

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.

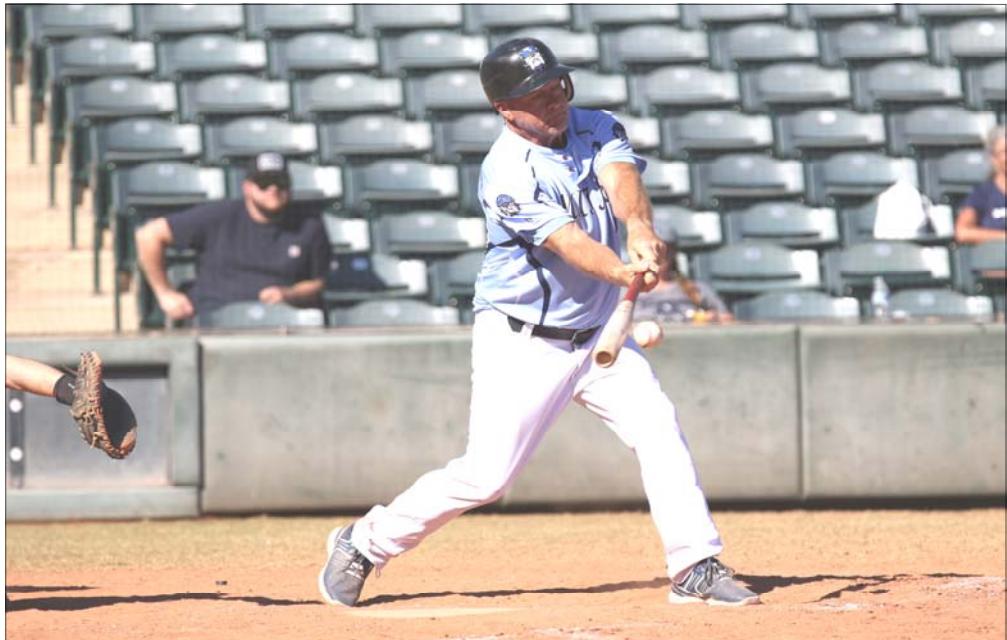
How did you become involved with MSBL? I love the game and was looking for a place to play real baseball. Happily, a team in my area was looking for players.

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 fathers 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 National Championship

Sacramento Capitals	15
Charros	1

F/S Cactus Championship

Maine Diamond Dogs	4
Blue Dogs	2

F/S Desert Championship

Utah Pelicans	8
Utah BSD	4

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MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

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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 dis-
appointments. Those weary grins summed up
the pride and pain of the week to win it all.

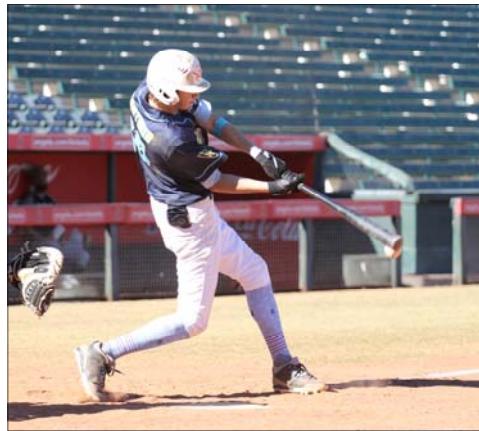
**How has playing in the MSBL/MABL affected
your life?** I have made some of my closest
friends and so many pals through playing
MSBL baseball. I have played with and against
some of these guys for decades, and we have
watched our families grow and thrive.

75+ Division Results

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

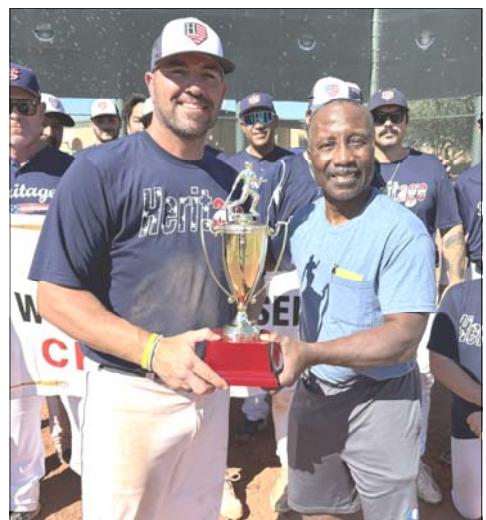


Father and Son Commissioner, Jeff Turner congratulates and presents the championship trophy to Maine manager Clair Crandall at Tempe Diablo stadium



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

73+ American Champions - Tucson Oldtimers



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

Father and Son Zona Champions - Heritage Baseball



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