

DAILY NEWS



WS OFFICE NUMBER (480) 858-7522

TUESDAY OCTOBER 29th, 2024

2024 MSBL World Series HOF Inductee: Jim Cooney, Rhode Island MSBL

By Steve LaMontia, Director of Communications

Jim Cooney has been playing in the Men's Senior Baseball League going into his 35th year. That alone is worthy of hearty recognition. When you pour his MSBL World Series experience into the recipe, it is no wonder that MSBL Founder and President Steve Sigler has inducted Jim into the 2024 class of the MSBL World Series Hall of Fame.

"This award literally could not be more meaningful to me as it was completely "out of left field" and unexpected," said Cooney. "I had to read and re-read the email from Steve Sigler notifying me about it three or four times before it sunk in. I was totally shocked, incredibly honored and humbled, and very pleasantly surprised by it."

The 66-year-old resident of Coventry, Rhode Island is a fixture in the Rhode Island MSBL in Providence, where he is primarily a catcher and first baseman for the 50+ RI Red Sox while playing the same positions for his World Series Father/Son teams.

"However, when I first came into the league 34 years ago at age 31, I played shortstop and pitched and then moved to second base, third base, and outfield. I also was the first player in league history to play all nine positions in a single game. I started catching in my late 50s out of necessity because we didn't have one, which is probably the only reason that my knees and arm still work pretty well."

Jim has a pretty solid team off the field, too. "I have been married for 41 years to my wife Denise (Dean) Cooney and we are the proud parents of Shannon, Caitlin, Jon-Patrick, and Erin Eileen (Yes, we are a "wee bit" Irish).

Regarding Jim's baseball upbringing, he played hours and hours of pick-up ball, steps, handball, and whiffle ball whenever he could as a child and always had a bat or a glove or a ball in his hand. As is no surprise, he has always loved baseball and the Red Sox as long as he can remember, including the 67's Sox 'Impossible Dream Team' and Yaz' Triple Crown. After Little League, he played Pony League and then Division One High School ball at Bishop Stang in North Dartmouth, MA. (continued on page 2)

Spectacular Weather Returns To The Valley This Week!



75+ American Division Rhode Island / Puerto Rico Cardinals batter, **Gilberto Rivera** sends this ball to deep left field, driving in a run yesterday at Tempe Diablo Stadium.

MSBL WS Uses Special Rules To Assist Managers With Their Lineups A/B Batter And Shared Batter Positions, While There's No Stealing in 75+ Games

By Tom Prendergast

Before any teams arrive at the MSBL World Series, a host of emails from the National MSBL office have been sent out to all of the team managers, detailing the rules for each separate division as well as the general tournament rules. Included in this documentation are specific offensive batting rules. And at the top of that list - the A/B Batter (which can be used in 40+ divisions) and the Shared Batter position (which can be used in 60+ / 75+ divisions). Note that in 60+ National, teams have the option to use the A/B Batter position. Whichever a team decides upon, two courtesy runners may also be used.

The A/B batter position requires a team to alternate the players that are occupying each spot in the lineup. For example, the first time through the line up, 3A bats, the next time through the order, 3B bats and this rotation continues throughout the game or until the spot is pinch hit for. The Shared Batter position is a little different. All 60 and 75+ divisions must use Shared Batting Position Rule only. The manager uses two players to share one batting position in the offensive lineup during the game, and the manager decides who bats each time the batting position comes up. The only exception to this is when a player is used as a base runner, that player must bat the next time up. After that point, either of the Shared Batters may bat in this position. Note - any violation could result in a "batting out of turn" ruling. This is not a protestable offense. In our 75+ division, there's no stealing, but runners are allowed to take a lead. Until now, we haven't put any kind of restrictions on that statement so for example, a runner could lead off within about two feet of second base. In order to clarify this situation, and effective immediately a base runner is limited to a 2 step lead off, and can't break for the next base until the pitcher releases the ball. Failure to abide by this rule will be penalized with an out, after each team has received a warning from the umpire.

marucci

MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

The MSBL WS office is located inside
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2024 MSBL WS HOF: Jim Cooney

(continued from page 1)

Then came Amateur ball in the Fall River (MA) Adult League until age 24 then fell into fast-pitch and slow-pitch softball for a few years before moving to Rhode Island and getting drafted by the Rhode Island Mariners of RIMSBL after a try-out. He has gone on to play for and win many championships with the Mariners, Yankees, and Red Sox in the '30s, 40s, and 50s over the next years as both a player and Manager.

As is usually the case, discussions of MSBL World Series experiences lead us to those special moments. "Although I previously won two MSBL World Series rings with the RI Salty Dogs (playing outfield and hitting .500 both years) my biggest highlight, by far, is winning the 2023 Father-Son Central Division World Series championship with an already undermanned Red Sox squad. Any additional comments?

"I want to thank Steve Sigler for actually realizing that there is nothing better than baseball in a young boy's eyes and in many ways it is our real "first love" that we NEVER grow out of and simply cannot be replaced by any other sport or activity. To give that feeling and experience back to us as middle-aged to older men, not only via local leagues but national tournaments played on major league fields, with umps, spikes, bunts, steals, and rings, is just (continued on page 3)

40+ Mountain / Central 1

Burlington Herd
Arizona Grays
Sacramento Sox
Upper Left Bandits

Baseball BBQ Forkballers
#shegone

#shegone
Burlington Herd

Baseball BBQ Forkballers
Sacramento Sox

Upper Left Bandits
Arizona Grays

40+ Mountain / Central 2

BTOP Ballers
Cen Cal Nuts

Utah Dodgers
Yonder Travelers

Cen Cal Nuts
Clancy's Irish

Silverton Red Sox
Utah Dodgers

Yonder Travelers
BTOP Ballers

Clancy's Irish
Silverton Red Sox

40+ Mountain / Central 3

Baseballism
Columbus Spiders

Seattle Royals
Virgin Island Waves

Utah Yeti
Houston Cyclones

Virgin Island Waves
Baseballism

Houston Cyclones
Seattle Royals

Columbus Spiders
Utah Yeti

60+ Cactus 1

Connecticut Navigators
Motor City Firebirds
North County Waves
Sonoma County Cardinals

South Bay Zephyrs
Waikiki Beach Boys

Motor City Firebirds
South Bay Zephyrs

North County Waves
Connecticut Navigators

Waikiki Beach Boys
Arizona Stallions

Sonoma County Cardinals
Arizona Stallions

60+ Cactus 2

Dallas Rangers
Giltner Braves

Kansas City
Red Deer Legends

Sacramento Rays
Vancouver Angels

Giltner Braves
Sacramento Rays

Kansas City
Dallas Rangers

Vancouver Angels
Chicago Max Cubs

Red Deer Legends
Chicago Max Cubs

60+ Desert 1

Cal Vets
Colorado Fossils
Seattle Pilots
OKC Classics

SP Orioles (div 2)
Westchester Mets

OKC Classics
Cal Vets

Colorado Fossils
Seattle Pilots

Seattle Rainiers (div 2)
Westchester Mets

60+ Desert 2

Colorado Falcons
LA Sharks

Las Vegas 60's
Seattle Rainiers

LA Sharks
Las Vegas 60's

Colorado Falcons
SP Orioles

60+ National

Boston Wolfpack
Emeralds NW

San Antonio Lonestars
Team Victory

Mustangs Baseball Club
Tri Valley Tribute

Mustangs Baseball Club
Boston Wolfpack

Tri Valley Tribute
San Antonio Lonestars

Team Victory
Emeralds NW

75+ National / American

Arizona Storm
Mudville 9

Red Deer Legends
Rhode Island / PR Cardinals

PSSBL Aqua Sox
Cal Vets

Sacramento Solons
Rhode Island Salty Dogs

OKC Dodgers
San Antonio Rangers

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40+ Mountain / Central Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Baseball BBQ Forkballers	2	0	0	4	9	1000
2 #shegone	1	1	0	2	16	500
3 Upper Left Bandits	1	1	0	2	20	500
4 Burlington Herd	1	1	0	2	23	500
5 Sacramento Sox	1	1	0	2	24	500
6 Arizona Grays	0	2	0	0	27	0

40+ Mountain / Central Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 BTOP Ballers Baseball	2	0	0	4	12	1000
2 Clancy's Irish	1	1	0	2	15	500
3 Cen Cal Nuts	1	1	0	2	20	500
4 Silverton Red Sox	1	1	0	2	18	500
5 Yonder Travelers	1	1	0	2	22	500
6 Utah Dodgers	0	2	0	0	27	0

40+ Mountain / Central Division 3	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Seattle Royals	2	0	0	4	10	1000
2 Columbus Spiders	2	0	0	4	18	1000
3 Houston Cyclones	1	1	0	2	6	500
4 Baseballism	1	1	0	2	16	500
5 Utah Yeti	0	2	0	0	16	0
6 Virgin Island Waves	0	2	0	0	30	0

75+ National Division	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 USA Volkers	2	0	0	4	4	1000
2 Sacramento Solons	2	0	0	4	7	1000
3 Mudville 9	0	2	0	0	25	0

75+ American Division	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Arizona Storm	2	0	0	4	14	1000
2 OKC Dodgers	1	1	0	2	9	500
3 Rhode Island Salty Dogs	1	1	0	2	10	500
4 Rhode Island / Puerto Rico	1	1	0	2	21	500
5 Red Deer Legends	1	1	0	2	28	500
6 Cal Vets	1	1	0	2	30	500
7 San Antonio Rangers	0	2	0	0	26	0
8 PSSBL Aqua Sox	0	2	0	0	31	0

60+ National Division	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Boston Wolfpack	2	0	0	4	4	100
2 Team Victory	2	0	0	4	7	1000
3 Tri Valley Tribute	2	0	0	4	9	1000
4 San Antonio Lonestars	0	2	0	0	17	0
5 Mustangs Baseball Club	0	2	0	0	22	0
6 Emeralds NW	0	2	0	0	29	0

60+ Cactus Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 South Bay Zephyrs	2	0	0	4	7	1000
2 North County Waves	2	0	0	4	25	1000
3 Waikiki Beach Boys	1	1	0	2	9	500
4 Motor City Firebirds	1	1	0	2	11	500
5 Sonoma County Cardinals	1	1	0	2	19	500
6 Arizona Stallions	0	2	0	0	34	0
7 Connecticut Navigators	0	2	0	0	35	0

60+ Cactus Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Dallas Rangers	2	0	0	10	12	1000
2 Sacramento Rays	2	0	0	9	14	1000
3 Chicago MAXX Cubs	1	1	0	8	15	500
4 Kansas City	1	1	0	7	21	500
5 Vancouver Angels	1	1	0	6	21	500
6 Giltner Braves	0	2	0	0	31	0
7 Red Deer Legends	0	2	0	0	48	0

60+ Desert Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Seattle Pilots	2	0	0	4	9	1000
2 Westchester Mets	2	0	0	4	11	1000
3 Colorado Fossils	1	1	0	2	18	500
4 Cal Vets	0	1	1	1	23	250
5 OKC Classics	0	1	1	1	24	250

60+ Desert Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Colorado Falcons	2	0	0	4	3	1000
2 Las Vegas 60's	2	0	0	4	6	1000
3 SP Orioles	0	2	0	0	29	0
4 LA Sharks	0	2	0	0	30	0
5 Seattle Rainiers	0	2	0	0	39	0

NO METAL SPIKES ALLOWED AT LEGACY PARK TURF FIELDS
Heads up - if your team has a game on one of the turf fields at Legacy Park. No metal spikes can be worn on the turf.

All MSBL players must have a government issued ID - with a photo to participate in the 2024 MSBL World Series. And they must have it with them during all games. Failure to produce this ID on demand, will result in an immediate forfeit of the game

Heads Up - WS Rule Change

In addition to the A/B batter or the Shared Batter position - each team can use two (2) courtesy runners.

2024 MSBL WS HOF: Jim Cooney

(continued from page 2)

an incredible gift. This is proven by the 300-plus leagues, 3,000-plus teams, and nearly 50,000 players who have participated every, single year for the past 36! Steve deserves all the credit in the world for not only realizing this but for actually doing something about it! Yes, playing ball is just a small part of what MSBL is all about for me. The camaraderie, the lifelong friendships, the dugout banter, the challenges of the game as you get older, and that feeling of family that you will always have with your closest teammates if you're lucky enough to have great ones (which I have been). This also includes the opportunity to play ball with your friends and their sons on some of the best MLB exhibition ballfields in America and then go out to share a meal and watch an MLB series game the same week during the Father-Son World Series. There is just nothing else like that anywhere if you're a ballplayer. Win or lose it's a priceless, bucket-list experience, and we look forward to it more and more each year." Final thoughts? "Last but certainly not least I want to thank my wife and kids and all the spouses and families involved with MSBL and RIMSBL for understanding what our national pastime means to the good men who also happen to be great people and ball players and for helping us to continue to make it part of our weekly stress relief and lives. You may never know how much it truly means to us but thank you for just knowing it is a part of who we are. We are not just guys who play baseball, we are true "ballplayers" in every sense of the word. Nothing is more important in life than our loved ones; the time we spend with them, and our God who makes it all possible, giving us the precious gift of life every day. But I will tell you something honestly; baseball and the MSBL World Series sure come pretty close!"



MSBL World Series umpires (and staff members) **Jaret Bradley** (left) with home plate umpire, **Miles Williams** at Tempe Diablo Stadium.

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

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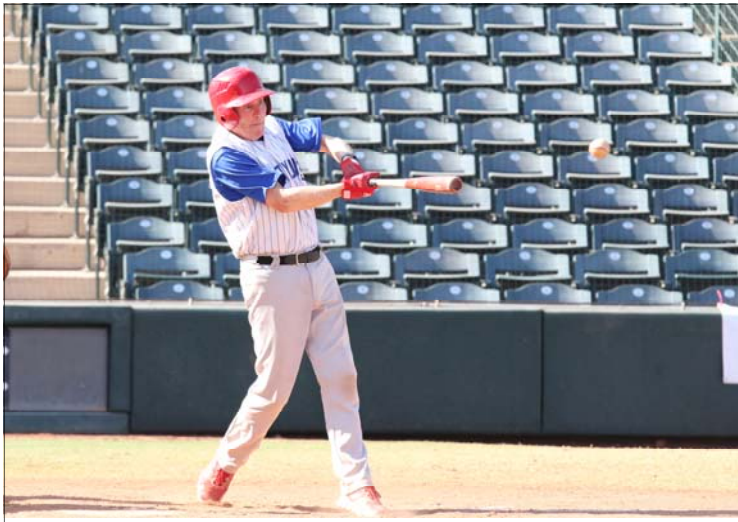
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75+ American Rhode Island Salty Dogs batter, **Artie Colazzo**, takes a bead on this ball and sends it to left field for an rbi single.



75+ American Red Deer Legends batter, **Bob Stevenson** hits this pitch to right center field for a single during his game yesterday.



75+ American Rhode Island Salty Dogs batter, **Bob Sherwin** singles during his teams game with the Sacramento Solons yesterday.



75+ National Sacramento Solons batter, **Denny Brown** tosses his bat after laying down a perfect bunt that he beat out for a base hit!



75+ American Rhode Island / Puerto Rico Cardinals pitcher, **Angel Claudio** delivers a side arm delivery to the plate yesterday morning



75+ American Red Deer Legends batter, **Alvin Anderson** connects with this pitch and singles past a drawn in infield on Monday.