

SCRAP IRON Softball



It's almost here, just a few weeks away from the Spring Worlds tournament in Mesquite/ Saint George. For most of us this is our season opener. However some of the teams have already played in a tournament or two this year. I know the 70's Diamonds and the Rocky Mountain Patriots have played in Bullhead City, Arizona. The Scrap Iron Reds are off to Bullhead City in a couple weeks. If any of the Scrap Iron teams have played or are planning to play soon please let me know so I can get the information out to our club, because we as a club care! I'm looking forward to another season of some great softball and reporting to our club in our newsletter the results of your great softball experiences. Weather your a manager, Coach, or player you are always welcome to submit something to me for publication. It can be on anything of interest to our fellow club members and families, yes families! I get several comments from non players who read our newsletter. Please send me team results, (including pictures) interesting facts about your games, funny stories that happened on your team, (I know from experience that something silly or funny always happens on my team). Send me some of your best memories on the ball field or why you love playing senior softball, feel free to recognize or publicly thank someone. This is your newsletter, your club, it's here for all of us, we are the largest softball club in the world and of course have the greatest members anywhere! Please send submissions to me directly, email firstbase17@me.com
Thank you,
Art

Congratulations to two of our teams for qualifying and participating in SSUSA's Tournament of Champions earlier this month, Scrap Iron Rockies & Scrap Iron Heavy Metal. I know the Rickies had a good tournament taking third place out of 7 teams in the 60's AA division and Heavy Metal took second place in the 60's AAA division out of 9 teams. See article below from Bruce Brothis, team manager.

Scrap Iron Heavy Metal (60AAA) participated in the recent Tournament Of Champions (TOC) February 7-9, 2020. Metal was undefeated coming out of the seeding rounds to become the #1 seed by allowing the least runs (15) of all the 2-0 teams. Metal continued through the winners bracket until losing to Red Hawk Nation out of Florida by one run in the bottom of 7. They battled back through the loser's bracket to face Red Hawk Nation once again in the Championship game. Up by one run going into the open inning, Red Hawk rattled off 9 more earned runs with Metal only able to manage 3 in the bottom, losing by 7. While Metal got 2 of their former nemesis' monkeys off their backs (Chicago Panthers and Long Island Jaguars), they will be gunning for Red Hawk at their next opportunity.

Deciding on the 4 All Tournament players was a daunting task as all 12 members of the team played above and beyond their capabilities, giving 110% through all seven games. Metal's new add, Arthur "Pops" Talbot, joined the team for the 2020 season and has been an AMAZING pickup (he formerly played for one of Metal's arch rivals, Mountain Men) recording 6 Ks (all looking!) and batting a cool .733 with many clutch hits. He is joined on the All Tournament squad by Dave Lussier (outfielder and left side infield relief) who hit an amazing .833 and zero defensive errors. Dave was a key Metal pickup in 2019. The All Tournament squad is rounded out by Fred Hampe (also a 2019 addition) who hit a real nice .667, had some incredibly key at-bats and protected the dish with several key put-outs at home. Last, but certainly not least, is John Kirar. John is an original Metal member and hit an awesome .762 while having some excellent catches in right-center as well as several put-out throws to second, third and home. John also had a walk-off jack in the bottom of the 5th inning of Metal's second bracket game.

Overall, the team batted a real nice .694 and had very few errors. The final highlight of Metal's TOC trip was the participation of Eddie Buonaiuto in the TOC All-Star game, representing the American League. Eddie held his own with the American League beating the National League by about 15 runs. This gave the American League team the right to face the Louisville Slugger Warriors in an exhibition game on Saturday night. The Warrior's team was made up of veterans (many clearly in their 20s and 30s), many of whom were disabled. To say they could hit the ball a country mile would be a gross understatement. Their pitcher, a roughly 6'6" 250# 20something lefty was routinely clocking the ball way in excess of 400' causing members in the American League dugout to take cover when he was at the plate. Needless to say, although they gave it a yeoman's effort, the American League All Stars fell to the Warriors by double digits.

2020 stands to be a banner year for Metal if the TOC is any indication of things to come. Metal plans to play in St. George, Spring Vegas, a yet to be determined summer tournament, Aurora, Fall Vegas and Phoenix or Ft Myers to round out the 2020 season.



Want more softball? Here are opportunity's for you to consider.

Fun League at Vanderbilt fields starts Tuesday March 24. Fun league is just that a "Fun League" a chance to brush up on you skills while having fun with a great group of guys. The league has 4 teams that play scheduled double headers on Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Thursday's are pick up games, whoever shows up players choose teams and play. The format is simple, if the forecast temperature at noon is 50 degrees plus we play. For more information contact me or Terry Goodrich.

Wednesday league, scheduled double headers played at various locations from Greeley to Colorado Springs. Start dates this year 70's plus division Monday April 27 and B-E divisions Wednesday May 6. For more information just ask anyone who plays ball or you can email me and I'll get you to the right people.

Saturday league, scheduled triple headers at various locations. Start date TBD.

More information is available at coloradoseniorsoftball.net

This years Scrap Iron Banquet was another great success, attendance just topped 200! If you missed it you really missed a lot! Plan on attending next year, the date is January 30, 2021, location to be determined. Visit jacksactionshots.com for many pictures taken at the banquet. Here's just a small highlight of what you missed.

New Hall of Fame members inducted were

Andy Shapiro - Special Category
Fred Mattos - Manager Category
Chris McTigue - Player Category
Mark Troxel - Player Category

Welcome class of 2019!

Our clubs highest award "The Founders" award was awarded to Mike Massong. Mike is moving out of state and possibly retiring from softball, this honor was given to him for many years of dedicated service to our club. Although Mike was not one of the original founders is was there and involved in much of the planning and beginnings of our club. Our Scrap Iron club will surly miss him and his dedication, plus Mike will be missed because of his tremendous attitude, and he's such a nice guy! We wish him the Best!

Andy Shapiro was recognized for his 5 years of service as president, thank you Andy for your dedication to our club.

Awards were given out by individual teams for the following

SI Diamonds 70s
MVP Larry Denzler

SI Xplosion
MVP David "Superman" Schultz

High Octane
MVP Bobby Knowles.

Rocky Mountain Thunder 55s
MVP Tommy Edwards

Mile High 55's
MVP Mark Pritchett

Heavy Metal
MVP Rick Shaum & Mark Gembarowski

Scrap Iron Diamonds 65's
MVP Tom Bechtel
Coaches award. Rob Minner

Scrap Iron Rockies
MVP Rick Frahm

Scrap Iron 5280.
MVP George Wise

Kathy Hulls
Most Valuable Person

Scrap Iron Reds
MVP Stan Cabico.

Scrap Iron Elite
MVP Randy Strandberg

Scrap Iron Alliance
MVP William J. Connor and Steve "Sully" Sullivan.
Sammy award Phil Lambert

Scrap Iron Legends
MVP Ed Clark

Scrap Iron Gray Berets
MVP JOE DeCRISTOFARO

The Banquet is our biggest fundraiser of the year, along with that, our skills competition during the Aurora tournament, many donations from individuals and businesses, the King Soopers grocery program, Smile Amazon, and an individual fund raiser by John Karagiannes with the super bowl squares. These donations allows us as a club to function and fulfill our mission. Upcoming fundraising ideas in the works are a Wood Bat tournament in June dates to be determined, and possibly working out a program with a bat manufacturer to discount the cost of bats to our membership with a small kick back to our club. If you have any ideas for a fundraiser please contact our fundraising chairman Bruce Brothis.

Speaking of fundraising, the King Soopers grocery program has the ability to generate some serious money for our club, the estimated participation currently from our club is less than 20%. Many of you are still a little unsure how to register, below are the simple instructions. Last year the grocery program brought in \$4,377.00 not bad but could be much better!

KING SOOPERS NONPROFIT REWARDS PROGRAM

How the program works?

King Soopers will pay out \$2.5 million quarterly, to be divided amongst all registered nonprofits with a maximum payout of \$125k to any one organization. The amount received by Scrap Iron Softball Club is our percentage of spend in relation to the total spend of all King Soopers Community rewards organizations. For example, if the total spend in a quarter comes to .1% of the total for all organizations; we get \$2,500 for the quarter. Our objective is to increase our percentage of the total spend.

How does the Club earn money?

The Scrap Iron Softball Club supporter must enroll in the program on the King Soopers website and designate Scrap Iron Softball Club as the beneficiary. Enrollment steps are easy for our supporters. First they need to have a King Soopers loyalty card or their Alt ID number which should be their telephone number. Once enrolled in the loyalty program, simply swipe the loyalty card or enter the Alt Id number before completing a

purchase at King Soopers or any Kroger affiliate. The purchases are automatically applied to Scrap Iron Softball Club's apportionment.

How do I enroll?

Open website KingSoopers.com and sign in. You will need to enter your email address and password. If you don't remember your password, click

On top ribbon to the left, click [Forgot Password?](#), then scroll down to [Menu](#) and choose

Click

In the Search box, type in Scrap Iron Softball Club or JJ493 and click Done.

What about out of state participants?

Out of state participants must choose a Colorado Store on their MY ACCOUNT page on the King Soopers website. If you have an out of state store selected for their account, the search engine will not find Scrap Iron Softball Club. The individual would need to sign in and go to My Account page, select [Menu](#) and [Change Preferred Store](#) before proceeding to the enrollment steps above. The preferred store has to be a Colorado Zip code. You can use my zip code, 80122 and select a store location.

Any purchases not applied to the card?

There is a list of purchases that do not qualify for rewards earnings. Alcohol, Tobacco, Government Assisted Pharmacy Expenses, Postage Stamps, Kroger Co. Family of Stores Gift Cards, Green Dot Prepaid Reloadable Products, MoneyPaks, 1-2-3 Rewards Reloadable Visa PrePaid Debit Cards, MasterCard Variable Load Gift Cards, Bottle Deposits, Western Union, Fuel, and Sales Tax. However, regular in store gift cards from other businesses that are not discounted do apply to reward earnings.

Who are the Kroger Company affiliates?

Kroger affiliates are: King Soopers, Fry's Food Stores, Smith's Food and Drugs, Fred Meyer, Ralph's, Food 4 Less, Dillons, Jay C, and Quality Food Centers.

Any questions, contact John Parisi, jparisi2@comcast.net or 307-286-1936.

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Another source of revenue for our club is through The Smile Amazon program. Amazon donates back 1/2 percent of all your purchases made through Smile Amazon. Go to SmileAmazon.com follow the instructions to register a non profit, Scrap Iron is listed. Once enrolled whenever you go shopping on Amazon instead of going Director Amazon go to Smile Amazon and shop as usual, the 1/2 percent is automatic. Last year we received \$64.00, not much, however only 4-5 people in our club take advantage of this, can you imagine if just 25% of our club participated!

All donations add up and helps our teams purchase safety equipment, jerseys, and keeps the cost down playing in tournaments. All this keeps us young and playing a game we love.

A message from our president

John Parisi

Scrap Iron Club Is Much More Than a Dues Collecting Organization

The club collects dues to help pay for team's tournaments, uniforms and safety equipment. Funds for the teams' needs come from dues, fundraisers, and donations. Scrap Iron Club will look for additional avenues to increase fundraising and donations, however, there is much more to the Scrap Iron Club that should also be enhanced. The more involved and committed we are with the club, the stronger we will become in club to team revenue sharing, social support, and fellowship.

This is an opportunity for us to enjoy a game we love and create a bond or fellowship with others of like interests. The more involved we are with club activities, the more committed we are to the organization and the people within. Communication is key and available through several avenues: newsletters, website access, group email announcements, etc. To make this work, club members need to be involved. This includes:

- All players in the club should know about the club and can explain to others what we are all about. This will increase our scope of potential players and teams while enhancing our bond with our members.
- Participate in supporting our fundraising activities. Volunteer your time to help.
- Express your joys and concerns. Consider this a fellowship that is here to help and support you.
- Look to support each other on and off the field. Watch and cheer other teams in between games. We want all teams to do well. Be players and also fans. Support our teams!
- Open practices to include other Scrap Iron teams. We all want to get better so let's help each other.
- Gather at tournaments for BBQ or just to hang out together. Invite other Scrap Iron teams to join the camaraderie.

Increased involvement strengthens the club, supports the players and creates friendships. Get Involved!

Since we are embarking on a new season please remember our Scrap Iron's code of conduct, we are very well respected in the world of senior softball let's keep earning that respect by with our great sportsmanship on and off the field.

CODE OF CONDUCT

WHILE REPRESENTING THE SCRAP IRON SOFTBALL CLUB, I WILL CONDUCT MYSELF AS A GENTLEMAN AT ALL TIMES.

ON THE FIELD OF PLAY, I WILL DISPLAY THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SPORTSMANSHIP.

MY ACTIONS ON AND OFF THE FIELD WILL NEVER DISCREDIT THE SCRAP IRON SOFTBALL CLUB AND ITS MEMBERS.

