



The Senior Athlete

Montgomery County
Senior Sports Association

Volume 29 Number 2
April 3, 2020

SENIOR BASKETBALL



BASKETBALL 2020 CUT SHORT

For the second straight season in succession, the MCSSA 4v4 Basketball League was an overwhelming success. With 2 weeks remaining and injured players returning from the unable to play list, the league was prepared for another barnburner to conclude the season. Last year the 4th place team And One came from behind to win the championship. This season the Ballers, managed by George Pruden had a 2 game lead on the Nets, managed by Harold Russell. Playing 2 games per week with 2 weeks to go, it proved to be an exciting conclusion.

Thank you to all participants. Special thanks to Spike Bauroth, Alan Shevitz, and David Hyder.

Final Standings as of March 6, 2020

BALLERS (GOLD)	12	4
NETS (RED)	10	6
DEFENDERS (BLUE)	6	10
AND ONE (White)	3	13

SOFTBALL SEASON PUT ON PAUSE

With just two weeks of indoor practice remaining, and just as we were anxiously anticipating going outdoors to prepare for the spring 2020 season, MCSSA was confronted with a severe setback. We were challenged with being quarantined, sequestered, or as the pundits express it; "sheltered in place." Yes, Covid 19, a devastating bug that has been wreaking havoc on our population for the past several months, has sidelined us. Especially vulnerable is the senior citizen community. And for those who don't know it, if you are reading this newsletter, you are a member of that community.

We will be in touch if the "weather starts to break." Each league, has contingency plans for an abbreviated spring season. Don't be concerned about your registration, we are not going out of business, If refunds become appropriate, we will address it at a later time.

Inside this issue:

Editorials	2
Personality Profile	3

MCSSA Registration Form	5
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Dates to Remember

- July 11 Twenty fourth Annual "Bill Tait" Invitational Softball Tournament
- July 19 League All-Star games.



From the Editor's Desk:

Please note the last page with the expiration dates shown. If your date is shown as 2020, your dues expire with this issue of The Senior Athlete. We function on a fiscal year that begins April 1 and ends March 31.

* * * * *

Recently, I sent an email to the Board of Directors announcing that I plan to retire/step down as President of MCSSA effective December 31, 2020, after serving in that capacity for the last 18 years. Although it is early, it gives the board time to recruit candidates for the job. It has been a distinct honor and privilege to have served you all these years, but it is time for some young blood to step up and carry on the great mission of MCSSA.

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We are in a quandary as to when softball season (if at all) is to begin. Stand by for late breaking news.

* * * * *

Jay Bedell, manager of the Eagles in the Wednesday morning CoRec league, is looking for players, men over 60 and women over 40 to play on his team that plays for the enjoyment of the game. His email is jbedell1940@gmail.com.

In Memoriam

Marc Crisafulli
Son of Frank and Nancy

Jan Tait
Wife of Bill

Michelle Hughes
Stepdaughter of Jim Ganz

All Star Weekend

This year we got pre-empted on scheduling and as a result we will be active on two different weekend days.

On Saturday, July 11, the Twenty Fourth Annual MCSSA Bill Tait Invitational Senior Softball Tournament will be held on Fields #3, #4 and #5. Opening Ceremonies will begin at 9:45 a.m. on Field #4.

On Sunday July 19 there will be two All Star Games played on Field #4. The first beginning at 9:30 a.m. with the Morning and Evening 60+ leagues facing off and at 11:30 the game between the Tuesday evening and Friday evening 50+ leagues.

MCSSA Board of Directors

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Women's Masters	Carmen Campbell
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60+ Tuesday/Thursday Morning	Jacky Loube
Co-Rec Wednesday Morning	Don Juran
50+ Tuesday Night	Paul Jarosinski
55+ Thursday Night	Bill Madert
60+ Wednesday Night	Stu Levy
50+ Friday Night Draft	Dave Hyder
Web master	David Schardt
Basketball	Jacky Loube
Senior Olympics	George Huson
Volleyball	Shane Wu

CAUTION

In light of the current pandemic situation, please follow this advice:

Most importantly and above all else, heed the words of the experts; endure, stay alert and be vigilant. Health and family first.

Stay safe!

The Senior Athlete is a publication of the Montgomery County Senior Sports Association (MCSSA) and is published four times a year, at the beginning of each quarter (January, April, July and October) to members in good standing. MCSSA is a non-profit organization exempt from Federal Income Taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Submit articles and/or changes of address to:

MCSSA
14320 Fairdale Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905



MCSSA Personality Profile Alan Shevitz



My story begins with my roots. My parents Bernard and Lillian were born in Brooklyn, NY, however, my mother's father died when she was eight years old. Several years later her mother remarried and they moved to Fredericksburg, VA. It was difficult raising a family during the Great Depression, consequently, at age sixteen, my father moved to Baltimore, MD to work at a cousin's printing company. This started an almost 40-year career. A few years later my dad moved to Washington, DC to work for a private printing company and met my mother at the boarding house where they both resided. My mother was working in the secretarial field when they met. They were married in 1941, and in 1943 my father enlisted into the Army. While he was in boot camp, my brother Stephen was born. In 1945 my father was discharged from the Army after serving in Italy for nearly two years. He came back to Washington DC and I was born in 1947 and my sister followed 4 years later. Even though I wished for a baby brother, my newborn sister, Susan, became one of the true loves of my life and is still. My brother Stephen and I had a very close relationship our whole life. He has always been my role model and to this day he is still my best friend. My dad was very athletic and at a very young age I had a ball and glove in my hand and was not only practicing pitching with my dad but also with my brother. My brother and I would play ball in the backyard and in the street in front of

our house all the time. In the 1960s, my dad went to work in the Government Printing Office as a proof-reader. Unfortunately, in 1983 my dad passed away at age 63 after only being retired for 6 months. My mom continued to work for B'nai B'rith in Washington DC as an executive for over 25 years. She passed away in 2012 at the age of 93.

When I was eleven years old, my parents sent me to ballroom dancing lessons where I met Michele, who was twelve. We danced together and dated off and on until I was twenty, when we got married. Four years later my son Kevin, whom was born and for the next fourteen years I had my son who I raised as an only child until our daughter Brooke was born. Yes, Kevin and Brooke were born almost 14 years apart. Now my family was complete. A son and a daughter, I was in heaven.

Tragedy hit our family in 1996 when my wife Michele was killed in an automobile accident at the age of 49. She died in my arms at the scene of the accident; we had been married over 28 years. Brooke was 10 when her mom died and Kevin was working on his career. This was a major setback for my family and me; I struggled to raise a daughter and run a household as a single dad. What a challenge juggling work, Brooke's school and homework, soccer practice, dance, Hebrew school and household duties. During this time period I was still training umpires in VA. There was one special umpire that I became friends with, Melanie Bales. For several years we trained and umpired together while also socializing together within our association. Melanie's sister passed away a few months after Michele and when we saw each other, we were both in mourning. One thing led to another and several years later Melanie moved in with me. We were married in 2008 and she has become the love of my life. Currently, my son Kevin lives in Pittsburgh with my 3 granddaughters. Kevin is a physical education and health teacher and Athletic Director for Pittsburgh Public Schools. I live vicariously through my son. My daughter Brooke is married and lives in Alexandria, VA. Brooke manages an event planning department for a non-profit in Arlington, VA. To this day, Kevin, Brooke, their spouses, and my 3 granddaughters are a major part of my life.

I lived in Prince George's County through middle school and moved to Montgomery County

(Continued on Page 4 (**Shevitz**))



(Continued from Page 3 **Shevitz**)

and graduated from Northwood High School. After attending Montgomery College and the University of Maryland, I started working full time for Giant Food and spent over twenty years in the retail arena to include managing Toys R Us Stores. Later, I was the general manager for a local toy company and worked in sporting goods as well as hardware. Consequently, this background got me a buyer's job at the Quantico Marine Base in Quantico, Va. in 1985. I bought sporting goods, hardware, toys, lawn and garden, computers, home furnishings for a Post Exchange (PX) the size of a K-Mart, to the tune of over \$5M a year. Eventually, one of the companies I bought from offered me a sales job and I literally went from one side of the desk to the other. For the next twelve years I called on the military exchanges up and down the East Coast to include Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. After the company got bought out, it was time for me to move on, managing and operating parking facilities around the Washington DC area until I retired.

My ball career began when I was twelve years old and played little league baseball. I was a good center fielder with a strong arm and I had lots of speed. At age fourteen, I followed my brother and joined a Jewish boys fraternity, AZA. I was part of this organization until I was eighteen. Each season athletic teams would compete against other chapters in football, softball, basketball and duck pin bowling (which was the foundation of my pitching career). I was the fastest runner in my middle school and in high school my speed was recognized by coaches. I played high school football, but instead of playing baseball, I ran track. It was just a coincidence that the head track coach was my backfield coach. We had a great track team over the years and in my senior year we won the MD State Track Tournament. I ran a consistent 10.2 to 10.5 in the 100 yard dash and I was the 3rd fastest on the team, it was an amazing and memorable experience.

Participation in these sports helped my softball career take off. I have played competitive softball almost every year since graduating from high school. I played in leagues in PG, Fairfax, and Montgomery counties. In the early 1980s I was approached by several umpires, who had umpired my games in Fairfax Co. and frequented my sporting store, about the possibility of me becoming an umpire. This started a 40-year career as an umpire. Fortunately, I was part of an association that had nationally recognized umpires so the training I re-

ceived and the umpires I worked with (2-man) elevated my abilities far beyond what I could have ever imagined. I started working on the training committee and have helped train umpires in the Washington area for over 30 years.

Being selected to work national tournaments was hard to come by, especially in an association with so many experienced umpires. You had to wait your turn. I worked several regional tournaments and my first national was 7 years after I started and I took off from there. I proceeded to work numerous national tournaments and one of my greatest accomplishments was working a Super National ASA tournament in 1994. This was the highest level of amateur softball in the world. One of my other great accomplishments was in 1995 when I was inducted into the Washington Metropolitan Slow Pitch Hall of Fame as an umpire. On the same night of my induction, it was announced that I was selected to be on the staff of the International Softball Federation (ISF) which meant, at that time, that I was one of 22 umpires in the world certified to umpire slow pitch softball internationally. I am still listed as an ISF umpire and am humbled by this distinction.

I continued to play softball while I was an umpire and a friend asked me to join his senior Wednesday night team when I turned 60. It fit my schedule at the time so I started playing senior ball and later joined a league in Olney after I retired. I attended indoor batting sessions at Michael and Sons Soccer Facility where I met Spike. Come to find out, Spike was a printer all his life and retired from the Government Printing Office where my dad worked as a proofreader. In the 1960s my dad and SPIKE worked in the same proofreading section at the GPO. I brought Spike pictures of my dad, he recognized him. They weren't buddies but they certainly knew each other. Thirty years after my father dies, I meet a guy who worked with him and that guy has become one of my closest friends as we enjoy playing softball, shooting pool, playing ping pong and breaking bread together.

This softball community has become an intricate part of my retirement life. Pitching for many different teams over the last 8 years I have made many new friends that extend further than just softball. My leisure time outside of softball includes golf, ping pong and pool and all my fellow players come from MCSSA. I appreciate all the hard work that our officers do in running such a large association with so many senior participants and I'm looking forward to my future with this awesome group.



REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE SPRING DRAFT LEAGUES

Please indicate which league(s) you wish to play in and enclose the proper amount as indicated below. Make check payable to MCSSA. **Please note: Your Annual MCSSA Dues are included in the registration fee for whichever league you in which you want to play. You only need to pay Dues once a year. So if you sign up for multiple leagues you only pay the dues once.**

I want to play in the John X Supinski Draft League on Monday Mornings (\$65.00) \$ _____

I want to play in the 60 and over Ross Emerson Morning League (\$125.00) \$ _____

Signup deadline for this league is April 10, 2018

I want to play in the 50 and over Draft League on Friday Nights (\$90.00) \$ _____

Signup deadline for this league, April 10, 2018

I would like to enter a team in the Wednesday Morning CoRec League (\$725) \$ _____

Annual MCSSA membership (\$10.00) \$ _____

Optional: Donation to MCSSA to further the goals of MCSSA \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

E-mail address _____

Emergency contact (required) _____ **Phone:** _____

It is vitally important that you provide an emergency contact and phone number

I would prefer to receive my newsletter by email instead of by USPS YES NO

**Mail this form with a check for the TOTAL AMOUNT DUE made out to MCSSA to:
MCSSA - 14320 Fairdale Road - Silver Spring MD 20905**

The participant assumes all risks associated with participation in the above activities. MCSSA assumes no liability for injury or damages arising from participation in these activities. Due to the strenuous nature of some activities, MCSSA encourages each participant to consult his or her physician concerning fitness to participate in the program. The participant consents to emergency treatment.

Signature _____



Remember When?



MCSSA

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Your membership dues expire on March 31, of the year shown here: