

# Baseball Trivia



## ANSWERS

1) Mookie Wilson's routine grounder got passed first baseman Bill Buckner, and Ray Knight scored the winning run.

2) After winning 224 games and striking out almost 3,000 batters, Hall of Fame pitcher, Jim Bunning became a US Senator.

3) In 1990, Yankee pitcher Andy Hawkins threw a no-hitter, and still lost the game. Defensive errors led to the runs. It has been debated whether it was a true no-hitter, as the White Sox didn't have to bat in the bottom of the ninth, thus Hawkins only pitched eight full innings.

4) The Chicago Cubs won their last World Series in 1908. They have won 7 National League pennants. But have lost all 7 World Series.

5) After a fine career with the Yankees, Cardinals, and Dodgers Al Downing's defining moment was giving up Hank Aaron's home run.

6) After being thrown out of the game, Mets manager, Bobby Valentine returned to the dugout wearing a fake mustache and glasses. He was given a two-game suspension and a \$5,000 fine.

7) On April 14, 1910, President William Howard Taft attended the Washington Senators initial game, and started the tradition by tossing the ball to pitcher Walter Johnson.

8) Calling time just a few pitches into the Reds vs. Montreal game, home plate umpire John McSherry stumbled backwards and collapsed, dying from an apparent heart attack.

9) Selected by the New York Yankees first overall in the 1991 amateur draft, pitcher Brien Taylor received a signing bonus of \$1,550,000. Sidelined by injuries he never made it higher than Double-A ball.

10) In 1958, Olympic gold medal decathlon winner Bob Richards was the first athlete to appear on the front of the cereal box. Prior to this, "The Breakfast of Champions" used images of athletes on the back of the boxes. The first was the great Lou Gerhig.

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## NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES 2015 Games in Minneapolis, Minnesota

The National Senior Games were held during July 2013 in Cleveland, Ohio. Nearly 11,000 male and female athletes age 50 and over competed in 25 sports at multiple venues in the Cleveland area.

The NJ 70's competed in the team softball competition. Organized and managed by Rich Lindstedt from Morris County, 15 players from various leagues in New Jersey competed as the "Jersey Boy's 70's" in three days of intense competition at a field located in Parma, Ohio. The team qualified in 2012 at the Woodbridge, NJ Senior Olympics.

Softball teams were assigned to A, B or C brackets, dependent on the results from pool play competition during the first day of the tournament. Twelve teams from across the US were entered in the 70-75 age bracket. States represented in addition to New Jersey were Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin.

The Jersey Boys came home with the Silver Medal in the "B" bracket, losing in the final game

to Socrates Edge from Connecticut. All games were well played both offensively and defensively with Alex Strashinsky, pitching all games for the Jersey Boys. Bill Codner, Tom Mellina and Ted Chodorowski were named to the "All America" team selected at the conclusion of the Games.

The next Senior National Games will be held in 2015 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



**Kneeling L-R:** Rich Lindstedt (Mgr), Nick Lehotsky, Alex Strashinsky, Ted Chodorowski & Dick Courter.  
**Standing L-R:** Tom Mellina, Bill Codner, Ed Dzialo, George Ragg, John Forames, Art Kopacz, Blace Kopala, Al Notchey, Joe Capanna & Frank Shapiro.

## SENIOR ATHLETES

### NSGA focuses on Health and Wellness

The population of the United States is more concerned with staying healthy than it ever has been. Accordingly, more seniors are getting, and staying, active than they ever have before. At the National Senior Games Association (NSGA), the focus is on health and wellness and raising awareness about opportunities for age 50-plus adults to get moving and to participate in local and national senior games.

NSGA offers its national event every other year (The 2015 National Senior Games Presented by Humana will be in Bloomington/Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota). It is comprised of 49 members and one associate member, who

conduct state or national multi-sport competitions, which serve as qualifiers for the National Senior Games.

The athlete population is growing: In 1987, at the first Games, a total of 2,500 athletes participated. As the years passed, that number increased, and it has kept right on increasing. The most recent event welcomes more than 11,000 athletes.

On the whole, the most important consideration in planning for senior athletes is to understand that for them, it's more than just a competition. It's about building relationships and staying healthy. A successful event will provide opportunities to help them do both.



## SENIOR OLYMPICS

### Naturals Takes Silver Medal



The Naturals of New Jersey won the Silver Medal at the 75+ Division at the 2013 Senior Olympics in Cleveland Ohio. Both Bob Maly and Bill Perlman received an award from the committee for highest batting averages.

**Kneeling L-R:** Gordon Lamatty, Bill Pearlman, EdMcLaughlan, Malys Grandson-Herb Slovis, Chuck Courtney, Tino Hernandez.  
**Standing L-R:** Fred Dimartino, Bob Hoffman, Tom Michaels, Jose Garcia, Bob Maley, Jerry Dezenzo, Bento Morales, Vincent Mazzilli, Ed Hoff & Tony Naturale