

DAILY



NEWS

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2025 MSBL World Series Profile: Brett Mandel, Baseball BBQ Forkballers

By Steve LaMontia-Carlentini,
MSBL Director of Communications

What is the name of your team(s) this year?

We are the Baseball BBQ Forkballers.

What division(s) will you be playing in? We are playing in the 45+ Cactus Division.



Are you managing or playing in more than one week? I am managing and playing with the Forkballers and then flying directly to Florida to play with the South Jersey Phillies 55+ team in the Fall Classic.

How long have you been involved in the MSBL? I first started playing MSBL baseball 30 years ago and then became the founding Commissioner of the Greater Philadelphia Men's Adult Baseball league in 2001.

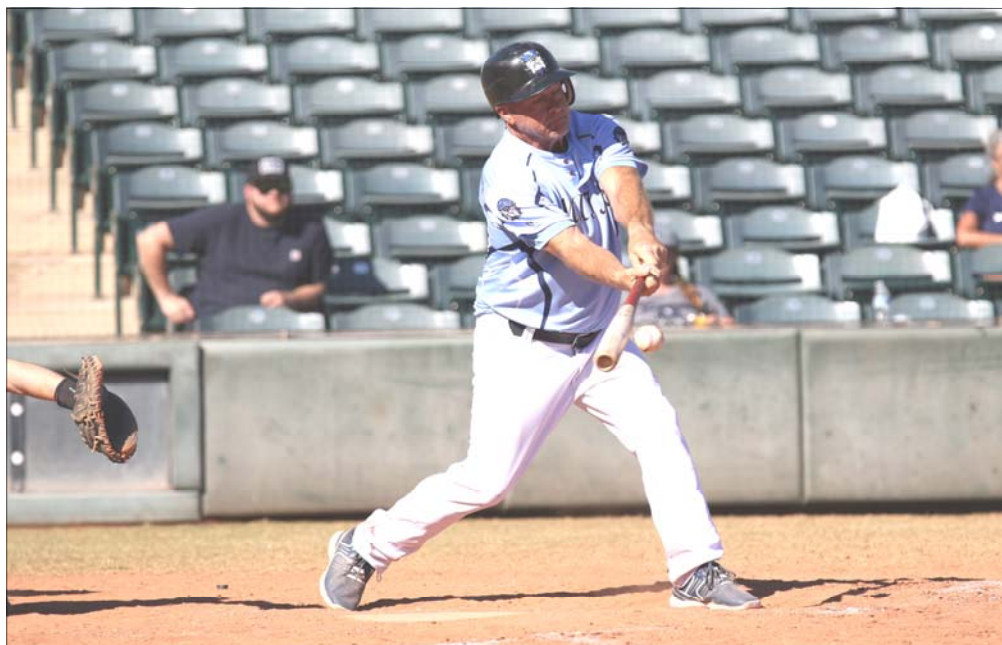
How did you become involved with MSBL? I love the game and was looking for a place to play real baseball. Happily, a team in my area was looking for players.

How many years have you attended the World Series? Fall Classic? Other MSBL Regional Tournaments? The Baseball BBQ Forkballers team, in some form (we have played as the Philly Stars, Chandler Bats Philadelphia, and Victus Bats in previous years), has been traveling to Arizona for the MSBL World Series since 2007. We also went to the MSBL Caribbean Winter Baseball Championship in 2025 and look forward to returning next year. I have also played in the Fall Classic and in several MSBL Regional Tournaments.

Have you won any events? If so, please list them and their dates. The Baseball BBQ Forkballers won the MSBL 40+ Mountain Division WS in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

What do you do for a career? I am a writer – check out www.brettmandel.com for information on my books about baseball and Philadelphia politics and governance – and a consultant. Some of my Baseball BBQ Forkballers pals and I created Baseball BBQ (www.BaseballBBQ.com), and we make patented, baseball-bat-handle BBQ tools and cutting/serving boards (continued on page 2)

75+ / 45+ / 60+ Teams On Tap For Week 3



Father and Son Cactus Maine Diamond Dogs player manager, **Clair Crandall** gets good wood on this pitch during his teams 4-2 championship game win over the Blue Dogs Sunday

Father/Son Rules Are Designed To Help Keep The Games Competitive Our Different Divisions Are Meant to Allow For More Teams to Participate

By Tom Prendergast

Since we started playing in 1988, the MSBL has always had a few special rules to go along with the MLB rules that we abide by in our league and tournament games. These are designed to assist team managers in getting more players into the lineup. Our father & son rules follow the same principal. For example, 4 father in the field and 5 sons. Now if during a game, 6 sons are in the field and only 3 fathers, not a problem. We simply stop the game and swap out a dad for a son. No big deal and it's game on. In the event this happens on offense it's a little different. Batting 3 sons in a row is a no no, got to have a father in the mix. When this happens, we treat it like a batting out of turn infraction, because it is. The penalty for this is an out. The game continues to it's conclusion. These are not protestable.

F/S Zona Championship

Heritage Baseball	3
Utah Yutes	0

73+ National Championship

MBI	10
LA Athletics	9

F/S American Championship

San Diego Legends	15
TABU	6

73+ American Championship

Tucson Oldtimers	5
TSP Fire	2

F/S Cactus Championship

Maine Diamond Dogs	4
Blue Dogs	2

F/S National Championship

Sacramento Capitals	15
Charros	1

F/S Desert Championship

Utah Pelicans	8
Utah BSD	4

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MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

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(continued from page 1)

that are customizable or can be purchased with MLB logos, so they are perfect for casual fans and serious grillers who want to step up to the plate like a big leaguer!

Please list any family details, if you wish. My dad (Steve Mandel) played MSBL baseball for decades, winning a 40+ MSBL World Series ring back in 1990. I have a wonderful wife and three adult children who think I'm a little crazy for doing this every year, but they root for me (from afar).

What are the most significant moments for you as an adult baseball player? I've had my share of nice plays, big hits, and on-field celebrations. Once, as the least-well-known "celebrity" at the Field of Dreams' 25th Anniversary celebrity game (one of my books is about the enduring appeal of the Field of Dreams Movie Site), I smashed a ball through Kevin Costner for a double to the delight of my teammate, Buffy the Vampire Slayer's Kristy Swanson. But the most significant moment is simply getting to spend another day on grass and dirt (or turf) – we all know that the day will come when we can no longer take the field.

Which local league do you play in at home?

I play in (and serve as commissioner for) the Greater Philadelphia Men's Adult Baseball League.

Do you have a favorite MSBL World Series moment? Winning a first ring in 2021 was incredibly special. I have a picture of one of my pals and myself, smiling broadly with a mix of accomplishment and fatigue as we celebrated that first MSBL World Series championship after years of trips that ended with playoff disappointments. Those weary grins summed up the pride and pain of the week to win it all.

How has playing in the MSBL/MABL affected your life? I have made some of my closest friends and so many pals through playing MSBL baseball. I have played with and against some of these guys for decades, and we have watched our families grow and thrive.

75+ Division Results

USA Volkers
Arizona Storm
75 Vets
PSSBL Aqua Sox
Rhode Island / PR Cardinals
Sacramento Solons
Rhode Island Salty Dogs
Tri Valley Antiques
Mudville 9
OKC Dodgers

12 1 75 Vets
5 2 OKC Dodgers
14 3 USA Volkers (National)
4 4 Rhode Island Salty Dogs
16 5 Sacramento Solons
17 6 Arizona Storm
13 7 Tri Valley Antiques
7 8 Mudville 9
5 9 PSSBL Aqua Sox
13 10 RI / Puerto Rico Cardinals

W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1	0	0	2	4	1000
1	0	0	2	5	1000
1	0	0	2	5	1000
1	0	0	2	7	1000
1	0	0	2	16	1000
0	1	0	0	12	0
0	1	0	0	13	0
0	1	0	0	13	0
0	1	0	0	14	0
0	1	0	0	17	0

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



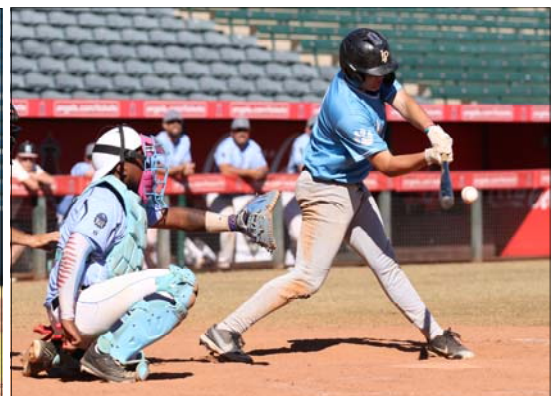
Father & Son Cactus Pelicans batter, **McCoy Chatwin** gets a bat on this pitch during this at bat in the championship.



Father & Son Cactus Maine Diamond Dogs pitcher, **Saul Nunez** picked up the win in yesterday's championship game.



Father & Son Cactus Blue Dog relief pitcher, **Scott Bell** delivers a pitch during yesterday's championship game



Father & Son Cactus Blue Dog batter, **Grady Slesk** singles against the Diamond Dogs in Sunday's game at Tempe Diablo Stadium.



Father and Son Desert Champions - Utah Pelicans



Father and Son Cactus Champions - Maine Diamond Dogs



*Father and Son Commissioner, **Jeff Turner** congratulates and presents the championship trophy to Maine manager **Clair Crandall** at Tempe Diablo stadium*



*Utah Pelicans bat boy (& future) MSBL player, **Kai Morgan**.*



73+ American Champions - Tucson Oldtimers



Father and Son Zona Champions - Heritage Baseball



*Sam Kayae presents the championship trophy to Heritage skipper, **Gary Russo**.*



Father and Son National Champions - Sacramento Capitals



*Father & Son Cactus Blue Dogs batter, **Todd Lewis** singles in the championship game yesterday against the Diamond Dogs*



Father and Son American Champions - San Diego Legends



73+ National Champions - MBI



*Utah Pelicans, **Chloe Hamel**, with her dad, **Elias** during yesterdays game at Tempe Diablo Stadium. She was one of a handful of daughters playing this year*