

Englewood Men's Senior Softball League crowns 2023 champions

STAFF REPORT

ENGLEWOOD — The Englewood Men's Senior Softball league wrapped up and the champions were crowned after an 11-week regular season.

The Relics of the Bronze division won their second straight championship with a 16-4 record.

Caddy Carts of the Silver division repeated as champions with a 16-5 record.

In the Gold division, the Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 won their first championship at 18-3.

"The level of play in all three divisions was phenomenal this year," said Mark Johnson, league commissioner in an email to *The Daily Sun*. "There were so many one-run games, and the number of home runs this year set a record."

There were 57 home runs, 10 in the Bronze division, 2 in the Silver and 45 in the Gold.

Brian Donehue led the league in home runs with 14, followed by Mike Vaught with 11 and Joe Reser with 4.

Each year starts off with a player entry draft in early January.

"This year's draft was a pleasant surprise," said Rudy Davis, draft coordinator, in the email. "We expected a low number due to the hurricane, but we had a strong turnout and a pretty deep talent pool. Every team got better."

The league extended its reach this year with players coming from Nokomis and Punta Gorda.

The Bronze division is in its fifth year. The Bronze division is primarily made up of players over the age of 80, but has a few 'youngsters' in their 70s and late 60s who's skill level is suitable for their level of play.

There were 10 different players who hit home runs in the Bronze division.

In the Silver division, Caddy Carts wrapped up their second title with strong defense and pitching, though the race for first went down to the wire, with Xpertech Auto Repair finishing in second with a 14-7 record.

In the Gold division, the championship was wrapped up early by the Englewood Moose Lodge 1933, clinching the championship with 5 games left to play in the regular season.

The Moose went 18-3 on the year, with Donehue and Vaught combining for 25 home runs.

In the post season tournament, Caddy Carts took the crown in the Silver division while in the Gold division, Scott's – Ken & Barb's Restaurant topped all comers behind some clutch play in every game.

"The tournament this year was excellent," Johnson said. "We entered the year wondering if we would even be playing following the hurricane damage, but play we did. It was a terrific year."

The league's plans for the spring season, held during April and early May, are complete, with first games played on the week of April 11. A summer season is planned as well.

Players who are 60 or over in 2024 can attend practices, usually held at 8:30 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Englewood Sports Complex in April through December.

For more information, visit www.inglewoodseniorsoftball.weebly.com.



Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 players are, from left, (front) Mark Geary, John Kyle, Rudy Davis, Bob Kerzner, Dave Mahon, Terry Tompkins, Ron Vaness on scooter, (back) Steve Wagley, Brian Donehue, manager Mike Vaught, Dave Tacey, assistant manager Fred Weber, Don Yellman and Bill Lowe. PHOTOS PROVIDED



Caddy Carts players are, from left, (front) Bob Hittel, Mark Blount, Dev Rigatti, Ray Murphy, George Lambert, Bill Rice, (back) Micky Muzevich, Carmen Rivera, Jack Smith, Tim Nuss, Ric Goodwin, John Skaggs, Dennis Girard and Bob Stiles.



Relics players include, from left, manager Greg Brezicki, Herb Brommeck, Steve Gustafson, Gary Hlusko, Don Myhrberg, Jim Reagan, Phil McGouldrick, Dick Rembiz, Al Gibson, Carlo Orciari, Ron Gutchak and, on the ball, Hugh Brotherton.