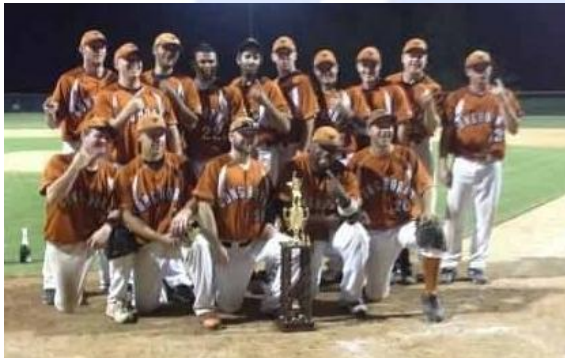


SAINT LOUIS



CHAMPIONS



Longhorns defeat Tigers 2 games to 1 for the 18+ Championship.



Spikes defeat the Knights 2-0 to take home their second consecutive 25+ title.

Commissioner's Corner

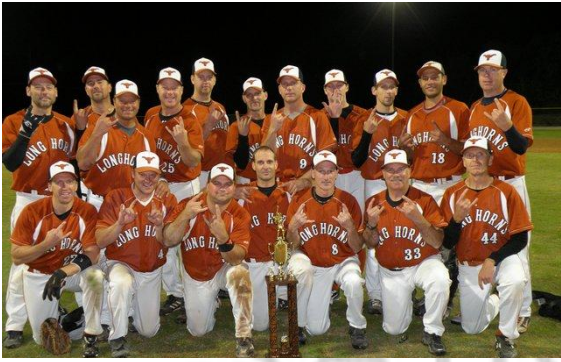
A few words to live by.....

When asked to take over the league in the mid-season of 2010, as many of you know the league was in complete disarray. At the time I was open, eager and had a vision for change. Within the first few weeks, I was given some extremely important and reliable advice. **“Mike, the STLMSBL is a marathon, if you don't pace yourself you will never make it”**. Over the past 2 ½ years I have reflected on those words of wisdom many of times, and I am grateful to have had that conversation with a very wise individual, who over the years I have come to admire. My approach as commissioner was to be a leader and do what many people are taught growing up, do my best; and in the end, I would have no regrets. In my mind, I have absolutely no regrets and was able to accomplish many things to better our league. My approach and philosophy was to always put the league's best interests in front of mine and others. I was very fortunate to have guidance and leadership from many past commissioners and board members.

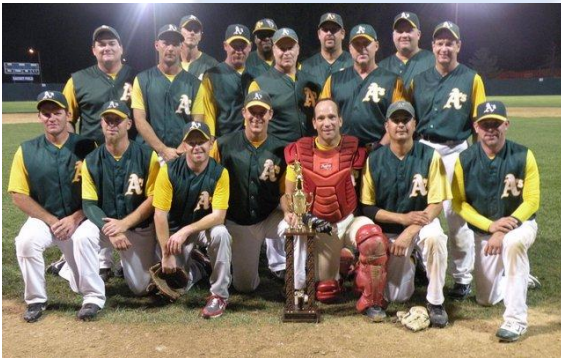
During my tenure, I enjoyed many of the challenges, conversations and even an occasional confrontation at times. I say confrontations because; I was able to make several people understand the league was not mine, theirs, or that I was out to get anyone. I was able to make those players/managers understand that every team and player deserved to be treated the exact same way. Many players/ managers still haven't a clue what it takes to manage the day to day functions of this league. I guess the only goal I was not able to obtain, was that more players and managers would step up, be more caring and want to help the league instead of just their own teams.

I truly hope that in the coming months, some of you are inspired, to take that step and get involved. I believe if players and managers were able to see what a handful of people do for your league when no one is looking, no one would ever complain about anything. The main goal of the commissioner is to please most of the people most of the time, and not some of the people some of the time. As a league we have a lot to be thankful for. We have great competition, great fields to play on, board members who care, and above all everlasting friendships that continue year after year.

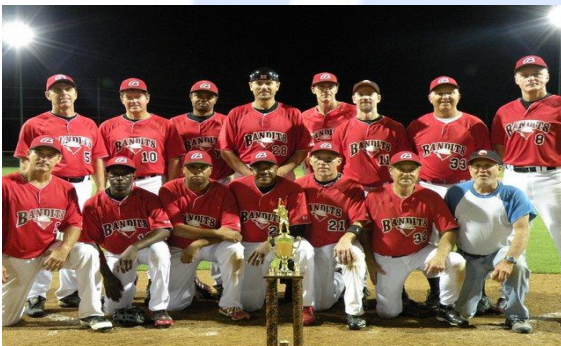
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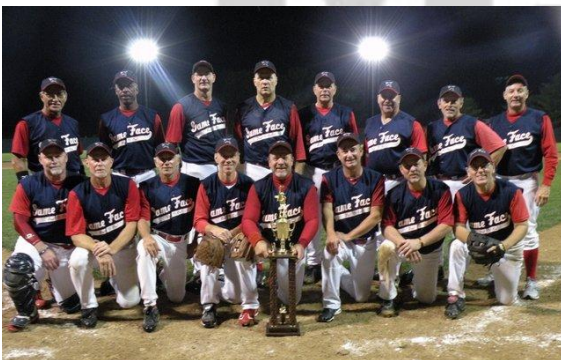
Longhorns sweep the Bandits 2 games to none to win their second 35+ title.



A's defeat Blacksox 2 games to 1 for the 35+ American League Championship.



Bandits defeat Bud Light 2 games to 1 to win the 45+ Championship.



Gameface defeats the Grays 2 games to 1 to win the 52+ Championship

I would like each of you to take a moment and reflect about what is really important to you during each season. I just bet most of you pick hanging out having a beer with your teammates and competitors after a game over anything else. Sure everyone wants to win their division championship, but only six (6) teams out of (46) teams were able to do that this season. With that said, friendships are the most important and I am truly blessed to have had the opportunity to build many friendships as your commissioner. As I step down from my position in December, I am hoping to be remembered as approachable, firm, but always fair. This December, all of you will be asked to elect a new commissioner. I would like to encourage everyone to be a little understanding, patient, and supportive. After all he will be setting sail on some uncharted waters with rough seas on occasion.

I look forward to seeing you all on the field and once again encourage you all to get involved, "If you chose not to get involved... You have no just cause to stand on, and no reason to complain to anyone about anything". In closing, I would like to say thank you to all of those who helped me, encouraged me and stood by my side to make sure the STLMSBL is the best place to play baseball in St. Louis.

Michael Martin
Commissioner STLMSBL

2014 – The MSBL goes BBCOR

The 2014 season will see the St. Louis MSBL go from BESR bats to BBCOR or wood. BBCOR bats are now being used in high school and college baseball in order to help in protecting pitchers and infielders. The MSBL will adopt the requirement and outlaw BESR bats. The new metal bats act more like wood in that they don't have the same trampoline affect as the BESR bats do.

According to a recent episode of ESPN's Sport Science, the sweet spot on an average BBCOR bat is two inches smaller than a comparable BESR bat. They also report a 5 percent drop in exit speed.

From the NCAA -

Division I batting average, scoring and home runs per game in 2011 resemble the wood-bat 1970s more than they do recent years. Division I teams in 2011 averaged 5.58 runs per game, well off the record 7.12 in 1998 and below 6 for the first time since 1977 (5.83), which was just the fourth season of the aluminum bat in college baseball. Home runs left parks at an average of .52 per team per game in 2011 compared with .94 last year and 1.06 in 1998 (also the peak year for that category). That resembles wood-bat days, too (.42 in the last year of wood in 1973, and .49, .50 and .55 in the first three years of metal). Batting average in 2011 was .282, the lowest since 1976. Earned-run average, on the other hand, was its best (4.70) since 1980 (4.59).



The new St. Louis MSBL baseball

In an attempt to cut costs, the MSBL went to a less than desirable baseball in 2012. Several complaints would warrant a change as the MSBL will be moving on to another baseball in 2013. The new baseballs are made by Diamond D1-Pro and will be made to include the St. Louis MSBL logo.



St. Louis MSBL Managers Meeting

The first manager's meeting is scheduled for December 4th at Johnny Mac's executive office on Watson Rd. at 6 pm. The meeting agenda will include office elections for the positions of Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary, and Division Presidents. Anyone who is interested in nominating a player or manager to run for office contact Paul Talaski @ ptalaski@stlcc.edu.



The St. Louis MSBL has joined forces with one of the most successful sports companies in St. Louis in Johnny Mac's. The STLMSBL will be using Diamond Baseball's provided by Johnny Mac's and will also be purchasing the championship awards from the sports giant.

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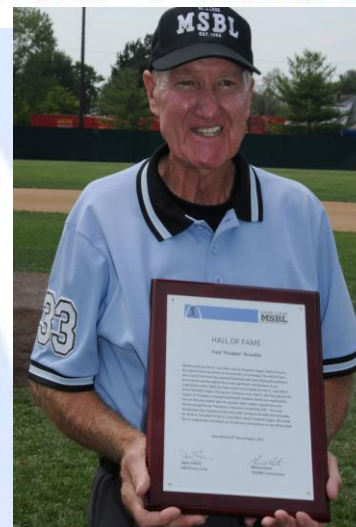
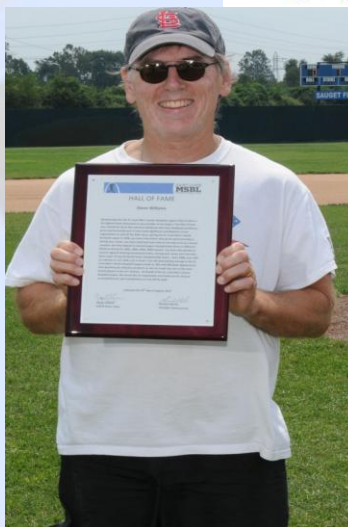
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Three more are elected into St. Louis MSBL HoF

Three more inductees have joined the St. Louis MSBL's Hall of Fame. Two current players and former board members in Bud Light's Mike Stewart and Bandits/Gameface's Glenn Williams are the newest player/managers inductees. Both Stewie and Glenn have contributed both on the field and off in helping to grow and cultivate the league. Also inducted in 2012 is umpire Freddie Renollet. Fred has been umpiring in the MSBL for a number of years. In 2006 he received the Umpire of the Year award at the World Series tournament in Phoenix, AZ. Congrats to all of our inductees.



Mike Stewart (left) and Glenn Williams (center) accepted their awards at the St. Louis MSBL All Star game on August 27th at Sauget Field. Umpire Fred Renollet was in the field for the All Star games and was also able to accept his award.



Homerun Derby winners DaRond Stovall (left middle) and Logan Springer (right middle) along with Commissioner Mike Martin and 35+ President Gerry Gerkens

Hall of Fame Nominations

Hall of Fame nominations are now being accepted for induction at the 2013 All Star Game. Please include the player's name and any reasons why you believe that they deserve to be in the STL MSBL Hall of Fame. Nominations are not restricted to members that have contributed as board members or commissioners. On the field recognition is equally as important. Please send any nominations to Jason Lohbeck at stl_athletics@yahoo.com.

Raging Bulls Representing

The Raging Bulls, who played in the MSBL 18+ division visited the Cape Girardeau Capahas on July 17th of this past season and was able to defeat the all college team 7-1 behind an impressive outing by Bulls ace Ryan Willis. The righty went all 9 innings tallying eight strikeouts against just four hits and one run for the Capahas.

You can read about the Bulls win including quotes from Capaha manager and amateur baseball hall of famer, Jess Bolen [here](http://www.semissourian.com/story/1871794.html);
<http://www.semissourian.com/story/1871794.html>



18+ All Stars



25+ All Stars

Longhorns win down South

While in the middle of a championship season, the 35+ Longhorns added another trophy to the mantle when they made the short trek south down to Memphis for a tournament right in the middle of the MSBL season. The Horns went 3-1 in pool play defeating HDL Peterbuilt, Mid South Pirates, and the Memphis Brewers after losing the opener to Dan McGuiness. Manager Pat Judge tallied the win against the Memphis Brewers after coming out on top 11-6. Also winning games were Joel Sigman, Jason Dickerson, and Chad Tayon. Sean Lewis and Barry Grant provided the power, each blasting a home run while Mike Sabo and Chris Holmes both hit over .500 for the tourney.



35+, 45+, and 52+ Combined All Stars (both pictures)

