

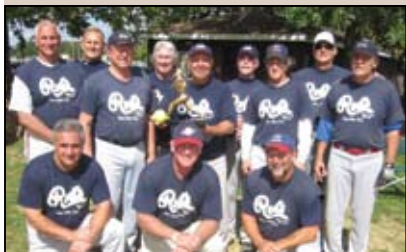
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NEW JERSEY SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

WEATHER PLAYS HAVOC WITH STATE TOURNAMENTS

50's Victim of Hurricane Irene, 60's Play after Postponement, 70's Get the Sunshine

Once again Mother Nature dealt a cruel blow to the NJSSA State Tournaments, especially the 50+ Tournament. After postponing the original date in July, the rain out date in August proved just as fatal. Hurricane Irene came barreling up the coast that weekend and our tournament was another one of its victims. Fortunately, after postponing the 60+ event, scheduled for August, the rain date in September proved to be a winner.

"A" DIVISION CHAMPS



Front Row L-R: Frank Tapparata, Pete Smith & Tony Vodola. **Middle Row L-R:** Mark Canegallo, Ed Klecan, Carmine Balletta, Rich Geisler & Tom Mount. **Back Row L-R:** John Wiczerak, Russ Casey, Billy Vanderstreet, & Tom Wiczerak.

"B" DIVISION CHAMPS



Front Row L-R: Frank Gallo, Bob Lewis, Fred Bonsignore, Pete De Rosa & Tony Zarvos. **Back Row L-R:** Steve Heringes, Frank DiRobella, Frank Sica, Pat Ricci, Ron Johnsaon & Pete Travers.

"C" DIVISION CHAMPS



Front Row L-R: Bill Stiffler, Ron Hrinko, Bob Hutcheon, Gary Nigro & Ray Totten Jerry. **Back Row L-R:** Skip Shihar, Stan Director, Stu Henberg, D. Pagdon & Allan Schulman, John Tomasello & John Viggiano.

ROD'S, SPORTS MEDICINE & PATRIOTS TAKE TITLES

60's Tournament Played After Rain Postponement

As the sunlight cascaded down through the cool autumn-like breezes, the 2011 rain date version of the NJSSA 60's Tournament got underway at the Linden fields on Saturday, September 17th. Going into the final elimination games of the grueling day with one spot on the line in each of the A, B, and C divisions, Kilkenny House (Union) in the A's, Sports Medicine (Ocean) in the B's, and Patriots (Middlesex) in the C's had locked up their entries as Sunday finalists.

With everything on the line, Rod's Tavern (Middlesex), Jerzee Boys (Morris), and Diehards (Morris) came through with victories to present their competitive stances for the Sunday wrap-up in the A, B, and C divisions respectively.

While sunny, cool, and breezy presided for a second day, all three of the finals were decided in two games each as the powerful Rod's Tavern and the strong Sports Medicine and Patriots teams cruised to victories in straight games to claim the championships of their respective divisions.

Also competing were Creative Industries and TLC (both Union) in the A's, Nicolina Pizza and The Office (both Union) in the B's, and Creative Too (Union), Survivors (Middlesex), and All American Rec and Hawks (both Ocean) in the C's. The excellent umpiring, well-acknowledged, contributed to the comfortable flow and smooth running for the two days.



Pete Smith & Joe Cusati

Veteran umpire, Joe Cusati, gets a pair of glasses from legendary softball player, "Pete" Smith, to "help him" make the right calls. Cusati has been umpiring the State Tournaments for many years, and is one of the premier umpires in the state. It was all in fun, as the tournament once again, created good sportsmanship and camaraderie.

PADRES WIN 70'S CHAMPIONSHIP

Morris County Team Wins Tie Breaker

It could not have been much closer, but the 70's Tournament championship was decided by a tie breaker. After a day of very competitive softball, Morris County and Ocean County finished with identical records - 3 wins and 0 losses. The format for the Tournament called for a tie breaker system to be used in the event of this situation occurring. The first tie breaker is - least runs allowed all games.

Morris County gave up only 10 runs, and Ocean allowed 21, so, Morris County was declared the winner of the 2011 NJSSA 70+ Championship. Despite a little confusion, as how to determine the winner, everyone enjoyed the friendship and looked forward to returning in 2012. Due to the increase in players, this year's tournament will have a little different look. Check the Tournament Rule Changes on page 2.



Front Row L-R: Alex Strashinsky, Al Overbaugh, Bob Thourot, Frank Shapiro, Tom Mellina, Bob Smith, Bob Hoffman & Tony Ciccone. **Back Row L-R:** Joe Crofton, Bill Perlman, Ted Chodorowski, John Carter, Tom Rooney & Tony Ciavatta.

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