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2022 World Championships Logo

Long-Time Scrap Iron Player, Coach, Bart Prieve Dies in Air Crash



Bart Prieve, 76, of Aurora, Colo., died in a plane crash on Sept. 28 in Tucson, Az.

He was a long time Senior Softball USA player and coach, and Scrap Iron Softball Club Hall of Fame member.

Originally reported by Green Valley News, Prieve was performing touch-and-go landings when the plane crashed near Flying Diamond Airpark, killing him. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

Bart started with Senior Softball USA in 2007 with the Scrap Iron Diamonds 60+. This year they are 75+ and he played with them last week in Las Vegas at the 2022 World Championships.

He has also played with Scrap Iron Legends 70s, Scrap Iron Force 70s, Scrap Iron 60s Rockies, Scrap Iron Freedom 60s, Scrap Iron 55s Northern, and Scrap Iron Red 65s.

"Bart has been a long-time member of our Scrap Iron club, he is in our Hall of Fame, he has received the Founders award, (the highest recognition our club gives). He has coached for many years and was one of the originals on the Scrap Iron Diamonds," said Scrap Iron Softball Club in a release statement about Bart's passing. "Bart has been a large part of Scrap Iron serving on the board of directors, gave donations for many years, and some of his ideas helped shape our

2022 World Championships - Session 2 Brings Together Our Oldest Divisions Including the First-Ever 90+ Teams

By Donna McGuire

Softball's elder statesmen put on a Vegas-worthy show during Session 2 of the 2022 Senior Softball USA World Championships.

After the inaugural game between 90+ division teams warmed the hearts of many, 155 other teams age 65+ and older pursued bids for World titles, National titles and Triple Grand Slam honors at ballparks in the Las Vegas area.

Forty-six teams that played Sept. 19 through 22 featured players age 75 and older. Half of those played in the 80+, 85+ and 90 divisions.

"It's always good to see the increasing numbers of the most senior teams in the sport, including the 90s," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA's chief executive officer. "We have very strong divisions in the 70s, 75s, 80s and 85s."

No region of the country claimed superiority. Teams from 12 states won the 17 World Championship titles awarded during this session of play. Eastern, Northern, Midwestern, Southern and Western teams all triumphed.

Three teams earned the most coveted award: The Triple Grand Slam.

The 70+ Major New Jersey Hitmen ([photo below](#)) conquered the most difficult road of the three. After winning the Eastern Championships in July, they took on the Western Champion Animals of California for the USA title. The Hitmen won 16-13 at Big League Dreams. That victory earned them the top seed in a 15-team 70+ Platinum bracket, one of the larger brackets of Session 2.



club to the greatness it is today, his service to our club will be missed greatly."

Senior Softball USA's condolences go out to his family, friends, teammates, and the Scrap Iron Softball Club.

If you wish to send a card, please use the following addresses provided by Scrap Iron Softball Club.

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Sparks Fly and Knee Kneels at Session One



Sparks fly after a surprise proposal at Big League Dreams Park when a senior softball player dropped down on one knee to propose to his girlfriend, Jody.

Mark Warner proposed to Jody Krupp after the 11 a.m. game between Dudley Lightning 60 of Missouri and D'Amore Law Group of Washington State, which Dudley Lightning won 25-16, during the first session on Sept. 15.

Here's how Mark describes the experience:

"This was the day that my first love met the love of my life.

"This day will live on in our hearts until the end of time. Jody deserved this day. This day could not have been possible without Clay Cary and his wonderful wife and the entire Dudley Family. Our Teammates, brothers and their lovely wives gave us a day that still brings tears of joy to Jody and !!

"This day was made even more special by Director Keith Parker and his wife. Keith walked Jody on to the Dodger Field and his wife took great pictures that we now have on our living room wall.

"The SSUSA is a brotherhood that I am so proud to be a part of. Thank you, Len Jones, for being a part of our bat ceremony and Steve Krull, for videoing our special day."



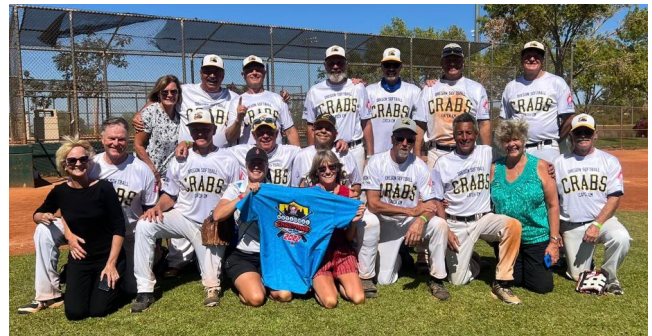
The Hitmen beat everyone they played except for Timberworks, the tournament's lone 70 Major Plus team. Timberworks, based in California, had to win the bracket to win a Worlds title and Tournament of Champions bid. It did. As the top-finishing 70+ Major team, the Hitmen won Worlds, the TOC bid and the Slam.

The other two Slam winners earned titles in two-team brackets. Venom of Florida (photo below) repeated as 75+ Major Plus Triple Grand Slam champions by defeating Omen of California in the USA game. In the 75+ AA division, Triple Play of California won the Slam by defeating the Texas Knight Riders.



Three other teams won National Championships by defeating cross-country opponents in USA games.

In the 65+ Major USA game, the Oregon Crabs (photo below) edged Dan Smith/FAI/Dudley of North Carolina 13-12.



In the 65+ AA USA game, the Hudson Valley Cyclones of New York (photo below) defeated the Cascade Thunder of Oregon 11-4.



In the 75+ AAA USA game, the Northern Virginia Force (photo below) beat AI's Sport Sh of California 17-14.

Clay Cary is the manager of Dudley Lightning 60, and Len Jones and Steve Krull play with Suncoast Midwest 60s.

2023 Caribbean Classic Accepting Waitlist Entries; Seeks 3rd USA Team

By Nic Francois



2022 Caribbean Classic USA Teams and Guests.

Word has spread so much about the fun and success of past Caribbean Classic tournaments that our Third Annual Caribbean Classic International Goodwill Tournament has already fulfilled its goal of having two USA Teams.

Due to this, we are implementing a waitlist for player entries with the goal of putting together a third USA Team if the wait list becomes large enough.

If you are interested in helping us build the third team and joining the waitlist, please send in your Booking Forms without the deposit. If we are able to add you to the existing teams or build the third team, we will then ask you for your deposit.

You can fill out and email your forms to: nic@seniorsoftball.com or mail them to: 9823 Old Winery Place, Suite 12 – Sacramento, CA 95827.

[Click here to see the Caribbean Classic itinerary.](#)

[And click here to see the Caribbean Classic booking form.](#)

We look forward to you joining us on the beautiful island of Hispaniola!



Caribbean Resort of Barceló Bávaro Palace – Home of SSUSA's Caribbean Classic

Obituaries: September 2022

Steven Schwartz



The Crabs, Cyclones and Force failed to win their World Championship divisions, which they needed to do to win the Slam.

World Championship winners earned berths to the Tournament of Champions scheduled for early February in Polk County, Florida.

Results by division:

65+ AA: Fourth-seeded Bat Attitude of Utah won seven games and lost none in a 17-team bracket. They led the championship game 17-15 after four innings before pulling away for a 22-15 victory over Los Vatos Viejos 65s II of Nevada. Godzilla of California finished third.

65+ AAA: Deep Purple of Massachusetts showed off a deep hitting lineup in going undefeated as the third seed in a 28-team bracket. In three of its seven games, Deep Purple never trailed. It barely trailed in the others. Deep Purple prevented the top-seeded Gamers from winning a Slam by beating the Oregon team 20-7 in the bracket finals. Team 907 of Arkansas placed third.

65+ Major: Ninth-seeded Samurai of California went 6-1 overall, including 5-0 in bracket play, to win the 18-team division. It won three of the bracket games by double digits before beating Dan Smith/FAI/Dudley 24-17 in the title game. That prevented Dan Smith from winning the Slam. Houston Fire of Texas finished third.

65+ Major Plus: Six teams vied for the division title won by unbeaten Texas Crush ([photo below](#)), which went 5-0 overall. Crush crushed Cal Energy, the Western champion, 26-9 in the finale. After losing its first bracket game, Cal Energy won three elimination games to reach the title bout. The KC Kids 65 of Missouri finished third.



70+ AA: The OKC Outlaws of Oklahoma pulled off a thrilling 21-19 victory in the "if" game against Burnette/Spikes of Washington by tagging out a runner at third base on a bang-bang play for the final out. Burnette won five elimination games in a row before nipping the Outlaw 25-24 in the first championship game, which featured nine lead changes. The top-seeded New Mexico Boomers finished third in the 10-team bracket.

70+ AAA: Fifth-seeded No Guts, No Glory of California ([photo below](#)) revenged a 16-10 loss in the first championship game with a 25-17 victory in the second game against Last Call of Nevada. No Guts never trailed in the finale. The Texas Rattlers finished third in the 20-team bracket.



Steven Schwartz, 75, of Concord, Calif., died on Aug. 28, 2022, due to a spinal cord injury from a prior incident.

Schwartz had a long history with Senior Softball USA, going back to the late 1990s. He's played with teams such as Mustangs 60/70s, California Olden Bears 65s, Damaged Goods 65s, and Triple Play 70s.

"Steve had a true love for softball and shared that love with his son Brian. The two of them played together for many years," says his obituary. "When Steve turned 50, he joined a Senior Softball team and got to travel all over the country to play." Along with senior softball, he enjoyed playing pickleball with his wife, Barbara.

Steven worked in the container and box industry before moving into stock exchanges on the West Coast and retiring with Fair Trade USA in 2013.



70+ Platinum: This 15-team division had 14 Major teams and one Major Plus team, Timberworks, which won the title with a 22-7 victory over the New Jersey Hitmen. New Jersey finished as the Major champion and Triple Grand Slam winner. Via Citrus of Florida finished as the second-best Major team. The Scorpions from Arizona were third among the Majors.

75+ AA: Slam winners Triple Play of California (photo below) defeated the Texas Knight Riders in a best-of-three format 19-9 and 12-3.



75+ AAA: The fourth-seeded Chicago Strikers went 7-1 overall and defeated the Long Island Jaguars 20-15 in the championship game of the 14-team bracket. For health reasons the schedule limited teams to two games a day by having them play four pool games to see a single-elimination bracket. The two quarterfinal losers, Northern Virginia Force and Al's Sports, tied for third.

75+ Major: This division needed two championship games to decide a winner, and both games ended with 22-12 scores. The third-seeded Sidewinders of Arizona claimed the title over the top-seeded Tri-State Diamondbacks of New Mexico by breaking open a close game in the fifth inning. SoCal Gusto finished third in the five-team bracket.

75+ Major Plus: Venom of Florida (photo below) knocked off Omen of California 19-14 and 22-9 in a best-of-three format.



80+ AAA: Teams played a full round robin to be seeded into final game match-ups. The top two seeds played for first, and the next two seeds played for third. Libby's - Ethic of Wisconsin won all six pool games then never trailed in winning the championship game 14-4 over Gold Rush of California. The Scrap Iron Gray Berets Base Force of Colorado beat Git-I Done Silver of California 12-7 for third place.

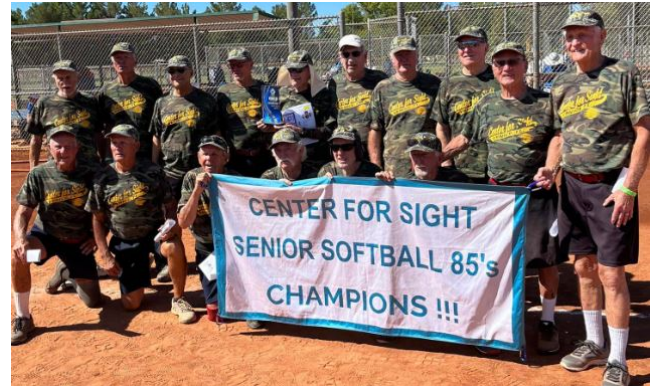
80+ Major: The seven entrants played a full-round robin to determine a champion. Gene Equipment of Oregon emerged unscathed, winning its games 21-15, 17-16, 19-7, 19-4, 21-4

and 13-4. The Sidewinders of Arizona finished second. The San Francisco Seals of California took third.

80+ Major Plus: In a best-of-three format, Florida Investment Properties defeated LOTA Softball 18-10 and 16-0.

85+ AAA: Second-seeded Team Rehabilitation of Minnesota defeated the Jaguars of California 8-5 in the championship game. Midwest Driving School of Kansas finished third in the three-team bracket.

85+ Major: In a best-of-three format, Center for Sight of Florida ([photo below](#)) lost the first game to the Top Gun Blue Angels 20-19 but rebounded to win the next two 13-7 and 11-10.



90+ Open: In the first-ever 90+ game in softball, the East team ([photo left](#)) beat the West team ([photo right](#)) 14-9 in a game called after five innings because players were tiring in the heat. Dick Anderson, 91, of Minnesota managed the East with help from Hugh Brotherton, 9 of Florida. Guy Anderson, 90, of California coached the West team.



2022 World Championships – Women Bring the Competition to Session 3

By Nic Francois

LAS VEGAS – The youngest group – the 40 Masters Men and Women – competed Session of the Senior Softball World Championships, here last weekend in the world's largest senior tournament.

The 40 Masters totaled 148 teams (103 men's and 45 women's teams) of the 662 teams that competed or will compete in all four sessions of the Worlds.

"The strong participation of 40 Masters teams is a great indication of the future growth of our sport," said Terry Hennessy, chief executive officer of Senior Softball USA.

Teams came from 24 states and Guam for Session 3 - all hoping to bring championship title back to their home state... along with bragging rights.

Only one team, 40 AAA Golden Girls Softball of Maryland (photo below), won the premier title in the sport - the Triple Grand Slam.



Teams achieve a Triple Grand Slam by winning their age and rating division of either the Western or Eastern National Championships, then winning the USA National Game at the Worlds and finally winning their overall division in the World Championships.

Coming in as the 40AAA Eastern Champ, the Golden Girls defeated Not Today of Nevada in the National Game, 20-6.

After they won their other seeding game, the Golden Girls went undefeated until the Championship Game, losing 16-4 to Firestyx of New Jersey, before making a comeback in the IF Game, winning 17-13.

While no other teams were able to claim a Triple Grand Slam, four teams won National Championships by either defeating their cross-country opponents in a USA National Game or by default, having won their Western/Eastern National division, but lacking an opponent in the USA Game.

In the Women's 40+ Major division, TABU of California (photo below) won the USA title by default because they won the Western National Championships and no Eastern Women's 4 Major team qualified for a USA National title.



After losing their first seeding game, JK Inc. of California won the Men's 40+ Major Plus USA National title, defeating Killman's/Lewis Lawn/Rockhill Merchants of South Carolina.

In the Men's 40+ Major USA National Game, Cheap Suits/Republic Realty/Express Athletics of California narrowly defeated The Riddlers of New York, 21-20.

Lastly, the Men's 40+ AAA USA National title was taken by Rough Ryders of Maryland, who defeated GTR of Oregon, 17-16.

World Championships results by division:

In the overall seeding and bracket play, three women's teams and one men's team earned TOC Berths across four states: Arizona, California, Kansas, and Missouri.

Women's 40+ Open Division: In the three-team bracket, the smallest of Session 3, Red Athlete/Dudley/DeMarini of Kansas (photo below) went 3-1, losing their first seeding game

and then winning each of their following games. Red Athlete defeated finalists, Comin' In IcyHot from Texas, by double digits, 19-6. Shut-D Blue of Hawaii finished third.



Women's 40+ Major: First-seeded St. Louis Storm of Missouri (photo below) went 5-1 in the 17-team bracket, winning every bracket game. They defeated finalist TABU of California 16-13, after TABU had worked its way through the entire elimination bracket, losing their first bracket game. FRSTeam of Colorado took third.



Women's 40+ AAA: In addition to winning their USA National Game, first-seeded Golden Girls Softball of Maryland went 7-1 to win their division and become Triple Grand Slam Champions. Their division victory was unique as they won both seeding games and went undefeated until the Championship Game. Golden Girls lost 16-4 to Firestyx of New Jersey, before making a comeback in the IF Game, winning 17-13. Firestyx finished as finalists and Fear No One, also from Maryland, took third.

Women's 40+ AA: Second-seeded team, JOY (Just Older Youth) of Arizona (photo below), went 5-1 to defeat first-seeded FIGO Islanders of Guam twice in a row, winning the first game 14-12 and the Championship game 16-12. Sandlot Sluggers of Nevada finished third in the four-team bracket.



Men's 40+ Major Plus: After being seeded 10th, Suncoast Adidas 40s of Florida (photo below) went 6-1 in the 17-team bracket to win the Championship Game, 47-33, against the first-seeded team, JK Inc. of California. JK Inc. lost their second bracket game, 29-25, and worked their way through the elimination bracket to take second place after being defeated Suncoast. Twelfth-seeded Front Row/MVP Sports of Texas won their first two bracket games before being defeated by Suncoast then JK Inc, finishing third.



Men's 40+ Major: The 58-team division was the largest of Session 3 and had to be split into two initial brackets, the American pod, and the National pod. Eighth-seeded West Coast United of California (photo below) won seven games, ending with the Championship Game, defeating 14th-seeded Sudden Impact NM, 24-21. Twelfth-seeded Headcase of Washington which only lost two games, both to West Coast United, took third.



Men's 40+ AAA: Out of 28 teams, seventh-seeded Team Amaya of California (photo below) went 8-0, winning all seeding and bracket games, at times defeating their opponents by double digits. They defeated finalists Built to Last 40s of Arizona, 18-13, in the Championship game. Built to Last 40s was seeded fourth but suffered two back-to-back losses against Amaya. Rough Ryders, who were seeded first, went 5-3, losing their third and final game to Built to Last 40s, taking third.



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