

2009 TOURNAMENTS WASHED AWAY

Rain Cancels 50+ and 60+ State Tournaments

Gene Kelly likes "Singing In The Rain" and Lena Horne doesn't mind "Stormy Weather", but senior softball players would rather hear the Beatles rendition of "Here Comes The Sun" anytime. Yes, it happened again! Rain, rain and more rain. Heavy downpours in August and September forced the cancellation of both the 50+ and the 60+ NJSSA State Tournaments. Hoping to avoid missing another year to the elements, the Association has agreed to move the Tournaments up in the season. By doing this, they have also planned for rain dates, which we never had before, for both the 50's and the 60's should they be needed.

This year the 50+ Tournament will be held on Saturday July 10th and Sunday July 11th. The rain dates will be Saturday August 28th and Sunday August 29th. The 60+ Tournament will be held on Saturday August 21st and Sunday August 22nd with the rain dates, Saturday September 11th and Sunday September 12th. (see article about tournament sites and rules on page 2).

In the past we never rescheduled a tournament that was rained out or called off. Trying to reschedule

a tournament at the end of the season was very difficult as fields were not available, teams had made commitments to other tournaments and the enthusiasm to play that late in the season had waned. Hopefully this new format will enable all the State Tournaments to be completed and enjoyed by all.

2009 Washed Away!



Courtesy of Norman Rockwell

OCEAN DEFEATS MORRIS 10-3 TO WIN 2009 70'S NJSSA CHAMPIONSHIP

Mother Nature must like older men. She showed her true colors, blue skies, white clouds and a bright sun, for the 6th Annual 70+ NJSSA State Tournament held in Old Bridge.

With bright sunshine and low humidity, the 2009 version of the 70+ NJSSA tournament got underway at Veterans Park in Old Bridge on July 15th. Teams from Mercer, Middlesex/Somerset, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, and Union counties competed for the 4th Annual NJSSA 70 and over championship.

Pioneered by Frank Haviland, the 70+ program has grown through the auspices of Norm Stumpf, Howie Marlin, and Tom Jackson to the development of a 4-team, 70 and over league in Middlesex. We hope further expansion ensues to enhance 70+ growth in other counties.

As the day progressed, the return of an Ocean County entry after a one year's absence proved to be too much to overcome as Ocean ran through the opposition with 4-1, 10-0, and 10-3 scores to win their third 70+ title in three tries. Charlie Mandrik's Ocean team accorded the MVP to their pitcher Dave Collins who helped hit and pitch the team to the three victories. Ocean's third and final win against an undefeated Morris team sealed the championship. Morris took 2nd place at 2 wins

and 1 loss with less runs allowed than 3rd place Middlesex also with 2 wins and 1 loss.

The 2010 NJSSA Tournament will be played at Veterans Park on July 14, with a rain date of July 21.



NJSSA 70'S CHAMPION TEAM

Standing: Bill Procochino, Charlie Mandrik, Sam Russo, Richie Veith, Bob Anderson, Joe DeSoras, Charlie Dilkes.

Kneeling: Ed Basile, Ron Chiorello, Dave Collins, Eliot Yeser, Ed Seyler, Ed Asay.

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