

Western National News

The Western Nationals were a success for SSUSA and Scrap Iron. The number of teams and the high quality facility exceeded SSUSA's expectations. Conversations with tens of players indicated nothing but high praise for the tournament.

Greg Broeckelman deserves many thanks for a year of effort to bring the Western Nationals to Colorado. Greg has agreed to lead our effort to keep the tournament in Aurora in 2013. Other communities are bidding on the tournament, but Aurora has the first right of refusal if they can match the best bid.

Scrap Iron teams were very successful playing at home! Five of our 13 teams will be playing National Championship games in Las Vegas during the World Masters Championships. I believe this is a record for the Club. Our teams competing for a National Championship are:

- Master Collision – 60 Major Plus
- Freedom – 60 AA
- Phiten – 65 AAA
- Classics – 65 AA
- Reds – 70 AA

Four of our teams, 60 Freedom, 60 Master Collision, 65 Phiten, and 70 Reds also qualified for the Tournament of Champions (TOC) next February. This was the third qualifying win for the 70 Reds, and the second for our 60 Freedom team. These four join our 50 Rapid Erectors, and 55 Northern teams as TOC qualifiers.

Two Scrap Iron teams also placed second in their divisions at the Western Nationals. The 65 Reds were second in the 65 AAA Division, and our 70 Legacy team was second in the 70 Gold Division.

Other Tournament News

Five Scrap Iron teams went to Shawnee, Kansas for the SSUSA Midwest Championships. Our Scrap Iron 65 Phiten team took second in the 65 AAA competition, and 50 Aftershock was third in the 50 Major Division. Teams had to endure 100 degree plus weather for every day of the tournament.

Rapid Erectors, one of our 50 Major teams, has been busy with SPA tournaments. In early July they took second in the Isenhower Mid-American National Qualifier in Liberty, Missouri. This was another hot one with the temperature reaching 106. Two weeks later Rapid Erectors played in the SPA World Championships in Dalton, GA and finished fifth out of 15 teams. They recommend Dalton as a great place to play.

Scrap Iron 65 Phiten also played a SPA tournament this month, the Hoosier Classic in Shelbyville, IN. They finished second and will be playing in the SPA World Championships in September.

Sad news for SSUSA – Steve Simmons, National Director for Senior Softball Clubs and Activities and a Director for many SSUSA tournaments passed away last week from injuries suffered in a boating accident. Steve was a good friend of Scrap Iron member, DuWayne Pillard. Steve was also an acquaintance of several SI members from his Director duties, and as a player on the Minnesota Prize 65 Major team.

Other Scrap Iron News

We need two key volunteers – Benny Bennett and Mike Massong have performed their duties as Club Treasurer and Fund Raising Chair respectively for several years. They are ready for a break. Mike will continue to work on specific fund raising projects, but he is giving up the leadership position. First, please thank these gentlemen for their contributions to SI, and second consider filling the role of Treasurer or Chair of Fund Raising. ***We can't do 2013 budgeting this fall without these positions being filled.***

Potential for a new 50 AAA team – We have been contacted by several individuals who want to be part of a new Scrap Iron 50s team. The 50s age group obviously feeds the club as we age, and a new team every few years is a must. The group probably needs 5-8 additional new players. If you know of someone in this age group who wants to travel in 2013, please pass the information to me at a.wiechmann@comcast.net

Alan Wiechmann