# DAILY SOURCE NEWS

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TUESDAY OCTOBER 17th, 2017

#### MSBL WS Iron Man - 30 year Attendee - Lanny Ropke

By Lanny Ropke

The first year I played was truly magical. I was 41 and took a bunch of guys and we just went to play. We were the Woodland /



Davis Stars and that's what started it all. My next biggest thrill was playing father/son with my boys Chad and Skye and now I have a grandson who plays. In our recent father/son tourney in Sacramento we asked for a waiver for him, since he is only 14, and he was able to play. It was really special.

The Sacramento Solons are a tight knit bunch and a team I have played with for most of my years at the World Series. I'm 71 now and play with them in the 65's and 70's. The solons have been around for 25 years but there is a handful of guys who have been through it and we have coffee all winter and play catch whenever we can find dry land.

When I first heard that some guy was having a Senior World Series in Phoenix I thought "what a great idea, I want to be part of that!" I remember that 1988 World Series clearly. I was so excited to play and manage that first World Series championship team, the Woodland/Davis Stars. I never thought then that I would still be attending, much less playing, 30 years later.

I still remember that post tournament banquet at 'The Buttes' after Steve Sigler called me up to give me the championship jackets and bats. As I left I said, "Steve, you gotta keep this going each year cause this is really something special." Thank goodness he did.

Here is a glimpse of some of Lanny's World Series highlights:

The years of support and encouragement of my wife of 50 years, Diana, and how much I enjoy looking from the field and seeing her sitting there.

Playing baseball in the Father/Son Division with the two boys I taught to play and love the game, Chad and Skye. And, this year in the SMSBL Father/Son Tournament, adding my grandson Jett to make it three generations on the field. Very special to me!

Playing on 68 World Series teams in the first 29 years and, God willing, three more in this 30th year. (continued on page 2)

# MSBL World Series Honors Ray Newman & Irv Scott!



Before the game at Tempe Diablo Stadium yesterday morning, National MSBL President, Steve Sigler presented recognition plaques to Ray Newman's daughter, Diana and Irv Scott.

## MSBL / MABL President & Founder On Hand To Hand Out Awards 35+ WR Divisions Regin Play - Some Confusion In 70+ Regarding No Stealing

35+ WB Divisions Begin Play - Some Confusion In 70+ Regarding No Stealing By Tom Prendergast

Every year at this time, the MSBL/MABL World Series recognizes individual players for their longevity and hard work on behalf of their local leagues or some outstanding achievement on behalf of the organization. Especially this year, our 30th anniversary in Arizona. Yesterday morning before the 70+ Sacramento Solons vs USA Volkers game, MSBL President, Steve Sigler made a presentation via Facetime, to longtime player, Ray Newman (who couldn't attend this year's WS due to an injury that he suffered a week ago). In his absence his daughter, Diana accepted the award on his behalf and brought everybody to tears with her heartfelt tribute to her dad. Their wasn't a dry eye in the ballpark! Meanwhile some nagging confusion remained regarding the "no stealing" rule in our 70+

divisions. Despite not being allowed to steal, some teams are using the "hit and run" as a way to advance the runner. Example; pitcher delivers the ball to the plate - the batter swings and misses and the catcher catches the ball, while the runner is off on the pitch to the next base. Regardless of a team's intention to "hit and run", if no contact is made and the runner reaches the next base, that's a steal. So he's sent back to first, just as if it was a foul ball. The runner can't advance or be tagged out on this play. For now, we have no penalty when this happens but that's probably going to change. And the same applies for a missed squeeze bunt.





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## **30 year Attendee - Lanny Ropke** (continued from page 1)

- \* Winning 14 MSBL World Series Championships (credit for that is due to my great teammates).
- \* 30 years of Board membership including League President in one of the first MSBL member leagues, the Woodland/Davis MSBL.
- \* 26 years of playing Sacramento MSBL including Board membership and a stint as League President.
- \* Being honored by Steve Sigler with the National Hall of Fame selection and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Now, I want to thank and give credit to Steve Sigler. May I be so bold to suggest that this year, whoever you are and whatever team you play on and however long you have been in MSBL, when you see Steve around the baseball fields, go up to him, shake his hand and say thanks, thanks for the opportunity to play baseball, the enjoyment, and to meet so many new friends across the United States.

It's been 30 great years for me and to all my teammates and all my opponents over the years, thanks for the memories!



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2017 MSBL / MABL WS Daily I	page 3	age s				Tuesday October 17th, 2017								
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97 teams attended

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30+ National championship

on Sports Channel America

cable television network.

game was taped and broadcast

the World Series

MSBL / MABL World Series text Score line (760) 898-3700

Boston Wolfpack (National)

Rochester Redwings

East Bethalto Dodgers

Omaha Red Sox Nor Cal Knights

**Houston Marauders** 

**Puget Sound Knights** 

Sacramento White Sox

**Elevated Athletics** 

Easton Storm

8





70+ WB national Division USA Volkers batter, **Billy Jacobs** singles to center during his teams game against the Sacramento Solons.



Former NHL player (and NBCSN hockey broadcaster) **Jeremy Roenick** is playing for the 50+ Cactus Colorado Blues this week.



35+ WB Mountain Milwaukee Mudhens pitcher, **Tim Saskowski** was on the mound for his team yesterday against the Dirty Sox.



35+ WB Mountain Dirty Sox batter, **Juan Alonzo** doubles to right center field in his teams 8-1 victory over the Mudhens on Monday.



Unable to attend this year's MSBL World Series, Sacramento Solons player, **Ray Newman** receives his WS Hall of Fame via Facetime!



**Jerry Hall** (Tempe Diablo Complex), **Dave Dunne** (Salt River Complex) and **Mark Gallo** (Hohokam and Fitch Complex) supervisors.

Get all of the 2017 MSBL / MABL World Series game scores and current standings at: www.msblnational.com