

DAILY NEWS



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2025 MSBL WS Hall of Fame Inductee:**Bill Kurata, Redwood Empire Baseball**

By Steve LaMontia-Carlenitini

MSBL Director of Communications

Bill Kurata is 64 years old and lives in Windsor, California. He has been a staple of the Redwood Empire Baseball League since 2013 and has participated in the MSBL World Series every year since then. To add to his impressive resume, Bill is being inducted into the 2025 class of the MSBL World Series Hall of Fame, as determined by MSBL Founder and President Steve Sigler. "I began playing in the MSBL in 2013 for the Redwood Empire Baseball League based in Santa Rosa, California, starting in the 45 division, and have remained there," said Kurata. "I didn't start playing until I was 51, and have also now graduated to the 55-over division, pulling some double-duty. I started with the 45+ Mariners for five years, winning a league championship. I then joined the 45+ Cardinals for two years, where we won another championship. Following that, I played with the 55+ Dragons for two years, also winning a championship. I currently play with the BlackSox in the 45s, where we have been fortunate to win two titles. I just play anywhere they ask me to." Bill is currently retired after working for several California State Agencies, reaching as high as Chief Technology Officer. He started his coaching career at Head Royce High School back in the late 80s, became the assistant and eventually Head Coach at Windsor High, and he can now be found coaching at Mendocino College in the Baseball Program as an Assistant Coach. "I'm proud of my coaching resume and especially honored to be named Conference Assistant Coach of the Year for 2025." Bill is married to Jan and they have two children, Karly and Billy. Like many of us, he has been playing since he was six years old for St. Jerome's School and the El Cerrito city leagues. "I played semipro for various leagues, stemming from high school at Salesian in Richmond, to D1 at the University of San Francisco. After College, I went back into semipro ball and then softball, playing every (continued on page 2)



Bill Kurata Inducted In MSBL WS HOF



Sonoma County Cardinals manager, **Bill Kurata** receives his MSBL World Series Hall of Fame plaque from President and Founder, **Steve Sigler** at Tempe Diablo Stadium yesterday.

Fewest Runs Allowed Plays A Major Factor In Making the Playoffs

Head to Head Doesn't Always Apply, Especially When Seeding Wildcard Teams
By Tom Prendergast

Thursday nights usually include a lot of scoreboard watching, mostly by teams on the cusp. Depending on the number of teams that advance in each division, emotions run high with prospective playoff teams. While head to head is our first tie breaker, that's not the case when it comes to wildcard spots. Most of our playoffs read like this; Playoff Qualifiers: Top three teams qualify in each division and the next 2 best overall records. Lets say the top 3 teams in division 1 end up with the following records. Team A (5-1), team B (4-2) and team C (3-3). In division 2, the records look like this: team D (6-0), team E (4-2) and team F (4-2). Team E beat team F in pool play, so they finish in second place - ahead of team F. In division 1, one team is (3-3 with 26 RA). In division 2, two teams finished (3-3). Team G beat team H during pool play, but allowed 34 runs, while team H allowed 30 runs. The two wildcard teams are the ones that allowed the fewest runs, regardless of head to head play. So despite beating team H in the pool play round, they gave up more runs which allows team H to get into the playoffs as a wildcard team. It's very important to make sure your teams runs allowed is correct on the website before you play your last round robin contest.

To make a donation to
Coach Pat Kelly for his
Nicaragua Youth Baseball Kids
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MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

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day of the week and tournaments all across California on weekends. I did that until my late 30s, earning a few all-tournament and MVP honors, and then slowed down, playing in only a few city leagues. I kept that up until I was 50.

How did your MSBL journey begin?

"I met a friend of my wife, Dan Graham, who said, 'Don't go Soft, Play Hardball!' That's how I found out about MSBL and have been playing ever since. That was in 2013.

How did your MSBL WS involvement begin?

"That same year, I started attending the Arizona World Series. I have also been to Palm Springs for the Desert Classic and Las Vegas several years for both the Kickoff Classic and the Las Vegas Open. I also enjoy playing in local tourneys in Sacramento."

What is your track record in the tournaments, including the World Series?

"We came close in Vegas, making it to the Championship game, but never winning. In Arizona, we almost always made the playoffs and even to the championship game, but were never able to get over the hump. I generally play in the 45s, with various teams, the 50 Cardinals, the 55 NorCal Cubs, and the Sonoma County Cardinals in the 60s. I have also managed for several years in the 50 and 60 divisions, came close, with both getting to the championship game, but not earning the ring.

However, we finally won last year in the 55 Division with the NorCal Cubs!"

What would you consider the biggest highlight of your World Series career?

"The biggest highlight would be finally winning in Arizona and obtaining that ring. It is something that everyone strives for. I'm sure that is everyone's goal from the first day of pool play. However, more importantly, the greatest highlight is the relationships that are solidified by building friendships with guys in your league that play (continued on page 3)

45+ National

Dallas Redbirds (Cactus)	5
So Cal Snappers	20
East Bay Express	12
Sonoma - REBL (Cactus)	22
Montebello Angels	13
Utah Rockies (Cactus)	1
Dallas Redbirds (Cactus)	5
So Cal Snappers	20
Tucson Nationals (Cactus)	2
East Bay Express	7
Spokane Bandits (Cactus)	9
Montebello Angels	7

45+ Cactus Div 1

So Cal Snappers (National)	17
Baseball BBQ Forkballers	6
East Bay Express (National)	12
Sonoma REBL	22
Montebello Angels (National)	13

45+ Cactus Div 2

Bakersfield Heat	13
Connecticut Navigators	17
Des Moines Bruins	11
The Tribe	6
Spokane Bandits (Cactus)	9

75+ National / American

Mudville 9	22
75 Vets	4
OKC Dodgers	3
Arizona Storm	4
Rhode Island Salty Dogs	5

Sacramento Solons	2
Tri Valley Antiques	18
PSSBL Aqua Sox	2
RI / PR Cardinals	2
USA Volkers	23

60+ National

Sacramento Royals	3
Tulsa Liners	10
Mustangs Baseball Club	4
Boston Wolfpack	19
North County Waves	19

60+ Cactus Division 1

Sonoma County Cardinals	8
Dallas Rangers	8
Dallas Rangers	14
Arizona Stallions	4
Chicago MAXX Cubs	19

60+ Cactus Division 2

Kansas City	13
Sacramento Rays	8
Tri Valley Braves	5
OKC Classics	11
Sacramento Rays	3

60+ Desert Division 1

Mustangs Baseball Club	7
Kansas City	10
Tri Valley Braves	11
Vegas Blues	16
LA Sharkees	22

60+ Desert Division 2

Colorado Fossils	8
60+ Vets	8
Seattle Rainiers (Div 1)	24
Aussie Aces	19
Westchester Mets	5

60+ Vets

Seattle Pilots	18
Aussie Aces	11
LA Sharks (Div 1)	1
60+ Vets	6
Seattle Pilots	18

60+ Vets**60+ Cactus Division 2****60+ Desert Division 1****60+ Desert Division 2****60+ Vets****60+ Vets**

75+ National Division	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 USA Volkers (National)	4	0	0	8	18	1000
2 Rhode Island Salty Dogs	4	0	0	8	20	1000
3 Mudville 9	3	1	0	6	23	750
4 Arizona Storm	2	2	0	4	21	500
5 Tri Valley Antiques	2	2	0	4	28	500
6 RI / Puerto Rico Cardinals	2	2	0	4	45	500
7 Sacramento Solons	1	3	0	2	38	250
8 OKC Dodgers	1	3	0	2	40	250
9 75 Vets	1	3	0	2	62	250
10 PSSBL Aqua Sox	0	4	0	0	65	0

60+ National	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Boston Wolfpack	3	1	0	6	16	750
2 Tulsa Liners	2	2	0	4	21	500
3 Mustangs Baseball Club	2	2	0	4	41	500
4 Sacramento Royals	2	3	0	4	54	400
5 North County Waves	1	2	0	2	19	333

60+ Cactus Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Dallas Rangers	4	0	1	9	21	900
2 Chicago MAXX Cubs	4	1	0	8	33	800
3 Arizona Stallions	2	3	0	4	49	400
4 Tri Valley Tribute	2	2	0	4	33	500
5 Sonoma County Cardinals	1	3	1	3	56	300
6 Vancouver Angels	0	4	0	0	64	0

60+ Cactus Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Mustangs Baseball Club	5	0	0	10	21	1000
2 OKC Classics	3	1	0	6	26	750
3 Kansas City	2	3	0	4	57	400
4 Tri Valley Braves	2	3	0	4	59	400
5 Sacramento Rays	0	5	0	0	49	0

60+ Desert Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Sask Sportsmen	4	1	0	8	58	800
2 Colorado Falcons	3	1	0	6	36	750
3 Seattle Rainiers	2	2	0	4	55	500
4 Vegas Blues	2	3	0	4	78	400
5 LA Sharks	1	4	0	2	72	200

60+ Desert Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Seattle Pilots	5	0	0	10	27	1000
2 60 Vets	2	2	1	5	44	500
3 Westchester Mets	2	2	0	4	44	500
4 Aussie Aces	1	4	0	2	83	333
5 Colorado Fossils	0	3	1	1	42	125

45+ National Division	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Montebello Angels	4	1	0	8	18	800
2 So Cal Snappers	4	1	0	8	20	800
3 East Bay Express	2	3	0	4	47	400

45+ Cactus Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Baseball BBQ Forkballers	3	2	0	7	56	600
2 Sonoma - REBL	3	1	0	6	32	750
3 Houston Cyclones	3	1	0	6	42	750
4 Sacramento Sox	1	3	0	3	52	250
5 Utah Rockies	1	4	0	3	52	500
6 Colt 45's	1	3	0	2	52	250

45+ Cactus Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %
1 Des Moines Bruins	4	1	0	8	48	800
2 Spokane Bandits	3	1	0	6	30	750
3 The Tribe	2	2	0	5	34	500
4 Dallas Redbirds	1	2	1	4	44	375
5 Connecticut Navigators	2	2	0	4	46	500
6 Tucson Nationals	0	3	1	2	42	125
7 Bakersfield Heat	0	4	0	1	49	0

Note: it's important to verify your teams record / runs allowed on the TeamSnap app after every game - make sure its correct



60+ Desert Division Colorado Fossils pitcher, Randy Hughes was on the mound during his teams 8-8 tie against the Vets On Wednesday afternoon

2026 MSBL / MABL World Series Dates

Week #1

50+ Divisions	Sun – Fri	Oct 18 th – 23 rd	6 games
70+ Divisions	Sun – Sat	Oct 18 th – 24 th	5 games
40+ Divisions	Mon – Sat	Oct 19 th – 24 th	6 games
25+ Divisions	Wed – Sun	Oct 21 st – 25 th	5 games
18+ Divisions	Fri – Sun	Oct 23 rd – 25 th	4 games

Week #2

55+ Divisions	Sat – Thur	Oct 24 th – 29 th	6 games
65+ Divisions	Sat – Fri	Oct 24 th – 30 th	5 games
35+ Divisions	Mon – Sat	Oct 26 th – 31 st	6 games
73+ Divisions	Mon – Sun	Oct 26 th – Nov 1 st	5 games
80+ Divisions	Wed – Sat	Oct 28 th – 31 st	4 games
Father/Son Divisions	Thur – Sun	Oct 29 th – Nov 1 st	4 games

Week #3

75+ Divisions	Sun – Sat	Nov 1 st – 7 th	5 games
45+ Divisions	Mon – Sat	Nov 2 nd – 7 th	6 games
60+ Divisions	Mon – Sat	Nov 2 nd – 7 th	6 games

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for other teams and unifying under one team. I meet people in Arizona and form long-lasting friendships, and am able to see them every year in Arizona. I formed our 60s team from guys I met in Arizona, as well as from other parts of the country. We're one big Family in the MSBL!" Every journey has a beginning, and there are always people who have lent a helping hand along the way.

Who have been some of your biggest supporters in your adult baseball life?

"I'd like to start by thanking Steve Sigler and his staff. Brian, Steve, Tom, Sam, Red (RIP), and numerous other members. They provide us the ability to play the game we all love in different venues across the states.

I obviously need to thank my wife, who lets me forget my daily responsibilities on Sunday, and a few weeks in Arizona to play the game.

What does this award mean to you? "I can't express enough gratitude for receiving this prestigious award. I have to pinch myself to see if I'm awake. lol.

I'm humbled to be even considered for this prestigious award. I haven't been a part of the MSBL Family very long compared to other recipients or other players. But for me, it is relationships through the MSBL that are important.

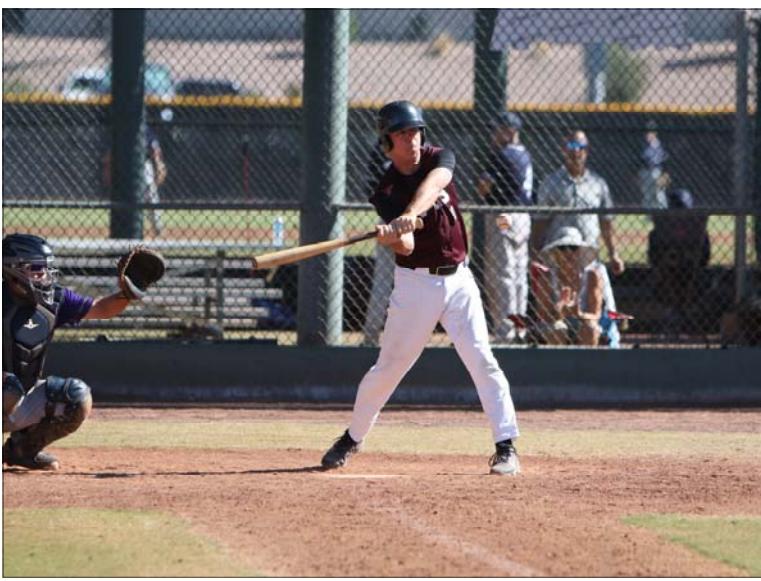
The MSBL gives us that opportunity to do just that. Seeing the staff and other teams and players that you run across year after year, across different age divisions. I can't be more thankful, just for that aspect. This award is just icing on the cake."



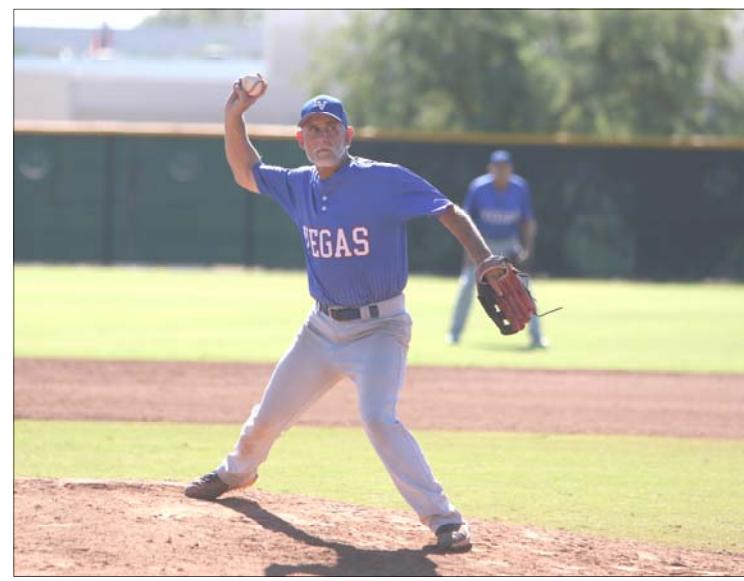
60+ Desert Division Colorado Fossils batter, **Jim Wardell** gets a good look at this pitch in his teams game against the Cal Vets.



60+ Desert Division Las Vegas Blues batter, **Glen Ross** connects with this pitch and lines a single up the middle against the Sharks.



60+ Desert Division Vets batter, **Monty Blom** doubles down the line during his teams 6-1 win over the LA Sharks Wednesday on Tempe 2.



60+ Desert Division Las Vegas Blues pitcher, **Larry Bergren** eyes the batter during this pitch to the plate on Wednesday afternoon.



60+ Cactus Sonoma County Cardinals pitcher, **Alan Maciel** was on the mound during his teams 8-8 tie against the Dallas Rangers.



60+ Desert Division Vets batter, **Rick White** rips this pitch for an rbi base hit during his teams 6-1 win over the LA Sharks.