

Sammy's Cafe Wins Menifee Valley Upper Division Senior Softball Spring 2019 Season

MVUDSS League Champions - Sammy's Cafe



Back Row (L to R): Jim Mangiapane, Bill Kluck, Dan Gutierrez, Jeff Iannone, Rick Patterson, John Benedict
Front Row (L to R): Chick McKenney, Harold Halldorson, Steve Katosta, Moi Hill, Ralph Hernandez
Not Pictured: Marlin Gunns, Tony Iavarone, Guy Swick

MVUDSS Tournament Champions - North County



Back Row (L to R): Dickie Bivin, Lyle Wood, Don Chandler, Mark Aumann, Jim Teeter, Mike "Pony" Karr
Front Row (L to R): Richard "Stitch" Fearn, Ken Perez, Dan "Milo" Milakovich, Bobby Jones, Nick Basta
Not Pictured: John Woolsey

In the league championship race, Sammy's Cafe, behind an 11-3 record, clinched the regular season league championship one week before the end of the season. This was Sammy's fifth regular season championship in their 13 seasons in the league.

The league tries to maintain parity, as much as possible, in order to consistently provide competitive games throughout the season. Its success couldn't be more evident than in the post-season 8-team single-elimination tournament that saw top seeds #1 Sammy's Cafe and #2 Gray Matter eliminated in the first round after being upset by the bottom seeds #8 Blue Bolts and #7 Whitey Fjords, respectively. The championship game saw #4 seed Jim Ganley's Better Red Than Dead team go up against #3 seed Don Chandler's North County team. Holding on to a slim 2-run lead going into the top of the 7th, North County held its opponent scoreless for a 15-13 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 2020 are eligible to play in the upcoming Fall 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 Fall Season will start on August 26, 2019 and run through December 16, 2019. Players and teams interested in participating should contact Steve Baranick, 951-870-0114, stephenbaranick@gmail.com or visit the league website <http://www.mvudss.org/>.