2026 MSBL WORLD SERIES NEWSLETTER

# DAILY NEWS

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# Games Back On Track As Fields Dry Out

**Blake Burgard MSBL National Hall of Fame**

*Steve LaMontia-Carlentini*
*Director of Communications*



Blake Burgard has carved out quite a legacy as League President of the Santa Barbara MSBL. Well, legacy may not be exactly accurate right now, since Blake is 51 years old. The word 'legacy' is usually reserved for someone possibly a couple of decades older. But he is certainly doing something right. His MSBL career began in 2003 as a member of the Griffith Park Pirates in our then-LA league and moved to Santa Barbara in 2004. "The first thing I did when I rolled into town was call the MSBL league president," recalled Blake. "That led to a wonderful relationship & many new friends." Blake cared about what he was doing and was always grateful for the opportunity to keep playing ball, so they made him president of the league in 2012. He has also been a regular MSBL World Series attendee since 2004. Because of his attention to detail in Santa Barbara, and his World Series passion, MSBL Founder and President Steve Sigler has honored Blake by inducting him into the 2026 class of the MSBL National Hall of Fame. "I am definitely honored to receive this award," said Blake. "It takes a lot to run a league and deal with all of the teams and their issues. It's a recognition that my work to bring this game of baseball to my community has been noticed on a national level by the guy who created MSBL. It is very special. It means a lot that he has noticed the work it takes to squeeze 14 or 16 teams from this small community." The Santa Barbara Men's Adult Baseball League is a 16-team wood bat adult baseball league that started in 1992. They are a tax-exempt 503(c)(4) non-profit organization created to promote community and brotherhood through gentlemanly competition in the beautiful American game of baseball. They now offer competition for 18+, 30+, and 45+ divisions. Blake is a catcher for the Whalers in the 30+ division and the Seals in the 45+ division. "We have a great marine history of fishing and wineries. People vacation from LA because we're close yet beautiful. It's only about an hour and a half away. We're a wonderful getaway. We also have our own airport in Santa Barbara. We have many people who have visited and then arranged to have the furniture sent." Blake is retired from law enforcement and, by his own admission, (continued on page 2)




*45+ Cactus Division Sonoma Rebels shortstop,* ***Jorge Martinez*** *backs up the play as So Cal Monarchs base runner,* ***Bernie Campa*** *steals second base during the game at the stadium .*

**45+ / 60+ / 75+ Teams Reach The Half Way Point In The Pool Play Round**

*Fewest Runs Allowed Plays A Huge Factor In Deciding Which Wildcard Teams Advance*
*By Tom Prendergast*

In the early days of this tournament, before the games began play - the WS staff held a managers meeting at the Buttes, to go over the special rules that we were playing with at the time. Most of these meetings were incredibly cordial, friendly get togethers where the different managers had a chance to meet each other in a somewhat neutral setting. It was during these meetings that managers had the chance to ask questions and get answers. In those days we could accommodate 40-50 managers. That was then, this is now. Years ago we outgrew those meetings and with the help of the internet, all of the special rules that we use now, are sent out weeks and sometimes months, before we start play. In addition to that, our national rules are printed in the front of every scorebook, that each manager gets when he checks in. For example, our shared batter, A/B batter and courtesy runner rules are spelled out precisely in the first few pages, as well as being posted online. A modified review of the Shared Runner rules, was also sent out. Our 70+ / 73+ / 75+ & 80+ divisions have a certain do's and don'ts regarding no stealing and not being allowed to throw out batter/runners at first from the outfield. The point of all these rules is to help keep the games competitive and give the managers some leeway in getting as many players in the game as he can, while maintaining a strategic game plan, based on *(continued on page 3)*

**Tempe Diablo Stadium Snack Shop - open 8am**

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**MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS**
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**Blake Burgard MSBL National Hall of Fame** (continued from page 1)
a professional dad. "Yeah, I shuffle my son around to school, Cub Scouts, the whole deal. I'm retired from the Police Department and love my life of family and baseball." Blake is a big tournament presence and has been playing at the MSBL World Series since 2004. "I have gone to Arizona every year since 2004 and love every second of it. I also recently went to a Field of Dreams tournament in Iowa. The new pro field they just constructed is amazing. It's the nicest field I have ever played on." Blake's tournament team is the Santa Barbara Black Sheep. Managing a tournament team can certainly have its pitfalls. "Finding the balance of playing time and winning is a continuing issue. Some teams bring 30 guys, and some bring 14. It's hard to find enough playing time for everyone. We try to keep realistic numbers so that everyone can have a good time, yet stay competitive." Blake played ball through high school and then thought that was it, at least for ten years, until he found MSBL. "It's a blessing to continue to play the game we love. In football you hang up your high school cleats, and that's it. In our great game, you can play as long as you want and play against guys who feel the same way. It's not work; it's an honor." We asked Blake what his biggest highlight has been from his MSBL league or tournament play thus far. "My biggest moment was the first game I played in MSBL in 2003 after not having played in ten years. I was super nervous. It was at Glendale Community College, and I hit a home run, which felt so validating because I was a backup in high school. I also threw a guy out at second while catching. I found myself batting third from that day on! The second special moment, back in 2018, is that one of my good friends had passed away, and we changed our team name to Double Downs because that was his nickname. We went out and won the championship that year in his honor. Another highlight was when a friend in Singapore asked us to find a few guys and come play in Hong Kong. It was such a great experience that we put our own team together and went back later on. Baseball is a huge market back there. We played against a team from Russia. We didn't all need to speak the same language. We all spoke the language of baseball." Are there any individuals you would like to thank for helping your baseball career? "Yes, Dan Catalini, who was my first baseball friend when I moved to Santa Barbara. He was also the first league president. Also, Eric Davis. Back in 2003, he talked me into going to the league tryout. Forever thankful, Eric!" Any final thoughts about this special Hall of Fame honor? "MSBL is more than just baseball, but like a fraternity. All the sacrifices we make to play are all worth it. I can't just plug in any person or player. As president, it's about relationships. Players, field owners, all sorts of problems. Maintaining relationships is the key component to being successful. I don't burn my bridges.

| | 45+ Cactus Division 1 | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Des Moines Bruins | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 29 | 18 | 1000% |
| 2 | Baseball BBQ Forkballers | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 23 | 1 | 1000% |
| 3 | Connecticut Navigators | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 33 | 18 | 500% |
| 4 | Utah Rockies | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 18 | 500% |
| 5 | Sacramento Sox | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 22 | 500% |
| 6 | UK / Ireland Buccaneers | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 57 | 0% |

| | 45+ Cactus Division 2 | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The Tribe | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 32 | 13 | 1000% |
| 2 | So Cal Monarchs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 1000% |
| 3 | Canadian Angels | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 1000% |
| 4 | Utah Pelicans | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 20 | 500% |
| 5 | Houston Cyclones | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 20 | 23 | 250% |
| 6 | Colt 45's | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 39 | 250% |
| 7 | Sonoma Rebels | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 20 | 0% |

| | 60+ National Division | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Boston Wolfpack | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 43 | 6 | 1000% |
| 2 | Tribute 60's | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 17 | 0% |
| 3 | Tulsa Liners | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 29 | 0% |

| | 60+ Cactus Division | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Yonder Travelers | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 33 | 9 | 1000% |
| 2 | Sonoma County Cardinals | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 42 | 17 | 1000% |
| 3 | Mustangs Baseball Club Blue | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 1000% |
| 4 | Mustangs Baseball Club Red | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 18 | 8 | 1000% |
| 5 | Waikiki Beach Boys | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 19 | 8 | 500% |
| 6 | Arizona Stallions | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 15 | 500% |
| 7 | Houston Old Stars | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 27 | 500% |
| 8 | Kansas City | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 48 | 333% |
| 9 | Chicago MAXX Cubs | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0% |
| 10 | Tri Valley Braves | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 35 | 0% |
| 11 | Arizona Red Sox | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 0% |

| | 60+ Desert Division | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sacramento Rockets | 3 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 47 | 12 | 750% |
| 2 | Seattle Pilots | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 48 | 18 | 1000% |
| 3 | Saskatchewan Sportsmen | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 25 | 11 | 833% |
| 4 | Colorado Falcons | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 52 | 36 | 667% |
| 5 | Westchester Mets | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 25 | 20 | 500% |
| 6 | Vegas Blues | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 27 | 25 | 750% |
| 7 | OKC Classics | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 24 | 333% |
| 8 | Connecticut Navigators | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 43 | 51 | 333% |
| 9 | 60 Vets | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 29 | 64 | 125% |
| 10 | LA Sharks | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 76 | 0% |

| | 75+ Over Division | W | L | T | Pts | RS | RA | W% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sacramento Tribe | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 19 | 13 | 1000% |
| 2 | Tri Valley Antiques | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 22 | 5 | 667% |
| 3 | Chicago Fire | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 34 | 12 | 667% |
| 4 | MBI | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 23 | 15 | 667% |
| 5 | Arizona Storm | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 29 | 16 | 667% |
| 6 | PSSBL Aqua Sox | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 27 | 500% |
| 7 | Rhode Island Salty Dogs | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 26 | 17 | 333% |
| 8 | OKC Dodgers | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 18 | 30 | 333% |
| 9 | RI / Puerto Rico Cardinals | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 27 | 167% |
| 10 | 75 Vets | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 44 | 0% |






*Longtime MSBL WS veteran manager, **Pat Kelly** with a would be ball player, making sure his new glove fits. The MSBL team takes time out for a picture when they arrived at Ometepe Island.*



*45+ Cactus Div UK/Ireland Buccaneers catcher,* ***Robert Miranda*** *picks up an errant ball from the outfield and throws to second base.*



*45+ Cactus Div UK/Ireland Buccaneer's pitcher,* ***Chuck Denoner*** *got the start in his teams game with the Connecticut Navigators.*

## 2027 MSBL World Series Dates

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Week #1** | | |
| 75+ Divisions | Sun – Sat | Oct 10th - 16th | 5 games |
| 40+ Divisions | Mon – Sat | Oct 11th - 16th | 6 games |
| 60+ Divisions | Mon – Sat | Oct 11th – 16th | 6 games |
| 25+ Divisions | Wed – Sun | Oct 13th – 17th | 5 games |
| 18+ Open Division | Fri – Sun | Oct 15th – 17th | 4 games |
| | **Week #2** | | |
| 55+ Divisions | Sat – Thur | Oct 16th – 21st | 6 games |
| 65+ Divisions | Sat – Fri | Oct 16th – 22nd | 5 games |
| 73+ Division | Sat – Fri | Oct 16th – 22nd | 5 games |
| 35+ Division | Mon – Sat | Oct 18th – 23rd | 6 games |
| Father / Son | Thur – Sun | Oct 21st – 24th | 4 games |
| | **Week #3** | | |
| 70+ Division | Sun – Sat | Oct 24th – 30th | 5 games |
| 80+ Division | Mon – Fri | Oct 25th – 29th | 5 games |
| 45+ Divisions | Mon – Sat | Oct 25th – 30th | 6 games |
| 50+ Divisions | Mon – Sat | Oct 25th – 30th | 6 games |

**60+ Cactus Division**

| | |
|---|---|
| Mustangs Baseball Club-Red | 18 |
| Tri Valley Braves | 8 |
| Boston Wolfpack | 17 |
| Chicago MAXX Cubs | 0 |
| Tribute 60's | 6 |
| Mustangs Baseball Club-Blue | 7 |
| Tulsa Liners | 5 |
| Yonder Travelers | 13 |
| Waikiki Beach Boys | 16 |
| Arizona Red Sox | 1 |
| Arizona Red Sox | 16 |
| Kansas City | 22 |
| Sonoma County Cardinals | 23 |
| Houston Old Stars | 5 |
| Tri Valley Braves | 9 |
| Arizona Stallions | 17 |
| Kansas City | 12 |
| Sonoma County Cardinals | 19 |
| Houston Old Stars | 6 |
| Arizona Stallions | 4 |

**60+ Desert Division**

| | |
|---|---|
| 60 Vets | 9 |
| Vegas Blues | 9 |
| Saskatchewan Sportsmen | 7 |
| Westchester Mets | 7 |
| LA Sharks | 9 |
| Connecticut Navigators | 18 |
| Sacramento Rockets | 15 |
| Colorado Falcons | 3 |
| 60 Vets | 12 |
| OKC Classics | 17 |
| Seattle Pilots | 18 |
| Connecticut Navigators | 8 |
| LA Sharks | 4 |
| Sacramento Rockets | 19 |

**60+ National Division**

| | |
|---|---|
| Boston Wolfpack | 16 |
| Tulsa Liners | 1 |
| Yonder Travelers (Cactus) | 13 |
| Tulsa Liners | 5 |
| Mustangs Baseball (Cactus) | 7 |
| Tribute 60's | 6 |

**45+ Cactus Division 1**

| | |
|---|---|
| Sacramento Sox | 14 |
| Connecticut Navigators | 13 |
| Connecticut Navigators | 20 |
| UK / Ireland Buccaneers | 4 |
| Baseball BBQ Forkballers | 23 |
| UK / Ireland Buccaneers | 1 |
| Des Moines Bruins | 15 |
| Utah Rockies | 6 |
| UK / Ireland Buccaneers | 12 |
| Des Moines Bruins | 14 |
| Sacramento Sox | 3 |
| Utah Rockies | 9 |

**45+ Cactus Division 2**

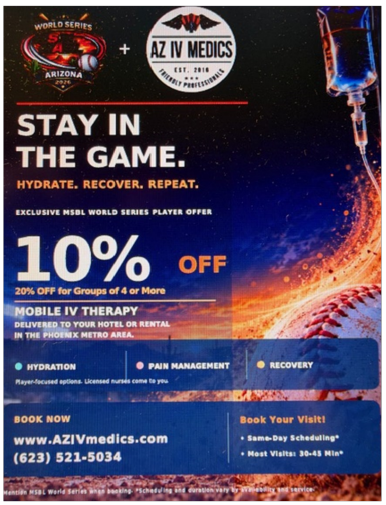
| | |
|---|---|
| Canadian Angels | 14 |
| Utah Pelicans | 4 |
| So Cal Monarchs | 8 |
| Sonoma REBL | 1 |
| Houston Cyclones | 5 |
| The Tribe | 8 |
| Colt 45's | 15 |
| Houston Cyclones | 15 |
| The Tribe | 24 |
| Colt 45's | 8 |
| Utah Pelicans | 12 |
| Sonoma Rebels | 6 |

**75+ Division**

| | |
|---|---|
| 75 Vets | 1 |
| Tri Valley Antiques | 15 |
| Sacramento Tribe | 8 |
| Arizona Storm | 6 |
| MBI | 12 |
| RI / Puerto Rico Cardinals | 2 |
| OKC Dodgers | 2 |
| Rhode Island Salty Dogs | 17 |
| PSSBL Aqua Sox | 1 |
| Chicago Fire | 21 |

Lost and Found Items can be found at the complex offices where the games were played.




**45+ / 60+ / 75+ Teams Reach The Half Way Point** *(continued from page 1)*

the strengths of his teams roster. It's really the spirit of these rules that should carry the day and despite the fact that most every team attending the tournament is doing their best to win games, any way they can. A perfect example of this is our minimum number of batters in our participation divisions. This rule was intended to ensure that every player on the roster received some playing time. Best laid plans!

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



*45+ Cactus Division So Cal Monarchs batter, **Bernie Campo** takes a step forward before getting an infield single against Sonoma.*



*45+ Cactus Division Utah Rockies batter, **Oscar Tovar** pulls this ball down the line, just a foot foul during his teams win on Tuesday*




*45+ Cactus Division Sonoma REBL pitcher, **Barney Kauffman** got the start for his team yesterday against the So Cal Monarchs.*




*45+ Cactus Div Connecticut Navigators batter, **Albert Diaz** led the offense in his teams 20-4 shellacking over the Buccaneers yesterday*



*45+ Cactus Division Sonoma REBL batter, **Jorge Martinez** reacts in disbelief as he's punched out on a questionable third strike call!*




*45+ Cactus Division Sacramento Sox pitcher, **Scott Corliss** was an imposing figure on the mound during his teams game against Utah.*