

LUCAS LEADS ALL GOLDEN SENIORS HITTERS IN 2016

Ray Lucas paced the Golden Seniors Softball Club's 2016 hitters with a scorching .870 batting average in League 2, the fifth-highest batting average since statistics began to be recorded in 2006.

Here are the other regular-season batting champions:

League 1 — Al Waller .788; L2 — Ray Lucas .870; L3 — Carlso Rodriguez .810; L4 — Rick Cady .818; L5 — Ted Crumbley .824; L6 — Hal Johnson .776; L7 — Jack Tibbetts .750. (Note: L8 does not compile statistics.)

Lucas, also the L6 commissioner, managed VFW Post 67 in L2 to the league championship game, a thrilling 22-21 loss to Sports Leisure. An injury prevented Lucas from playing in the title game.

Besides Lucas, three others — Hal Johnson (.852 in L2), Gus Niklas (.833 in L2), and Rick Cady (.818 in L4) joined Jarvis Quenga, Bob Scollard, Dave Vargo, Jack Wabinga and Mick Tursky as two-time .800 hitters. Don Jackson (.814 in L4) became the third Golden Senior to hit .800 or more four times. The others are Rich Edwards and Monte Miller. Emilio Lobato has reached the .800 level three times. First-time .800 club members this year are L5 champion Crumbley, L3 leader Rodriguez, and Bill Greene (.813) in L4, with at least 50 plate appearances needed to qualify.

Over the 11 years that Dave Vargo has analyzed the club's batting statistics, Tursky continues to hold the club record of .903 (L2 in 2014). It was threatened by Rick Cady's .891 in 2015. Rich Edward's .882 in 2012 ranks third.

TOP TEN BATTING AVERAGES: 2006-2016

1. MICK TURSKY League 2 (2014) .903
2. RICK CADY L4 (2015) .891
3. RICH EDWARDS L6 (2012) .882
4. RICH EDWARDS L2 (2013) .875
5. RAY LUCAS L2 (2016) .870
6. STEVE SCHULER L3 (2012) .865
7. MICK TURSKY L6 (2014) .861
8. GEOFF MILLER L4 (2012) .860
9. HAL JOHNSON L2 (2016) .852
10. MEL TENNYSON L4 (2012) and DAVE BRISTOL L2 (2012) .847

LEAGUE-BY-LEAGUE CLUB LEADERS THROUGH 2016 (Much appreciated is the work of Head Scorekeeper Colette Barnes, her husband Russ Barnes, who worked on spreadsheets, and Scorekeeper Dawn Gerlach. Note use of bold face for overall club leader; italics signify high averages accomplished since the club allowed high-performance bats in the five leagues that play at the Sacramento Softball Complex.)

L1 MONDAY MORNING (2014-) Batting Average: Bob Scollard .817 (2014 & 2015), Al Waller .788 (2016), Jim Mays .774 (2016).

Base Hits: Bob Scollard 58 (2015).

RBI: Don Jones 44 (2015).

HR: Chuck Knutson 6 (2016).

L2 TUESDAY 9AM 60+: Batting Average: Mick Tursky .903 (2014), Rich Edwards .875 (2013), Ray Lucas .870 (2016), Hal Johnson .852 (2016), Dave Bristol .847 (2012), Gus Niklas .833 (2016), John Lack .818 (2007), Rich Edwards .817 (2009), Wally Dorei .814 (2012), Mark Holgerson .814 (2014), John Shintaju .814 (2015), Gus Niklas .812 (2014), Mick Tursky .811 (2015), Rich Edwards .805 (2010), Dave Vargo .800 (2008), Ray Lucas .800 (2015).

Base Hits: Mick Tursky 62 (2014), Mervin Mill 60 (2007, 2012).

HR: Hal Johnson 11 (2014), Bob Flink 9 (2007), Joe Cors 7 (2011,2012). RBI: Joe Cors 58 (2012), Hal Johnson 56 (2014), Rich Edwards 54 (2013).

L3 TUESDAY NIGHT 50+: Batting Average: Steve Schuler .865 (2012), Larry Ellsberry .846 (2015), Emilio Lobato .833 (2010), Emilio Lobato, .829 (2014), Carlso Rodriguez .810 (2016), Keith Arnold .808 (2012), Jack Wabinga .808 (2010), Steve Casarez .807 (2012).

Hits: Larry Ellsberry 63 (2014), Emilio Lobato 63 (2014), Norm Blackwell Jr. 58 (2009 & 2014)

HR: Steve Schuler 9 (2012), Barry Mortimeyer 8 (2007), Steve Casarez and Emilio Lobato 7 (2012).

RBI: Steve Casarez 60 (2010), Steve Schuler 58 (2011), MR Evans 55 (2006).

L4 WEDNESDAY NIGHT Night 50+ (2006-2015): Batting Average: Rick Cady .891 (2015), Geoff Miller .860 (2012), Mel Tennyson .847 (2012), Darrell Heim .845 (2012), Jarvis Quenga .839 (2012), Bill Christian .829 (2008), Monte Miller .826 (2008), Jarvis Quenga .821 (2013), Bob Del Chiaro .817 (2007), Don Jackson .812 (2009), Emilio Lobato .809 (2011), Don Jackson .804 (2013), Jack Wabinga .804 (2015), Monte Miller .803 (2012), Monte Miller .800 (2007).

Hits: Allen Riker 66 (2009), Bill Christian 63 (2008), Bill Greene and Emilio Lobato 60 (2010).

HR: Monta Little 9 (2007) & Jarvis Quenga (2012), Emilio Lobato 8 (2007).

RBI: Jarvis Quenga 67 (2012), Quenga 64 (2014), Monte Miller 64 (2009).

L4 WEDNESDAY NIGHT 60+ (2016-): Batting Average: Rick Cady .818 (2016), Don Jackson .814 (2016), Bill Greene .813 (2016).

Hits: Don Jackson 48.

Homers: Marcus Kirkland 3 (2016).

RBI: Don Jackson 50 (2016).

L5 THURSDAY NIGHT 50+: Batting Average: Shawn Rogers .846 (2015), Monte Miller .844 (2009), Chris Aguilar .841 (2015), Lyman Rose .833 (2014), Dave Rhodes .824 (2012), Ted Crumbley .824 (2016), Shawn Rogers .818 (2011), Bob Kunnmann .800 (2015), Rich Ganas .800 (2009) and Don Jackson .800 (2010).

Hits: Allen Riker 66 (2010), Monte Miller 65 (2011), Dave Vargo 65 (2006), Larry Lagomarsino 64 (2010).

HR: Lyman Rose 10 (2012), Chris Aguilar 10 (2015), Rose 9 (2014), Quenga 9 (2014), Monta Little 9 (2007) and Rich Ganas 2008.

RBI: Mel Tennyson 67 (2014), Chris Aguilar 61 (2015), Demontro Davis 61 (2011), Monta Little 60 (2006).

L6 TUESDAY 10:30AM SELECT 60+ (2006-2011): Batting Average: Doug Peterson .828 (2009), Rich Edwards .789 (2011), Bob Cummings .784 (2007).

Hits: Dave Vargo 58 (2008), Doug Peterson 55 (2008) and Bob Fenton (2009).

HR: AJ Petruzzi 10 (2007), Bill Greene 8 (2011), Bob Cummings 5 (2007).

RBI: Doug Peterson and Dave Vargo 53 (2008).

L6 TUESDAY 10:30AM 60+ (2012-2016): Batting Average: **Mick Tursky .903 (2014)**, Rich Edwards .882 (2012), Dave Vargo .846 (2012), *Hal Johnson .823 (2014)*.

Hits: Bill Greene 62 (2012), *Rich Edwards 62 (2014)*, *Mike Mayer 62 (2014)*.

HR: Joe Cors 8 (2012), *Hal Johnson 7 (2014)*.

RBI: Jon Ellison 63 (2012), Joe Cors 57 (2012).

L7 MONDAY MORNING 70+ (2014-): Batting Average: Everett Richardson .792 (2015), Ron Roach .763 (2014), Jack Tibbetts .750 (2016).

Hits: Jack Tibbetts 51 (2016).

HR: Drew Asher 2 (2015) and John Meyer 2 (2016).

RBI: Asher 38 (2015).

L7 TUESDAY SELECT 70+ (2009-2010): Batting Average: Dale Stykel .809 (2010), Jim Stinson .749 (2009).

Hits: Jim Stinson 56 (2009).

HR: Henry Low 2 (2009).

RBI: Henry Low 33 (2009).

NOTES: Batting average requires minimum 50 plate appearances & 3 per scheduled game. Bold signifies club record. Italics signifies 2012 and later stats with higher-performance bats allowed. Higher-performance bats have not been allowed in L1, L7 and L8, and batting stats have not been kept in the 75-and-older L8.

#