

You Make the Call

ANSWERS

1. The appeal is successful and a FORCE out is made at 2nd base. No runs score.
2. The appeal is successful, but 3 runs scored. Since this is NOT a force out all runs except the runner missing 3rd score.
3. The run scores. This is NOT a force out double play and the run scored before the out is recorded.
4. (ASA) The batter runner is out. The out can be recorded if the throw forces the defensive player onto the ORANGE portion of the bag. (SSUSA) the batter runner is NOT out. The WHITE portion of the bag MUST be touched for the out to be recorded.

THESE QUESTIONS
& ANSWERS ARE BASED
ON ASA RULES.

Go to page 4
for the questions to

You Make
The Call



MORRIS/ESSEX COUNTY 60+ SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE

The Tuesday Morning 60 and Over Senior Softball League began 20 years ago. Wow, how time flies. The original teams were the West Orange Embers, Nutley, Roxbury and Morris. The 2010 season was a huge success and included eight teams that played doubleheaders in West Orange and Randolph.

The season ended with a playoff mini-tournament with the top four teams playing against each other and the bottom four teams competing against one another. After the mini-tournament was completed, Gene Stracco, the League Commissioner, hosted a terrific catered barbecue. The barbecue was a huge success, with many of the players' wives bringing delicious desserts and helping to serve food and also with the cleanup and we thank them for that. Everyone left the barbecue with a full belly, including the Mayor of Randolph, who stopped by to say a few words and to praise all the Senior Softball players for their devotion to the game. Gene Stracco presented Paul Oliver with a plaque for his devotion to the league. Paul not only obtains the West Orange fields for the league, but is also the first person at the fields, raking and grooming them for league play. God bless Paul.

Gene Stracco held two meetings with the league Managers in January 2011, to discuss league rules, develop schedules and make plans for a successful 2011 season. Gene and the Managers also welcomed two new team Managers into the league-one team from the West Orange area and the other from the Randolph area.

Amazingly, the league now has ten teams, after a very humble start 20 years ago.

A discussion was held in regards to starting a 67+ league on Thursday mornings and we are hoping that league will start in July 2011. The theme for the 67+ league will be to play to win, but not at all costs - and to be respectful and careful of the older players. Many players in that league will be in their 70's and some will be in their 80's - May God bless them all and may we all be alive and still playing softball in our 80's.

Written by: Paul Oliver (84 Years Young) with just a little input from Tony Clavatta.



Back Row L-R: Paul Oliver, John Frank, Lenny Mellicent, Bob Hoffman, Bill Schmidt, and Mike Kolodji.

Front Row L-R: Tony Clavatta, Bill Perlman, Teddy Chodorowski, Tony DeMedici, and Todd Boepple.

Missing from Picture: Rich Williams, Bob Meyrick, and Tom Verna.

Notable Quotables

"I'd be willing to bet you, if I was a betting man, that I never bet on a baseball game." -Pete Rose

"Well, it took me 17 years to get 3,000 hits in baseball, and I did it in one afternoon on the golf course." -Hank Aaron

SUPER SENIOR SOFTBALL MONMOUTH COUNTY LEAGUE

The Rights of Spring

When I was twelve years old I never knew there was such a thing as Senior Softball nor did I care. I probably never heard of the rites of spring either.

As the winter finally begins to fade there is something we all look forward to and that is the beginning of another season of Monmouth Senior Softball. I have been privileged to play in this league for the past four years & I am ready to begin another. To be honest with you all, I really didn't want to play the year I turned fifty years of age as "Marvelous" Marvin tried to recruit me. I said to myself Senior Softball is not for me.

I think that is because we need to rename it & call it Superior Softball or Sensational Softball. You see this league is unique with a cast of interesting characters starting of course with our fearless leader & president. Vince "Invincible" Mango. Then there is the Master schedule creator Lou "Lombo" Lombardi. There is also the "How to do it Man" Howie Marlin. One of the past presidents is Mike "Mad Dog" Weiner. And of course no meeting is ever complete without Emil "Evil Knievel" Jennette.

There are in our illustrious league twelve fireball teams & everyone of them has their own unique style and personality. This year will prove to be an interesting & fun time as the tireless twelve teams battle for supremacy and respect. The league actually features three divisions within itself and there are basically three division winners at season end.

We call them A, B & C teams but I think Majors, Colonial, & Minors would be more appropriate. You see the real reason grown men keep playing softball is to be that young boy who played little league or catch with his Dad. What I have learned in this past four years is when we all get out on the field we are ten, eleven, and twelve years old again playing ball with our comrades and buddies and even a rivalry or two. This year I encourage everyone who plays to be a kid again & enjoy every swing at the plate, every catch in the field & most of all every moment of Super "Senior" Softball.

As the 2011 season begins the victorious teams from last year will be chased by hungry worthy opponents in each division. Last years' champs were as follows: The A stud team was Higgins with Emil "Dr. J" at the helm and this year the Aces, 507 Main, & Huddy's will seek revenge. The B boys was the Howell team coached by Mr. Invincible himself as they danced their way to victory. The Courageous C team was Neptune who surprised everyone & came on strong at the finish to capture the crown. This Monmouth Super Senior League is on a roll & a big uptick. This year no doubt will be exciting, competitive, & filled with the joy of victory & the agony of defeat. Either way in the end, we are all Winners playing for the love of the game. Start your engines & get ready to Play Ball!

Here's to a Great Season Ahead & The Rites of Spring!

By: Neil Piper

Notable Quotables

"If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life without even considering if there is a man on base." -Dave Barry