

## Gray Matter Sweeps Menifee Valley Upper Division Senior Softball Fall 2018 Season

MVUDSS League and Tournament Champions - Gray Matter



Back Row (L to R): Mike Graves, Richard Shepler, Guy Trisler, Mike O'Donnell, Steve Jankowski, Kent Skidmore  
Front Row (L to R): Joe Silva, Bob Gambold, Charles Pickett, Jeff Millard, Dickie Bivin, Ray Sikes

Let's start with the league championship race. Going into the last day of the season, Gray Matter (GM) 8-4, Sammy's Cafe (SC) 7-5, and even Royal PITA (RP) 6-6 had a shot at the the league title. All three teams were scheduled to play doubleheaders with both GM and RP going head-to-head with SC:

If GM loses 2 games, SC loses to RP by more than 1 run, and RP wins 2 games, RP will be the regular season champions by the tiebreaker over both GM and SC. If that does not occur, then:

If SC doesn't pick up a game on GM, then GM will be league champions and Seed #1 in the post-season single-elimination tournament.

If SC picks up 2 games on GM, then SC will be league champions and Seed #1 in the post-season single-elimination tournament.

If SC picks up 1 game on GM, then we go to a tiebreaker. See below.

Tiebreaker: It all comes down to the game between SC and GM as follows:

(1) If GM wins/ties or if SC wins by less than 9 runs, then GM will be the champions.

(2) If SC wins by more than 9 runs, then SC will be the champions.

(3) If SC wins by exactly 9 runs, then a one-game playoff between SC and GM will be played at 1:30 to determine the champions.

A lot to digest. I know. But, the league championship was easily decided when Gray Matter swept both ends of their doubleheader.

Now let's go to the post-season 8-team single-elimination tournament. The championship game saw #1 seed Kent Skidmore's Gray Matter and #6 seed Rod Schemp's Royal PITA face off for the tournament championship. With the two teams separated by 1 run after 5 1/2 innings, Gray Matter exploded for 5 more in the bottom of the 6th and held on for a 24-19 victory and the tournament championship. Congratulations to both teams!

MVUDSS league games are played on Monday mornings at the Big League Dreams Sports Park in Perris. The league offers tournament-caliber senior softball players 55 and older an opportunity to participate in a highly competitive, well-balanced, tournament-style league. Players turning 55 in calendar year 2019 are eligible to play in the upcoming Spring 2019 Season.

The league consists of players and teams from the Temecula Valley, Riverside, Ontario, and North San Diego County areas. Traveling teams have the option of playing once a week or playing bi-weekly doubleheaders.

League President Steve Baranick said, "Our league consists of six local teams and two out-of-area teams from North San Diego County and Ontario and continues to attract new players from around Southern California."

The Spring Season will start on January 14, 2019 and run through May 20, 2019. Players and teams interested in participating should contact Steve Baranick, 951-870-0114, [stephenbaranick@gmail.com](mailto:stephenbaranick@gmail.com) or visit the league website <http://www.mvudss.org/>.