

DAILY NEWS



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Competition Stiffens Up As Teams Reach Halfway Point

Gerry Mecca: National MSBL Hall of Fame 2018 Inductee

By Steve LaMontia

Gerry Mecca is the past commissioner of the North Texas Amateur Baseball League, located in and around the Dallas area, a position he held for many years



before recently vacating the post in favor of current head man Kirk Pruitt. Gerry began his MSBL career in 1992 and in 1999 was asked to be a division president and his involvement grew to the top slot of commissioner. Gerry took over a program that had its share of problems and had shrunk to 13 teams, only to grow to 30 when he handed over the reins to Kirk. For Gerry's 'sticktoitiveness' and love of the game, MSBL Founder and President Steve Sigler has honored Gerry with an induction into the 2018 class of the MSBL National Hall of Fame. The journey is best explained in Gerry's own words. "In 1999 I was recruited to be a division president for our Dallas MSBL. Working alongside Joe Daniels and Sam Kayea we grew to over 30 teams and hosted large regional tournaments. We became the standard for amateur baseball in Dallas. But things were changing. We hit some heavy competition and the league appeared to be shrinking. Joe had retired and I assumed the job of commissioner of the league while Sam ran the umpires.

Working with Rich Hildebrand, Chris Cec and later Kirk Pruitt I applied what I know about operations and technology to help turn the league around. We modernized the website and registration and adopted Social Media for promoting. Finally we made great relationships with fields and made sure every team played every game they paid for or they received a refund for un-played games.

We also arranged to appear on a local Sports program (continued on page 2)



45+ Cactus Division Paramount Pirates short stop, **Emillo Benavides** waits for the throw as the Evergreen Owls runner, **Bob Mele** steals second during their game at Tempe yesterday.

Tie Breakers Include - Head To Head and Fewest Runs Allowed for Wildcard Multiple Teams With Same Records After Day Two Looks Like A Logjam In Pool Play!

By Tom Prendergast

There's little doubt that many teams from the same division are probably going to end up with identical records, based on how the first two days have unfolded. So here's the tie breaker scenario's for teams who end up in that position.

Example A: Two teams end up with a 3-3 record. Team A defeated team B. Regardless of runs allowed team A is the higher seed. Example B: Three teams end up with the same 3-3 record. Team A beat team B, team B beat team C and team C beat team A. At this point head to head play can't resolve the seeding process. So in this case fewest runs allowed is the deciding factor (for all three positions). Wildcard example: Five teams from 3 different divisions end up with a 3-3 record. In this case, fewest runs allowed is the deciding factor. Heads up on this one because two teams from the same division could end up as wildcards and even though team A finished higher in the division because of head to head play, that doesn't factor into the equation for wildcard playoffs spots - only fewest runs allowed.

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Gerry Mecca: National MSBL Hall of Fame

(continued from page 1) and promoted our brand of baseball.” This is a very special recognition for Gerry for another reason. Gerry is being inducted this year alongside his friend and current commissioner Kirk Pruitt. “Going in with Kirk is really thrilling. We now both join Dallas Hall of Famer’s Sam Kayea and Joe Daniels in the club. They all combined to turn the NTABL around and I’m honored to be recognized along with them.” The 58 year old Mecca plays third base, first base and pitches a little for the Dallas Orioles in the league’s 55-over division. He also plays in Arizona at the MSBL World Series, where he sports a couple of championship rings and many finals appearances. This year he’ll be suiting up with the Dallas Rangers in the 55+ Cactus division. Gerry explained, “In 2001 I had the privilege of playing, albeit sparingly, for the Dallas Brewers. We won the then 30-and-over World Series in the very competitive National Division. Three years later our Dallas Orioles won the same division. I can tell you those two World Series championships couldn’t have been more fulfilling, having traded my desire to play baseball in college in favor of football, as back then most Texas boys did.” A highlight of the North Texas season is their annual All-Star Charity game benefiting the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, an effort that Gerry is most proud of. “In 2002 I convinced the league to adopt the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children as our league charity. I then led the effort to get our league to become an IRS 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable corporation,” explained Gerry. “Finally, I worked with Dr. Pepper and established our Annual Charity All Star Games at Dr. Pepper Ballpark and we have closed in on raising nearly \$200,000 for the hospital. Now the North Texas Amateur Baseball Foundation’s mission is to help organizations like the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC) in a meaningful way through fundraiser baseball games, clinics, youth sports sponsorships and other outdoor events focused on getting kids outside playing the GREAT GAME OF BASEBALL!”

Kirk Pruitt: National MSBL Hall of Fame 2018 Inductee

By Steve LaMontia Director of Communications

Kirk Pruitt is the president of the North Texas Amateur Baseball League located in and around the Dallas area, a league he has called home since 2001. Residing in Bedford, Texas with his wife Suzanne, he is the 53 year old parts specialist at Park Place Mercedes-Benz. Because of Kirk’s tireless efforts in keeping one of the MSBL premier leagues running smoothly, as well as for his unselfish efforts in organizing the annual Texas Cup to benefit the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children charity, MSBL Founder and President Steve Sigler has named Kirk to the 2018 class of the MSBL National Hall of Fame. “I am humbled beyond belief,” stated Kirk. “In Dallas we have three other Hall of Fame inductees and to be in the same category as them is a tremendous honor. I stand on the shoulders of these men; Sam Kayea, Joe Daniels and Gerry Mecca. I am truly humbled to stand in their company. Thank you.” Kirk continues to play in the 45+ Masters division of his league as a first baseman for the Hurricanes. He also plays in the Texas Cup and Dallas Open tournaments with the 55+ Dallas Rangers. “They gave me an exemption,” chuckled Pruitt. Kirk’s resume is a familiar one. “I stopped playing baseball in ninth grade because I wanted a car and working did not leave time for baseball. Then I found adult baseball in 1998, the MSBL in 2001 and, save one two year hiatus for family issues, I have not stopped playing since.” There are also people behind the scenes who have helped his baseball career along the way. “Gerry Mecca, Sam Kayea, Bill Macey, Mark Adams, Jason Bottenfield, Shawn Lee, Gary Menees and Anthony Cass have been instrumental in keeping me on course. I can’t thank them enough for always being there.” Any final words? “Age is just a number. The MSBL allows us all to stay young.”

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**2019 MSBL / MABL World Series Dates****Week 1**

45+ Divisions Mon - Sat Oct 14th - 19th
60+ Divisions Mon - Sat Oct 14th - 19th
25+ Divisions Wed - Sun Oct 16th - 20th

Week 2

55+ Divisions Sat - Thur Oct 19th - 24th
65+ Divisions Sat - Fri Oct 19th - 25th
35+ Divisions Mon - Sat Oct 21st - 26th
73+ Divisions Mon - Sun Oct 21st - 27th
F&S Divisions Thur - Sun Oct 24th - 27th

Week 3

70+ Divisions Sun - Sat Oct 27th - Nov 2
40+ Divisions Mon - Sat Oct 28th - Nov 2
50+ Divisions Mon - Sat Oct 28th - Nov 2
30+ Divisions Tues - Sat Oct 29th - Nov 2

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Front page profile picture -
Gerry Mecca with wife
Michele. Photo right - **Kirk
Pruitt**.



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MSBL / MABL WS text score line (760) 898-3700

45+ Marucci Central						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Santa Rosa-REBL Cardinals	2	1	0	4	12	667
2 Wisconsin Rangers	2	1	0	4	12	667
3 Paramount Pirates	2	1	0	4	17	667
4 Chicago North TSP's	2	1	0	4	20	667
5 Tri Valley Giants	2	1	0	4	25	667
6 Evergreen Owlz	2	1	0	4	28	667
7 Texas Redbirds	1	2	0	2	21	333
8 Utah Pirates	1	2	0	2	23	333
9 Ventura Dodgers	1	2	0	2	28	333
10 San Antonio Reds	0	3	0	0	30	0

45+ Cactus Division 1						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Fresno Hardcor	3	0	0	6	8	1000
2 Lehigh Valley Hurricanes	3	0	0	6	13	1000
3 Arizona Marlins	2	1	0	4	14	667
4 Spokane Cubs	2	1	0	4	16	667
5 Sacramento Capitols / OC Dodgers	1	2	0	2	17	333
6 Las Vegas Stars	1	2	0	2	30	333
7 Northern VA Twins	1	2	0	2	30	333
8 New Mexico Colt 45's	1	2	0	2	36	333
9 Bluff City White Sox	1	2	0	2	39	333
10 Ft Worth Astros	0	3	0	0	28	0

45+ Cactus Division 2						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Indy Giants	3	0	0	6	15	1000
2 D-Bat Angels	3	1	0	6	24	750
3 Can Am A's	2	1	0	4	20	667
4 San Diego North Padres	2	1	0	4	20	667
5 Seattle Skysox	1	2	0	2	26	333
6 So Cal Indians	1	2	0	2	34	333
7 Utah Red Sox	1	2	0	2	34	333
8 Puget Sound Twins	1	2	0	2	36	333
9 Great Lakes Tigers	0	3	0	0	37	0

60+ American Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 California Tribe	2	1	0	4	21	667
2 LA Athletics	2	1	0	4	21	667
3 Rhode Island Salty Dogs	2	1	0	4	24	667

60+ Central Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Dragons	3	0	0	6	16	1000
2 Lehigh Valley Moondogs	2	2	0	5	35	500
3 DFW Phillies	2	1	0	4	28	667
4 Volcanoes	1	3	0	3	34	250
5 Paladin	1	3	0	3	39	250
6 Arkansas Diamonds	0	3	0	0	36	0

60+ Cactus Division 1						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Puget Sound Mariners	3	0	0	6	11	1000
2 Chicago North Cubs	3	0	0	6	14	1000
3 Colorado Stars	2	1	0	4	15	667
4 Red Deer Legends	2	1	0	4	25	667
5 Long Island Athletics	1	2	0	2	27	333
6 So Cal Fire	1	2	0	2	50	333
7 Diamond Dream Mustangs	0	3	0	0	35	0
8 Tri Valley Vets	0	3	0	0	50	0

60+ Cactus Division 2						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 So Cal Dodgers	3	1	0	6	13	750
2 Inland Angels	3	0	0	6	4	1000
3 Mid South Warriors	2	0	1	5	21	833
4 Sacramento Giants	2	1	0	4	10	667
5 Colorado Fossils	2	1	0	4	26	667
6 Milwaukee Rattlers	1	1	1	3	37	500
7 Portland 59's	0	3	0	0	34	0
8 Arizona Pirates	0	3	0	0	54	0
9 Seattle Rainiers	0	3	0	0	85	0

(*) 60+ Central team receive 1 point for losing to an American team

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45+ Cactus Division 1 Scores

Ft Worth Astros	2	Fresno Hardcor	6
Spokane Cubs	6	Sacramento Capitols / OC Dodgers	3
Las Vegas Stars	5	Lehigh Valley Hurricanes	15
New Mexico Colt 45's	4	Northern VA Twins	6
Arizona Marlins	15	Bluff City White Sox	6

45+ Cactus Division w Scores

Indy Giants	17	Can Am A's	13
So Cal Indians	1	Puget Sound Twins	11
Utah Red Sox	14	San Diego North Padres	10
D-Bat Angels	12	Great Lakes Tigers	4
Seattle Skysox	5	D-Bat Angels	9

45+ Marucci Central Scores

Wisconsin Rangers	13	Ventura Dodgers	2
Evergreen Owls	7	Paramount Pirates	6
Utah Pirates	9	Chicago North TSP's	13
Texas Redbirds	5	Tri Valley Giants	10
San Antonio Reds	5	Santa Rosa-REBL Cardinals	7

60+ American Scores

LA Athletics (American)	6	Paladin (Central)	2
California Tribe (American)	12	Lehigh Valley Moondogs (Central)	4
RI Salty Dogs (American)	7	Volcanoes (Central)	6

60+ Cactus 1 Scores

Chicago North Cubs	8	Long Island Athletics	6
Diamond Dream Mustangs	0	Colorado Stars	8
Red Deer Legends	30	So Cal Fire	8
Puget Sound Mariners	24	Tri Valley Vets	6

60+ Cactus 2 Scores

Inland Angels	23	Arizona Pirates	0
So Cal Dodgers	6	Portland 59'ers	4
Milwaukee Rattlers	10	Colorado Fossils	11
Seattle Rainiers	1	Mid South Warriors	23
Inland Angels	7	So Cal Dodgers	3
Sacramento Giants	5	Milwaukee Rattlers	6

60+ Central Scores

Paladin (Central)	15	DFW Phillies (Central)	7
Arkansas Diamonds (Central)	10	Lehigh Valley Moondogs (Central)	11
Dragons (Central)	13	Volcanoes (Central)	5

2019 MSBL / MABL Tournaments



Desert Classic - Palm Springs, CA
January 19th - 21st
18+ / 25+ / 35+ W / 45+ W
55+ W / 60+ W / 65+ W
Deposits due - November 17th



Holiday Classic - Orlando, FL
January 19th - 21st
18+ / 30+ W / 45+ W
Deposits due - November 17th



Las Vegas Kickoff Classic
Week 1 - March 2nd - 4th
18+ / 35+ W / 55+ W / 65+ W
Week 2 - March 9th - 11th
25+ W / 45+ W / 50+ W / 60+ W
Deposits due January 1st



Las Vegas Open
May 25th - 27th
18+ / 25+ W / 35+ W / 45+ W
55+ W / Father & Son



60+ American LA Athletics 1st baseman, **Jerry Spencer** looks for the baseball as Paladin batter/runner, **Bob Mele** crosses the bag.



60+ Central Paladin batter, **Al Peligrini**, DFW Phillies catcher, **Jeff Hamel** and umpire, **Hector Martinez** watch the ball go foul.



60+ Central division Paladin batter, **Glen Vann** crushes this ball during his teams game against the LA Athletics at Tempe Diablo.



45+ Central Ventura Dodgers pitcher, **Wade Lynch** traveled from England to participate in this years MSBL World Series tournament.



60+ American division LA Athletics pitcher, **John Yandle** allowed just two runs in his teams 6-2 win over Paladin yesterday morning.



60+ Central Paladin batter, **John Davis** keeps an eye on the ball (as well as part of his bat) after it shattered during this at bat.

Get all of the 2018 MSBL / MABL World Series game scores and current standings at: www.msblnational.com