

## Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) Newsletter: Volume 7, Edition 5

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The oldest and longest running senior softball tournament in the country, the Rock 'n Reno Challenge Cup, begins today, May 28.

### Mid-Atlantic Swing Series a Success



Westminster, Md., has become a hot-bed for senior softball teams in the Mid-Atlantic region this season.

As part of the Mid-Atlantic Swing Series, SSUSA National Director Tim McElroy has hosted a number of qualifiers at Carroll County Sports Complex in Westminster.

The series began with the Wayne Gilmore Memorial from April 9-11, which drew 53 teams.

### Mother Nature Causes Havoc at Texas State Championships



GRAPEVINE, Tex., - The 2021 Texas State Championships was held here at Oak Grove Softball Complex from April 27 to May 2 with 65 teams originally scheduled to compete.

Twenty-one teams in the first session (Men's 65 – 80) began the tournament on Tuesday with seeding games, before rain came in

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results.

Rain halted play on Sunday, cancelling all games on the final day of play, including the entire Men's 40 AAA Division.

The Maryland Classic was split over two weekends, with the Men's 60-75 age divisions playing April 23-25, and the Men's 40 – 55 divisions playing May 1-2. Maryland Classic I hosted 26 teams, while Maryland Classic II hosted 44 teams.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results from MD Classic I

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results from MD Classic II

The Quad-State Shootout was recently held May 21-23, with 43 teams in attendance.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results

Congratulations to all winners.

The series continues with the **[Old Line State Showdown](#)**, scheduled for June 17-20 (**[Entry Deadline June 4](#)**); and then the **[Bert Bennett Memorial](#)**, scheduled for July 15-18 (**[Entry Deadline July 2](#)**).

For teams interested in participating in the remaining tournaments, please contact Tim McElroy via phone 301-514-2676 or [PotomacSports1@gmail.com](mailto:PotomacSports1@gmail.com).

## Gulf Coast Swing Brings Added Qualifiers to the Sunshine State



Along with the Mid-Atlantic Swing Series, SSUSA National Director Tim McElroy has put together the Gulf Coast Swing Series in Florida.

The series began with 18 teams playing in the Florida Spring Training, Feb. 27-28 in Cape Coral.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results.

overnight on Wednesday, shutting down the remainder of the tournament.

With the impending rain coming Wednesday evening, additional seeding games that were scheduled on day two were replaced with bracket games.

Starting with the Men's 65 Major Division, Houston Fire swept Team Texas SA in a best of three-game series, winning by scores of 24-11 and 20-1, respectively.

The Men's 65 AAA Division also featured a best of three series, with Texas Thunder striking first over Carriage Homes (AR) with a 27-16 win. Carriage Homes then bounced back with a 24-19 victory in game two to even the series.

In the rubber match, Carriage Homes completed the comeback, taking the deciding game, 22-16.

In the three-team Men's 70 Major Division, KC Kids (MO) came out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip top seed San Antonio Silver Streaks, by scores of 15-14 and 23-13, respectively.

OK-ARK (OK) finished in third place.

In the six-team Men's 70/75 Gold Division, a full five-game round robin was used to determine the champion.

Texas Rattlers 70 and Louisiana Legends 70 tied for first place with identical 4-1 records.

Texas Rattlers held the tie-breaker via its head-to-head win, 31-19, over Louisiana Legends.

Scrap Iron 5280' 70 (CO) finished in third place with a 3-2 mark, while USA Patriots 70 (OK) followed with a 2-3 record.

Hill Contracting 75 (TX) and Grey Sox 70 (TX) each completed the tournament with a 1-4 record. Hill Contracting earned the fifth place finish due to its 17-9 win over Grey Sox.

In the four-team Men's 65/70 AA Division, Texas Raiders 70 went 2-0 in bracket play, defeating Triple 2 65 (TX) and Robson Ranch Texans 70, to reach the championship game.

Robson Ranch Texans would also eventually reach the championship game, following its 19-12 win over Triple 2 65 in the third-place game.

El Paso Nine-Elevens (TX) was the fourth place finisher.

Unfortunately, the championship game would be cancelled after the first inning due to rain. As the only unbeaten team in bracket play, Texas Raiders earned first place honors.

In the four-team Men's 75/80 AAA Division, Midwest Express 75 (IA) and San Antonio Legends 75 (TX) entered the modified single-elimination bracket with identical 2-0 records following seeding play.

Each team won their respective opening bracket game, to set up a winner-take-all championship game.

In that deciding game, San Antonio Legends took the title game, 10-9.

In the third-place game, Grey Sox 75 (TX) defeated Antiques of Kansas City (KS), 18-13.

The Sunshine State Showdown, also in Cape Coral, was held April 24-25 with 12 teams, while the Polk County Senior Showcase recently welcomed 22 teams, May 22-23.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for Sunshine State Showdown results.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for Polk County Senior Showcase results.

Congratulations to all winners.

The fourth and final tournament of the **Gulf Coast Swing Series** is the Florida Last Chance Qualifier, scheduled for August 27-29, in Punta Gorda (**Entry Deadline: August 13**).

For teams interested in participating, please contact Tim McElroy via phone 301-514-2676 or [PotomacSports1@gmail.com](mailto:PotomacSports1@gmail.com).

## **Fifth Annual Midwest Series**

The Midwest Series, hosted by Tournament Director Will Rogers, enters its fifth season in 2021.

The 2021 Midwest Series is comprised of four qualifiers (Cow Town Classic, Oil City Classic, Missouri Open and the Kansas City Classic).

Teams participating in the Midwest Series earn points toward earning a \$400 credit off their entry fee for the World Championships.

The top five point leaders (and one wildcard drawn from a hat of all teams qualifying for the Midwest Series) will get the \$400, paid to SSUSA, for part of their World Champs entry fee.

The point breakdown is as follows:  
5 points for first  
4 for second  
3 for third  
2 for fourth  
1 for participating

The teams being awarded will be notified after the Kansas City Classic. In order to qualify, your team **MUST** play in the Kansas City Classic in August.

Further, after entering one of the Midwest Series Tournaments you are eligible to deduct \$25 of each subsequent tournament.

The Cow Town Classic and Oil City Classic have already concluded, with the Missouri Open scheduled for next month.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for tournament results from

The postponed second session was rescheduled for May 14-16 with 30 teams in action.

Weather was once again uncooperative for Texas State Champs II, as rain washed out Sunday, other than the opening 8 a.m. games on the final day of play.

In the four-team Men's 50 Major Division, Texas Aces went 2-0 in bracket play on Saturday to enter Sunday in the driver's seat in the championship game.

Texas Aces edged out BEAT/Powerhouse/Schooners/GI50 (TX), 20-19, to punch its ticket to the championship game.

In the elimination side of the bracket, Texas Xpress eliminated MBR Softball (TX), 36-31, to advance to the third-place game.

With no other games taking place, Texas Aces took home first place.

In the seven-team Men's 50 AAA Division, top seed Crossfire (TX) completed a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding play on Friday, and 2-0 in bracket play on Saturday.

Crossfire defeated ETX 50s (TX), 20-9, to advance to the championship game.

ETX entered bracket play as the last seed after going 0-2 in seeding play, and then posted a 2-1 record in bracket play to secure its spot in the third place game.

Lonestar 50s (TX), Johnny's Softball Senior Class (TX), and Crisis (TX) were the other teams to advance to Sunday in the elimination side of the bracket.

With no games played on Sunday, Crossfire was declared the champion.

In the four-team Men's 55/60 Platinum Division, Legacy Sports USA 60 (AZ) went 3-0 in seeding play to lock up the top seed.

The team continued its solid play in the bracket, going 2-0, with wins over Rock N Legends 9 55 (TX), 22-7, and ManCave 55 (TX), 21-18, to reach the championship game.

Texas Bulls 55 edged out Rock N Legends 9, 20-21, in an elimination game, to reach the third-place game.

With all games washed out on Sunday, Legacy Sports USA 60 Major Plus earned first place honors. As the highest 55 Major team, ManCave earned top honors for their respective division.

In the eight-team Men's 55/60 Gold Division, Escobar Body Shop II 55 (TX), Lone Star 55s (TX), and Romo's Derty 55 (TX), all posted 2-0 records in seeding play.

Of the three, Lone Star 55 continued its winning ways in bracket play, defeating Demolition 55 (TX), 23-22; Romo's Derty 55 (TX), 31-18; and Texas Threat 55, 23-7, to reach the championship game.

Texas Threat, Dudley Monster 60 (MS), Romo's Derty, Escobar Body Shop II, and Team Animo 55 (TX), were the other teams to advance to Sunday.

Lone Star 55 earned top honors as the lone remaining undefeated

Cow Town Classic.

**CLICK HERE** for tournament results from Oil City Classic.

Congratulations to all division winners.

The **Kansas City Classic** is scheduled for August 12-15 (**Entry Deadline July 29**) in Lee's Summit, MO.

For more information on the Midwest Series, please contact Will Rogers via phone 816-916-7891 or email [willsharkdaddy@aol.com](mailto:willsharkdaddy@aol.com).

## SSUSA Makes Iowa Debut

After cancellations in 2020 due to the pandemic, first year Tournament Director Jim Bagbey was finally able to bring SSUSA qualifiers to the Hawkeye State in 2021.

The Spring Warm Up, held in West Des Moines April 22-25, got the ball rolling with 17 teams.

**CLICK HERE** for tournament results.

The Iowa Senior Open followed, May 13-16, in Waterloo with 35 teams competing.

**CLICK HERE** for tournament results.

Congratulations to all winners.

Teams looking to play in Iowa again this season, and for a great cause, have the opportunity to do so at the Irish Fest In Waterloo, a recreation tournament scheduled for Aug. 5-8.

**CLICK HERE** for more information.

The tournament is contributing the remaining revenue after expenses to LOVE GREATLY, a charity that collects needed items to express care, comfort, and love to Foster Children and to support the private and government agencies that help these children in the foster care system.

The charity was created by one of Jim Bagbey's granddaughters, along with one of her classmates. "This started as a school assignment to create a charity model," said Bagbey. "They came up with the idea to help Foster Kids and the Foster Care system (something close to hers and our families heart), both private and government."

The Bagbays recently hosted friends and family to have an official court skype to make their youngest daughter's two foster children, ages 2 and 4 (who she has fostered for a year and a half) become their permanent

team.

In the three-team Men's 50/55 AA Division, Team LBK 50 (TX) defeated Gulf Coast Hurricanes 50 (TX), 23-18, and Manifest 55 (TX), 24-23, in bracket play to advance to the championship game.

Manifest defeated Gulf Coast Hurricanes, 22-19, in the third-place game.

Team LBK was crowned champion with no other games held Sunday due to weather.

In the four-team Men's 60 AAA Division, Texas Heat took the No. 1 seed in the bracket following a 3-0 mark.

The team continued their winning ways in the bracket, defeating OKC Relics (OK), 20-16, and Texas Legends 20-3. Texas Heat would go on to earn first place awards as the lone undefeated team following the tournament stoppage.

Texas Thunder won a pair of elimination games to eventually finish in second place.

## Atlantic Coast Championships Returns to Raleigh



RALEIGH, N.C. – Following a hiatus in 2020 due to COVID, the 2021 Atlantic Coast Championships returned here to Walnut Creek Softball Complex, with 40 teams competing from May 11-16.

The tournament kicked off on Tuesday with 15 teams playing in the Men's 65-80 age divisions.

Starting off of the four-team Men's 65 Platinum Division, High Street Bucs (MD) posted a perfect 3-0 record in bracket play, including a 20-4 win over Northern Virginia Force in the championship game.

Northern Virginia Force entered bracket play winless, after going 0-3 in seeding play; however, the team regrouped with a 2-2 record in the bracket, to eventually finish in second place.

Top seed Dan Smith/FAI/Dudley (NC) finished in third place.

In the three-team Men's 65 AAA Division, top seed Talaga Construction (CT) completed an undefeated week, going 3-0 in seeding, and 2-0 in bracket play, including a 17-15 win over Scrap Iron/M-I Sports (CO) in the championship game.

Spring Ford (PA) finished in third place.



children and grandchildren.

For more information on the Irish Fest recreation tournament, please contact Tournament Director, Jim Bagbey via phone 515-554-3441 or email [jimbagbey1929@msn.com](mailto:jimbagbey1929@msn.com).

## Top Gun Senior Softball Hosts Pair of Tune Ups



After hosting an impressive 100-team tournament, the Top Gun Winter Classic, to start off the New Year back in January in Bullhead City, AZ, Top Gun Senior Softball hosted the 39-team Top Gun Spring Worlds Tune Up, February 18 – 21 in Yuma, AZ, and most recently, the 57-team Top Gun Rock-n-Reno Tune Up, May 13-16 in Perris, CA.

**CLICK HERE** for results from the Top Gun Spring Worlds Tune Up.

**CLICK HERE** for results from the Top Gun Rock-n-Reno Tune Up.

Congratulations to all winners.

Top Gun Senior Softball will host its fourth and final tournament in August (10-15), the **Top Gun Summer Classic**. **Entry deadline is July 27**; however, the tournament will likely fill up prior to the deadline.

For more information, please contact Joel Hawk at 858-539-9456 or [Joel@JoelHawk.com](mailto:Joel@JoelHawk.com).

## OBITUARIES - MAY 2021

The Men's 70 Major Division featured a best-of-three game series that went the distance.

Northern Virginia Force took the opening game over Syracuse Cyclones (NY), 11-7; while Syracuse Cyclones fought back with a 16-8 game two win to even the series.

The rubber match was a nail-biter, as Syracuse Cyclones edged out a 14-13 victory to complete the comeback.

In the three-team Men's 70/75 Silver Division, Code Electric/Oaks Grading Cobras 70 (NC) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a shutout 6-0 win over Syracuse Cyclones 75 (NY) in the championship game.

Carolina Blue Sky's 75 (NC) finished in third place.

As the highest finishing 75 AAA team, Syracuse Cyclones would also earn a TOC berth.

In the three-team Men's 80 Gold Division, Hamels (MD) won three straight elimination games, including a double-dip of top seed Peach Tree Restaurant (PA).

After dropping their opening bracket game to Blazers (NC), 20-10; Hamels avenged their loss against Blazers, 19-6; before then taking back-to-back win over Peach Tree Restaurant by scores of 15-6 and 10-8, respectively.

As the highest finishing 80 AAA team, Peach Tree would also earn first place awards.

The tournament continued on Friday with 25 teams taking the field in the Men's 40 through 60 age divisions.

In the six-team Men's 40 Major Division, Team E.V.G/Sake (MD) entered bracket play as the No. 2 seed following a 2-0 record in seeding play. However, the team got off to rocky start in bracket play, dropping their first two games in the three-game guarantee bracket.

With their backs against the wall, Team E.V.G/Sake ran the gauntlet, winning five straight games, capped off by a double-dip over Mission: Possible (PA), winning the championship game (26-19) and "if" game (14-11).

Y'All Next (MD) finished in third place.

In the three-team Men's 40 AAA Division, top seed Rough Ryders (MD) went 2-0 in bracket play, including a 16-13 win over WarPath (MD) in the championship game.

Smokin Aces (VA) finished in third place.

In another three-team division, the Men's 50/55/60 Platinum Division, Dugout/Mid Atlantic/Dudley 55 (VA) went 2-0 in bracket play, capped off by a 21-15 win over KIKU Imports/MY Buddies 50 (MA) in the championship game.

Omega IT Services, LLC 60 (MD) finished in third place.

In the five-team Men's 50 AAA Division, Automotive Triage (NC) made an impressive SSUSA debut.

The team entered bracket play as the No. 1 seed following a 2-0 record in seeding play, and then posted a perfect 3-0 record in bracket play to complete the perfect weekend. The 5-0 run was



**Robert G. Saenz**

Bobby Saenz, 71, of San Antonio, Tex., died on May 3.

Saenz was a member of the San Antonio Silver Streaks 65s and 70s teams. He most recently played in the 2020 SSUSA season with the Silver Streaks 70 team, competing in the Aggeland Classic, Texas State Championships and World Championships.

Along with the Silver Streaks, his player resume includes stints with Team Texas (SA) 65, Hendricks Sports Management 65, CenTex 65, Texas Heat 60, Alamo City Legends 60, Trump 60, Boaz Exports/ASI 60, Mission Senior Softball Club 55 and Team Adidas 50, among others.

On the field, Saenz earned numerous All-Tournament honors.

"Bobby had been a teammate for several years on the San Antonio Silver Streaks," said Larry Lopez. "Bobby was a friend, a tremendous softball player, and a true ambassador of the game. A humble man, Bobby let his bat do the talking. He will be missed greatly."

For his efforts, Saenz was inducted into the Texas Senior Softball Hall of Fame, as part of the Class of 2020.

capped off by a 22-11 win over Old Skool/GTS Sports (PA) in the championship game.

OESSCO (VA) finished in third place.

In the three-team Men's 55 AAA Division, Carolina Legends (NC) rode their home cooking to an undefeated weekend, going 3-0 in seeding and 2-0 in bracket play, including a 25-10 win over Infoquest.com (PA) in the championship game.

Maryland Classics finished in third place.

In another three-team division, the Men's 60 Major Division saw The Bank (DE) win three straight elimination games en route to the title.

After falling 20-18 against Carolina A's (NC), The Bank downed top seed Sweet Construction (NJ), 24-16, before double-dipping Carolina A's, winning the championship (18-15) and "if" (18-11) games.

In the Men's 60 AAA Division, Crossfit/Great Clips (NC) swept Syracuse Cyclones (NY) in a best of three game series, by scores of 17-14 and 17-13, respectively.

## SSUSA World Champs Promotion

Play in select TOC qualifiers to earn a chance at a **FREE ENTRY** into the 2021 World Championships in Las Vegas.

A team increases its chances at the free drawing with every TOC qualifier a team plays in prior to the Eastern/Western National Championships.

There will be one (1) free entry for each session of the World Champs (Men's 55/60, Men's 65 - 85, Men's/Women's 40, and Men's/Women's 50).

Click the ad below for more information.



**Robert (Bob) Bush**

Bob Bush, 82, of Washington, Utah, died on May 24.

Bush, a long-time member of SSUSA, most recently played in the Winter World Championships this past November with Scrap Iron Gray Berets Base Force 80.

Along with the Gray Berets, Bush also played with Forever Young Diamonds 80, Magic Stuff 75, Scrap Iron Beams 75, D-99 75, Colorado Cougars 70, Speed Limit 70, and Wintercrest 65 and 70, among others.

"We have lost a good friend, a good teammate and a good ball player," said Fred Mattos, manager of Scrap Iron Gray Berets Base Force. "I just spoke with him on May 22 and he was eager to start playing tournament ball again after his heart problem. The team is going to dedicate the upcoming Reno tournament in his honor."

**Win a FREE ENTRY to the World Championships!**

Senior Softball USA is celebrating returning to Las Vegas with drawings for 4 FREE ENTRIES to the World Championships!

**IT'S EASY:** Each time a team plays in a TOC Qualifier BEFORE the Eastern or Western Nationals, it gets a chance in the drawing for a FREE ENTRY. There will be one free entry for each of the 4 sessions of the World Championships:

Session 1: Men's 55 and 60s  
 Session 2: Men's 65, 70, 75, 80 and 85  
 Session 3: Men's and Women's 40s  
 Session 4: Men's and Women's 50s

The winners will be announced during the Eastern and Western Nationals. Here are the tournaments: Winter Nationals (2020); Winter Worlds (2020); Tournament of Champions; Spring Nationals; Spring Worlds; Tidewater Classic; Southwest Championships; Texas State Championships; Atlantic Coast Championships; Rock 'n' Reno Challenge Cup; Northern California Championships; Southern California Championships; Northeast Championships; Southern Championships; Northwest Championships; Midwest Championships; ISA Senior World Series

(NOTE: No teams with SSUSA employees are eligible).

## ADVERTISEMENT: D99 Hand Sanitizer

Tiodize D-99 is the sanitizer used by Senior Softball USA and Major League Baseball to sanitize dugouts, balls and hands.

Tom Adams, the longtime president of Tiodize D-99 who played third base on several US Senior Softball teams competing in Japan, has also sponsored several Senior Softball teams.

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The advertisement for D99 Hand Sanitizer features a large orange border. At the top left is the Tiodize logo, a stylized triangle with orange, grey, and black sections, with the word "TIODIZE®" below it. To the right is the "D99" logo in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Below this, the text "HIGHEST QUALITY" is centered, followed by "Hand Sanitizer" in a large, bold, black font. In the center are three product images: a large white jug labeled "D99 Hand Sanitizer" (1 GAL), a white spray bottle (24 oz), and a small white bottle (3 oz). To the left of the jug is a red flame icon with the text "UNSCENTED FORMULA". To the right of the products are three columns of text: "DECREASES BACTERIA ON THE SKIN.", "RECOMMENDED FOR REPEATED USE.", and "LEAVES NO RESIDUE". Below the products, the "FDA REGISTERED" logo is shown, followed by "NDC: 77089-075-01, 77089-075-02, 77089-075-03". Below that, the ingredients are listed: "INGREDIENTS: ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL, HYDROGEN PEROXIDE, GLYCEROL, AND PURIFIED WATER USP". At the bottom left is "ORDER # - 714-898-4377" and "www.tiodize.com". At the bottom right is the "Proudly Made in the U.S.A." logo with an American flag and the text "Support U.S. Manufacturing."

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