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No Triple Grand Slams Won During Session 3 of 2026 World Champs

Micronesia Represented for First Time in 2026 Worlds' Session 3



For the first time in Senior Softball USA history, a team from the Federated States of Micronesia competed in the World Championships in Vegas, playing in their rally skirts in the Women's 40+ AA division.

Micronesia Represented for First Time in 2026 Worlds' Session 3



The Lih-en-Pohnpei (Women's 40+ AA) traveled over 5,700 miles to Las Vegas to play in the 2026 World Championships; that's an expected 22 hour travel time as direct flights are not offered.

By Terry Hennessy
Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS -- Traveling more than 5,700 miles across the South Pacific, a women's 40 AAA team from a small, lush island with 40 waterfalls and 36,000 people became the first Micronesian team

No Triple Grand Slams Won During Session 3 of 2026 World Champs



The Women's 40+ division moved back to session 3 of the 2026 World Championships, after temporarily being moved to session 4 in 2025.

By Donna McGuire
Softball News Report

Seven divisions of men's and women's 40+ teams packed nearly 500 games into three days of softball as Session 3 of the Senior Softball-USA World Championships took place in Las Vegas.

to compete here in the Senior Softball World Championships.

The distance was not the biggest obstacle for the team from Pohnpei, the largest of four islands that make up the Federated States of Micronesia deep in the western South Pacific.

The biggest hurdle was the cost to get to Las Vegas.

“The whole community backed us,” said Lulueen Santos, who led the team’s fund-raising efforts. “It took us a year to raise the money, and we even had backing from our state government.”



Lulueen Santos was instrumental in raising the funds necessary for the Micronesian team to travel to Vegas for the 2026 World Championships.

Santos said the idea to create the Li hen Pohnpei team came from her older sister, Nannette Wellbacher, who had played on a Guam women’s 40 team with a few other women from their island at the World Championships in previous years.

“Nannette suggested it, and we got excited about it,” said Seniorina Rold, the team manager. “We wanted to bring the idea to other women on the island that we can continue to enjoy a healthy lifestyle through athletics – and that we can take care of ourselves by playing.”

Teams from North Carolina, California, Utah, Texas, Virginia, Missouri and Guam celebrated earning world titles during the Sept. 25-27 session. Teams from California, Florida and Maryland grabbed USA National Championship awards.

No teams earned a Triple Grand Slam — though two teams finished a victory away from that prestigious honor.

The session drew 42 women’s teams and 107 men’s teams, including 51 teams in the Men’s 40+ Major division, the tournament’s largest.

“The 40s brought a South Pacific dimension to the World Championships this year, with a team from the Federated States of Micronesia competing for the first time, and seven teams from Guam participating,” said Terry Hennessy, the tournament director.



The Guam teams set up tents and host a large feast for all teams, guests and staff at the complexes they play at each year, in an amazing show of their generosity and kindness. "Hafa Adai" is a universal welcome in Chamorro, the indigenous language of Guam and the Mariana Islands.

The hefty entrant numbers for a three-day session meant some games played deep into the night on Friday and Saturday.

World champions won trophies, free Josten’s rings and berths to the 2027 Tournament of Champions in Polk County, Fla.

Results:

Women's 40+ Platinum: The 40+ Major Plus team Redz/Ikonic/Cali Bat Co./PT of North Carolina (photo lower left) started bracket play as the fourth seed but finished as a 7-0 champion. The final win became a nail-biter when Redz allowed five runs in the top of the seventh before securing the final out in a 24-23 victory. Runner-up YAS of California (photo lower right) earned the 40+ Major title and TOC berth. Sixth-seeded Broken Dollz of California nabbed third place. Top-seeded Tharaldson Softball of Nevada finished fourth in the 13-team bracket. **USA National Champions:** TABU of California (no game).



3rd place game of the Women's 40+ Platinum division, YAS (purple jerseys) advanced to the championship game after defeating Broken Dollz (green jersey).



Seniorina Rold is the manager of Senior Softball USA's first team representing the Federated States of Micronesia.

Pohnpei is a coral-capped volcanic island that covers 129 square miles deep in the South Pacific.

Pohnpei is the largest and most populous island of the Federated States of Micronesia, known for its lush landscapes, rich culture, and the ancient city of Nan Madol.

The island's culture is deeply rooted in traditional practices, clan systems, and customary leadership, with each municipality led by a Nahnmwarki, or traditional king, according to Wikipedia.

Just offshore on the east side of the island Nan Madol, a remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Site consisting of 92 artificial islets built from basalt and coral between the 7th and 16th centuries.

The site covers 6.9 square miles with artificial canals connecting the islets of the ancient city.

The team brought more than a little of its culture to the World Championships, donning traditional Pohnpei "rally skirts" and to help them go 3-3 in their first World Championships and taking 3rd place.

Perhaps even more important, they are bringing the message of healthy athletic lifestyle back with them to the island.

"We are already planning on next year," said Rold.





Women's 40+ AAA: The sixth-seeded Utah Relics 40s (photo lower left) played only two close games while going 7-0, and the most exciting one came in the title game against USA National Champion Mood Swings 40 of California. The Utah Relics rallied from 15-8 and 24-13 deficits by putting together an 11-run seventh inning that tied the game 24-24. After Mood swings scored once in the top of the eighth, the Utah Relics walked off a victory with two runs in the bottom of the inning. The12th-seeded B Elite Ballers of North Carolina captured third place. Second-seeded Fireballs of Massachusetts finished fourth in the 25-team division. **USA National Championship game:** Mood Swings 6 (photo lower right), Fireballs 4.





Women's 40+ AA: Second-seeded Guam Women's - Team SOTTA (photo below) went 5-1 overall, including a 19-11 championship victory over fourth-seeded Isla of Guam. Third-seeded Lih en Pohnpei of the Federated States of Micronesia placed third. Poly Chics (Cali Gold) of California finished fourth. **USA National Champion:** Poly Chics (Cali Gold) (no game).



Men's 40+ Major Plus: Second-seeded Front Row/Texas 5 Sports/Short Porch (second photo below) capped a 5-1 tournament with a 21-20 championship victory over ninth-seeded Supreme Athletics/Anarchy Bats of California. Front Row came up short of a Triple Grand Slam after losing the USA National Championship game by four runs. Supreme won three elimination games to reach the finals. Fifth-seeded Hancock Power/Short Porch of Florida grabbed third place. Third-seeded Swingcoast/Spartan Bat Co. 40s of Arkansas took fourth in the 11-team division. **USA National Championship game:** Suncoast 40s of Florida 28, Front Row 24.



3rd place game of the Men's 40+ Major Plus division, Supreme Atheltics (red jersey) advanced to the championship game after defeating Hancock Power/Short Porch.



Men's 40+ Major: Motion/Edge 40s Softball of Virginia (photo below) went 8-1 overall, including 7-0 in bracket games. It won several close games, including a 22-21 championship victory over the BT Bombers/Six Pac of California. Motion, which had started as the 10th seed in the American Pod, scored twice in the bottom of the unlimited-run inning for a walk-off win. The BT Bombers, which went 0-2 in seeding play, had been the 25th seed in the National Pod. Team Amaya of California started as the fourth seed in the National Pod and finished third overall. Central Jersey Elite, which had been seeded 13th in the American POD, finished fourth in the 51-team division. **USA National Championship game:** HMR/Team Shuler-Compass of California 19, DD/Playmakers Athletics of New York 13.



Men's 40+ AAA: Sixth-seeded Kansas City Spartan/Flat Creek Builders of Missouri (photo lower left) capped an 8-0 tournament with a 27-23 championship victory over 19th-seeded Boo Boo Johnson of California, which won five elimination games to reach the finals. Spartan's average margin of victory in its eight games was seven runs, yet it beat opponents by double digits only twice. Lokos/ Mamado of California finished third after starting as the 20th seed. Sixteenth seed Y'All Next of Maryland took fourth in the 38-team division. **USA National Championship game:** Gigantes O.C. 40s (photo lower right) defeated GTR 40s of Oregon 29-25.



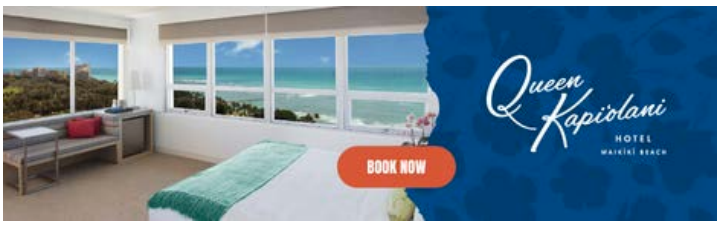


Men's 40+ AA division: Third-seeded Micro Mix Softball of Guam went 5-1 overall, including a 24-23 championship victory over the sixth-seeded Friars 671 of Guam. Top-seeded Sindalun Guahan of Guam took third in the seven-team division. The Lugnuts of Washington finished fourth.



Two Guam teams, Friars 671 and Sindalun Guahan, compete in the 3rd place game of the Men's 40+ AA division, the first time the division was featured at the World Championships.

Stay At SSUSAs Official Hawaiian Resort Hotel



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