN) rounded out the top three finishers.

The eight-team Men's 70 AAA Division saw Florida Mustangs win three straight games to close out the division, capped off by a double-dip over Long Island Jaguars White. The FL Mustangs won the championship game 21-16 and the "if" game 20-12.

Universal Softball (OH) finished in third place, following a run of four straight wins in the elimination bracket.

The five-team Men's 75 AAA Division saw top seed Long Island Jaguars post a 3-0 record in bracket play, including a 15-9 win over Jersey Masters (NJ) in the championship game.

Syracuse Cyclones (NY) rounded out the top three finishers.

The Men's 75/80 Platinum Division featured a best

of three series, as Florida Investment Properties 80 swept Blaze/Ted Todd Insurance 75 (FL) by scores of 14-13 and 19-10, respectively.

The Men's 75/80 Silver Division saw top seed Bucs & Bulls 80 (FL) take the top spot, followed by Cape Cod Sharks 80 (MA) in the runner-up spot.

Long Island Jaguars 80 (NY) finished in third place.

The Men's 85 Major Division also featured a best of three series, with Center For Sight (FL) sweeping Team Rehabilitation (MN) by scores of 18-10 and 24-9, respectively.

The tournament continued with the Men's 40 – 60 age divisions, playing Nov. 12-14.

Starting with the three-team Men's 40/50 Major Plus Division, Suncoast Adidas 40s (FL) came back to avenge its 24-16 loss in the championship game, with a 27-19 victory in the "if" game, over Suncoast/Adidas/Shades 50

(FL).

DDA Nation 40 (FL) finished in third place.

The three-team Men's 50/55 Platinum Division saw Suncoast/Adidas/Shades 55 (FL) take out top seed 615 Honored/Sumner Roofing/Homesite/Walk Worthly 50 (TN), 13-11, in the championship game.

Avalon Insurance 50 (FL) was the third place finisher.

In the nine-team Men's 50 AAA Division, PA Senior Hitmen won four straight games in the bracket, including a 23-17 win over Fat Chops/4 Season (MA) in the championship game.

Good Wood (KY) finished in third place.

Top seed No Shows (FL) went 2-0 in bracket play, including a 15-6 win over Phoenix Tube/REMAX (FL) in the championship game, to take the top prize in the three-team Men's 55 Major Division.

K&I (IN) finished in third place.

In the six-team Men's 55 AAA Division, top seed Isle Edge Trucking (WI) completed a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding, and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 27-18 win over Syracuse Crunch (NY) in the championship

Continued on Page 22



Florida Mustangs 70



Venom 75 (FL)



OFFICIAL UNIFORMS FOR:



SALES@ELITESPORTSUSA.NET | 714.639.9940
WWW.ELITESPORTSUSA.NET



@ELITE_SPORTS_USA @ELITESPORTS247

2021 Winter Worlds Host 223 Teams

PHOENIX – The 22nd annual Winter World Championships set a record in 2021 with 223 teams in attendance. The tournament was held Nov. 16-21, across eight complexes.

The tournament began with the Men's 65 – 85 age divisions.

Starting with the 12-team Men's 65/70 Platinum Division, Timberworks/Suncoast 70 (CA) downed top seed Arizona Scorpions in the championship game, 29-12.

After forfeiting a game to Timberworks/Suncoast earlier in the bracket, Arizona Scorpions rattled off three straight wins to reach the championship game.

No. 10 seed Houston Fire (TX) won three straight games in the bracket, before dropping two straight games to finish in third place.

In the 19-team Men's 65 AAA Division, Plainsmen (NE) went 5-0 in bracket play, including a 19-4 win over Last Call (NV) in the championship game.



New Mexico Boomers 70

onship game.

Warriors (HI) finished in third place.

Weakened Warriors (CA) finished in fourth place after winning three straight elimi-

nation games.

Honorable mention goes to Mountain Mike's Pizza – Paradise, CA, who won five straight games in the elimina-

Continued on Page 24



Scorpions 80 (AZ)



Top Gun Blue Angels 85 (CA)

WNC: Champs Crowned in 16 Divisions

Continued From Page 20

game.

Syracuse Crunch had won four straight games, before running out of steam in the championship game.

Dudley Lightning IL finished in third place.

In the 14-team Men's 60 Major Division, Action Auto Parts (RI) ran through the gauntlet unscathed, going 5-0 in bracket play, including a 19-17 win over Top Dawgs (FL) in the championship game.

After going 0-2 in seeding play, and dropping their first two bracket games, Top Dawgs re-grouped with five straight wins, en route to their eventual runner-up finish.

Top seed Doug & Don's

Auto Care (MI) rounded out the top three finishers.

RBC (FL) made a strong push through the elimination bracket with four straight wins, eventually finishing in fourth place.

In the 11-team Men's 60 AAA Division, the top two seeds battled it out for the championship.

No. 2 Avalon Insurance Group (FL) took out No. 1 Team Riporti/FOA (NJ), 10-2, in the championship game. Avalon Insurance Group defeated Team Riporti/FOA, 21-20, to advance to the championship game.

Sunshine Sluggers (FL) finished in third place.

The Men's 60 AA Division featured a best of three



Top: PA Senior Hitmen 50 / Bottom: Diamond Dawgs 60 (MA)

game series, as Diamond Dawgs (MA) swept Glory

Daze (KY) by scores of 19-7 and 13-10, respectively.



Handwritten signature in purple ink.

**WIN
TOMORROW
NOW**



DEMARINI



**INTRODUCING THE NEW STAMP
2022 DEMARINI USSSA LINEUP**



WWC: 25 Women's Teams Compete

Continued From Page 22

tion side of the bracket, finishing in a tie for fifth place, along with Oshkosh Ambassadors (WI).

In the five-team Men's 65 AA Division, top seed Los Vatos Viejos (AZ) completed a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 21-6 win over Orale (NM) in the championship game.

Orale had won three straight games in the elimination bracket en route to their runner-up finish.

Duke City Dynamite (NM) finished in third place.

In the eight-team Men's 70/75 Platinum Division, Arizona Ancient 70 went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 16-6 win over OMEN 75 (CA) in the championship game.

Top seed Arizona Scorpions 70 finished in third place.

In the 13-team Men's 70 AAA Division, Scrap Iron 5280 (CO) went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 16-8 win over Oshkosh Ambassadors (WI) in the championship game.

Oshkosh Ambassadors had won an impressive six straight games to punch its ticket to the championship game.

Hawaii Masters was the third-place finisher, while top seed Relentless (TX) finished fourth, following a run of four straight wins in the elimination side of the bracket.

In the three-team Men's 70 AA Division, New Mexico Boomers went 3-0 in bracket play, including a victory over Top Gun Olde Dawgs in the championship game.

Top seed El Paso Nine

Eleven finished third.

In the four-team Men's 75/80 Platinum Division, top seed Sidewinders 75 (AZ) went undefeated on the week, going 3-0 in seeding, and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 20-15 win over Tri-State Diamondback 75 (NM) in the championship game.

Midwest Express 75 (IA) finished in third place.

In the six-team Men's 75 AAA Division, Minnesota Masters went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 20-18 win over Chicago Strikers in the championship game.

Top seed Scrap Iron Diamonds (CO) finished in third place after winning back-to-back elimination games.

The Men's 80 Major Division featured a best-of-three game series that went the distance.

In game one, Sidewinders (AZ) downed Scrap Iron Grey Berets Base Force (CO), 20-6.

Game two saw a win from Scrap Iron Grey Berets Base Force, 7-4, to force the "if" game.

In the deciding game, Sidewinders took home the championship game with a 19-8 victory.

In the three-team Men's 80 AAA Division, top seed Scorpions (AZ) went 2-0 in bracket play, including a 28-



Saints 40 (AZ)

13 win over Hui Ohana (HI) in the championship game.

Git-R-Done Silver (CA) finished in third place.

The Men's 85 Major Division featured a best-of-three series, with Top Gun Blue Angels (CA) sweeping Arizona Prospectors, by scores of 18-5 and 20-0.

The tournament continued with the Men's 40 – 60 and Women's 40 – 55 age divisions, taking the field on Nov. 19.

Starting with the four-team Women's 40 Major Division, FRSTeam (CO) won four straight elimination games, including a double-dip over Still Grubbing (CA). FRSTeam won the championship game, 12-6, and then the "if" game, 9-3.

Tharaldson Softball (NV) finished in third place.

The 17-team Women's 40 AAA Division also saw a

team escape from the elimination side of the bracket to win it all.

After dropping an 18-14 game against Notoriously We Gucci (AZ), Saints (AZ) rattled off five straight wins, including the double-dip over top seed CCS Fireballerz (CA).

Saints won the championship game, 38-21, and the "if" game, 28-17.

Notoriously We Gucci finished in third place.

My Auto Jack (AZ) finished in fourth place, while Not Today (NV) and Freak Show (NV) tied for fifth place.

In the four-team Women's 50/55 Division, top seed The Dream Team 55 (AZ) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a 20-12 win over Fossils 50 (MA) in the championship game.

NW Lady Legends 50 (WA) finished third.

In the 13-team Men's 40 Platinum Division, Cody Staffing/A3 (WA) went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 26-17 win over Blue Point (AZ) in the championship game.

Blue Point won three straight elimination games to



The Dream Team 55 (AZ)

Continued on Next Page

WWC: Large Divisions In the AAA



Stadium 50 (CA)

Continued From Previous Page

reach the title game.

Top seed SBOB/Voodoo Sports (AZ) finished in third place.

In the 10-team Men's 40 AAA Division, top seed Built to Last (AZ) recorded a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding, and 4-0 in bracket play, including a 25-14 win over Toda Madre (AZ) in the championship game.

Toda Madre had won six straight games to escape the elimination side of the bracket and reach the championship game.

Shoots (CA) finished in third place.

The 13-team Men's 50 Platinum Division saw Stadium (CA) come out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip Scrap Iron Tenacity (CO). Stadium won a thrilling championship game, 21-20, followed by a 22-7 win in the "if" game.

Top seed Amigos (AZ) finished in third place.

Coming off of its win in the World Championships in the 50 AAA Division, Originals (TX) made a solid debut in the majors, finishing in fourth place.

Homer Lovers (ON, Canada), from North of the border, had a strong push through the elimination side of the

bracket with three wins en route to tying for fifth place, along with Shakas (CA).

In the 19-team Men's 50 AAA Division, ETX (TX) polished off an undefeated weekend, going 2-0 in seeding play, and a 5-0 in bracket play, including a 26-13 win over Team SMS (NV) in the championship game.

Team SMS had won three straight elimination games to reach the championship game.

Viejos So Cal (CA) finished in third place, followed by All-Quip/SOWC (OR) in fourth.

Relentless (TX) and Lokahi (AZ) tied for fifth.

In the nine-team Men's 55/60 Platinum Division, top seed Legacy Sports USA 60 (AZ) was unbeatable on the weekend, going 2-0 in seeding, and 4-0 in bracket play, including a 22-11 win over L.A.F. 55 (CA).

L.A.F. had won three straight elimination games to punch its name into the championship game.

So Cal 55 entered the bracket with an 0-2 showing in seed play; but regrouped with an even 2-2 mark in bracket play, to finish in third place.

Arizona Old School finished fourth.

In the 16-team Men's 55



El Paso Bad Boys 60 (TX)

AAA Division, Team Southwest/Woodies (NM) avoided the dreaded double-dip, by knocking off Crawfords (MI), 20-17, in the "if" game.

Crawfords had a run of four straight wins in elimination games, including a 25-9 win in the championship game.

Cali Gold (CA) finished in third place, followed by Relentless (TX) in fourth place, who had a valiant run with five straight wins in the elimination side of the bracket.

The Men's 55 AA Division featured a best-of-three game series.

Manifest (TX) struck first with a hard-fought, 11-10, win in the opening game; however, Canyon West (AZ) cruised to wins in the next two games, by scores of 27-10 and 15-0, respectively, to take the division.

In the 12-team Men's 60 Major Division, Hawaii Five O came to the mainland and never lost. The team went 2-0 in seeding play to lock up the No. 1 seed, and continued their winning ways in the bracket, going 4-0, including a 21-11 win over D'Amore Law Group (OR) in the championship game.

Old Giants (CA) finished in third place, followed by Peak Softball/Scrap Iron (CO)

in fourth.

In the 17-team Men's 60 AAA Division, Arizona Scorpions came out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip Northwest Yeahoos (WA).

The AZ Scorpions took the championship game in a thriller 14-13; followed by a 22-17 win in the deciding "if" game.

Northwest Yeahoos entered the bracket as the last seed following an 0-2 showing in seeding play; however, the team put forth a Cinderella run in bracket play with five straight wins, before dropping both the championship and "if" games.

Omaha Silver Bullets (NE) finished in third place, followed by Team Alaska in fourth.

In the 10-team Men's 60 AA Division, El Paso Bad Boys (TX) went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 21-13 win over top seed Tri City Legends/TimeShareCompliance.com (WA) in the championship game.

Rolling Thunder (NM) finished in third place.

SSWC All-Tournament Selections

The granddaddy of senior softball tournaments, the World Championships in Las Vegas, spanned 15 days (Sept. 16 – Oct. 3, 2021) with 2,103 games scheduled.

A record 644 teams, representing 40 states (including the U.S. Territory of Guam), and two Canadian provinces, competed on the field across nine complexes in 35 divisions.

Champions represented 16 states (Florida, Washington, Kansas, California, Utah, Connecticut, Texas, Maryland, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, West Virginia, Montana, Minnesota, Colorado, and Arizona, as well as the U.S. territory of Guam.

The largest division of the tournament, the 75-team Men's 50 AAA Division was won by Originals (Texas).

Recaps of the Worlds can be found in previous editions of the [newsletter](#).

The top four teams in each divisions earned All-Tournament selections, with first place earning five (5) selections, second place four (4), third place three (3), and fourth two (2).

Players earning all-tournament selections at the World Champs secure points towards the [National Senior Softball Hall of Fame](#).

Additionally, every team in the tournament selects a team MVP.

All-Tournament Selections

Men's 40 Major Plus

Suncoast Adidas (FL):

Robert Roop, Artie Ramos, Ken Scobey, Rhodney Donaldson, Kyle Cowart.

GTS (ID): Adam Russell, Eric Becker.

Men's 40 Major

Dudley Lightning (MO):

Dan Bean, Cory Limpert, Matt Alvarado, Derek Dickey.

Men's 40 AAA

Hit N Solos: LC Merchants (WA): David McDaniel, Frankie Mora, Jason Garman, Shon Schreiber, Scott Hemberry.

Shut-D (HI):

Devin Valentin, Rolland Alcoran, Darwin Bukoski, Jason Silva

40 Cal Assault (CA):

Robert Mason, Frank Padilla, Adrian Carreon, Rick Markle (MVP).

Women's 40 AAA

Still Grubbing (CA): Van Phan, Mia Sibug (MVP), Leah Evans, Laura Baeza, Monica Pantoja

Men's 50 Major Plus

Suncoast/Adidas/Shades

(FL): Robert Roop, Darryl Waddy, Ricky Sills, Joseph Horvath, Kenneth Kibilko Jr.

FBI/Worth/Miken (FL):

Brian Milstead, Scott Striebel, Brad Stillwell.

JK Inc/GTL (CA):

Rich Lawton, Geoff Orr.

Men's 50 Major

Hard Hat Cafe/Latella's

(CT): Keith Anderson, Steven Steransak, Tim Arciola, Nelson Perpetuo, James Caterbone.

HTM (ID):

Glenn Spivey, Dan Romero, Augie Munoz, Matthew Simons

Men's 50 AAA

Oklahoma Rhinos:

Stan Branscum (MVP), Chris Stone,

Men's 50 AA

Goats (MD):

Adam Freeland, Kenneth Myers Sr., Matthew Rankin, Timothy Garland (MVP).

Gulf Coast Hurricanes (TX): Roy Hereford III, Cedric Robertson

Women's 50 Major

Old School (CA):

Joan Hester, Patty Felker, Vicki Cescato, Miti Aguilera, Lisa Maxey, Sabrina Bobkowski (MVP).

Stix With Impact (CA):

Patti Albrecht, Cinthia Becks, Becky Robertson, Elizabeth Kitlinger (MVP).

Dynasty Girls (FL):

Gynene Terry, Prince Washington

Women's 50 AAA

Lew's Crew/Exceeding

Expectations (MD): Nancy Peterson, Kim Adams, Alethea Bageant, Marilyn Clifford, Tracy Walker

All Mix'D Up (AR):

Emma Harris, Markethia Gilliam, Nikki Spencer, Trina Davis.

Who's Yer Daddy – 50

Shades of Grey (WA): Traci Barnes, Tammie Longpre, Juqita McClure.

Men's 55 Major Plus

Sommerville Softball

(CA): Mike Hoffner, Curtis Horger, Gary Chaney, Rich Lawton, Michael Reed.

Men's 55 Major

55 OH MY (CA):

Dan Bandy, Maurice Ward, William Gomez

Men's 55 AAA

KC Vintage (MO):

Troy Whitworth, Brad Uecker, James Wilson, Terry Pilgrim, Dough Eaken.

Alliance/Scrap Iron

(CO): Robert Avila, David Bretton, Joe Ribeiro

Fossil Fuel (CA):

Bill Smith & Tom Kohler (co-MVP), Spike Knox, Jim Vance & Scott Vasquez (co-All Tournament)

Men's 55 AA

Longshoremen (VA):

Edward McGlone, O'cie Hendricks, Larry Collins, Lonniss Angevine.

Spin Tees (WA):

Jay Sweet, Steve Zacharczyk.

Men's 60 Major Plus

LPC/Dudley (CA):

Thad Reese, Scotty Camery, Gary Roberson, Dan Arevalos, Mike Slavenski.

Men's 60 Major

Scarp Iron/Rocky

Mountain Thunder (CO):

Steven Antonczyk, Charles Kunkel, Brad Edginton.

Men's 60 AAA

Scrap Iron Xplosion

(CO): Danny Silvey, Barry Jark, Ed Dilley, Kevin Flynn.

Men's 60 AA

Antiques of Iowa City

(IA): Kirt Sickels, Denny Jenn, Kent Juergens, Rick Dautremont, Kevin Rauch.

SoCal Riptide:

Harry Schafer, Joe Kramer, Shane Lindzy (MVP).

Men's 65/70 Major Plus

Texas Crush Sixty Fives:

Joe Read, Murray Williams, Jimmy Ross.

Top Gun Elite 65 (CA):

Bobby Joe Hensley, Clyde Phillips, Vince Skandunas (MVP).

Men's 65 Major

Chicago Prime (IL):

Gregg Finigan, Jim Waller, Britt Edwards, Jimmy Phad, Gary Olson.

Trachsel Auto Body

(OR): Scott Wooley, Rick Hilton, Larry Bue, Charles Hudson

Men's 65 AA

Montana Cutthroats:

David Thompson, Donald Cross, Charles Crane, Justin Glasgow, Lon Oistad.

Continued on Page 28



OFFICIAL SOFTBALL

SUNCOAST



2022 SUNCOAST

MELEE 3 SERIES

1-PIECE HIGH-PERFORMANCE SENIOR SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL BATS

\$239.99

available
9/2021

SM3SB / MELEE3 BALANCED

Barrel Type: 13" Barrel, 1-Piece Design

Weighting: Balanced

Signatures: Donny Burke & Conway Waddy

Weights: 34" / 25oz, 26oz, 27oz, 28oz, 30oz

Warranty: None

SM3SE / MELEE3 END-LOADED

Barrel Type: 13" Barrel, 1-Piece Design

Weighting: End-Loaded

Signatures: Jerry Reynolds & Bobby Noth

Weights: 34" / 25oz, 26oz, 27oz, 28oz, 30oz

Warranty: None

SM3SE12 / 12" MELEE3 END-LOADED

Barrel Type: 12" Barrel, 1-Piece Design

Weighting: 1/2oz Power End-Load

Signatures: Bobby Davis, Davey Reed, Steve Imlay,
Don Clatterbough

Weights: 34" / 25oz, 26oz, 27oz, 28oz, 30oz

Warranty: None

TECHNOLOGY FEATURES...

Max Speed Handle

The Melee 3 Bats are engineered with a smaller handle diameter to maximize barrel whip resulting in your max speed with excellent control.

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.

OPTI-DURA Performance Composite

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

APPROVED FOR PLAY IN SSUSA, ISA & SPA

VISIT SUNCOASTSOFTBALL.COM FOR THE FULL LINE OF SUNCOAST BATS & SOFTBALL PRODUCTS

SSWC All-Tourney Continued

Continued From Page 26

Relentless (TX): David Kruse, Michael Parker, Craig Hobar, Jeffrey Fisher, Rex Horvath.

Oklahoma Street Outlaws: Roger Musick, Ronny Hightower, David Baker.

Northwest Silver (WA): Dan Willows, Chad Richardson, Lloyd (Butch) Jones (MVP).

Men's 70 Major

Minnesota Masters:

Gregg Shaver, Larry Nelson, Paul Trewick, Garry Bennett, Dennis St. Sauver, Bill Geisbauer (MVP).

AZ Ancient: Dick Reader, Robert Wicks, Cliff DeKnikker, Walt Kado.

R&R (CA): Mark Simmons, Art Langlois, Michael Young.

Men's 70 AAA

Valley Fog (CA): Dennis Uber, John Hoffman, Patrick Carman, Stephen Gibson, Kent Grant.

SoCal Gusto: Robert Varela, John Sadler, Ken Larson, Eddie Arocho.

Scrap Iron 5280 (CO): Jim Casswell, Terry Goodrich, Anthony McIlroy.

Men's 70 AA

Scrap Iron Diamonds (CO): Wendall Neves, Norm Friedman, David Ronnow, George Faas, Gary Foster

El Paso Nine Elevens (TX): Samuel Granillo, Enrique Marquez, Jose Buruato.

Men's 75 Major Plus

Venom (FL): Jim Davidson, Phil Farmer, Dana Kimmel, Don Cabral, Bob Buchanan, Tols Mihailoff (MVP).

OMEN (CA): John Di Re, Michel Hoffberg, Jerry Herling, William Wilson, Gary Tryhorn (MVP).

Men's 75 Major

AMR South (FL): Freddie Simpson (MVP), Mel Colwell, Gordon Ferguson, Bob Gallagher, Johnie Seals, Marvin Bruell.

Tri-State Diamondbacks (NM): Paul Allen, Ronne Mercer, John Florence, Robert Williams.

Tharaldson's (NV): James Bichsel, Russell Gwynne, Arthur Bird.

Men's 75 AAA

Chicago Gray Sox (IL): Wayne Markett (MVP), Jerry Santerelli, Dan Serrato

Men's 75 AA

Texas Knight Riders: Doug Klenke, Gary Kirk

Men's 80 Major Plus

Top Gun Gold (CA):

Robert McCormick, Thomas Weaver, Charlie Wiley, James Kenney.

Men's 80 Major

Minnesota Masters:

Terry Mens, Gary Palm, Bob Lenzmeier, Tom Daniel, Norm Setnicker

Men's 80 AAA

Arizona Outlaws: Al Ludwig, J C Moore, Bob Sachs, Ed Strong, Bud Ranous

Men's 85

Top Gun Blue Angels

(CA): Carroll Shook (MVP), Bill Poe, Jack Loy, Ronnie Guest, William Emery.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections did not appear here, please email them to info@seniorsoftball.com.

WORTH
WWW.WORTHSPORTS.COM

Don't miss the opportunity of a lifetime!

*Join us on the
Senior Softball USA Tour
to the Jewels of
Eastern Europe:
Prague and Budapest!*



Join the adventure!

This is a limited opportunity. The Tour was full, but a few people had to withdraw, opening the window for you to join our adventure!: **There are only 3 spots left on the tour!**

Send in your deposit now to reserve your place on the trip of a lifetime!

- Play in Budapest and Prague.
- Meet and tour with players from other countries.
- Make friends with USA teammates from around the country.
- See sights you'll remember forever.

Look at the itinerary:

[https://seniorsoftball.com/multimedia/prague_itinerary_2022_\(1\).pdf](https://seniorsoftball.com/multimedia/prague_itinerary_2022_(1).pdf)

Book Now:

https://seniorsoftball.com/multimedia/eastern_europe_may_2022_booking_form_updated.pdf

For more information:

call: 916-326-5303 / email: info@seniorsoftball.com

Love You Take is Equal to Love You Make

I've never written a story through tears but I want to share our story and I know a bunch of you have already been where I am now.

My wife, Mindy, died on Oct. 2, three weeks after heart valve replacement surgery. She had a very long medical history that started when we first met in dental school when she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease and was treated with radiation and surgery. We had been married 40 years; we have two wonderful daughters and four beautiful grandchildren who Mindy loved so dearly and it's not fair that she won't see more of their stories unfold. She was the bravest and most relentlessly positive minded person I've ever known.

I have several softball friends who lost their wives too, and they have shared their stories with me to different degrees. One of my best friends is a doctor from the Detroit area, Andrew Rosenfeld. His wife, Elissa, and Mindy also were friends,

Senior Moments

By Dave Weinman

and it cut Mindy deeply when Elissa died seven years ago at age 60 of bone cancer.

Andy focused on their three children and the new demands of being a single parent with a full-time job. He says he thinks of her and misses her every day still. However, happily, he recently remarried and is moving forward with his life.

It may embarrass Andy a little, but it illustrates in one small way. We all have a division of labor in our relationships; I took care of the lawn, house maintenance, etc.; Mindy was in charge of our calendar, our travel arrangements, etc. Apparently, Elissa did that for Andy too, in as much as he showed up for one of our tournaments in Fort Lauderdale exactly one week too soon a few years back.

Andy's advice and I completely agree, to those of you who still have your spouse,

or to your new partner, and to your kids is to cherish them every day. Tell them you love them - today. Give them a hug. You can't go back and have a reset after they (or you) are gone. Life is not a video game.

My parents were children of the Depression. They saved and sacrificed for a retirement of travel that never came because my mom got Alzheimer's before they got the chance. I'm very grateful that we had the ability to travel and experience a little of the world together while we could, and we had a ton of fun on our overseas softball trips.

Our first SSUSA overseas trip was to Spain, I think that was 2009. We had a blast and made friends on that trip that we've stayed in touch with ever since. We have gone on at least one trip to Europe with SSUSA each year since then, up until COVID came.

The support of our softball family has been a real comfort to me. I just did retire



Mindy Weinman in Venice, Italy (2015).

from dentistry as well; and whereas my plan had been to take care of Mindy while she recovered from her surgery, my new plan is to play a whole bunch of softball, in the Dominican with SSUSA, and in Florida over the winter. I'll be going to Prague and Budapest in May, but Mindy for the first time won't be with me on a SSUSA trip.

Except in my heart.

David Weinman, of New York, is a contributor to SSUSA News. A member of SSUSA since 2010, Weinman has attended numerous SSUSA International Tours.

2022 SSUSA International Tour Update

Softball Softball Report

The world of international travel continues to evolve around the ever-changing pandemic.

Luckily, Senior Softball USA is still on track for almost all of the International Softball Tours planned for 2022.

The SSUSA Tours offer players and their friends and families a chance to enjoy seeing the world, playing with new and old friends

from throughout America and meeting players from other countries!

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

Tours are going forward as planned to the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and Vancouver, Canada, as well as the Hawaii Cruise in November.

The only Tour affected by the pandemic was to New Zealand.

A few weeks ago, upon the advice of our Tour Operator, we moved the March 2022 Tour to New Zealand back to March of 2023.

Mark your calendars for 2022 Travel:

<https://seniorsoftball.com/?page=35>





**DENNIS
RULLI**

BALANCED

Dennis Rulli

**RONNI
SALCEDO**

LOADED

Ronni Salcedo

**RON
PARNELL**

MOTHER LOAD

Ron Parnell

TRIPLE R

LOADED



2020 EMPIRE

FEATURING UPGRADED TRIPLE WALL TECHNOLOGY

INCREASED
PERFORMANCE

MAXIMUM
DURABILITY

OPTIMIZED
PLAYER WEIGHTING



TAG US AND USE
#POWEREDBYEASTON



@EASTONSLWPITCH



@EASTONSLWPITCH



@SLOWPITCHEASTON



@EASTONSPORTSNETWORK

MIKE MACENKO

Mighty Mike Macenko

**MICHAEL MACENKO ULTRA[®] FUSION
BIG CAT ENDLOAD**

MODEL: MUF4SS

TWO-PIECE

14 INCH BARREL

SIZES: 34/26, 34/27, 34/28 • BARREL: 2 1/4" • 1 OUNCE ENDLOAD

• Z1649 • Z-LOCK • 100 COMP • MADE IN USA • NO WARRANTY

