

## Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) Newsletter: Volume 6, Edition 18

Senior Softball-USA <info@seniorsoftball.com>

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For the second straight year, Omega IT Services, LLC (VA) will be representing the East in the U.S. National Championship Game in the Men's 60 Major Plus Division.

### From the Dugout: Protocols are Effective



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

Earlier this week, a Bucks Run Farms 60 AA player from Nebraska came down with what he thought was hay fever. It turned out he had contracted COVID-19.

The player competed last

### WMC Session 3 (Men's & Women's 40) Moves to Kingman, AZ; Session 1 (Men's 55 - 60) Schedules Released



SSUSA has secured fields in Kingman, Arizona for the third session of the **LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters Championships (WMC)**. The 40 Men's and Women's Divisions play in the third session (Sept. 25-27).

"We were very happy to be able to get fields in Kingman," said Fran

weekend in the 10,000 Lakes Qualifier in Rochester, Minnesota.

As soon as the Bucks Run Farm manager found out his player had contracted COVID-19, he emailed us and we immediately sent a notice to all players who participated in the 10,000 Lakes Qualifier. We let the players know about the COVID-19 case and strongly recommended they get tested as soon as possible.

We haven't heard back from the players yet and hope that the pandemic prevention measures we use at qualifiers will result in no new cases.

That's the third case we have heard about this season after a tournament; which is frankly surprisingly few considering we've held about 20 national qualifiers all over the country with thousands of players competing.

The first case was in July, when a Pittsburgh North 40 Major player became ill after the Bert Bennett Memorial tournament in Maryland in July. The Tournament Director immediately sent out a notice to all teams to be aware and recommended immediate testing.

Fortunately, we heard of no other cases and the player has recovered and is back on the field.

In the third case, an Area 51 (Michigan) 50 AAA player became ill after the ISA Senior World Series in Indiana in early August. The team wanted to play a few weeks later in the Northern Championships, so we required the team – and the teams that played Area 51 -- to be tested. All tested Negative.

Here's the point: Wearing a mask, practicing social distancing and washing your hands before you touch your face are all simple procedures that work.

Dowell, SSUSA Executive Director. "Teams can still fly into Las Vegas, drive about an hour to Kingman – and we were able to keep the same dates."

A new bypass that has just been completed in Las Vegas, make the trip to Kingman even faster, said Fran Dowell.

SSUSA had to find new fields for the first three sessions for the WMC after being informed two weeks ago that the fields would be closed in Las Vegas until the end of September. The fields were closed because of the latest COVID-19 protocols established by the Nevada governor.

Fortunately, St. George, Utah, offered their fields for the first two sessions (Men's 55-60 divisions from Sept. 17-20 and Men's 65-85 divisions from Sept. 21-23). The St. George fields were not available for the third session.

The **Men's 55s** and **Men's 60s** schedules have been released. Seven (7) U.S. National Championship Games highlight the opening session, as well as the 31-team Men's 55 AAA Division, the largest Division of the first session.

A total of 136 teams will compete in the first session.

The fourth session of the WMC (Men's and \*Women's 50s) is still on track for Las Vegas from Oct. 1-4. \*Women's 50s start on Oct. 2.

"We will be confirming the fields will be open for the fourth session on Sept. 3 (entry deadline)," said Dowell. "If anything changes, we will let the 50s teams know as soon as we find out."

Entry deadline for the third session is Friday, Aug. 28.

Please **CLICK HERE** for the latest tentative team list for Session 3. With 80 teams total for session 3, a waiting list is currently in effect for any new teams.

If your team is not listed and plans to attend, please contact SSUSA immediately! Also, if your team is on the list, and will no longer attend the tournament, please let us know as well.

The tournament page for the World Masters has been updated with hotel properties in St. George, UT; Mesquite, Nev., and Kingman, AZ.

Because of significant delays in the US Postal Service deliveries, it is essential that teams contact SSUSA if they intend to play in ANY session of the WMC.

Please call 916-326-5303, Monday-Thursday 8 am –noon Pacific Time, or email **info@seniorsoftball.com**.

## Roster Help for WMC

These protocols are not foolproof, but they are very effective... and they help ensure we will all be playing another season.

Take care and I look forward to seeing you on the field!

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

## OBITUARIES - 8/28/20



**Edward J. Purry**

Edward Purry, 68, of Oakland, Calif., died on Aug. 21 due to COVID-19.

A native of Jackson, Miss., Purry was a long-time member of Viejitos 60. Prior to joining Viejitos, Purry was a member of ODB 50 and 55. He last played in the 2018 Rock 'n Reno Challenge Cup.

Purry and the Viejitos have not played in 2020 due to the cancelations of tournaments in Northern California.

"He was a good friend and great guy," said Joe Lewis, manager of Viejitos. "He was our number 1 First Base Coach. Our condolences go out to his family."

In order to help teams losing players during the pandemic, SSUSA is allowing teams to use their master roster for the World Masters Championships. All teams may use their master rosters, including teams that were not able to play in a qualifier.

Those rosters may only have three higher skill level players.

If a 40-65 year old team drops below 15 players, the team may add players in the same age and skill level to get to 15 players.

If a 70-85 year old team drops below 16 players, the team may add players in the same age and skill level to get to 16 players.

In addition, teams can add two (2) players from out of their region (same side of the Mississippi River) if they are in the same age/skill level this season to get to 14 players in 40-65 age groups and to get to 15 players in the 70 and older divisions.

After the entry deadline, teams cannot add players that would change their rating.

## Rochester 10,000 Lakes Classic & Wayne Gilmore Memorial Close out August

The Rochester 10,000 Lakes Classic in Minnesota featured 28 teams from around the surrounding region playing at McQuillan Field, Aug. 21 – 23.

Champions were crowned in 10 divisions.

### Tournament Highlights

The largest division was the five-team Men's 65/70 Gold Division, where Softies by Paddi Murphy 70 (MN) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a 23-12 win over MN LumberJacks 65 in the championship game.

In the three-team Men's 65/70 Silver Division, top seed Bags Softball 65 (IA) avenged its loss against MN Lumberjacks 70, 17-11, in the championships game, with a 14-10 win in the "if" game.

The three-team Men's 50/55 Platinum Division also featured an "if" game, as top seed CPD/Ancell 50 (MN) avoided the dreaded double-dip, with a thrilling 25-24 victory over Iowa Demons 50 in the deciding game. Iowa Demons won the championship game, 31-22, to force the "if" game.

MN Lumberjacks 50, Pope Transport 55 (WI), MN Lumberjacks 55, and MN Masters/Ancell 65 all swept their respective best of three games series.

Minnesota Merchants 60, MN Lumberjacks 60, and Badger Classics 70 (WI) were victorious as well.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for game-by-game scores.

## In Memoriam



### Ann Thomas

Ann Thomas, wife of International Senior Softball Association (ISSA) President and founder, R.B. Thomas, died this week. Married for 58 years, Ann was a guiding force for RB.

“She was my first love and the love of my life,” said RB, of Manassas, Virginia, in a Facebook post. “We were wed as kids and made a pretty good team over the years.”

Services are pending.

The Wayne Gilmore Memorial in Westminster, MD featured 30 teams from around the Mid-Atlantic playing at Carroll County Sports Complex, Aug. 21 – 23.

Champions were crowned in six divisions.

### Tournament Highlights

Fifteen Men’s 40 teams competed, with eight Major and seven AAA teams.

In the Major Division, Wilson’s Blvd/Chesapeake Lift (MD) defeated Extreme (MD), 19-11, in the championship game to complete a perfect 3-0 mark in bracket play.

In the AAA Division, Y’All Next (MD) went 3-0 in bracket play, including a 28-19 win over Gigantes O.C. (MD) in the championship game.

The win was bitter sweet for Y’All Next.

Wayne Gilmore, a member of Y’All Next in 2017 and 2018, died of a heart attack during the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Last Chance Qualifier. The tournament has since been re-named in his honor.

In the six-team Men’s 50 Gold Division, top seed Maryland Classics/Office Bar & Grill came out of the elimination side of the bracket to double-dip Potomac Sports (MD), by scores of 26-24 and 19-18, in the championship and “if” game, respectively.

Olympian Athletics (PA) won the Men’s 55 Gold Division, knocking off Maryland Classics, 24-16, in the “if” game, after dropping the championship game, 16-14.

Not to be outdone, the Olympian Athletics (PA) 60s team was also triumphant, winning the Men’s 60 Gold Division, 11-9 over High Street Bucs II (MD).

New Jersey Hitmen swept Pill & Pill (WV), by scores of 16-9 and 19-15, respectively, to win the Men’s 65 Major Division.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for game-by-game scores.



**Wayne Gilmore**  
(March 21, 1970 - August 25, 2018)

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