

## Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) Newsletter: Volume 6, Edition 14

Senior Softball-USA <info@seniorsoftball.com>

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To: Info At Senior Softball <info@SeniorSoftball.com>



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A special thank you to Yuma for being a great host to the 2020 Southern California State Championships.

### From the Dugout - Drawing Inspiration



**By Terry Hennessy**  
**SSUSA CEO**

We often highlight the outstanding players, teams and plays on the field.

Why?

They are inspiring. It's that simple.

### YUMA PLAYS HOST TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

But sometimes inspiration comes from outside the foul lines.

Last October, when life was blissfully normal in our world, a frail woman in a wheelchair with Stage-4 cancer inspired scores of players from several countries at the 7th Annual Pacific Rim Championships with her candor and courage.

Marcia Prins of Clinton, Iowa, did what she had done for years – she cheered on her husband Dave, who played an outstanding tournament for the USA Blue team. Players and their families were kind, but at first were not quite sure how to react. Many of us knew of her condition and weren't sure what to say.

That ended quickly when Marcia spoke frankly about what she was facing – and what she was determined to do - enjoy life with her husband doing exactly what they had done for decades, playing softball.

Each day was a struggle just to get to the games. It was obviously difficult and sometimes painful. But when Marcia got to the field there was always a smile of accomplishment; never a tear and never, not once, did she rage at her fate. Marcia was happy to enjoy the moments of the games, watching Dave play and talking with the other wives.

Somewhere in the middle of the tournament it became apparent to the players and people from other teams – many who didn't speak English – that we were witnessing true courage.

True courage isn't flashy, but it is inspiring.

Marcia died June 20.



**Tournament Directors Don Reddig (standing) with wife Diane, and Jerry Smith with wife Maria**

YUMA, Ariz. – The first Tournament of Champions qualifier in the 2020 calendar year took place here, June 19-21, at Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex with 33 teams in action.

The tournament began with the Men's 50 – 60 age divisions playing June 19 - 21, while the Men's 40 age division played June 20 – 21.

"It was exhilarating to see senior players take the field at the SoCal Championships in Yuma," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA's chief executive officer. "Managers, players and spectators helped implement the new pandemic regulations and were very gracious about it."

In the eight-team Men's 50 Major Division, Bart's Fossils (CA) ran through bracket play with a perfect 4-0 record, including a 34-16 win over Arizona Heat in the championship game.

Scrap Iron/Elite (CO) made a valiant run through the elimination side of the bracket with four straight wins, en route to their eventual third-place finish. Twin Oaks Softball Club (CA) also made a strong push with three straight wins in the elimination side of the bracket, to finish in fourth place.

The five-team Men's 50 AAA Division saw top seed Sin City Warriors post a perfect weekend, going 2-0 in seeding play, and 3-0 in bracket play, including a thrilling 13-12 win over Bad Attitude (CA) in the championship game.

LB Softball (CA) finished in third place.

Crush/Miken (CA) swept Rawhide (CA) by scores of 26-11 and 23-19, respectively, to win the Men's 55 Major Plus Division.



**Marcia Eleanor Prins**  
**1953-2020**

*Terry Hennessy is chief executive officer of Senior Softball USA and can be reached at [terryh@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:terryh@seniorsoftball.com).*

## 57 Teams Return to the Diamond in Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Following a three-month shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 senior softball season officially resumed with 57 teams competing in the Missouri Open here at Rainbow Softball Complex.

The tournament began June 4-5 with the Men's 65 – 70 age divisions.

The 65 Major Division featured a best-of-three series that would go the distance.

In the opening game, BlueSpeed AV (MO) struck first with a 21-19 win over KC Kids (KS). KC Kids evened the series with a thrilling 21-20 win in game two; while BlueSpeed AV took the rubber match with a 14-10 victory.

In the four-team Men's 65 AAA Division, Chicago Prime (IL) knocked off 50 Caliber (MO) by a score of 19-15 in the decisive "if" game.

After dropping their first game in the bracket, 22-20, against top seed Carriage Homes (AR), 50 Caliber rattled off three straight wins en route to the their runner up finish.

The four-team Men's 55 Major Division witnessed top seed So Cal 55 (CA) register a flawless weekend, going 3-0 in seeding and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 21-7 win over Enforcers (CA) in the championship game.

Enforcers won back-to-back elimination games to reach the championship game.

Unforgotten Warriors finished in third place.

The best of three game series in the Men's 55 AAA Division went the distance between California Coast Plumbers/Horn and Weekend Warriors (CA)

The teams traded one-run victories, as California Coast Plumbers/Horn took the opening game 17-16; while Weekend Warriors evened the series with a 23-22 win in extra innings.

The rubber-match saw California Coast Plumbers/Horn take the division with a 17-10 victory.



**Action shot from the Men's 55 AAA Championship Game that went nine innings**

The three-team Men's 60 Major Division came down to the "if" game, as Arizona Elite defeated AZ Legends Suncoast, 22-12, to complete the double-dip. Arizona Elite defeated AZ Legends Suncoast 24-20 in the championship game, to force the "if" game.

Reloaded (CA) finished in third place.

The five-team Men's 60 Silver Division had another team go undefeated, as No. 2 seed Weakened Warriors (CA) went 2-0 in seeding play, and 3-0 in bracket play, including a 23-8 win over Top Gun Lightning (CA) in the championship game.

Top Gun Lightning got off to a rough start, going 0-2 in seeding play, and dropping their first two bracket games.

Carriage Homes finished in third place.

In the three-team Men's 65 AA Division, top seed Oklahoma Street Outlaws (OK) defeated Redwings (MO) 22-11 in the championship game. NSC Chets (NE) rounded out the three-team division.

The winner of the Men's 70 Major Division was determined by best of three series between OK-ARK (OK) and KC Kids (KS). The teams split the first two games, as OK-ARK took game one, 16-13, while KC Kids won game two, 14-8.

The decisive third game was won by OK-ARK, 14-10.

In the five-team Men's 70 AAA/AA Division, top seed Mid-State Seniors (IL) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a 26-12 win over USA Patriots (OK) in the championship game.

After dropping their opening bracket game, 21-20, against St. Louis Vision (MO), USA Patriots won three straight elimination games before running out of steam in the championship game.

St. Louis Vision finished in third place.

The tournament continued June 6-7 with the Men's 55 and 60 age divisions in action.

In the five-team Men's 55 Major Division, top seed Iowa Demons came back to win the "if" game, 27-20, over Dudley Lightning (MO), after dropping the championship game, 24-10.

American Mortgage Pro's (OK) finished in third place.

In the eight-team Men's 55 AAA Division, top seed KC Vintage (MO) went 4-0 in bracket play, including an 18-15 win over STL Road Dogs (MO) in the championship game.

STL Road Dogs won three straight elimination games to reach the championship game.

MN Lumberjacks finished in third place,

The team bounced back with three straight wins en route to their runner-up finish.

2 Out Nightmare (CA) finished in third place.

The four-team Men's 40 Gold Division saw top seed Team Amaya (CA) come out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip hometown team, Whatever (AZ), by scores of 21-19 and 28-21, in the championship and "if" games, respectively.

The double-dip by Team Amaya completed a run of four straight wins in elimination games.

Sudden Impact (NM) finished in third place.

## Northeast and Midwest Championships Cancelled; Northwest Championships On with Restrictions



### Tournaments in Maryland and Florida have been added to the SSUSA slate

Two major TOC regional qualifiers scheduled for the month of July have been cancelled.

The Northeast Championships in Syracuse, N.Y., and the Midwest Championships in Rogers, Ark., will not be played.

Due to recent mandates from the New York Governor's Office, the Northeast Championships will not be able to take place. SSUSA would like to especially thank Jeff Mickle from Visit Syracuse, and Ronald Baum from Hopkins Road Park for all of their hard work behind the scenes in trying to get this tournament approved.

However, teams that were scheduled to play in Syracuse will have the option to play in Westminster, MD, as National Director Tim McElroy has secured fields for the same dates, July 7-12.

Teams looking to participate in the **Maryland Classic** should contact Tim McElroy (email: [PotomacSports1@gmail.com](mailto:PotomacSports1@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.

while Omaha Silver Bullets (NE) rounded out the top four finishers.

In the five-team Men's 60 Major Division, No. 4 seeded Dudley Lightning Midwest (MO) went 4-0 in bracket play, including a 22-9 win over top seed Louisville Aces/Miken (KY) in the championship game.

Dudley Lightning (MO) finished in third place.

In the six-team Men's 60 AAA Division, No. 1 seed Big Daddy's Donuts (MO) won a nail-biter in the championship game, 16-15, over 50 Caliber Silver St. Louis (MO). 50 Caliber Silver St. Louis had previously won three straight elimination games to reach the championship game.

Antiques of Iowa City (IA) was the third place finisher.

In the Men's 60 AA Division, Buck's Run Farms (NE) swept OKC RedHawks (OK) in a best of three series by scores of 11-4 and 21-10.

The tournament officially concluded the following weekend, June 13-14, with the Men's 50 age divisions in play.

The eight-team Men's 50 Major Plus/Major Division saw 50 Degrees (MO) go 4-0 in bracket play, including a 21-14 win over Dudley Lightning in the championship game. Dudley Lightning had won three straight elimination games to advance to the championship game.

Big Hurt Softball/Draft Picks (IL) finished in third place.

In the seven-team Men's 50 AAA Division, Senior Dogs (MO) went 4-0 in bracket play, including three one-run victories. One of those one-run thrillers occurred in the championship game that saw Senior Dogs down KC Monarchs, 10-9, (MO).

Top seed Maher Homes Nebraska Elite finished in third place.

Due to the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in the state of Arkansas, the fields in Rogers will not be open. SSUSA attempted to locate other facilities, but was unsuccessful.

The Jim Sherman Memorial/Northwest Championships in Salem, Ore., July 14 – 19, is still on as scheduled. However, Wallace Marine Park Softball Complex has implemented restrictions that SSUSA will follow.

The restrictions include a maximum of 250 people in the complex at any given time. Due to these restrictions, roster sizes will be capped at 14 players per team. Also, SSUSA recommends that teams limit the number of spectators they bring to remain under the 250-person threshold.

As a reminder, a mandate in the state of Oregon requiring masks in indoor public spaces took effect in seven counties on June 24. Other counties that wish to opt-in to that requirement may request to do so at any time.

Entry deadline is June 30. If your team would like to enter the tournament, please contact SSUSA as soon as possible. SSUSA will be limited in the number of teams we will be able to take, especially in the weekend session, July 17-19, in the Men's 40 – 60, and Women's divisions.

Timber Linn Park in Albany, OR, which is the past has been used for overflow games, will not be open.

Along with the Maryland Classic and the Northwest Championships, SSUSA looks forward to other upcoming qualifiers taking place, such as the Holiday Classic in Sturgis, Mich., this weekend, June 27-28; and the Aggieland Classic in College Station, Tex., July 7-12.

Also, a new tournament has been added in Florida, as Summer Slam will take place July 25-26 in Cape Coral (Northwest Sports Complex). Interested teams should contact Tim McElroy.

## STATE-BY-BY BREAKDOWN

## STATE

The upcoming SSUSA tournaments listed below, through the end of July, remain on as scheduled.

Please be sure to keep an eye on the listed deadlines, and email the listed contact for each tournament to enter your team.

### Michigan

July 11 - 12: Bobby Chapp Memorial Lansing, MI - **Deadline July 3.**

## 25 Teams Compete in the Sunshine State Showdown



PUNTA GORDA, Fla. – The 2020 Sunshine State Showdown featured 25 teams in action here at Carmalita Park, June 19-21. The tournament was originally scheduled to take place in Ft. Myers, but a change in venue was required due to current COVID-19 restrictions in place.

The Men's 65 and 70 age divisions kicked off the tournament on June 19.

In the three team Men's 65/70 Division, Ted Todd Insurance 65 (FL) defeated both Venom 70 (FL), 24-17, and Bulls 65 (FL), 17-14, in the single elimination bracket to come out on top.

In another three-team division, the Men's 70 AAA Division, Florida Southern Force defeated Smokies (TN), 21-7, in the championship game. Laff Out Loud (FL) finished in third place.

In the four-team Men's 60 Gold Division, Levin/Ameriprise (FL) defeated Vector Scorpions (FL), 17-16, in the championship game.

The Men's 50-55 Major Plus Division saw FBI/Worth/Miken 50 (FL) and RBC/Team Miken-Worth 55 (FL) go head-to-head.

FBI/Worth/Miken swept the best of three game series by scores of 28-20 and 29-25.

In the three-team Men's 50 Major Division, top seed Hard Hat Café/Latella's (CT) went 2-0 in bracket play, including a 19-12 win over S2S (FL) in the championship game. Public Enemy (FL) finished in third place.

In the Men's 40 Division, CBD/True North Remodeling (MD) swept Bamm Athletics (FL) in a best of three series by scores of 12-10 and 14-13.

For more information, please contact tournament director Mike Dembicki, via email: [mdembicki@capitaltire.net](mailto:mdembicki@capitaltire.net) or phone: 586-202-8376.

## Oregon

July 14 - 19: JIM SHERMAN MEMORIAL/NORTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS (TOC) Salem, OR - **Deadline June 30.**

For more information, please email [info@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com).

## Illinois

July 14 - 19: Quad Cities Classic Rock Island, IL - **Deadline June 30.**

For more information, please contact tournament director Kenny Chard, [kchard@yahoo.com](mailto:kchard@yahoo.com) or 309-721-9633.

## Arizona

July 15 - 19: Ernie Jones Memorial/Western States Championships Prescott, AZ - **Deadline July 3.**

July 25 - 26: 40s Mountain Madness II Flagstaff, AZ - **Deadline July 10.**

For more information, please contact tournament director Rick Seifman, via email: [tournsport@aol.com](mailto:tournsport@aol.com) or phone: 623-776-2143.

## Maryland

July 15 - 19: Bert Bennett Memorial Westminster, MD - **Deadline July 3. (Updated dates)**

For more information, please contact tournament director, Tim McElroy, via email: [PotomacSports1@gmail.com](mailto:PotomacSports1@gmail.com) or phone: 301-514-2676.

## Alabama

July 18 - 19: Cullman Qualifier Cullman, AL - **Deadline July 3.**

For more information, please email [info@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com).

## Kansas

July 23 - 26: Wes Weddle Classic Shawnee, KS - **Deadline July 9.**

In the eight-team, Men's 50-55 Gold Division, Potomac Sports 50 (MD) defeated Avalon Insurance 50 (FL), 19-10, in the "if" game, bouncing back from a 21-12 loss in the championship game.

In the consolation sections of the bracket, A.D.S/Woodlawn Hitting Club 55 (FL) defeated Vector Scorpions 50 (FL) in the Silver Flight; while Central Florida Vipers defeated Sandlot Softball (FL), 18-14, in the Bronze Flight.

## 93-Year-Old Florida Player Back on the Field as League Play Resumes



**Jack Warefield up at bat**

Jack Warefield, 93, of Gulfport, Fla., was recently featured by ABC Action News WFTS Tampa Bay, as a local senior softball league resumes play following the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

Warefield is a World War II veteran and a former equipment manager for the St. Louis Cardinals.

**CLICK HERE** to read and view the news clip.

## SSUSA/BSN Sports Unity Shop

For more information, please contact tournament director Randy Rowe 816-718-3221 [rrr5850@aol.com](mailto:rrr5850@aol.com).

## Washington

July 25 - 26: Smash It Sports Invite Lacey, WA - **Deadline July 10.**

For more information, please contact director Tom Israelson 206-841-9955 or [israelson@comcast.net](mailto:israelson@comcast.net).

## Florida

July 25 - 26: Summer Slam Cape Coral, Fla. - **Deadline July 10 (NEW TOURNAMENT).**

For more information, please contact tournament director, Tim McElroy, via email: [PotomacSports1@gmail.com](mailto:PotomacSports1@gmail.com) or phone: 301-514-2676.

## California

July 28 - August 2: WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (TOC) Sacramento/Placer Counties, CA - **Deadline July 7.**

Reminder that this year teams do NOT have to play in a qualifier to compete in the Western Nationals.

For more information, please email [info@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com).

## Virginia

July 28 - August 2: EASTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (TOC) Loudoun County, VA - **Deadline July 7.**

Reminder that this year teams do NOT have to play in a qualifier to compete in the Eastern Nationals.

For more information, please email [info@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com).

## Indiana

July 31 - August 2: ISA SENIOR WORLD SERIES (TOC) Columbus/Shelbyville, IN - **Deadline July 17.**

For more information, please contact Amy Jackson at 309-267-8324 or [ajackson@dist102.org](mailto:ajackson@dist102.org)



BSN Sports and Senior Softball-USA have teamed up with a Unity Shop, which will run for a two-week period.

During this time frame, \$3.00 per item will be donated to a food bank of SSUSA's choosing. The shop will include various SSUSA merchandise, such as long sleeve shirts, t-shirts, hoodies, shorts, etc.



**The shop opened on June 12 and will close on June 29.**

**CLICK HERE to visit the UNITY SHOP.**

## SSUSA Face Masks and Gaiters Available

SSUSA is introducing thin face masks and gaiters for players.

The face masks are intentionally very thin to make it easier to breathe and the gaiters are designed to pull down easily when a player is on the field and back up when they come off the field.

Masks are \$5 plus shipping and gaiters are \$15 plus shipping. You can order these masks and gaiters online by clicking on the links below.

**CLICK HERE to order your SSUSA face mask.**

**CLICK HERE to order your SSUSA neck gaiter.**



SSUSA has also developed face shields. See below for pricing information.

Face Shields on SSUSA Caps: \$20

Face Shields on Dated Tournament Caps: \$17.50

Face Shields on Caps sent to SSUSA: \$15.00

Face Shields are ordered through SSUSA (916-326-5303) and the price does not include shipping.



Contact Information:  
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