

DAILY NEWS



WS OFFICE NUMBER (480) 858-7522

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2023 MSBL World Series Hall of Fame Inductee, Bob Korvas

By Steve LaMontia, Director of Communications

We're going to switch gears here a little.

First the facts. **MSBL President and Founder Steve Sigler** has inducted 67-year-old **Bob Korvas** into this year's class of the **MSBL World Series Hall of Fame**. Regarding my 'switching gears' comment, Bob Korvas' baseball resume is too colorful and extensive to attempt to edit. I send people questionnaires occasionally that I can work from to compile a story that I can then follow up with a conversation. We'll call it a roadmap. In Bob's case, as you will see, there isn't a chance that I could capture his detail and passion. So, though somewhat lengthy, I am leaving it alone with very little editing. Below are Bob's answers to my questionnaire, just as he sent them ack. After reading his answers, as I did, you'll come away with a deep appreciation of this man after reviewing everything in his own words. Enjoy!

Where do you live? Until recently Prospect Heights Il. the last 35 years, Chicago area my entire life. Soon to be a resident of Florida in 2024

What do you do for a living? Independent insurance agency owner and real estate investor.

When did you begin playing for MSBL and where? 1988 was my very first MSBL World Series when there were only about 37 teams. Stayed at the BUTTES. I was part of mixed bag of 16 players I never played with until that first tournament. We had Jose Cardenal and Ken Rudolph on the roster managed by Mike Pinto. Mike founded the Chicago North (CNMSBL). He discovered me at the Randy Hundley Fantasy camp. Apparently, I impressed him and he asked me if I was interested in going to 'some first ever senior world series tournament.' The rest is history.

What league are you affiliated with now? Only the CNMSBL now. But have been involved with the old Southwest Suburban MSBL in the 1990 to early 2000s, as well as the Central Suburban MSBL.

What position (s) do you play? These days first base, third base. and a I pitch some. I used to be a catcher until 2010. That took a toll on my body (continued on page 3)

At The Half Way Point Teams Are Score Board Watching



60+ Desert SP Orioles batter, **Carl Gleason** connects with this pitch during his teams game against the Red Deer Legends at Tempe Diablo Stadium on Tuesday morning.

MSBL WS Scorebook Includes the Tournament Rules At Your Fingertips! Teams Are Required to Exchange Complete Lineups Before Every WS Game

By Tom Prendergast

So all of our MSBL National Rules are included in the "Official World Series Scorebook". For the most part these rules are very specific when it comes to different aspects of an MSBL game. Only wood bats are allowed. Composite and metal-wood bats are permissible. Number of players for an official game - 8. That means you can't start or play a game with only 7 players. Maximum number of courtesy runners - 2, which a team designates before the game. Rule 7 - Lineup - For the sake of fairness and accuracy, the entire team's roster including last names and uniform numbers (and not just the starting lineups) must be exchanged before the start of each game. Further more, the rules committee suggests that teams come to the game with a complete roster form ahead of time. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the game being delayed until a roster is produced. Rule 8 - Age requirement, this one seems kind of obvious but it's complicated! This year, every player must have a government issued photo ID to participate, with them during games. The reason for that is if a team suspects a player on the other side to be under age, they can request to see his ID immediately. That seems cut and dried, but it isn't. After the game is over, the losing team discovers (using the internet of course), that a player with the same name as a guy on the other team, not only played baseball professionally, but he's underage as well! Rule 12 - Protests. All protests must be lodged with the tournament director within a reasonable time frame after the completion of the game in question. Once that happens our top notch staff goes to work, investigating the complaint. In all cases, this process starts with the suspected players photo ID. Having that picture ID will allow us to verify the players age and baseball background. Keep in mind that years ago, guys playing for pro teams gave a different birthdate, to appear younger than they were!

marucci

No alcohol or tobacco products are allowed before - during or after the game at any MSBL World Series locations or stadiums!

MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

The MSBL WS office is located inside
Tempe Diablo Stadium (Gene Autry Suite)
Located on the second floor

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Important Information For Teams at Hohokam Stadium & Fitch Park Fields and Red Mountain & Gene Autry Park

Gates open 1 hour prior to 1st game

Teams must stay off the grass when
warming up or taking practice swings

Men's & Women's restroom will be open on
the third base side (on the lower concourse)

Dugouts will be accessible - not the clubhouse

No players maybe on the field while the ground
crew is working on preparing the fields

After the game, please make sure the trash is
picked up and the dugout is like you found it

Spotlight on: Mal Sporne (Aussie Aces)

By Steve LaMontia, Director of
Communications

Last Wednesday, October 25th,
I caught up with Mal Sporne,
manager of the Aussie Aces
from Australia, at the Maryvale
Complex, home of the Milwaukie Brewers.
The Aces have been hit hard by the injury bug.
"Right before we came this year, one of our
guys fell in the bath and broke his arm, another
had a panic attack and decided not to come, but
as you say in America, it is what it is," said Mal
"It's pretty tough. We were really thin to begin
with and then three guys from California whom
we picked up got hurt and went home."

Mal routinely brings multiple teams in their
journey to the states every other year. "We
started coming in 1998 and then every other
year thereafter, for the most part. That is still
the plan so we'll be back in 2025. We really
enjoy playing in the Father/Son division and we
have 22 players so we'll be OK there. We were
here in 2019 but then we had a lot of games
cancelled in Australia because of covid, an
entire season actually, so (continued on page 3)



75+ National / American						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Mudville 9	3	0	0	6	11	1000
2 Sacramento Solons (N)	3	0	0	6	11	1000
3 Team Cambria	3	0	0	6	14	1000
4 San Antonio Sox	2	1	0	4	24	667
5 USA Volkers (N)	2	1	0	4	24	667
6 Arizona Scorpions	1	1	0	2	21	500
7 Canton Captains	1	1	0	2	31	500
8 Tri Valley Antiques (N)	0	2	0	0	20	0
9 Red Deer Legends	0	3	0	0	40	0
10 RI/Puerto Rico Cardinals (N)	0	3	0	0	41	0
11 Cal Vets	0	3	0	0	52	0

45+ American Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Sacramento Redbirds	3	0	0	6	22	1000
2 Utah Rockies	2	1	0	4	22	500
3 Chicago North TSP's	1	2	0	2	36	333

45+ Cactus Division 1						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 So Cal Monarchs	3	0	0	6	1	1000
2 Des Moines Bruins	2	1	0	4	24	667
3 Minnesota Bruins	1	2	0	2	49	333
4 Spokane Cubs	0	3	0	0	33	0
5 East Coast Phillies	0	3	0	0	44	0

45+ Cactus Division 2						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Colt 45's	3	0	0	6	17	1000
2 Arizona Giants	2	1	0	4	20	667
3 Sonoma REBL	2	1	0	4	17	667
4 Bakersfield Heat	1	2	0	2	36	333
5 Tucson Nationals	1	2	0	2	39	333
6 OC Dodgers	0	3	0	0	26	0

60+ National / Mountain						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Envision NW Emeralds	3	1	0	6	28	750
2 San Antonio Lonestars	2	1	0	4	10	667
3 Tri Valley Tribute	2	1	0	4	13	667
4 Chicago MAXX Cubs	2	1	0	4	21	667
5 Boston Wolfpack	1	2	0	2	23	333
6 Sacramento Royals	1	3	0	2	28	250
7 Team Victory	1	3	0	2	34	250

60+ Cactus Division 1						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Mustangs Baseball Club	4	0	0	8	14	1000
2 North County Waves	3	1	0	6	23	750
3 Sonoma County Cardinals	3	1	0	6	24	750
4 Arizona Stallions	1	3	0	2	40	250
5 Las Vegas 60's	1	3	0	2	83	250
6 St Louis Pirates	0	4	0	0	61	0

60+ Cactus Division 2						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Motor City Firebirds	4	0	0	8	25	1000
2 Inland Angels	2	1	1	5	39	500
3 Vancouver Angels	2	1	0	4	30	667
4 South Bay Zephyrs	2	2	0	4	26	500
5 AAHS Saints Circumstance	1	2	0	2	28	333
6 Sacramento Rays	0	2	1	1	30	0
7 AZ/ CT United	0	3	0	0	50	0

60+ Desert Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Seattle Rainers	3	0	0	6	29	1000
2 Cal Vets	2	1	0	4	23	667
3 Racine Blues	2	1	0	4	27	667
4 Colorado Fossils	2	1	0	4	40	667
5 Aussie Aces	2	1	0	4	37	667
6 Red Deer Legends	1	2	0	2	24	333
7 LA Sharks	1	2	0	2	29	333
8 OKC Classics	1	2	0	2	55	333
9 Bonedogs	1	3	0	2	61	250
10 SP Orioles	0	3	0	0	45	0

45+ American/Cactus

Colt 45's	19
Tucson Nationals	11
Utah Rockies	11
Sacramento Redbirds	12
Des Moines Bruins	21
East Coast Phillies	11
Minnesota Bruins	3
Bakersfield Heat	14
OC Dodgers	0
Chicago North TSP's	0
Arizona Giants	1
So Cal Monarchs	14
Spokane Cubs	3
Sonoma REBL	6

60+ National

Sacramento Royals	3
Boston Wolfpack	4
Team Victory	6
Envision NW Emeralds	8
Sacramento Royals	6
Chicago MAXX Cubs	16
Tri Valley Tribute	2
Team Victory	4
Envision NW Emeralds	1
San Antonio Lonestars	5

75+ Division

RI / Puerto Rico Cardinals (Nat)	10
USA Volkers (Nat)	15
Sacramento Solons (Nat)	9
Tri Valley Antiques (Nat)	5
San Antonio Sox	16
Arizona Scorpions	4
Red Deer Legends	6
Team Cambria	11
Mudville 9	22
Cal Vets	1



60+ Desert Colorado Fossils
pitcher, **David Duhon** picked up
the win against the Aces yesterday

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60+ Cactus 1

Arizona Stallions	2
Mustang Baseball Club	6
Sonoma County Cardinals	33
Las Vegas 60's	11
St Louis Pirates	0
North County Waves	15
North County Waves	9
Mustang Baseball Club	11
Las Vegas 60's	5
Arizona Stallions	20
St Louis Pirates	4
Sonoma County Cardinals	15

60+ Cactus 2

Motor City Firebirds	14
AAHS Saints of Circumstance	5
Inland Angels	11
Sacramento Rays	11
Vancouver Angels	8
South Bay Zephyrs	15
Motor City Firebirds	19
AZ/CT United	5
South Bay Zephyrs	3
Inland Angels	7

60+ Desert

Racine Blues	14
LA Sharks	7
SP Orioles	8
Red Deer Legends	21
OKC Classics	5
Cal Vets	23
Aussie Aces	15
Colorado Fossils	22
Seattle Rainiers	17
Bonedogs	8

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Spotlight on: Mal Sporne (Aussie Aces)

(continued from page 2)

it messed up our every other year visit to the MSBL WS. It was just a slight detour." At the time we spoke, Mal and the 73-over Aces had two more pool games to play and were really looking forward to them. "We play St. Thomas tomorrow and Oklahoma on Friday. We're still here and we don't get the opportunity to play on these types of fields in Australia so we really look forward to playing these games. In conclusion, I asked Mal how the Aussie players fared in some of the other divisions, though some were still playing at the halfway mark of the tournaments. "We won some and lost some in the 70s. But in one game we were down 10 in the third and ended up winning 17-11. It was great fun. We don't go home with too many trophies but playing in this weather on these fields is worth it, no matter how it turns out. We'll see you all again in two years!"



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2023 MSBL WS Hall of Fame Inductee, Bob Korvas (continued from page 1)

needless to say.

Family details? Married to **Kathy** since 1978. Just the two of us all this time. We have an expanding family of brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews plus their spouses these days. My Dad was a WWII paratrooper with a purple heart from Normandy (D-DAY). He passed in 2002 and Mom died January 2014. I have one older brother.

MSBL Travel: **Steve Sigler** invited me for the first ever travel 'Friendship series' in **St Thomas** in February from '91 through '93. It was a diverse group of players including **Jose Cardenal**. I remember being the last plane permitted to leave **Chicago Ohare** during a blizzard after two decisions then staying at Frenchman's Reef. It was truly an amazing honor bestowed upon me by Steve. Great people hosted us there. I got invited to the governor's home for dinner up on the hill. Our games were broadcast on the islands. There was a large turnout of fans and the stands were filled. We played in a soccer field converted to baseball. The right field was only 250, the left 360, center was 420 with a towering old 6-foot-wide trunk base Mahogany tree 'inside' the playing field fence. Steve thought of me as his 'personal' catcher after that. I pitched one complete 9-inning game. I hit three home runs (left, left-center, and right-center). We won 12-9 and I threw a complete game. The guys from **St. Thomas** sent me a cassette recording of the game and my interview after. I wish I could find that. In 1998 Steve gave me the honor of asking me to manage a team in the **1998 Nike Masters in Portland, Oregon**. Of course, I said yes. We ended up losing the championship in a close game pitched by 6'8" Jack Pohlmeier to a California team with 35 players on the roster, compared to our 12 from the Midwest. We started with 14. At least until two guys were injured in a car accident on the way to the first game. I'm proud to say I've won eight championship rings through the World Series and Fall Classic play. I've played in 20 finals. My first championship ring was in 2005 as a player on the 45 plus SWS Dodgers. I was also a Player/Manager in 2006 as we won again for the 35-plus team.

Whom do you play with in tournaments and what age division? This year's **World Series** is with **Alden** and **Reid Stiefel Chicago MAXX Cubs** in the 60 and 65 divisions. I'm only playing two instead of three weeks for the first time since the WS expanded to three weeks more than a decade ago.

Are there any individuals you would like to thank in helping your baseball career? As an 18-year-old sophomore at **Northeastern Illinois**, Coach **Ray Kasper** noticed I was up and down mentally. He gave me a book to read, 'Success Through Positive Mental Attitude' by **W. Clement Stone**.

Coming from a poor blue-collar background, it was the most pivotal point in my life. It turned my up-and-down mental attitude into a positive confident one. It not only propelled me to success on the baseball field, but it also set me up for my entire life. From that point forward I never looked back.

Are there any comments you wish to share or any MSBL thoughts?

I've always admired and respected what **Steve (Sigler)** created from day one. That is why I've always tried to be a good ambassador on the field as a player and a manager the entire time as a member of the **MSBL**. He's given me and all of us a place (or Mecca) where players from every background come to meet and compete in a game we all love. It keeps us young at heart. Fostering new friendships and maintaining old ones. I feel fortunate that I've been able to meet so many new acquaintances and make so many fond memories while being here. I feel so fortunate to have played with and against so many former professionals. None of this would have happened without **Steve Sigler's** vision. The one he shared in *Time Magazine* about 1988. Thanks to that vision, I've been able to meet people and play in minor league parks as part of a legends old-timers game. One year in **Iowa** I played against **Luis Tiant, Jose Cardenal, Bill Campbell, Dick Allen, Carmen Fanzone, and Jim Hickman**, before the regular game.

What does this award mean to you? Even though I've been at every single **MSBL World Series** without missing a single year, including 2015 the year I played with binocular double vision seeing two baseballs after getting hit in my right eye by a foul ball off of my own bat, it is completely unexpected!

MSBL WS Clothing
Open Daily
9a - 7p
Tempe Diablo Stadium

LOCATION:
7810 S. Priest Dr
Suite 107
Tempe, AZ 85284
P: 480.860.7742



HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY
10AM - 8PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
11AM - 6PM



45+ American/Cactus Sacramento Redbirds player, **Joe Banner** (left) with his son, **Luke** (center) and father, **Randy** (right) at the MSBL WS



60+ Desert Division Colorado Fossils batter, **Lance Parker** sends this ball into the left center field for a base hit against the Aces.



60+ Desert Division Aussie Aces pitcher, **Rod Wise** delivers a pitch to the plate as Colorado Fossils runner, **Mike Campbell** takes off.



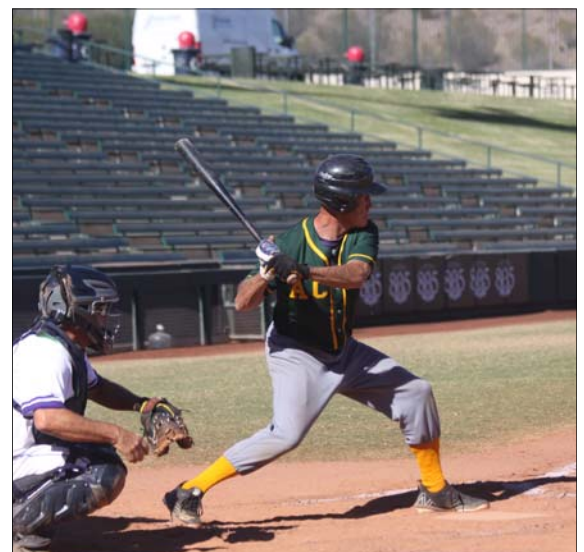
60+ Desert Colorado Fossils short stop, **Gary Bond** waits for the baseball as Aussie Aces runner, **Bob Wood** steals second base.



HOF **Bob Korvas** (center) with wife, **Cathy** and teammate, **Kevin Hagan**.



60+ Desert SP Orioles batter, **Mike Sullivan** at the plate yesterday morning.



60+ Desert Aussie Aces batter, **Ron Chambers** concentrates on the baseball headed his way.