

2019 LVSSA/SSUSA WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

WMC Set to Surpass 600 Teams for Third Year in a Row

Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS – The largest senior softball tournament in the world – the Las Vegas Senior Softball Association (LVSSA)/Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) World Masters Championships - returns to Sin City in 2019 for an eighth straight year.

Please See Page 22

Photo by Jack Eberhard
Player from 615 Senior Softball (TN), Men's 50 AAA, bats in the inaugural Music City Classic earlier in the season.

■ PAGE 23 U.S. NATIONAL GAMES ■ PAGE 24: WMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SSUSA Honors Nation's Bravest With First Responders Tournament

Softball News Report

Honor, dedication, courage; these are traits that define First Responders.

And these are the reasons Senior Softball USA is reaching out to America's First Responder community.

SSUSA held the inaugural First Responder event outside of Washington, D.C., earlier this year. The Salute to Service tournament featured 16 men's teams with all players aged 40 & over. The brackets included a mix of established teams and local teams made up of players

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TRENDS

Looking for a Competitive Edge? Try opening a Tasty Cold One

Softball News Report

For many teams, it's their defensive wizard at shortstop, while others counter that it's their hard-hitting first baseman who produces big numbers in the cleanup position.

But after some serious and not-so-serious thought, it might well be the player or coach who's in charge of the

after-game contents in the team's cooler.

And it should be no surprise that the likely contents of that cooler are a few dozen beers. In fact, when it comes to the greatest American duos of all-time, few can compete with beer and slow-pitch softball.

Now experts are touting the benefits of beer's active ingredient, malt, in

enhancing performance, energy and recovery.

In fact, nearly every member of the German Olympic ski team is on a non-alcoholic beer diet during training.

For SSUSA players weary of any potential hangover effects, they may look to follow the training regimen of Team Germany from the recent

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SSUSA Player ID Card Announcement

SSUSA will be issuing electronic Player ID Cards for the 2020 season beginning in October 2019. Players can still request the plastic ID Card, but the electronic version is designed to be used and stored in cell phones for easy access.

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Bat Sponsor of: LVSSA/SSUSA Southwest Championships, Atlantic Coast Championships, Western National Championships, Winter World Championships.



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Bat Sponsors of: Spring National Championships, Jim Sherman Memorial Northwest Championships, Southern Championships.



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Bat Sponsor of: Spring World Championships, Rock 'N Reno Challenge Cup, Rocky Mountain Championships, Winter National Championships.



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Bat Sponsors of: Texas State Championships, Northeast Championships, ISA Senior World Series, Eastern National Championships, Tournament of Champions



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Beer: Brews Aid in Athletic Recovery

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2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang.

For the Germans, the non-alcoholic beer training paid off, as Deutschland tallied 31 total medals (second to Norway) at the games, including 14 gold medals (tied for most with Norway). The ski events of Biathlon (seven medals), Nordic Combined (five medals), and Ski Jumping (four medals) helped power the nation's medal count.

A study co-authored by the German Olympic ski team doctor Johannes Scherr found that runners in the 2009 Munich Marathon "suffered significantly less inflammation and fewer upper respiratory infections after the race than runners who had been given a placebo."

The Munich Marathon runners were given non-alcoholic beer every day for three weeks prior to and two weeks after the race, according to the study, *Nonalcoholic Beer Reduces Inflammation and Incidence of Respiratory Tract Illness*, which appeared in the January 2012 edition of *Medicine and Science in Sports and*

Exercise.

Scherr credits the "high concentration of polyphenols, immune-boosting chemicals from the plants with which its brewed," for the health effects of non-alcoholic beer.

With the growing trend of performance beers that are brewed to help athletes, mainly runners, recover and refuel, SSUSA players may have an added excuse to knock back a few more brews post-game.

"I think that mixing in some non-alcoholic performance beer with alcoholic beers is something I would do as would some of our players if they knew of the healthier benefits," says Jeff Sheeran, manager of 1 UNDER Craft Beer & Eats 55 out of Michigan. "We have some players that drink the traditional Bud/Miller type beers, others that drink Yuengling when we are out of Michigan and others drink craft style beers."

"Mentioning the benefits of a non-alcoholic beer to people our age would never hurt," says Robert Szajnuik, a member of Big Bottom Brewery/Evolve Salon 50 out of Pennsylvania and owner of

Big Bottom Brewery in Dillsburg, Pa. "I think that may enlighten them on something that they never heard. Our age bracket is not so interested in the healthy end as is the younger guys. My guys just enjoy the taste of a good beer."

Senior Softball News health columnist Stan Reents, agrees: "It turns out that beers, like red wines, contain good quantities of healthy antioxidants."

"Some antioxidants, like ferulic acid and xanthohumol,

Continued on next page

Malt Makes a Comeback, Packing Powerful Nutritional Benefits

Malt Extract's Natural Performance Benefits Include:

*** Athletic Recovery:** Today, malt extract is drawing renewed attention as a naturally-functional ingredient that packs a host of powerful intrinsic health benefits - one reason that, among other uses, athletes are increasingly relying on malt extract-based beverages to replenish and recover.

*** Boosts Happiness:** Malt extract might actually make you happy! Malt extract contains Hordenine, a plant-based, naturally occurring compound that has been found in scientific studies to lift your spirits. Hordenine was shown to activate the dopamine D2 receptor, the brain's reward center, which causes this "feel-good" effect. It has also been reported to sharpen mental focus and heighten energy levels.

*** Sweetener with Substance:** Malt extract is not an empty sugar. When used as a sweetener, malt extract is a functional ingredient that serves as a source of antioxidants, essential amino acids, vitamins and minerals, and is made with whole grains. As an added benefit, malt extract has a significantly lower glycemic index than table sugar.

*** Supports Digestive Health:** Malt extract can be good for your gut. Malt extract is a rich source of soluble fiber, which helps improve digestion by optimizing good bacteria and minimizing bad bacteria. Studies show malt extract facilitates the growth of probiotic cultures that can enhance digestive health by supporting the good bacteria that lines the gut. This can help prevent illness and promote essential nutrient absorption, enhancing overall health.

*** Promotes Heart Health:** Malt extract is shown to reduce the risk of heart problems by helping to lower cholesterol. A heart-healthy mix, malt contains fiber, potassium, folate, and vitamin B6, which together lower cholesterol and decrease the risk of cardiac disease. Its dietary fiber helps reduce insulin activity and increases cholesterol absorption from the gut and encourages cholesterol breakdown. Studies indicate this promotes lower cholesterol by reducing plaque formation.

*** Antioxidants Galore:** Malt extract packs more than 5 times the antioxidant power of fresh broccoli and nearly 50 percent more than blueberries. It is an abundant source of vitamins, minerals, amino acids, dietary silicon (supports bone health), B complex vitamins and micro minerals. Consuming foods rich in antioxidants has been shown to strengthen heart health, support anti-aging, and lower risk of infection and some forms of cancer.

AP News - March 30, 2019



Team gathers for a post-game drink at the 2017 World Masters Champs.

Beer Continued: Offers Best of Both Worlds

Continued from previous page

are only found in hops. So, it is true that beer can provide health-promoting actions," said Reents, a health care professional and health/fitness coach.

While softball players may value the health effects of a brew.... the deciding factor is flavor.

"I have a few that drink the traditional beers, but most of us are into micro beers," added Szajnuk.

"Because of the endless flavors and tastes, that is what people lean towards now. A lot of runners drink right after races because it is a quick

replenish from what they just burned off. Most will drink one or two immediately when they finish."

Today, you are all but guaranteed to find a senior softball team in the parking lot enjoying a few cold ones following a hard-fought day on the diamonds.

Beer and slow-pitch are so intertwined, that teams even have specific rules.

SSUSA, like most softball organizations, prohibits alcohol in the dugouts or on the playing field. And many teams have their own rules.

"No drinking between games, and if there is a long

break, go to the parking lot," says Russ Uda, manager of Sacramento Buds 70 out of California. "Don't come back, if you're drunk."

Along with keeping in line with team rules, the greatest benefit of non-alcoholic beer for SSUSA players may be avoiding possible ejection at a tournament.

"At the senior level, no matter what division you may play, it's great sitting around enjoying each other's company," notes Rick Bingham, manager of Its 5 O'clock Somewhere 65 out of California.

"Probably the best thing

is celebrating the ability to be able to still play at our ages. Most players do not drink while they are playing, but all we know that after a hot day or night, a nice tall cold one with your teammates is the perfect way to end the day, win or lose."

For players that don't usually partake in adult beverages, the non-alcoholic kind may offer the best of both worlds. Sitting around with a cold can in your hand in the parking lot with your teammates, without suffering the diuretic effects.

SSUSA encourages all players to drink responsibly.

First Responders: Marquee Event Planned

Continued from page 1

that were interested in giving this a shot.

New teams included the Andrews Air Force Base, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, Not Forgotten Experience, Prince William County Fire, U.S. Capitol Police and WarPath.

Recognizing that the First Responder program needed a marquis event, SSUSA partnered with its friends in Lee County, Fla., to create the First Responder Nationals.

The First Responder Nationals will be at the newly renovated Northwest Park Softball Complex in Cape Coral, Fla., on Oct. 25-27. Separate divisions for 40+ First Responders and 40+ Open will be offered.

While most SSUSA qualifying tournaments require that participants be from a specific geographic region, the First Responder Nationals

will allow players from across the country. The goal is to attract age-eligible players from around the country with the hope that they will take this experience back home and build their own local team for upcoming seasons.

Senior Softball-USA has offered tournaments and leagues for adults with an endless passion for the game since 1988. Widely recognized as the leader in the industry, SSUSA offers 80 tournaments nationwide each year, culminating with the 600+ team World Masters Championships.

In recent years, SSUSA has identified a gap between the younger age groups and the 50+ division where seniors traditionally begin playing softball. It is now targeting players 40 to 49 in an effort to bring them into this exciting brand of softball.

The 40 Masters Program

has grown tremendously in the past few seasons using a social media and word of mouth marketing approach.

Many of the players who competed in the inaugural First Responders Tournament in Washington D.C. began playing with established teams. Paul Glozer of the U.S. Capitol Police team helped to form the Past Our Prime civilian team that participated in three additional events this summer.

Relationships forged during the Salute to Service event took SSUSA to Las Vegas for the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Tournament a month later where SSUSA National Director Tim McElroy met with a number of players and Bill Malovrh who heads up the Las Vegas tournament.



Daniel Montgomery, veteran of the U.S. Air Force, pitches for Live! Casino (MD), Men's 40 AAA, at the 2019 TOC.

"You cannot help but feel the sense of community and fellowship among the firefighters and their families at an event like this. It was an honor to attend," he said.

SSUSA chose to market itself to other branches of softball that promote fellowship and respect – and the perfect comes from within America's First Responder community.

Information on the First Responder Nationals can be found on [Facebook.com/FirstResponderNational](https://www.facebook.com/FirstResponderNational) or by contacting Tim McElroy (PotomacSports1@gmail.com).

Suncoast Sports Newest Bat on the Block

BRADENTON, FL - Suncoast Sports Group, the newest member of the softball bat industry, has announced the launch of its initial senior slow-pitch softball bat line for the 2020 season.

The Suncoast Melee Max Series will be introduced at the 600-plus team LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships (WMC) held in Las Vegas, NV later this month.

The Melee Max Series is the third generation of the Melee Bat Series and its newest member.

Designed, engineered, tested, and manufactured by the same product creation group of past Melee Series Senior Softball ball-bats, the new series is loaded with Max Technologies designed to improve the play of senior

softball players everywhere, according to Suncoast Sports.

The Melee Max Series will have three (3) models in the line that meet the current bat performance standards as required by SSUSA and all major Senior associations.

- The SMMSB model, endorsed by Suncoast Staff Advisor Lee Trotter, will have a 13" barrel and a speed balanced load.

- The SMMSE model, endorsed by Suncoast Staff Advisors Wayne Busby and Joe Horvath will have a 13" barrel and a power end-load.

- The SMMSE12 model, endorsed by Suncoast Staff Advisors Darryl Waddy and Kyle "Fleadog" Cowart will have a 12" barrel and a power end-load with ½ ounce increments.

The three (3) main innovations contained in these models include:

MAX SPEED HANDLE – the small diameter handle is engineered to help maximize the whip of the bat barrel through the hitting zone.

OPTI-DURA PERFORMANCE COMPOSITE – designed to maximize durability and performance of the barrel and bat throughout its entire life.

STICK & SPIN BARREL TECHNOLOGY – an engineered, tackified barrel surface enhances the spin of the softball, providing maximum flight performance.

"We are excited to announce the launch of the Suncoast Sports brand and the Melee Max bats simultaneously," said Lee Trotter, Sales

Director of Suncoast Sports.

Along with Suncoast, players can expect to see numerous vendors at the World Masters Championships, as representatives from Miken, Worth, Dudley, Easton, DeMarini, Louisville Slugger, and Elite will all be on hand to showcase their latest bat lineups for 2020.

Heard in the Dugout

"By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may eventually get to be a boss and work twelve hours a day."

- Robert Frost

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DARRYL WADDY / KYLE "Fleadog" COWART MODEL

AVAIL. SIZES:

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

MELEE MAX ENDLOAD

MODEL #: SMMSE - Two Piece - 13" Barrel
WAYNE BUSBY / JOE HORVATH MODEL

AVAIL. SIZES:

34"/25oz, 34"/26oz, 34"/27oz, 34"/28z, 34"/30oz

MELEE MAX BALANCED

MODEL #: SMMB - Two Piece - 13" Barrel
LEE TROTTER MODEL

AVAIL. SIZES:

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FEATURES

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- ✓ Max-Speed 3/4" Handle
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12 Teams Earn TOC Berths at Northerns

Softball News Report

LANSING, Mich. - The 14th annual Northern Championships were held here for an 11th straight year, Aug. 15 - 18, as 50 teams from seven states, as well as the Canadian province of Ontario, competed for the right to earn a berth to the original Tournament of Champions (TOC) in Florida in February.

Thirteen teams began the tournament in the Men's 65's and 70's Age Divisions on Aug. 15 at Lake Alliance Softball Complex in Pottersville.

In the six-team Men's 65 Gold Division, Motown Stars (MI), who entered bracket play as the No. 5 seed, turned it on when it mattered, going 4-0 in bracket games, including a thrilling 20-19 win over MP Components/Bomb Squad (MI) in the championship game.

Minutemen/Pepco/SFS (OH) finished in third place.

MP Components/Bomb Squad and Minutemen/Pepco/SFS, along with top seed Rochester Brewers, all entered bracket play following 2-0 records in seeding play.

With their win, Motown Stars earns a TOC berth for the 65 Major Division, while



Indy Fog (IN) - Men's 65 AA Champions

MP Components/Bomb Squad, earns a TOC berth as the highest finishing 65 AAA team.

For Motown Stars, it's the team's second TOC berth of the season, as the team won the ISA Senior World Series.

The Men's 65 AA Division featured a best two-out-of-three game series, as Indy Fog (IN) swept Blue Chips (IL), by scores of 20-13 and 22-19, respectively.

Similar to Motown Stars, Indy Fog earned its second TOC berth of the season as well, as the team also won its division at the ISA Senior World Series.

The Men's 70 Major Division also featured a best of three series, which would go all three games.

Life Guard Financial/Pepco (OH) took the opening game 18-13; while Windsor Chiefs (ON, Canada) evened the series with an 18-10 win in game two.

In the rubber match, Life Guard Financial/Pepco won the decisive game, 19-14.

Chicago Strikers (IL), who entered the three-team bracket in the Men's 70 AAA Division as the last seed, won the games that mattered, going 3-0 in the bracket, including a 16-12 win over Mid-State Seniors (IL) in the championship game.

Chicago Hitmen (IL) finished in third place.

For Chicago Strikers, this marks the team's second TOC bid of the year, as the team won the Winter World Cham-

pionships in Arizona back in November.

The Men's 50's through 60's Age Divisions took the diamonds on Aug. 16, with games at Lake Alliance and East Lansing Softball Complex.

Starting with the eight-team Men's 50/55 Platinum Division, Lansing Legends Softball Club 50 (MI) leaned on its home field advantage, going 4-0 in bracket play, including a 24-21 win over Ohio Elite/American Metal Recycling 55 in the championship game.

Ohio Elite/AMR won three straight elimination games en route to its eventual runner-up finish.

Midwest Titans (IN) finished in third place.

In another eight-team division, the Men's 50 AAA Division, No. 8 seed Area 51 Softball (MI) bounced back from an 0-2 showing in seed play. The team went on a Cinderella run through bracket play, capped off with a 24-18 win over Crawford Contracting (MI) in the "if" game.

Area 51 won its first three games in the bracket, starting off with a 17-8 upset win over

Continued on next page



Motown Stars (MI) - Men's 65 Major Champions



Life Guard Financial/Pepco (OH) - Men's 70 Major Champions

Northerns: Multiple Teams Go Undeclared



Chicago Strikers (IL) - Men's 70 AAA Champions

Continued from previous page

top seed Ohio Hitmen, before falling to Crawford, 17-11, in the championship game.

In the winner-take all game, Area 51 avoided the dreaded double-dip with their 24-18 victory.

Motor City Push (MI) dropped its first two games in the three-game guarantee bracket, before getting it together with three straight wins en route to third-place.

The six-team Men's 55/60 Platinum Division saw top seed Pope Transport 55 (WI) polish off a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding play, before winning three straight in bracket play, including a 22-21 victory over Doug & Don's Auto Care 55 (MI) in

the championship game.

For Pope Transport, this is the team's second TOC berth of the season, as the team won the 55 Major Division in the Midwest Championships in Arkansas back in July.

After going 0-2 in seeding play and dropping their opening bracket game, 1 UNDER Craft Beer & Eats 55 (MI) rebounded with three straight wins in the elimination side of the bracket en route to their third place finish.

In the four-team Men's 55 AAA Division, Bull Moose (OH) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a 17-14 win over Old Stars (IN) in the championship game.

Top seed Team Elite (OH) finished in third place.



Pope Transport 55 (WI) - Men's 55/60 Platinum Champions

In the five-team Men's 60 Major Division, Chicago Prime (IL) completed a flawless weekend, going 2-0 in seeding and 3-0 in bracket play, including an 18-13 win over Louisville Senior Sluggers/Louisville Slugger (KY) in the championship game.

Milwaukee Merchants (WI) finished in third place.

In the four-team Men's 60 AAA Division, top seed Chicago Panthers (IL) went 3-0 in seeding play and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 15-7 win over Old Stars (IN) in the championships game, to conclude an undefeated tournament.

Michigan Merchants, who also went 3-0 in seeding play to lock up the No. 2 seed, finished in third place.

The Men's 60 AA Division saw a best two-of-three series, as Durham Silver Stix (ON, Canada) and Shannon Fence/CPOA (OH) went the distance. Shannon Fence/CPOA took the opening game 21-18, while Durham Silver Stix evened the series with a thrilling 20-19 win in game two to force the decisive third game. In the rubber-match, Durham Silver Stix cruised to a 25-3 win.

All-Tournament Team

Men's 50/55 Platinum

Lansing Legends Softball

Club 50 (MI): Michael Barz, Michael Latunski, Dave Vander-West, Michael Oxendale, Patrick Sipkovsky.

Men's 50 AAA

Area 51 Softball (MI):

Mark Thompson, Vaughn Mayle, Bret Miller, Morgan Hughes, Emery Dunn.

Men's 55/60 Platinum

Doug and Don's Auto Care

55 (MI): Jeryl Miller, Mark Wilson, Jeffrey Lambright, Edward Lehnertz.

1 UNDER Craft Beer &

Eats 55 (MI): Mike Forde, Jeff Sheeran, Bruce Wood.

Men's 55 AAA

Old Stars (IN):

Chris Lewis, Alex Brown, William Jacobs, Dan Rypma.

Men's 60 Major

Chicago Prime (IL):

Lovelle Johnkin, Rick Kellemen, Richard DeLay, Murray Richards, Jeffrey Horn.

Louisville Senior Sluggers/Louisville Slugger (KY):

Keith Springer, Frank Cebe, Alan Steiden, Robert Hauke.

Men's 60 AAA

Chicago Panthers (IL):

Elmer Piper, Gary Olson, Mike Viececi, Gary MacMillan, Radny

Continued on next page



Lansing Legends Softball Club 50 (MI) - Men's 50/55 Platinum Champs

SSUSA Manager 101: Roster Restrictions

When the phone rings this time of year at the SSUSA office in Sacramento, it is often a roster question.

Roster requirements can be confusing. There is one set of rules for standard qualifiers and a much stricter set of rules for three sets of very special tournaments:

1. The World Masters Championships
2. The Tournament of Champions
3. The Eastern and Western National Championships

In the standard qualifiers, teams may add any player in the same age/skill level (up to 20 players) IF they are in the correct region. Teams cannot add players who have already played in a qualifier with another team in the same age group (unless the player is released from the original team).

Also, in standard qualifiers, teams can have up to three higher skill level players.

In the three sets of special tournaments listed above, the requirements are much stricter.

First, teams must select a base roster from one of the

Covering the Bases

By Terry Hennessy

standard qualifier in which they have played. They cannot add any higher skill level players.

Adding players not on the qualifying roster is really a numbers issue:

- 40 year-old teams can add players in the same age and skill level to get to 15 players on the roster.
- 50-65 year-old teams can add players in the same age and skill level to get to 12 players on the roster. These teams can add players who play in the 5-year older division, or in a lower skill level in their own division to get to 15 players.
- 70+ and older teams can add players in the same age and skill level to get to 13 players on the roster. These teams can add players who play in the 5-year older division, or in a lower skill level in their own division to get to 16 players.

The most common question from managers is how we determine the ratings of players they want to add.

First, we look at the player's history, meaning the lowest age and highest rating of the team he/she played on in previous years.

For the 70 and older groups we look at the current year and the previous year.

For the 40-65 age groups we go back two years.

We do not count teams that the player only played on for one tournament (unless they only played one tournament that year). Many times, a player is picked up for one tournament on a higher skill level team that is short players.

We also do not go by the players' age because some 60-year-old players are capable of playing in the 50 Major-Plus division; the skill level is based on the team, not the player's age.

And finally, teams will often want to add players who have played at a higher skill level, but have had an illness or injury that has depleted their abilities. We allow those exemptions on a case-by-case basis depending on the injury/illness – BUT the players who are granted the exemption must wait 90 days from the

time of their appeal.

Why?

We instituted the wait period because players and teams were misusing the exemption, generally a few weeks before the tournaments began, when a team was short of players or wanted to add more higher-skill level players, but was at the limit. We found the wait period left us with mostly legitimate requests.

Our goal in all of these rules is to maintain a fair playing field for teams. We have never claimed to be perfect, but we strive to implement these rules evenly so that no team has an unfair advantage.

Players and managers who would like us to look at a rule or modify it, are more than welcome to attend our National Convention in Las Vegas, which is where our Rules Committee discusses and changes rules. This year it is in Las Vegas the first week of December. Click here for more information.

Terry Hennessy is chief executive officer of Senior Softball USA and can be reached at terryh@seniorsoftball.com.

Northerns All-Tourney Team Continued

Continued from previous page

Finch.

Old Stars (IN): Fred Scheub, John Bathurst, Jerry Howard, Leo Vernier.

Michigan Merchants: J. Edison Davenport, Doug Reska, Jay Ketcik.

Men's 65 Gold

MP Components/Bomb

Squad (MI): Larry Vitale, Jerry De Jongh, Jack Griffin, Calvin

Lounds, Michael Ott.

Minutemen/Pepco/SFS

(OH): Paul Rebillot, David Schervish, Manny Patton.

Men's 70 Major

Windsor Chiefs (ON, Canada): Thomas (Skip) McMahon,

Terri Burney, Ken St. Amour, James Lauzon.

Men's 70 AAA

Chicago Strikers (IL):

Richard Fleming, Thomas

Vancura, Rawland Freeman, Dan Tuftee, Chester Tyliniski.

Mid-State Seniors (IL):

Richard Carlson, Rick Rusk, R. Steve Allen, Richard Riggs.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Northern Champs are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com



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Opinions & Letters

Autumn Equinox

There's just something special about playing senior softball this time of year.

Fall is in the air and those long hot miserable summer nights are just a fading memory.

It's the perfect time of year as players and managers know there's still enough time in the season to make that one final push to win the Big One: the World Masters Championships!

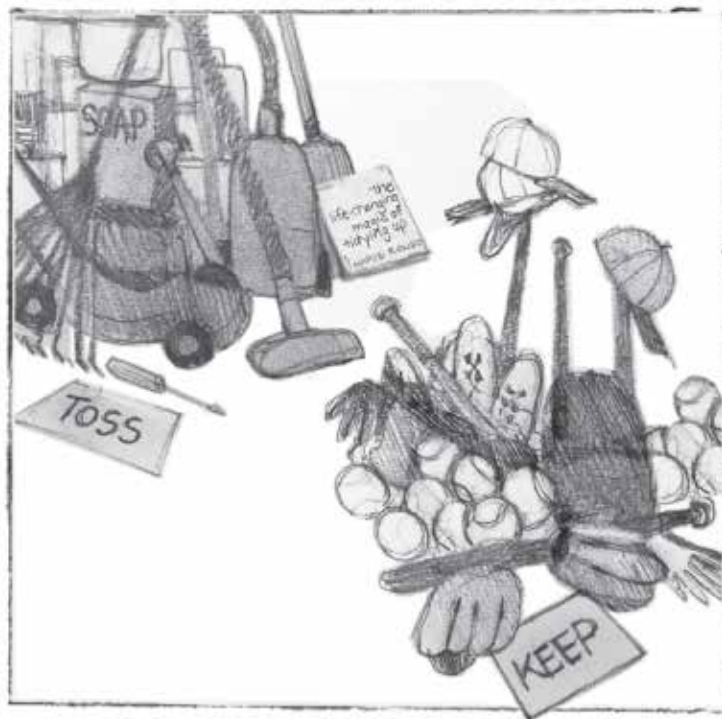
Who knows? A win there and you and your team might be on the way to the Tournament of Champions.

It's also the time of year when you can look back at how you've performed on the field and at the plate to see if there's anything new you might want to try to improve your game.

And of course, it's just a great time to reconnect with friends and "foes" alike to make sure that you're thinking about them as the holiday rapidly approaches.

A friendly gesture could help a player who's had a bad run of luck at the plate or one who's had a tough time emotionally or physically. Let that player know that you're there for them.

Senior Softball, after all, is more than just a game.



Sue Ballenger

The Good and The Bad in the Dugout

The good teammate arrives early, registers, stretches, runs, throws, swings and focuses.

The bad teammate arrives late, causes a lineup change, runs stiff, makes an out the first at bat, then pulls a muscle just bad enough to require a runner the rest of the tournament.

The good teammate observes the other team and makes mental notes about arm strength of outfielders, hitting tendencies, injuries, running speed and weaknesses in defense.

The bad teammate remains clueless throughout the tournament and stays clueless forever. Game strategy is

CARL'S CORNER By Carl Gustafson

never a factor in his play.

The good teammate works on his game, practicing, comparing notes, reading, watching instructional videos, conditioning, training.

The bad teammate places beer and pizza as the higher priority.

The good teammate learns the rules, understands that knowledge of the rules gives him an edge, a keener insight into how to play the game.

The bad teammate blames the rules, the umpire, the other team, and argues loudly over calls that he assumes wrongly are bad or stupid.

The good teammate encourages and empowers his teammates.

The bad teammate criticizes, scolds, blames, and gossips about teammates, always contributing to low team morale.

The good teammate has fun, brings fun, and spreads fun.

The bad teammate causes stress and tension.

The good teammate loves to learn and never quits learning.

The bad teammate already knows everything.

The good teammate thinks the best of the bad teammate.

The bad teammate won't bother to read this column.

Carl Gustafson is SSU-SA's Southern California Director and member of the SSUSA National Rules Committee.

Heard in the Dugout

"A team is where a boy can prove his courage, on what he can do himself or on what he can contribute to the team's good. A gang is where a coward goes to hide."

- Mickey Mantle



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Rocky Mountain Draws Record 66 Teams

Softball News Report

AURORA, Colo. - The seventh annual Rocky Mountain Championships held here, Aug. 23 - 25, set a record with 66 teams from 11 states competing for a chance to secure their berth to the original Tournament of Champions in Florida in February.

For the fourth straight year, the Scrap Iron Softball Club held a Skills Competition (Home Run, Precision Hitting, Precision Pitching) as a fundraiser for the organization.

A National Senior Softball Hall of Fame (NSSHOF) ceremony also took place during the tournament, as Stan Suichta, a member of the Scrap Iron Legends, was officially inducted into the NSSHOF in the Player Category as part of the Class of 2018.

Playing senior softball over the past 20-plus years, Suichta earned All-Tournament selections in SSUSA, SPA, NASCS and ISA. Additionally, Suichta was inducted into the Colorado USSA Hall of Fame in 2001, and the Scrap Iron Hall of Fame in 2008.

Starting with the three-team Men's 50 Major Division, B&B Drywall/World Gym (KS) completed a perfect weekend, going 3-0 in seeding play to lock up the top seed, before going 2-0 in bracket play, including an 18-15 win over ManCave (TX) in the championship game.

KC Vintage (MO) finished in third place.

The 10-team Men's 50 AAA Division featured another team go undefeated, as Alliance/Scrap Iron (CO)



Stan Suichta - NSSHOF Class of 2018 (Player Category)

went 2-0 in seeding to earn the No. 2 seed, before posting a 4-0 record in bracket play, including a 22-17 win over Maher Homes Nebraska Elite in the championship game.

After going 0-2 in seeding play, Maher Homes Nebraska Elite got off to a strong start in bracket play, winning its first two games, including a 26-10 upset victory over top seed Good Times Colorado.

Maher Homes Nebraska Elite would lose its third game, 36-20, against Damage (UT) to fall down into the elimination side of the bracket. Maher Homes Nebraska Elite would again re-group, winning three straight games, including a 34-23 revenge win over Damage, en route to their runner-up finish.

Damage finished in third place.

MN Lumberjacks made a valiant run through bracket play with three straight wins, before falling in the fourth-place game.

In the three-team Men's 50 AA Division, Manifest (TX) went 3-0 in bracket play,

including a 24-14 win over top seed Lobos (TX) in the championship game.

Team Panthers (UT) finished in third place.

In the six-team Men's 55 Major Division, top seed Rock N Legends 9 (TX) carried its momentum of going 2-0 in seeding play, with a 3-0 mark in bracket play, including a 32-28 win over Scrap Iron/Rocky Mountain Thunder (CO) in the championship game.

For Rock N Legends 9, this marks the team's second TOC berth of the season, as the team also won the Texas State Championships.

After dropping its opening game in bracket play, Scrap Iron/Rocky Mountain Thunder won four straight games in the elimination side of the bracket, en route to their runner-up finish.

Scrap Iron-Colorado Home Fitness, who also went 2-0 in seeding play, finished in third place.

In the seven-team Men's 55 AAA Division, KC Renegades (KS) made a Cinderella run to the championship. The team entered bracket play as the No. 6 seed after going 0-2 in seeding play, before posted a 4-0 record in bracket play, including a thrilling 20-19 win over American Mortgage Pro's (OK) in the championship game.

American Mortgage Pro's, who fell to KC Renegades in their opening bracket game, 24-21; won four straight games in the elimination side of the bracket, en route to their runner-up finish.

Los Vatos Viejos (AZ) finished in third place.

In the three-team Men's 60 Major Division, top seed Arizona Old School defeated All American Restoration (MN), 28-19, and Arizona

Continued on next page



Rock N Legends 9 (TX) - Men's 55 Major Champions

RMC: Twelve Teams Secure TOC Berths



Arizona Old School - Men's 60 Major Champions

Continued from previous page

Scorpions, 33-20, in the championship game, to complete a flawless weekend.

In the nine-team Men's 55/60 Silver Division, Big Daddy's Donuts 60 (MO) posted a 4-0 record in bracket play, including a thrilling 35-34 win over top seed Scrap Iron Xplosion 60 (CO) in the championship game.

With their win, Big Daddy's Donuts earns a TOC berth for the Men's 60 AAA division.

Salty Old Dogs 55 (TX) finished in third place.

In the five-team Men's 60/65 AA Division, Texas Legends 60 locked up the top seed following a 2-0 record in seeding play, before polishing off a perfect weekend with

a 3-0 record in bracket play, including a 28-18 win over Romo's Die Hards 60 (TX).

For Texas Legends, this is the team's second TOC berth, as the team won the Texas State Championships.

In the three-team Men's 65 Major Division, Scrap Iron High Octane (CO) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a convincing 19-5 win over Carriage Homes (MO) in the championship game.

Gonzalez Insulation (TX) finished in third place.

In the 10-team Men's 65 AAA Division, KC Kids (KS) won an incredible six straight games, including a 39-26 victory over Team Texas (SA) in the championship, to force the "if" game.

Team Texas would have



Texas Legends 60 - Men's 60/65 AA Champions

to forfeit the "if" game, as the team needed to leave to catch flights back home.

KC Kids entered bracket play as the No. 2 seed following a 2-0 record in seeding play.

The team dropped its opening bracket game against Team Texas, 24-23, to fall into the elimination side of the bracket, where KC Kids began its gauntlet run.

Scrap Iron 5280 (CO) finished in third place.

Top seed USA Patriots (OK) dropped its first two games in the bracket, before winning three straight games and losing in the fourth place game.

The Men's 70 Major Division saw Scrap Iron Legends (CO) sweep Tri-State Dia-

mondbacks (NM) by scores of 25-24 and 17-6, respectively, to take the best of three game series.

Finally, the five-team Men's 70/80 Gold Division used a full four-game round robin with best record to crown a champion.

With a perfect 4-0 mark, Scrap Iron Red 70 (CO) took the top spot; while Scrap Iron Diamonds 70 (CO) took second place following a 3-1 record.

San Antonio Legends 70 (TX) finished in third place with an even 2-2 record.

Scrap Iron Gray Berets 80 (CO), 1-3, and PDC Yankees 70 (CO), 0-4, rounded out the field.



Big Daddy's Donuts 60 (MO) - Men's 55/60 Silver Champions



Scrap Iron High Octane (CO) - Men's 65 Major Champions

Rocky Mountain All-Tournament Teams

Men's 50 Major

B&B Drywall/World Gym (KS): Steve Zahn, Jason Schafer, Jon McLallen, Bob O'Neal, Pete Lahner.

Men's 50 AAA

Alliance/Scrap Iron (CO): Sean Moye, Tony Jones, Jeffrey Cox, Michael Wilmer, Alan Horn.

Damage (UT): Richard Sisneros, Duane Crisler, Darrell Roberts.

Men's 50 AA

Manifest (TX): Eddie Esparza, Freddy Urrutia, Martin Longoria, Benjamin Ramos, Frank Masias.

Lobos (TX): Terry Wuestney, Russell Warren, Joseph Burton, Mario Rodriguez.

Men's 55 Major

Scrap Iron/Rocky Mountain Thunder (CO): Kerry Ecker, Tim DeJarnette, John (Jack) Donnelly, Thomas Edwards.

Men's 55 AAA

KC Renegades (KS): Chris Laddish, Terry Pilgrim, David De Geare, Lloyd Brent Pate, Brian Conner.

American Mortgage Pro's (OK): Chris Dixon, Rusty Moore, Ben Myers, Russ Pironti.

Men's 60 Major

Arizona Scorpions: Gene Ethier,



Tom Petrizzio, Mark Hughes, Bill Griffin.

Men's 55/60 Silver

Big Daddy's Donuts 60 (MO): Terry Cloutier, Kent Houston, Jamie Carter, Gregory Johnson, Bob Riggs.

Scrap Iron Xplosion 60 (CO): Danny Silvey, Dave Schultz, Kevin Flynn, James Portz.

Men's 60/65 AA

Texas Legends 60: Fernando Sanchez, Carl Dufner, Nate Willett, Bill Huston, Bert Feinberg.

Scrap Iron Rockies 60 (CO): Rick Frahm, Tony Cooper, Sprino David Hernandez.

Men's 65 Major

Scrap Iron High Octane (CO): James Gowdy, Robert Knowles, David Adams, Richard Loy, Terry Liverant.

Gonzalez Insulation (TX): Kenneth Lane, Ricky Wagner, Carl Beyer.

Men's 65 AAA

Scrap Iron 5280 (CO): Michael Boulter, Randy Huls, Mark Soloway.

Men's 70 Major

Tri-State Diamondbacks (NM): Ed Sullivan, Ronne Mercer, Ken Ikelman, Timothy Loeffler.

Men's 70/80 Gold

Scrap Iron Red 70 (CO): Anthony McIlroy, Bob Bennett, Mel Vanek, Ken Armbruster, Stan Cabico.

San Antonio Legends 70 (TX): Fred Gonzales, Joe Flores, Randy Jackson.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Rocky Mountain Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

Visit JacksActionShots.com to view photo gallery of the Rocky Mountain Champs. See a selection of photos below from Jack Eberhard.



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*Bats will be distributed at the managers' meeting in Fort Myers in November. Entry fee and roster are required for completed registration. All registrations and payments must be received by 10/15/19. 4% surcharge if paying by credit card. Entry fees are non-refundable after 10/15/19. Full refunds are given to teams withdrawing before the 10/15/19.



No Cheap Outs, Report Courtesy Runner

Senior Softball USA's courtesy runner concept has become so popular that even some "young" adult slow-pitch softball associations now allow such runners.

It's a great concept. Courtesy runners help many players — young and old alike — keep playing when leg ailments or other health issues otherwise would have forced them into retirement.

But when you allow unlimited courtesy runners per inning, as we do, things can get tricky. And sometimes trying to fix one problem in the courtesy runner rules creates another one.

Consider these two issues the SSUSA rules committee addressed in recent years:

1. How to make sure courtesy runners report to the umpire.
2. And how to limit delays that eat up time when teams are slow to get their courtesy runners out of the dugout and onto the base.

First, everyone should realize that the umpire is responsible for enforcing courtesy runner rules. Therefore, umpires must be told every time a courtesy runner steps on a base. The opposing team wants to know, too, to help catch any violations the umpire misses, such as a courtesy runner running twice in the same inning.

Yet, for many years, our rule book didn't mention the reporting requirement. That caused uneven enforcement issues. Some umpires proactively asked courtesy runners for their uniform numbers. Other umpires waited for a runner to step on a base without reporting and then called the runner out.

To eliminate this discrepancy, the rules committee added wording in the rule book saying that all courtesy runners must report to, and be acknowledged by, the umpire. That put the onus on the runner or his coach to inform the umpire — and make sure the umpire heard them.

But then came the problem of when to call a runner out for not reporting.

The first year of the new rule, SSUSA trained its umpires to call a runner out if he/she failed to report before stepping on a base. But the rule book didn't

Umpire's Corner

By Donna McGuire

include the "before stepping on the base" language. Managers and players took issue with calls. At times, tempers flared.

So the 2019 edition of the rule book states that a courtesy runner must report "before play resumes." That means before the batter is in the batter's box and the pitcher is ready to throw a pitch. If a courtesy runner still hasn't reported by that point, and is standing on a base, he/she should be called out.

Remember this: The reporting rule doesn't exist to create cheap outs. It's there because the umpires and opponents need to be aware of all courtesy runners. The enforcement provision — calling an out — exists to make sure runners report to the umpires.

Now on to the second issue: how to prevent the entry of courtesy runners from slowing down the game unnecessarily.

For some teams, this is a big issue. Someone will yell, "Time! Runner," but then there is a long pause while the team tries to decide who should run. Sometimes the coach says, "Never mind," but then after a few pitches are thrown, he yells "Time!" again to use a runner.

After discussing this problem, the rules committee settled on one solution. It adopted language saying a courtesy runner no longer could enter the game during an at-bat. The goal was to prompt teams to have runners ready quickly.

But here again, enforcement turned

uneven. When a team tried to enter a runner after a pitch had been thrown, some umpires proactively told runners they had to wait until the at-bat ended. Other umpires let the courtesy runner step on the base and then called him out for doing so.

At the 2018 World Master's Championships, Chief Executive Officer Terry Hennessy told all directors to enforce the rule consistently, as the committee had intended. Umpires were to wave off the courtesy runner, if possible. But if a runner stepped on the base first, before the runner or team asked the umpire's permission to enter, then an out was to be called.

Once again, this rule wasn't launched to create cheap outs. It exists to encourage teams to be more organized — and therefore more prompt — about using courtesy runners.

Donna McGuire is SSUSA's Central Region Umpire-in-Chief and Chair of the SSUSA National Rules Committee.

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Does Your Sunscreen Actually Protect You?

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

The United States Food and Drug Administration has proposed new regulations for sunscreens and if they become official, consumers should have better understanding of sunscreen efficacy.

Here is a brief summary of what the FDA is proposing:

- Titanium dioxide and zinc oxide are “Generally Regarded as Safe and Effective” (GRASE).
- Para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA) and trolamine salicylate are regarded as NOT safe. (These have generally been removed at this point.)
- Insufficient safety and efficacy data exist for the other active sunscreen ingredients.
- Some formulations (eg., creams, lotions, gels) are considered GRASE, whereas other formulations (body washes, shampoos, towelettes, wipes) are not.
- Products that also contain insect repellent are considered NOT safe.
- The maximum SPF value allowed on labeling is increased from 50 to 60.
- As the SPF rating increases, products claiming

to be broad-spectrum must provide increasing protection against UV-A rays in addition to UV-B rays. (The SPF rating is based on ability to absorb UV-B rays. Previously, it was believed that UV-B rays were the main cause of skin cancer. Now it is known that UV-A rays also contribute.)

- Products with an SPF rating of 2 to 14 should be removed from the market, or, state that while they may protect against sunburn, they do not reduce the risk of skin cancer or skin aging.

“Insufficient safety and efficacy data exist”...how can this be? These products have been on the market for decades.

Unfortunately, it's true.

Sunscreen safety and efficacy simply haven't been researched well enough.

According to an editorial in the June 4 issue of JAMA: “...appropriately designed trials have not yet been conducted to understand the optimal sunscreen dose needed to achieve a balance of risk and benefit when used to prevent skin cancer...”

So, does this mean that sunscreens don't work?

The FDA and others acknowledge that zinc ox-

ide and titanium dioxide are effective. However, for the other sunscreen ingredients, that's difficult to answer at this point.

Until better research is available, the American Academy of Dermatology recommends sunscreens meet these criteria:

- can absorb both UV-A and UV-B rays
 - has an SPF rating of 30 or higher
 - is water/sweat resistant
- But it's challenging to sift through all the products on the market.

In 2015, about 6,500 sunscreen products were available on Amazon. An evaluation of the top 1% revealed that 40% did not meet these AAD criteria, according to JAMA.

And even if they do, that may not be good enough.

In 2013, Consumer Reports began recommending a minimum SPF rating of at least 40 because the effective SPF activity may be less than the labeled rating.

Here are several practical tips:

- Reapply sunscreen regularly if perspiring or swimming.
- Use dosage forms that provide the best protection

(creams, lotions, gels). The Environmental Working Group does not recommend sprays.

- Wear protective clothing and try to spend 15 minutes in the shade for every hour in the sun.

The deadline for adoption of the new FDA regulations is Nov. 26, though it is likely that sunscreen manufacturers will push back this date.

For updates on this topic, see my review “Sunscreens and the Athlete” at: <http://www.athleteinme.com/ArticleView.aspx?id=9181>.

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.”

Heard in the Dugout

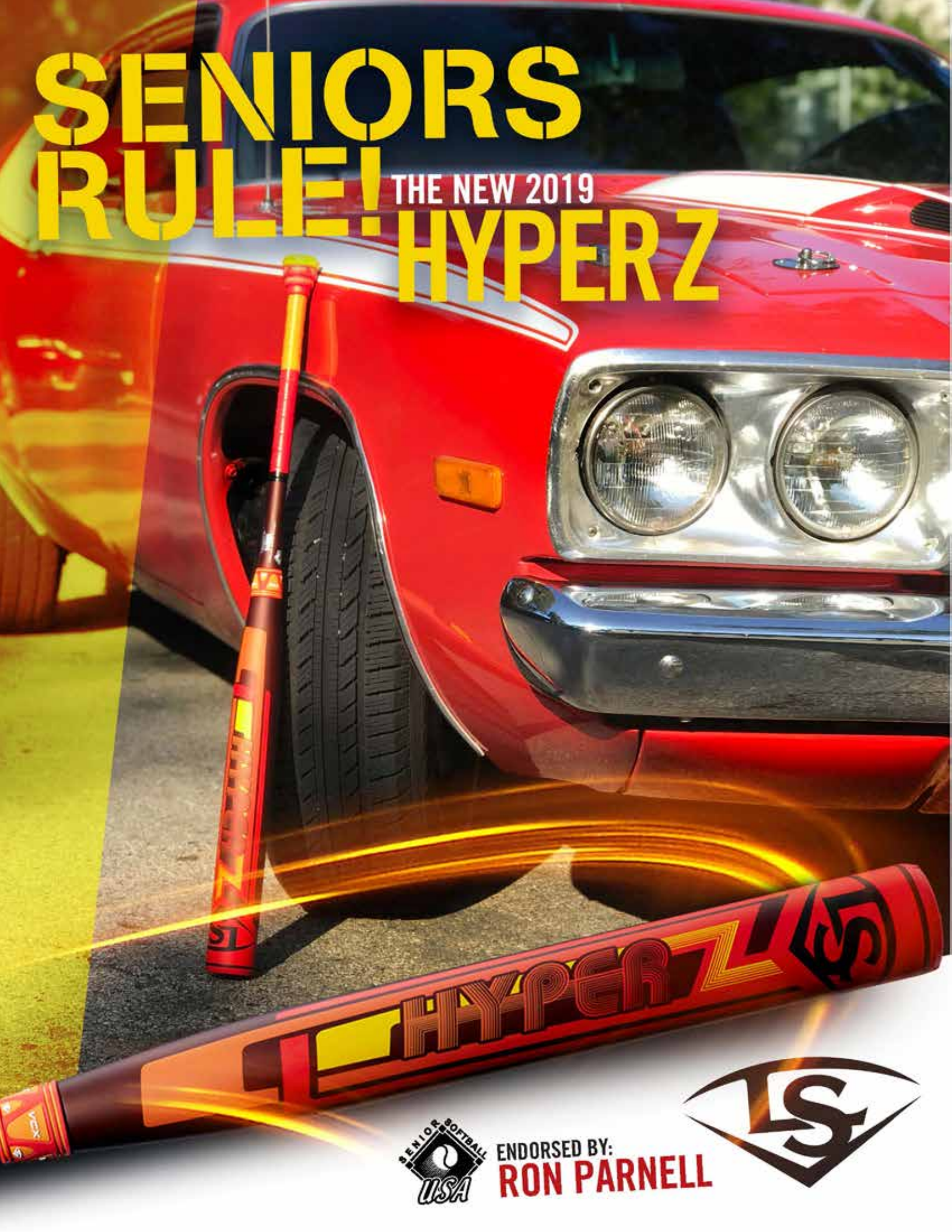
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- Franklin P. Adams

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For More Power Swing Longer, Not Harder

By Art Eversole
Senior Softball News
Contributor

I recall some decades ago the great Jack Nicklaus (a prodigious driver of the golf ball during his era) was being interviewed and a reporter asked: "Jack, is there a quick tip you can impart to our weekend golfers that want to carry their drives off the tee farther and without totally revamping their swing?"

The reporter, taking copious notes, was expecting Jack to say something like: "swing harder", "snap your wrists faster at contact" or "be more aggressive," but Jack's recommendation was simply to keep the fundamentals of your swing if it's good technique, but then make your swing bigger.

I believe that many of the golf swing concepts are transferable to the softball swing.

How does this longer/bigger swing technique create more power?

It's a matter of basic physics 101.

The longer swing applies swing forces over a greater distance, thereby, creating additional bat-speed. Setting the club higher above your head allows gravity to assist in delivering the bat faster to the ball.

It's essential to extend your lead-arm making it long eliminating the dreaded "alligator arms." This will create a larger swing radius that makes for a bigger swing arc, which in turn adds power through leverage.

We've all heard many times that baseball power hitters are known for getting their arms extended when hitting the ball. What they are doing when extending their arms is creating a bigger swing arc that increases power with the same effort. When making your lead-arm longer, make sure not to arm-bar as this can kill swing speed.

How to make a bigger/longer swing arc:

See Figure 1

Tip the bat barrel toward the pitcher at the start which will set and load your wrists.



Figure 1



Figure 2

This motion is like the fly fisherman hurling the fishing line into the water; first with a hand action forward and then pulling back and then forward again, sending the line at high speed out on to the river.

This initial action puts your bat into motion and at the same time unweighting it, so it feels lighter for a faster swing.

See Figure 2

The bat barrel is rotated around your rear shoulder like a corkscrew in a counterclockwise motion by your hands; this movement generates early bat speed.

The lead-arm hand is pulling hard on the bat-knob creating centripetal force with the downward movement of your back-elbow into your side.

This movement with the back elbow into the side places the bat into proper launch position, demonstrated here by Edgar Martinez of Seattle Mariners fame.

Edgar Martinez was the quintessential hitter and a member of Major League Baseball Hall of Fame. He was a seven-time All-Star and five-time "Silver Slugger Award" winner for Seattle, where he spent his entire 18-year career.

Note that it's imperative not to stop or slow the angular momentum of your swing at any time; some hitters tend to pause for a moment as the bat reaches the launch position which should be avoided.

The swing is designed to be a

continuous motion from start to finish otherwise; you will nullify the early bat-speed you've built into your swing that produces top-end bat acceleration.

I do consider Edgar's hands over his head to be an extreme position and difficult for seniors to execute (see figure 1). I like to have my hands about rear shoulder height and not up and over my head. I Understand, that this swing technique requires flexibility that some seniors may not be able to copy.

Take some time to study the images of Edgar that accompany this article. They are intended to be illustrative of the flow of the bigger swing from the starting position to bat-launch.

I've provided below a link to a short instructional video from the internet, featuring Josh Donaldson's swing while with the Toronto Blue Jays that portrays the techniques of a long or big swing.

Also, pay close attention to Josh's rotational mechanics (shoulders/torso/hips) that spins the bat into the ball.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeMf4d0Ud-Y>

Happy hitting,

Art Eversole

Art Eversole, of Washington, has played on Major and Major Plus teams with W.E. Ruth Realty.

He is the NW Senior Softball Webmaster/Softball Communications/Hitting Club Admin/NW Leagues internet coordinator.

Eversole can be reached via email at rtmyboy01@gmail.com.

Heard in the Dugout

"Only he deserves power who every day justifies it."

- Dag Hammarskjöld

2019 WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Huge 40's, 50's Divisions, Six 85-Year-Old Teams Highlight Largest Senior Softball Tournament in the Country

From Page 1

Last year, a record 621 teams from 39 states, as well as the U.S. Territory of Guam, and three Canadian provinces competed in Senior Softball's largest tournament ever. Over 11,500 players competed, playing in an incredible 2,018 games over the 15-day tournament, across 10 sports complexes and 39 fields.

This year, World Masters Championships (WMC) officials are once again estimating more than 600 teams will flock to this gambling mecca – including the return of the Bavarian Royals of Germany, who will be playing in the Second Annual International Co-Ed Division.

“For the Bavarian Royals, words can’t do it justice,” said manager Ron Marier, describing the 2018 International Co-Ed Division. “An amazing tournament/experience both on and off the field. Or as we would say in Bavarian ‘A Riesengaudi war’s!’”

Whacko’s, a team made up entirely of deaf players, will be making its fifth straight appearance in the WMC; while a second deaf team, Leftovers, will be making their debut. Both teams will be competing in the Men’s 50 AAA Division.

A record six 85-year old teams are also set to compete, as the Super Seniors highlight the elder statesmen of the game.

The Men’s 55 and 60 age divisions will play Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 19 - 22, while the Men’s 65 through 85 age divisions continue Monday-Thursday, Sept. 23 - 26. The Men’s and Women’s 40 age divisions play Friday-Sunday, Sept. 27 - 29; while the Men’s 50 age division (Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 3 - 6), the Women’s 50 age division (Friday - Sunday, October 5 - 6), and the International Co-Ed Division (Saturday - Sunday, October 5 - 6) conclude the tournament.

The 600-plus teams in the WMC translate to more than 18,000 people, who will infuse more than \$27 million into the local



Photos by Jack Eberhard
Teams qualified for the 2019 LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships by playing in one of nearly 80 qualifiers this season.
1. Player from Colorado Home Fitness at the Rocky Mountain Champs. 2. Runner tries to beat out throw at first base at the Music City Classic. 3. Player from ETX looks to scoop up a grounder. 4. Player on Firestyx swings away at the Eastern National Championships.

2019 LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships

The Eastern National Championships (Loudoun County, VA) and the Western National Championships (Sacramento, CA) took place simultaneously, July 30 - August 4. Division winners took the first step towards the Triple Grand Slam (TGS).

The winners of the Eastern Nationals will play the winners of the Western Nationals in the one-game, winner-takeall, U.S. National Championship Game, during seeding play in the 2019 World Masters Championships in Las Vegas. These games are the second leg of the coveted Triple Grand Slam, as teams winning the U.S. National Game and their division in the World Masters, along with their victory in the Eastern/Western National, complete the feat.

Additionally, teams winning the U.S. National Game are seeded first in their bracket for the World Masters, while the teams losing the U.S. National Game are placed second in their bracket (only in divisions of five or more teams).

This year, there are 24 U.S. National Games tentatively scheduled to take place.

AGE	DIVISION	EASTERN CHAMPION	WESTERN CHAMPION
FIRST SESSION			

MEN			
55	Major Plus	RBC Wealth Management (FL)	Sommerville Softball (CA)
55	Major	Ameriprise FL Legends	WPI/Wilson Auto (ID)
55	AAA	Old Stars (IN)	Desperados NMU (CA)
55	AA	Longshoremen (VA)	Spin Tees (WA)
60	Major Plus	Omega IT Services, LLC (MD)	Summy's (CA)
60	Major	Cardot/Madalena Construction (NY)	Samurai (CA)
60	AAA	Old Stars (IN)	Weekend Warriors (CA)
60	AA	Syracuse Cyclones (NY)	Scrap Iron Rockies (CO)

SECOND SESSION			
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MEN			
65	Major Plus	New Jersey Hitmen	Timberworks/Adidas (CA)
65	Major	Pill & Pill (WV)	Incrediwear (CA)
70	Major Plus	Venom (FL)	Omen (CA)
70	Major	Bradford White/Jersey Masters (NJ)	Nor Cal Stixx (CA)
70	AAA	Syracuse Cyclones (NY)	Sacramento Islanders (CA)
80	Major Plus	Florida Investment Properties	San Francisco Seals (CA)
85	Major	Center For Sight (FL)	Sacramento Gold (CA)

THIRD SESSION			
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WOMEN			
40	Major	Kryptonite (FL)	TKP (CA)
40	AAA	Fireballs (MA)	UT-Relics
MEN			
40	Major Plus	Suncoast Adidas (FL)	Prestige/Elite Sports (CA)
40	Major	LB/Spirits West/SMC (MD)	Thunderstruck (CA)
40	AAA	Gigantes O.C. (MD)	Armstrong Transport (WA)

FOURTH SESSION			
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WOMEN			
50	Major	Unfazed (VA)	Old School (CA)
MEN			
50	Major Plus	Suncoast Adidas (FL)	J.K. Inc/Easton (CA)
50	Major	CPD/Ancell (MN)	PDX/DeMarini (OR)
50	AAA	High Street Bucs (MD)	Scrap Iron/Elite (CO)

NOTE - The following teams: Cut Loose (CA) - Men’s 65 AAA; Scrap Iron Diamonds (CO) - Men’s 65 AA; Valley Fog (CA) - Men’s 70 AA; Omen (CA) - Men’s 75 Major Plus; and Git-R-Done (CA) - Men’s 80 AAA do not have an opponent for the U.S. National Game and are automatic U.S. National Champions. Cut Loose, Valley Fog, and Git-R-Done can still complete the Triple Grand Slam by winning their division in the World Masters Championships.

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2019 WMC: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WMC: Colorado Ohana Honored with Top Prize

Continued from page 22

economy.

"It is our pleasure to welcome the more than 600 teams that will make the trip to Las Vegas to compete in the Senior Softball World Masters Championships," said Pat Christenson, president of Las Vegas Events. "We hope that all of the participants and fans have a great experience at the ballparks and enjoy everything that Las Vegas has to offer."

Las Vegas Events, the Title Sponsor of the 2019 World Masters Championships, has been instrumental in providing the necessary support to create the largest senior softball tournament in the world.

The WMC will feature 24 U.S. National Championship Games and a chance for teams in 36 divisions to win the largest senior tournament ever.

In addition, the top award given by SSUSA annually, the Steve Simmons Memorial Team Sportsmanship Award, will be presented to Colorado Ohana, a Women's 40 Major team.

"This award (Steve Simmons Sportsmanship) transcends the game itself," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA chief executive officer. "It stands for all that is good in the sport: passionate competition played with good humor and good fellowship - that is the formula for good sportsmanship. The beauty of good sportsmanship is that it incites a love of the game for all who witness it."

Teams qualified for the WMC by playing in one of the nearly 80 SSUSA qualifiers and regional championships held throughout the country during the season.

The tournament is a joint venture, administered by SSUSA, with LVSSA supplying many of the field directors and helping to maintain the 10 softball facilities and 36 fields used in the tournament throughout North Las Vegas, Henderson and Clark County.



Colorado Ohana, Women's 40 Major

2019 World Masters Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Manager Meeting Check-In:

Men's 55's & 60's

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's 55 and 60 Divisions register and receive their programs and schedules anytime between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the Headquarters Hotel: Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Several vendors will be at registration and the meeting displaying new softball gear and products.

Manager Meeting: 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's 55 and 60 Divisions meet at the Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Managers will meet the directors of fields, review changes in schedules, hear details of awards, special events of the tournament and will be eligible to win prizes during drawings.

Thursday, Sept. 19

Games begin!

Seeding games for the World Masters Championships begin in all divisions.

Players check-in before the first game and receive wristbands. Teams receive game balls.

Seven (7) U.S. National Games are scheduled to be played:

Men's 55 Major Plus

RBC Wealth Management (FL) vs.
Sommerville Softball (CA)

Men's 55 Major

Ameriprise FL Legends vs.
WPI/Wilson Auto (ID)

Men's 55 AAA

Old Stars (IN) vs.
Desperados NMU (CA)

Men's 55 AA

Longshoremen (VA) vs.
Spin Tees (WA)

Men's 60 Major

Cardot/Madalena Construction (NY) vs.
Samurai (CA)

Men's 60 AAA

Old Stars (IN) vs.
Weekend Warriors (CA)

Men's 60 AA

Syracuse Cyclones (NY) vs.

Scrap Iron Rockies (CO)

Friday, Sept. 20

Seeding concludes for the Men's 60 Major Plus, including the U.S. National Game.

Men's 60 Major Plus

Omega IT Services, LLC (MD) vs.
Summy's (CA)

Bracket games begin in all divisions.

Saturday, Sept. 21

Bracket Games Continue

Elimination games played at all fields throughout the day.

Championship Games scheduled for the Men's 55 Major Plus, Men's 55 AA, and Men's 60 Major Plus Divisions.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom rings from Jostens, maker of championship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Today is the culmination of play for the remaining Men's 55 and 60 Divi-

Continued on next page

2019 WMC: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WMC Calendar of Events Continued

Continued from previous page

sions.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom rings from Jostens, maker of championship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Manager Meeting Check-In:

Men's 65's - 85's

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's 65 - 85 Divisions register and receive their programs and schedules anytime between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the Headquarters Hotel: Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Several vendors will be at registration and the meeting displaying new softball gear and products.

Manager Meeting: 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's 65 - 85 Divisions meet at the Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Managers will meet the directors of fields, review changes in schedules, hear details of awards, special events of the tournament and will be eligible to win prizes during drawings.

Monday, Sept. 23

Games begin!

Seeding games for the World Masters Championships begin at all fields.

Players check-in before the first game and receive wristbands. Teams receive game balls.

Five (5) U.S. National Games are scheduled to be played.

Men's 65 Major

Pill & Pill (WV) vs.
Incrediwear (CA)

Men's 70 Major Plus

Venom (FL) vs. Omen (CA)

Men's 70 Major

Bradford White/Jersey Masters (NJ) vs.
Nor Cal Stixx (CA)



Nellis Air Force Base Color Guard

Men's 70 AAA

Syracuse Cyclones (NY) vs.
Sacramento Islanders (CA)

Men's 85 Major

Center For Sight (FL) vs.
Sacramento Gold (CA)

Noon at Big League Dreams:

Opening Ceremonies

Ms. Senior USA Kat Ray performs the National Anthem with Nellis Air Force Base Color Guard presenting the colors.

Former Las Vegas Mayor, Oscar Goodman, is also scheduled to attend, as well as Dale Eeles, Vice President - Event Development for Las Vegas Events.

Michael Leitner, a member of the San Francisco Seals 80, will be officially inducted into the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame (NSSHOF) as part of the Class of 2018 in the Pioneer Player Category.

Tuesday, Sept. 24 -

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Games Continue

Bracket and elimination games played in most divisions throughout the



Oscar Goodman, former Las Vegas Mayor



Kat Ray, Ms. Senior Universe

next two days.

Two (2) U.S. National Championship games will be held on Tuesday.

Men's 65 Major Plus

New Jersey Hitmen vs.

Timberworks/Adidas (CA)

Men's 80 Major Plus

Florida Investment Properties vs. San Francisco Seals (CA)

Championship Games scheduled on Wednesday for the Men's 65 Major Plus, Men's 70 Major Plus, Men's 75 Major Plus, and 80 Major Plus Divisions.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom rings from Jostens, maker of championship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

Thursday, Sept. 26

Today is the culmination of play for the remaining Men's 65 - 85 Divisions.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom rings from Jostens, maker of champion-

Continued on next page

2019 WMC: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WMC Calendar of Events Continued

Continued from previous page

ship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

Thursday, Sept. 26

Manager Meeting Check-In:

Men's & Women's 40's

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's and Women's 40 Divisions register and receive their programs and schedules anytime between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the Headquarters Hotel: Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Several vendors will be at registration and the meeting displaying new softball gear and products.

Manager Meeting: 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's and Women's 40 Divisions meet at the Boulder Station Casino and Hotel.

Managers will meet the directors of fields, review changes in schedules, hear details of awards, special events of the tournament and will be eligible to win prizes during drawings.

Friday, Sept. 27

The Games Begin!

Games begin at all fields.

Players register before the first game, receive wristbands.

Teams receive game balls.

Five (5) U.S. National Games are scheduled to be played.

Women's 40 Major

Kryptonite (FL) vs. TKP (CA)

Women's 40 AAA

Fireballs (MA) vs. UT-Relics

Men's 40 Major Plus

Suncoast Adidas (FL) vs.

Prestige/Elite Sports (CA)

Men's 40 Major

LB/Spirits West/SMC (MD)

vs. Thunderstruck (CA)

Men's 40 AAA

Gigantes O.C. (MD) vs.

Armstrong Transport (WA)

Sportsmanship Award

Colorado Ohana - Women's 40 Major - is the 2019 recipient of the Steve Simmons Sportsmanship Award.

Saturday, Sept. 28

Games Continue

Elimination games played at all fields throughout the day.

Sunday, Sept. 29

Today is the culmination of play for the Men's and Women's 40's Divisions.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom

rings from Jostens, maker of championship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

Wednesday, Oct. 2

Manager Meeting Check-In:

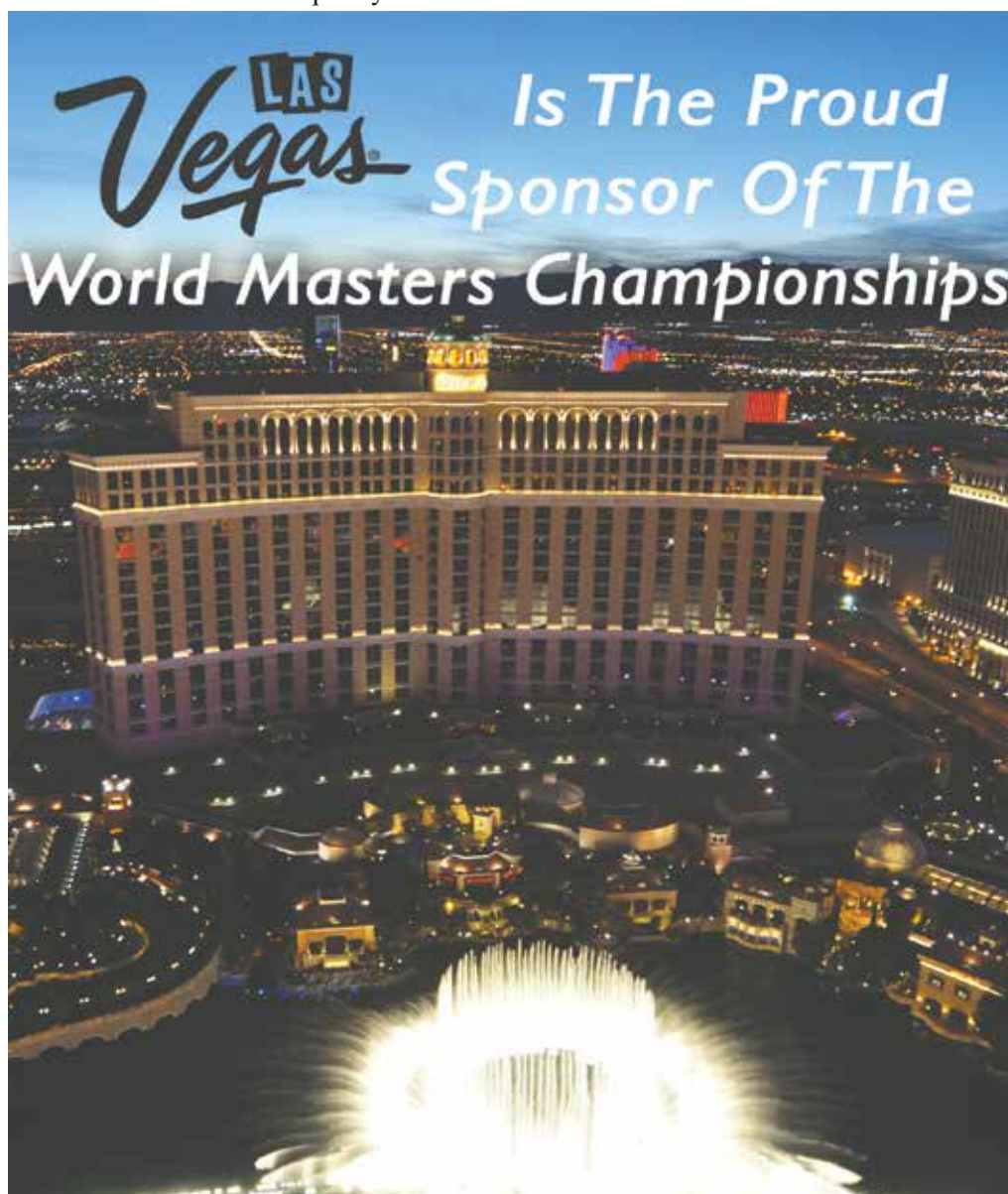
Men's 50

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Boulder Station Casino and Hotel
(Railhead Room)**

Managers for the Men's 50 Divisions register and receive their programs and schedules anytime between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the Headquarters Hotel: Boul-

Continued on next page



2019 WMC: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WMC Calendar of Events Continued

Continued from previous page

der Station Casino and Hotel.

Several vendors will be at registration and the meeting displaying new softball gear and products.

Manager Meeting: 7:00 pm

Boulder Station Casino and Hotel (Railhead Room)

Managers for the Men's 50 Divisions meet at the Boulder Station Casino and Hotel. Managers will meet the directors of fields, review changes in schedules, hear details of awards, special events of the tournament and will be eligible to win prizes during drawings.

Thursday, Oct. 3

The Games Begin!

Seeding games for the Men's 50 Division begin at all fields.

Players check-in before the first game and receive wristbands.

Teams receive game balls. Bracket games will be played in some divisions.

Three (3) U.S. National Games are scheduled to be played.

Men's 50 Major Plus

Suncoast Adidas (FL) vs.

J.K. Inc/Easton (CA)

Men's 50 Major

CPD/Ancell (MN) vs.

PDX/DeMarini (OR)

Men's 50 AAA

High Street Bucs (MD) vs.

Scrap Iron/Elite (CO)

Friday, Oct. 4

Games continue with bracket play for the Men's 50's.

Games begin for the Women's 50 Division.

Seeding games begin at all fields, including a U.S. National Championship Game in the Women's 50 Major Division.

Women's 50 Major

Unfazed (VA) vs.

Old School (CA)

Saturday, Oct. 5

Games Continue

Elimination games played at all fields throughout the day.

Second Annual International Co-Ed Division Begins.

Noon at Big League Dreams:

Opening Ceremonies

Ms. Senior USA Kat Ray performs the National Anthem with the Rancho High School ROTC Color Guard presenting the colors.

Sunday, Oct. 6

Today is the culmination of play for the Men's and Women's 50 Divisions, and the International Co-Ed Division.

Awards will be presented on the field after each of the Championship Games.

Winners receive free quality custom rings from Jostens, maker of championship rings for MLB, NBA, NFL, and NHL.

So Cal State Champs All-Tournament Teams

HEMET/CATHEDRAL CITY, Calif. - The 2019 Southern California State Championships took place here from June 18-23, with 81 teams competing for a berth to the Original Tournament of Champions (TOC).

In the end, 17 teams secured their invitations to the crown jewel of the sport.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 65 Major

Over The Edge (CA):

Robert Looney, John Bene-

dict, Roy Ferguson, David Peterson, Donald Crewshaw.

Top Gun Elite (CA):

Robert Raasch, Clyde Phillips, Nolan Spencer, Jim Teeter.

R&R (CA): Armando

Corella, Kevin Evans, Louis LaRocca.

Men's 65 Silver

No Guts, No Glory (CA):

Robert Skylar, Bill Ward, Dennis Norheim, Norman Coe, Randy Van Essen.

OC-Mustangs (CA): Ed

Lloyd, Alan Gingerelli, Steven Rose, Doug Peterson.

Git-R-Done (CA): Randy

Tsuruta, Charles Sterling, Rand Gordon.

Men's 70/75 Platinum

SoCal Gusto 70 (CA):

Ronald Windell, Charles



So Cal Warriors - Men's 70 Silver Champions

Meeks, Louis Bratcher, Ken Larson, Dennis McCoy.

California Connection

75: Charlie Wiley, Jerry Herling, Mike McCassey.

Men's 70 Silver

So Cal Warriors (CA):

Bob Morago, Christopher Mills, Larry Ekema, Raymond

Tyndall, Mike Drennan.

Top Gun Olde Dawgs

(CA): Ron Payseur, Steve Baranick, Ron Tripodi.

Men's 75 AAA

Git-R-Done (CA): Jon

Newell, Michael Wiemer,

Continued on next page

So Cal State All-Tourney Teams Continued

Continued from previous page

Gregory Krebs, Jack Fisher, Claude LaBarre.

Men's 80 Gold

Top Gun Gold (CA):

Gene Adames, Gary Adams, John Chacon, Jack Scott, Jesus Godoy.

SoCal Titans (CA): John Kuebrich, James Shipe, Gerald Persons, Gary Burtzell.

Men's 50 AAA

Scrap Iron/Elite (CO):

Tom Sutak, Jeffrey Wright, Rudy Preciado, Bill Lomelino, Jeffrey Hutchinson.

Advil Knights (CA):

Bill Smith, Terry Shinn, Tom Kohler, Ken Knox.

Men's 55 Major

OG (CA):

James (Mike) Karr, Patrick Lynch, John Soulliere, John Mills, Carlos Paniagua.

Arizona Old School: Jarvis Quenga, Dave Vandehey,

Randy Pongratz, Greg Colyar.

Men's 55 AAA

New Beginnings Soft-

ball (CA): Mike Berg, Percy Starks III, Dennis Tilford, Keith Watson, Mando Moreno.

Horn Softball (CA):

Bob Faldetta, Cary Cube, Erich Fischer, Bill Dodge.

Men's 55 AA

Advil Knights (CA):

Randy Ross, John Prybylla, Johannes Vanderveer, Norm Kellogg, Gary Evans.

So Cal Riptide (CA):

Shane Lindzy, Geoff McKinney, Ken Tracy, Harry Schafer.

Men's 60 Major

Samurai (CA):

Peter Oriarte, Jack Doty, Charles McKenney, James Villarreal Sr., Jose Cotto.

Reloaded (CA):

Joe Adams, Mario Penados, Larry Lorin, Roy Chien.

R & R Rookies (CA):

Rick Vogel, Michael Leighty, Barry Bluhm.

Men's 60 AAA

Weekend Warriors

(CA): Mark Aumann, Craig Peirson, Guy Trisler, Larry Hixson, Glenn Stevenson.

Silver Stars (CA):

Bobby Flores, Mark Schevers, Donald Whitted, Charles Carter.

Top Gun Thunder (CA):

John Gullatta, Joel Hawk, Steven Rubino.

Men's 60 AA

Scrap Iron Rockies

(CO): Rick Frahm, Dan Saban, Stephen O'Connell, Jose Valiente, Charley Mylander.

So-Cal Titans (CA):

James (Swede) Lundgren, Mark Hiltbrand, John Cesena.

Men's 40 Major Plus

Pony Tail Express (CA):

Will Taveras, Jose Flores, Eric Ramirez, Albert Farias,

Fernando Mercado.

Fattboyz Dudley/Elite

(CA): Rudy Hernandez, Billy Zapata, Charles Shimels.

Women's 40 Major

TKP (CA):

Kimberly Roter, Deb DiMeglio, Gina Oliver, Jennifer Stewart, Kristi Whitcomb.

Women's 40 AAA

Pro Moves (CA):

Becky Hardy, Rosa Salas, Lori Jarrells, Yolanda Enright, Irene Jones.

CCS Fireballerz (CA):

Connie Sayama, Cory Minter, Sandra Lomelino, Staci Mosher.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Southern California State Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com

Nor Cal State Champs All-Tourney Teams

SACRAMENTO - The Senior Softball-USA/CAN-Sirs Northern California State Championships was held here, June 25-30.

The tournament helped raise \$2,300 for the CAN-Sirs organization to help increase cancer awareness.

15 teams secured their invitations to the crown jewel of the sport, the Original Tournament of Champions (TOC).

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 65/70 Platinum

Omen 70 (CA):

Bob Cummings, Steven Imlay, James Stapleton, Patrick McGuire, Chris Dayak, Wayne Ross.

Men's 70/75 Platinum

Omen 75 (CA):

William Nevis, Tom Bussey, William Wilson, Tommy French, Joseph Cors, John Di Re.

Men's 70 Silver

Last Call (NV):

John Bush, John Hoffman, Gary Schwarrock, Rod Mathisen, Roy (Willie) Williams.

Sacramento Islanders

(CA): Jesse Vasquez, Richard Edwards, Dan Sumpter, Bob Smith.

Men's 50 Major

KM Sportz (CA):

Alvarado, Allen Guy, David Utne, Bob Bauer, Charles Rufkahr.

Men's 50/55 Gold

Billie's Bunch 50 (CA):

Jim McFarlin, John Anthony Miller, Armando Corella, Robert Corella, Francisco Cabrera.

North Valley Seniors 55

(CA): Craig Wagner, Donald Forbis, Ernie Porter, Pat Napoli.

Men's 55 Major Plus

JU Ent (CA):

Glenn Grant, John Gibbs, Ron Fraser, Marvin Himenez, Glen Shipley, William Gomez.

Nor Cal Warriors (CA):

Gary Hoffman, Ron Graves, Brad White, Greg Goodell, Pual Supat.

Men's 60/65 Platinum

California Energy 60

(CA): Anthony Hinojosa, Dan Yoder, Lyman Rose, Paul Rossi.

Men's 60 AAA

Senior Bend Elks (OR):

Ronald Landers, Raymond O'Rear, Michael Koepf, Pete Folger.

Men's 40 Major

Cheap Suits/Republic

Realty/CDZ Apparel (CA): David Mariano, Mark Valencia, Joaquin Perez, Darrell Leonor.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Northern California State Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com



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Northeast Champs All-Tournament Teams

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - The 2019 Northeast Championships, held here for an eighth straight year, drew 54 teams representing eight states from around the region, as well as Canada.

An original Tournament of Champions (TOC) qualifier, 10 teams would go on to lock up the exclusive berth.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 40 Gold

Giant Steel/TRUE Point Survey (NY): Angelo Marsella, Peter Duffy, Mathew Mordente, Shawn McDonnell, Gary Fontana.

Men's 50 Major

Hard Hat Café/Latell's/Vio's Sports (CT): John Gustafson, Mike Fanara, Rich Mauri, Tom Hodges, Steven Steransak.

Big Bottom Brewery/Evolve Salon (PA): Robert

Gratkowski, Brad Feik, Daniel Wert.

Men's 50 AAA

Finance of America (NJ): Joseph DiFabio, Charles Collins, Kevin Spellman, Damon Roth, Rodney Monteleone.

Gashouse (NY): Michael Stearns, Timothy Schwarze, William Reilly.

Men's 55 Major

Phoenix Tube (NJ): Al Faleski, Stephen Belford, Don Fischer.

Men's 55/60 Gold

Action Auto Parts 60 (RI): Anthony Tager, Robert Daly, Kevin Lewis, Bill Dacier, Bill Laflamme.

Deep Purple 60 (MA): Marvin Sims, John McGraw, George Hamilton, Robert Roy.

New England Merchants 55 (MA): Michael Malone, Marc Green, Tom DeAngelis.

Men's 60 AAA

Berkley Home Remodeling (DE): Frank Bender, Jim Simone, Vincent Spinoccia, Michael Menzer, Tom Stranerio.

Northeast JackHammers 2 (NY): Christopher

Wurm, Hugh (Butch) Sweeney, John Franciotti.

Men's 60 AA

Syracuse Cyclones (NY): Jack Baxter, Gary Lasko, Larry Clock, John Maxwell, Alan Shaffer.

Men's 65/70 Gold

Bradford White/Jersey Masters 70 (NJ): Dana Kimmel, Raymond Poyer, Barry Cohen, Donald Natale.

Spring-Ford AA 65 (PA): Benn Miller, Mark Johnson, Ross Barnett.

Men's 65/70 Silver

Syracuse Cyclones 70 (NY): George VanDeusen, Ralph Bondi, J Wayne Marble, Thomas Desimone, Thomas Silvanic.

Syracuse Cyclones 65 (NY): Rico Petrello, Michael Liquori, Robert Darnell, Kenneth Day.

Bostonian 70s (MA): Thomas Hall, Albert Penney, Dennis Naylor, Roger LePage.

Men's 75 AAA

Syracuse Cyclones (NY): Joseph Broun, Ron VanDenburgh, Gerald Stratton, Gary Hoover, Howard Bernard.



Men's 80 Major

Hamel Builders (MD): Maynard Wells, Ed Morrison, Roger (Pete) Kelley, Raymond Grove, Evan Edward Lloyd.

Men's 80 AAA

Peach Tree Restaurant (PA): Frank Gordon, James Harris, Peter Petito, Ron Weidman.

Syracuse Cyclones (NY): Gene Signor, Salvador Scrano, Robert Fox, Allen Sheridan.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Northeast Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com

Northwest Champs All-Tournament Teams

SALEM, Ore. - The 14th annual Jim Sherman Memorial/Northwest Championships was held here for a fourth straight year, July 9-14.

The 52-team tournament would see 15 teams secure their invitations to the crown jewel of the sport, the Original Tournament of Champions (TOC).

The Northwest Championships was renamed after Jim Sherman in 2010 following his death.

Sherman, who served as the chief safety officer for the Seattle Fire Department for 30 years, also served as SSUSA's National Umpire-In-Chief/Safety Officer. He was instrumental in developing SSUSA's safety program in CPR/defibrillator training for umpires and directors.

Sherman was a member of SSUSA's inaugural Hall of Fame Class in 2009.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that ap-

peared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 40 Platinum

NW Legacy (WA): Derek Warren, Chad Munger, Theron Chicks, Larry Klopp, Steve Elliott.

NorthWest Legends (WA): Johnny White, Jacob Ramos, Jerald Sencil, Michael

(Ryan) Wallin.

Men's 40 AAA

Armstrong Transport (WA): Robert Ramberg, Billy Hauser, Ryan Lessard.

Men's 50/55 Platinum

Easton Reds 50 (WA): Shane Davis, Kevin Gazay, Kenneth Jackson, Brent Bigham, Brett Jones.

PDX/DeMarini 50 (OR): Rick Paulson, Rick Starkey, Lamon Bradshaw, Tyrone

Continued on next page

NW Champs All-Tourney Teams Continued

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Men's 50 Silver

VC/Miken (WA): Jay Dunn, Ramiro Leos, Kirk Phares, Tom Ottman.

Men's 55 Major

Doerflinger (WA): Brett Kreuger, Emory Lunsford, John Clasey, Jim Perry, Steve Dzubay.

Men's 60 Major

Wolfpack (WA): George Ladenburg, Jerald Crawford, Joel Patnode, Kenneth Childress, Henry Musgrove.

Men's 60 AAA

Scrap Iron Heavy Metal (CO): Pete Ayotte, Rick Shaum, Dave Lussier, Edward Buonaiuto, Andrew Shapiro.

Senior Bend Elks (OR): Rick Baker, Michael Koepf, Steve Rusconi, Dan Thompson.

Men's 60 AA

Vancouver USA-Wooly's (WA): Jeff Bushor, James Taylor, Michael Vorce, Pete Sagisi, Jose Villalpando.

Pastimers (WA): Jeffrey Chin, Frank Hrnicek, Doug Fredrickson, Pete Nelson.

East West Aircraft Sales Two (ID): Chuck Leachman, Michael Summerfield, Nick Dawson.

Men's 65/70 Platinum

Last Call 65 (NV): Bryan Lowry, Mike Sullens, Dan Kibbe, John Picone, Steve Malloy.

Auto Accessory Distributing 65 (OR): Mickey Ayala, Roland Bleitz, Tim Barrier, Dan McGuigan.

Enviro-Vac Marauder 70 (BC, Canada): Ross Evison, Peter Sheen, Arthur (Skip) Baebler.

Men's 65/70 Gold

Vancouver USA-Wooly's 65 (WA): Jack Benz, Kurt Kresse, Jim Malde, Robert Geissler, Michael Vorce.

Aro Glass Clubbers 65 (WA): Wayne Ross, Michael (Earl) Spellman, Steven Bailey, Mike Ryan.

Grey Sox 65 (WA):



Wolfpack (WA) - Men's 60 Major Champions

Timothy Wheatley, Cameron Preston, Wayne Terry.

Men's 70 AAA

4 Seasons Screen Printing (OR): Joseph Savage, Tony Perry, Richard Scorza, Herb Everett, David Smith.

Sims (WA): Domenic Ficarra, Anthony (Wayne) Dillingham, Richard Pescatore.

Men's 70/75 Gold

General Equipment 75 (OR): Doug Blatchford, Jerry

Ronk, Danny Miles, Mike Alley, Clauis (Nick) Nickleberry.

W.E. Ruth Realty 75

(WA): Daniel Fernandez, Harry Barber, John Aarhus.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Northwest Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com

Midwest Champs All-Tournament Teams

ROGERS, Ark. - The 14th Annual Midwest Championships returned here at Rogers Regional Sports Park, July 9-14, for the fourth consecutive year.

Forty-three teams from across nine states competed, for a berth to the original Tournament of Champions (TOC).

In the end, 11 teams secured their invitations to the crown jewel of the sport.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-

tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 50 Major

Team Arkansas: Robert Davis, John Cameron, John King, Jeff March, James (Mike) Wilkerson.

B&B Drywall/World Gym (KS): Pete Lahner, Robert Neal, Shawn Creswell, Mark Lamb.

KC Vintage (MO): Jeff Rose, Michael Peel, Kevin Barnhart.

Men's 50 AAA

Drury Inn Road Dogs (MO): Keith Enstall, Chris

O'Dell, Jerry Cotner, David (Scott) Whitworth, Dave Shoulta.

Men's 55 Major

Pope Transport (WI): Tom Schroader, Keith Bradley, Lance Riddell, Donne Lalor, Greg Prince.

Men's 60 Major

Mayhem (OK): Don Eden, Bill Hancock, Robert Sandlin, Bobby Spaciel, John Sparkman.

Men's 60 AAA

OKC Relics (OK): Orvill Cranford, Russell Nowland, Roger Musick, David Baker, Harold Robinson.

Men's 60 AA

Texas Legends: Garland Doyle, George Gutierrez, Joseph Ylda.

Men's 65 Gold

KC Kids (KS): Robert Radford, Mike Hildebrandt, Stephen Likes, David Cook, Melvin Lane.

Carriage Homes (MO): Randy Wilson, Walt VanBibber, Mitch Saunders, Michael Woolery.

Men's 70 Major

San Antonio Silver Streaks (TX): Thomas Suda, Denis Abernethy, Rockey Crews, Jack Orbin, R. Larry

Continued on next page

MW Champs All-Tourney Teams Continued

Continued from previous page

Lopez.

OK-ARK (OK): Charles Moore, Harry Bain, Robert Merideth, Roger Huckey.

St. Louis Vision (MO): Jack Knight, Terryll Brown, James Webber.

Men's 65/70 Silver

Boyd Metals 70 (AR): Richard Ciampa, Emerson Brubaker, James Morgan, Alan Smith, Melvin Stinnett.

KC Renegades 70 (MO): Jack Basore, Marvin (Sonny) Burton, Terry Patnode, Bill Smith.

Robson Ranch Texans 65: Rocky Dudley, David



LOTA Softball (AR) - Men's 80 Gold Champions

McKie, Dale Hill.

Men's 70/75 Silver

R & D Leverage 70

(MO): Steve Cannon, Stephen

Tuttle, Gary Johnston.

Men's 80 Gold

LOTA Softball (AR): Roscoe Smith, Eddie Glover, Ronald Forte, Marlyn Schroeffer, Bobby Buisson.

Antiques of Kansas City (KS): Frank Mar, Ken Stock, Donald Applebaugh, Wayne Grimes, Donald Hutchinson.

San Antonio 80s (TX): Norm Allen, Edward Brower, Carl (Denny) Herring.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Midwest Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

ISA Senior World Series All-Tourney Teams

COLUMBUS, Ind. - The 2019 ISA Senior World Series tournament was held here, July 26 - 28.

The tournament awards each division champion a berth in the prestigious Original Tournament of Champions (TOC).

This year, the ISA Senior World Series featured 50 teams from 10 states.

Nine teams would go on to lock up invitations to the TOC.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Men's 55 Major

1 Under Craft Beer/Eats (MI): Jeff Sheeran, Bruce Wood, Bruce Antioch, Mike Forde, Larry Mercer.

Pope Transport (WI):

Barry Sexton, Donne Lalor, Doug Merline.

Doug & Don's Auto Care (MI): Tod Moorhead, Tim Launius.

Men's 55 AAA

Old Stars (IN): Michael McCullough, Kevin Haarsma, Dan Rypma.

Men's 60 Platinum

Windy City Softball (IL): James Phad, Rick Olsen, Ray Ambrose, James Cushing, Robert Tortorici.

Clean Planet/University Auto (MI): Donald Dash, Steven Calderon, Carl Underwood.

Motown Stars (MI): Houston Tipton, Lawrence Reedus.

Men's 60 AAA

Playmakers (WI): Donald Kleineider, Tom Reed, Mark Gerls, John Cardo, Paul Brannon.

Chicago Panthers (IL): Gary Poliska, John Miranda, Gary Olson.

Champaign Softball



(IL): Mike Hale, Harlan Freeman

Men's 65 Major

Motown Stars (MI): Curtis Williams, Arthur Cohen, Arthur Robertson, John Van Wagner, William Osborn.

Men's 65 AAA

By Grace Redeemed (TN): David Northcut, James King, Joe Parton, Don Smith, Darrell Douglas.

MP Components/Bomb Squad (MI): David Bartlett, Calvin Lounds, Roger White.

Minnesota Blizzard: Tom Brouelette, Michael Pierce.

Men's 65 AA

Indy Fog (IN): Rick Hedge, Robert Oakley, Chuck Newton, Michael Thompson, Gary Shireman.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the ISA Senior World Series are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

Heard in the Dugout

"I don't want men of experience working for me. The experienced man is always telling me why something can't be done. The fellow who has not had any experience is so dumb he doesn't know a thing can't be done - and he goes ahead and does it."

- Charles F. Kettering



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Eastern Nationals All-Tournament Teams

LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA - The 2019 Eastern National Championships was held here, July 30 – Aug. 4, for the first time in its 19-year tournament history.

A record 83 teams representing 16 states competed on the field, looking to take the first step towards the elusive Triple Grand Slam.

Division winners (as well as singleton teams) from the Eastern National Championships receive a berth into the U.S. National Championship Game, which is played during seeding play at the LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships.

Teams that win the U.S. National Game, as well as their division in the World Masters, complete the Triple Grand Slam.

As a TOC qualifier, 17 teams would go on to secure their spots in the crown jewel of the sport.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Below please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Women's 40 Major

Magic Stuff (MA): Dawn DeMerchant, Kelly Davis, Lorey Biesheuvel, GERALYN RILEY.

Women's 40 AAA

Firestyx (NJ): Csthy Nicodemus, Gail DiMartinio, Marie Ray, Lisa Brubaker, Cary Outland.

Fireballs (MA): Michelle Scecina, Marie Gaudreau, Rebecca Stone, Heather Korzec.

Women's 50 Major

Unfazed (VA): Lisa Harvey, Melissa Spencer, Deborah Robinson, Linda Puentes, Corniece Keene-Brown.

Men's 40 AAA

Gigantes O.C. (MD): Mark Wierner, Duane Taylor, Earl Geoghegan, Michael Kuchinsky, John (Michael) Schouster.

Mission: Possible (PA): Brian Stump, Christopher Van Luvanee, Jeff Uter, Keith Simmons.

Y'All Next (MD): Jerry Surber, Mario Walker, Shawn Smith.

Men's 50 Major

Johnny's Auto & Truck/JJM Properties (CT): Bob Sobolisky, Frankie Nieves, Edward Muzyka.

Men's 50 AAA

Carolina Legends (NC): Glenn Ross, Randy Glascock, Jay Shotwell, Gregory Wat-

kins.

Men's 55 Major

Ameriprise FL Legends: Kurt Musial, Daryl Epstein, Danny Van Camp, Doug Howells, Mike Mash.

The Nationals (VA): Curt Swift, Jim Propps, David Harrington.

Men's 55/60 Gold

Omega IT Services, LLC 60 (MD): Hosea Harris, Ivan Lanier, Mike Massey, Charles Clarke.

Men's 60 AAA

Old Stars (IN): Richard Bowlds, Leo Vernier, P. Kevin Kronst, Fred Scheub, Bob Cash.

Northeast JackHammers 2 (NY): Robert (Sonny) Davis, Bob Baker, Les Baker, Christopher Wurm.

Crossfit/Great Clips (NC): Tim Lancaster, Donnie Bailey, Keith Booker, Homer (Ricky) Wadford.

Men's 65/70 Major Plus

Venom 70 (FL): Vance Gudmundsen, Dennis Schroeder, Vincent Melograno, James Davidson, Stewart Casterline.

Men's 65 Major

High Street Bucs (MD): Michael Wingard, Joseph Herr, Timothy Potter.

Men's 65/70 Gold

Syracuse Cyclones 70



(NY): Thomas Mulligan, J. Wayne Marble, Alex Shue, Joseph Vancho.

Men's 75 AAA

Baileys Cavaliers (VA): Gary Parks, Leroy Allen, Calvin Freedman, David Howells, Dave Mallory.

Men's 80/85 Gold

Florida Investment Properties 80: Frank Gordon, Lawrence McCurdy, Fred Cronin, Ray Dye, Ron Huser.

Center For Sight 85 (FL): Joe Sykes, Dwight McVicker, Norman Haltrich, Roger Thresher.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Eastern National Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

Western Nationals All-Tournament Teams

SACRAMENTO/PLACER COUNTIES - The 2019 Western National Championships was held here, July 30-Aug. 4, for a seventh straight season.

A record 133 teams representing eight states competed on the field, looking to take the first step towards the elusive Triple Grand Slam.

Division winners (as well as singleton teams) from the Western National Championships receive a berth into the U.S. National Championship Game, which is played during seeding play at the LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships next month in Las Vegas.

Teams that win the U.S. National Game, as well as their division in the World Masters, complete the Triple Grand Slam.

As a TOC qualifier, 26 teams would go on to secure their spots in the crown jewel of the sport.

Teams that win the U.S. National Game, as well as their division in the World Masters, complete the Triple Grand Slam.

As a TOC qualifier, 26 teams would go on to secure their spots in the crown jewel of the sport.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the tournament recap that appeared in a previous newsletter.

Please see the all-tournament selections from the tournament on the next page.

Congratulations to all teams and players.

Continued on next page



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Westerns All-Tourney Teams Continued

Continued from previous page

Women's 40 Major

TKP (CA): Toni Love, Gina Oliver, Deb DiMeglio, Kimberly Roter, Kristi Whitcomb.

Colorado Ohana: Joan Rogers, Becky Lynn Gee, Kat Chase.

Women's 40 AAA

UT-Relics: N. Nicole Wilkinson, Virginia Benard, Penny Varoz, Jayme McWidener, Marty Hurtado.

CCS Fireballerz (CA): Marisol Flores, Brenda Ashford, Natalie Driggers, Staci Mosher.

Women's 50 Gold

OnFire/Afoa Insurance (CA): Tressia Hammonds, Kathy Warman, La'i Faleafine, Vicky Duveneck, Lisa Mobley-Silveira.

Men's 40 Major Plus

GTS (ID): Brian Fong, Pat Paschal, Dan Romero, Jason Graves.

Men's 40 Major

Thunderstruck (CA): Gavin Gosz, Jason Carlson, Brian Lussier, Chuck Henninger, Jeff Braskamp.

Team F1rst (CA): Brian Garcia, Derek Muller, Rusty Guasco, Mike Sprecher.

Men's 40 AAA

Armstrong Transport (WA): Billy Hauser, Robert Ramberg, Sean Doble, Michael LeBrasseur, Nic Ramirez.

Men's 50 Major Plus

J.K. Inc/Easton (CA): Johnny Bailey, Ron Hayes, Dean Aldridge, Matt Suder, Brian Wheatfill.

West Coast Aftershock (CA): Mark Tolliver, Jim Sanders, Christopher King.

Men's 50 Major

KM Sportz (CA): Sean

Kelly, Bob Bauer, Matt Robbins, Tracy Kuykendall.

Men's 50 AAA

Scrap Iron/Elite (CO): Mike Fullerton, Richard Lundy, Michael Christopher, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Thomas Gagliardi.

Sacramento Flash (CA): Nick Martin, Gilbert Ferreira, Mark Andrews, Floyd Seabron.

Men's 55 Major Plus

JU Ent (CA): Robbie Ramirez, Marvin Himenez, Don Owens.

Men's 55 Major

WPI/Wilson Auto (ID): Steve Hallock, Mark Haggerty, Colin Schmidt, Rod Watson, Michael Wilson.

So Cal Guys (CA): Donald Wolfe, Ronald Chenier, Matthew Palmer, Ron Canales.

Men's 55 AAA

Desperados NMU (CA): Charles (Gerome) Gibson, Walt Strickland, Curtiss Beagle, Ricky Ishimaru, Armando Hidalgo.

Men's 60 Major Plus

Summy's (CA): Michael Toomey, Paul Salow, Kevin O'Reilly, Greg Brandt, Jon (Bully) Kramer.

MTC/Dudley (CA): Gary Robertson, Vern Ramie, Bob Aikman, Dave Matusich.

Men's 60 Major

Samurai (CA): Jose Cotto, Lonny Adams, Bob Flannery, Vince Skandunas, Vince Gallo.

California Energy: Anthony Hinojosa, Don Abernathy, Lyman Rose.

Men's 60 AAA

Weekend Warriors (CA): Larry Hixson, Mark Aumann, Ken Perez, Guy Trisler, Richard (Dickey)

Bivin.

Cascade Thunder (OR):

James Henley, Hal Townsend, William Deutschman, Karl Johannsen.

Men's 55/60 AA

Spin Tees 55 (WA):

Kevin Johnson, Mariano Benavides, Grant Brown, Rob Pluff, William Broadbent.

Scrap Iron 60's Rockies (CO): Rick Frahm, Steve Murphy, Dennis Bret, Richard Waldron.

Men's 65 Major

Incrediwear (CA): Darryl Watson, David Donnan, Larry Younger, Jose Moreno, Ronald Joseph.

Last Call (NV): Lowell Moore, Bruce Shochat, Mike Sullens, Stephen Christian.

Men's 65 AAA

Cut Loose (CA): Rudy Valdez, Steve Stafford, Antonio Diaz, Elio Almaguer, Gerald Chow.

It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere (CA): Keith Arnold, Leon Reali, Jules Caldeira, Rick Bingham.

Men's 65/70 Silver

Sacramento Islanders 70 (CA): Hank Hoyer, Sid Spencer, David Taylor, Jerry Enfield, Robert Milano.

Men's 70 AA

Valley Fog (CA): Bucky Harless, Clarence Taylor, Kenneth Leppke, Anthony Orozco, Glen Jenkins.

Triple Play (CA): Robert Bugarin, Anthony (Tony) Trebaol, Roy Nelson.

Men's 70/75 Major Plus

Omen 70 (CA): Wayne Ross, Ellwin Jobe, David Sells, Ed Carey, Chris Dayak, John Denham.

Men's 70 Major

Nor Cal Stixx (CA): Dan Garcia, Daniel Burbank, Har-



old Johnson, Robert Rohatch, David Lee.

Scrap Iron Legends (CO): Dan Hovgaard, Ralph Perkins, Edward Clark, Donald Carpenter.

R&R (CA): R. Mike Barnett, Roger Waite, Tad Ludes.

Men's 75/80 Gold

State Roofing Systems 75 (CA): Johnny Melvin, Steven Gellerman, Bruce Hyman, James Laurenti, Charlie Sherrill.

Men's 80/85 Gold

Git-R-Done 80 (CA): Robert Fontaine, Robert Rose, Jeff Hilgaertner, Michael Walter, Jack Loy.

Redwood City Gold Rush 80 (CA): Bill Beshore, Dennis Craig, Wesley Horen.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Western National Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

Heard in the Dugout

"The world is not interested in the storms you encountered, but did you bring in the ship."

- Anonymous

2 Tourneys in Europe Beckon SSUSA Players

Softball News Report

For the first time in its 32-year history of international travel, Senior Softball USA will be bringing teams to play in Prague and Budapest in Eastern Europe in the spring of 2020.

"Our senior US teams will compete in two tournaments, cruise the River Danube, feast at a traditional Gypsy dinner, play ball in a famous wine village, and see two of the most beautiful cities in Eastern Europe," said Terry Hennessy, chief executive officer of SSUSA.

"In addition, we have been invited to compete in the 43rd annual Heavy Hitters International Charity Slow Pitch Softball Tournament in Prague," he said.

The Jewels of Eastern Europe Tour, from April 30 to May 12, is open to all SSUSA

players and their families.

Senior US teams made up of players ranging from their 40s to their 80s – at all skill levels and from many states – will compete against teams from both the Czech Republic and Hungary. While the games are fun, the real treasure of the tour is making friends among US players and the foreign teams.

Our senior US teams have been invited to compete in the Heavy Hitters International Charity Slow Pitch Softball Tournament in Prague. This legacy tournament helps fund education in Prague and includes several opportunities to get to know the players from the Czech Republic.

The second tournament is near Budapest in the idyllic wine village of Szentendre. The Eastern European Challenge Cup will give the senior

US teams a chance to play Szentendre and Budapest teams.

As a special treat, the host team is planning a barbeque and a visit of the village during the tournament.

In addition to the once-in-a-lifetime softball opportunities, said organizers, the tour will include memorable sightseeing opportunities.

The first portion of the tour is in Prague, a magical city of bridges, cathedrals, gold-tipped towers and church domes.

Almost undamaged by WWII, Prague's medieval center remains a wonderful mixture of cobbled lanes, walled courtyards, cathedrals and countless spires all in the shadow of her majestic 9th century castle that looks eastward as the sun sets behind her.

Prague is also a modern and vibrant city full of energy, music, cultural art, fine dining and special events catering to the independent traveler's thirst for adventure.

Next stop is Budapest, Hungary's capital, which is bisected by the River Danube.

Its 19th-century Chain Bridge connects the hilly Buda district with flat Pest. A funicular runs up Castle Hill to Buda's Old Town, where the Budapest History Museum traces city life from Roman times onward.

The Tour wraps up in grand style, with a cruise on the Danube River and a Gypsy Folklore Farewell dinner.

For more information, see <https://seniorsoftball.com/?page=35>, email info@seniorsoftball.com, or call 916-326-5303.



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**Would like to wish all teams heading to Las Vegas
the best of luck in the tournament.**




Senior Softball Tour 2020

Jewels of Eastern Europe: Prague & Budapest

April 30 - May 12, 2020



Join us on an adventure of a lifetime to two of the most beautiful and magical cities in Europe: **Prague** and **Budapest**.

Cruise on the River Danube in Budapest, feast on a Gypsy dinner, play ball in the famous wine village of Szentendre and get a personal tour from our host ballplayers of their picturesque town. In Prague you'll have a chance to explore this magical city of bridges, cathedrals, gold-tipped towers and church domes that have been mirrored in the surface of the swan-filled Vltava River for more than ten centuries.

As a special treat, we have been invited to compete in the **43rd Annual Heavy Hitters International Charity Slow Pitch Softball Tournament** in Prague.

Budapest and **Prague** are the jewels of Eastern Europe...join us for the adventure of a lifetime!



For more information please go to our website: seniorsoftball.com.
You'll find the itinerary and registration under the "International" tab. Or contact Anthony Ramos
at anthony@seniorsoftball.com, or 916-326-5303.

Qualified Teams for Original TOC

Nearly 275 teams have secured their spot in the Original Tournament of Champions, which will take place February 5 - 9, 2020 in Polk County, FL.

21 TOC qualifiers have been completed, with the LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships remaining.

Teams began qualifying for the 2020 TOC this past November 2018, at the Winter National Championships and Winter World Championships.

The other TOC designated qualifiers included:

- Spring National Championships
- Spring World Championships
- Tidewater Classic
- LVSSA/SSUSA Southwest Championships
- Texas State Championships
- Atlantic Coast Championships
- Rock 'n Reno Challenge Cup
- CAN AM (SPN)
- Southern California State Championships
- SSUSA/CAN-Sirs Northern California State Championships
- Northeast Championships
- Jim Sherman Memorial/Northwest Championships
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- Northern Championships
- Rocky Mountain Championships

There simply is no other tournament in the sport that comes close what the TOC offers:

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- Hitting clinics
- Skills contests
- All-Star Game
- TOC All-Stars vs. Louisville Slugger Warriors



isville Slugger Warriors Exhibition Game

For a complete list of qualified teams for the Original TOC, please visit <https://seniorsoftball.com/?event=1437>



TOC All-Stars pictured with the Louisville Slugger Warriors.

In what has become an annual tradition at the TOC, the winning team of the TOC All-Star Game plays an exhibition game against the Louisville Slugger Warriors. Players also have a chance to play alongside the Warriors, as the team has auctioned off roster spots during the banquet.



The 2019 American and National TOC All-Stars recognized during the annual awards banquet.

Contact: Carlos Vega
714.639.9940 xt. 222

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Bill Hill Inducted Into NCSSA HOF

Bill Hill, 67, has been inducted into the Northern California Senior Softball Association (NCSSA) Hall of Fame, Class of 2019.

A member of NCSSA since 2005, Hill has been a player, manager, and an area representative in 2016-2017.

Additionally, Hill has served as president of the Sacramento Tournament Players Association (STPA), Golden Seniors Softball Club of Sacramento, and South Placer Senior Softball Club.

With SSUSA, Hill has worked as a Tournament Director, and currently manages California Energy, Men's 60.

Recently, Hill won Inter-



Bill Hill national honors in the SSUSA Riviera Softball Tournaments in Genoa, Italy, and Nice, France, earning MVP honors.

Southern Champs All-Tourney Teams

VALDOSTA, GA - The 13th Annual [Southern Championships](#) was held here for the first time at Freedom Park Softball Complex, the 2018 SSUSA Complex of the Year, July 13-14.

The tournament had an 11-year run in Birmingham, before moving to Raleigh last year.

Men's 40/50 Platinum

Fence Brokers Team Kitty/Worth Miken 50 (FL): Chris Walker, Robert O'Brien, Michael Dill, Albert Davis.

Men's 50 AAA

Central Florida Vipers (FL): Thomas Peterson, James Ottman, Colby Cotta, Daniel Nieves.

Public Enemy (FL): Thomas Rich, Charles (Mike) Lloyd, Tony White, John Loftus.



Avalon Insurance/50 Caliber (FL): Rick Notaro, Rafael Hernandez, Steven Ward.

Managers, if your all-tournament selections from the Southern Championships are missing, please email them to Anthony@SeniorSoftball.com.

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Have a Game Plan for Successful Investing

By Jack Sirard
Senior Softball News

In a recent day of stock market trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average plummeted more than 600 points when analysts cited abnormalities in the bond market's yield curve.

They were quick to jump on that "hot number," noting that it hadn't happened in years and when it did, the market tumbled into a recession.

A few weeks later, the bond market did it again, but this time stocks rose.

Admittedly it wasn't enough to fully retrace the prior decline, but it was once again a several-hundred point gain.

What to make of this?

And what to make of the barrage of tweets, instant analysis and obscure market prognostications as a whole?

My way of thinking, unless you're a professional trader, is that you have to have a reasonable investment strategy both for the short- and long-term. If you're a market professional, you're on your own, for good or for bad.

But if you're an individual investor, you have to have a game plan in place that affords you the opportunity to be a buyer when stocks are falling and to be positioned to take some money off the table when stocks are peaking.

In my experience, investors who take a long-term approach ...even if you're a senior citizen...have an increased chance of success. They know what price they're willing to pay for a stock and won't chase it even as it moves above market expectations. They're disciplined and they'll wait for the stock to come into their buying range.

While everyone loves the story of

the investor who jumped on an initial public offer (IPO) and made a bundle overnight, that's just not going to happen for the average investor.

Why? For openers, most of us never had or will ever have the opportunity to buy 100 or 1,000 shares of High Tech Heaven at the opening. Those shares typically are doled out to the brokerage house's very best (wealthiest) clients.

As a result, the small investor's first chance to buy an IPO is once actual trading begins and on a highly prized stock, that can be several points higher than the initial trading price. Many, many IPOs...even the most very successful ones...saw their share price retreat after the initial run-up in stock pricing.

That's why successful investors always have cash on hand in their accounts. While some investment professionals recommend holding as little as 5 to 10 percent of your assets in cash and cash equivalents, others have much higher numbers in mind.

For instance, in one analysis I read recently, it noted that someone with a balanced portfolio of 60 percent stocks and 40 percent bonds, should also have as much as three years' worth of anticipated withdrawals in cash. While that seems like a large chunk of money, they pointed out the by having this much cash available, a senior investor likely would avoid the greatest retirement risk: being forced to withdraw funds as part of one's minimum-required distribution from a portfolio during severe down times.

This likely would mean holding a lot of cash, but it would be a huge safety net for investors who can't take the wild gyrations we've all seen in the stock market in recent times. And if the money was held in a series of certificates of deposit or Treasury bills, at least there would be some guaranteed return on the funds.


I also think it's a good idea to have a sell point in mind on any stock that you hold. That doesn't mean you have to sell when the stock reaches that point, but it does tell you that it's time to carefully weigh that stock vis a vis the stock market's performance as a whole and the company's competitors in the marketplace.

Again, it's just having a plan in place whether the market is booming or falling apart that leads to successful investing.

Jack Sirard is a retired nationally syndicated financial columnist and Senior Editor for Softball News.

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