

# PLAAY-Dot-CON 2019 EVENT RECAP

by Keith Avallone, PLAAY Games

I remember sitting at Coors Field a couple years ago watching a Rockies game with a group of Denver-area PLAAY Gamers, when the idea of a PLAAY “convention” first came up. Steve Heller made the suggestion, and Jason Retallack chimed in, “you could call it ‘PLAAY-Dot-CON!’” We couldn’t have imagined then what great fun and wonderful experiences lay ahead! Last year’s convention was amazing, but PLAAY-Dot-CON 2019 was even better! THANKS to everyone who was part of our weekend celebration of the joy of tabletop sports games!

There was so much about the 2019 convention weekend that was memorable and fun. But, I feel like there was one aspect that stood out head-and-shoulders over everything else: to me, the very BEST part about PLAAY-Dot-CON 2019 was--the kids!...

Our mission statement--right there on the front page of the website--is “Preserving and advancing the grand pastime of table-top sports board games!” It hasn’t been difficult to “preserve” the fun for those who grew up with sports board games in the ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s. The “advancing” part has been more challenging, though. We have made it a priority to try to promote the hobby to younger generations, with the idea of keeping sports board games going for future decades. For the most part, it’s been an uphill battle. So it was very exciting when we learned that a good number of PLAAY Gamers’ kids were interested in coming to the convention. We decided to seize the opportunity and try to fully integrate the kids into the weekend’s activities. Rather than have separate kids ‘activities and have maybe one or two “everyone participates” events, we did it the OTHER way--we scheduled just ONE “kid’s event” and ALL the other activities were open to kids and adults alike.

This wasn’t an easy decision to make, and I confess I was a bit nervous about it. I knew that having kids at the con put a burden of sorts on the grown-ups. Would they be willing to assume a dual role as both competitor and mentor? Would they get enjoyment out of playing a baseball or football game against someone several decades younger? Would the kids take it “seriously” enough? Would they get bored?

But as the weekend began, it quickly became clear that having kids at the convention, fully integrated into the program, was the very BEST thing that could possibly have happened. It’s difficult to describe the energy and enthusiasm they brought to the room. I found that having kids around, watching them play the games, reminded me of the joy I experienced in discovering the hobby myself at that same age. I think most every one of the grown-ups at the convention shared that same feeling. And, the grown-ups were awesome as mentors and guides--I should have known this group of guys would come through with flying colors. The kids had a GREAT time, and it made us grown-ups feel younger and more alive to interact with them. A true “win-win,” amazing. I hope you’ll get a sense of this as you go through the photo book we’ve prepared to capture and commemorate this wonderful weekend.

To recap the “Four Days of PLAAY,” we prepared two downloadable files. The first file is a photo book, which is a collection of photos from the event along with (very) brief narrative, available on the website. I think most folks in the hobby will enjoy paging through this photo book, highly recommended. For those who are interested in the tournament results--who won what, with which teams, and how--we’ve prepared this second document, a detailed, written summary of the entire weekend.

We’ve already been asked if there’s going to be a PLAAY-Dot-CON 2020--it’s too soon to be 100% sure, but we are leaning toward doing it again. Watch for an announcement sometime this fall, with an “early bird” discount opportunity happening probably before Christmas.

Once again, thanks to everyone who made PLAAY-Dot-CON 2019 such a success! We appreciate you SO much!



## Convention Guest List

George Adams, Liberty, MO  
Brien Aronov, Willimantic, CT  
Ron Bernier, Auburn, ME  
Gary Brown, Aubrey, TX  
Dale Buckingham, Colorado Springs, CO  
Thomas Cline, Latrobe, PA  
Randy Coryer, Saratoga Springs, NY  
Sean Culnan, West Sand Lake, NY  
Keith Curtis, Phoenix, AZ  
Chris Day, Grand Junction, CO  
Joseph Dowell, Little Rock, AR  
Colin Garlick, Castle Rock, CO  
Dan Garlick, Castle Rock, CO  
Grant Fines St. George, UT  
Mike Fitzgerald, Lafayette, CO  
Cooper Gilbert, Fairport, NY  
Bob Hansen, Menomonee Falls, WI  
Steve Heller, Fort Collins, CO  
Charles Helms, Redford, MI  
Erik Holdaway, Salt Lake City, UT  
Travis Jansen, Mukwanago, WI  
Scott Johnson, Valparaiso, IN  
Mike Kaminski, Appleton, WI  
David Kaufmann, Fort Morgan, CO  
Lenny LaFrance, Fortuna, CA  
Scot Long, Joplin, MO  
John Lowe, Lincoln, NE  
Ken Main, Portland, ME  
Andy McEvoy, Elburn, IL  
Chad McEvoy, Elburn, IL  
Luke McEvoy, Elburn, IL  
Glenn Oberhauser, Golden, CO  
Brian Preece, Salt Lake City, UT  
Jason Retallack, Aurora, CO  
Kimbo Robinson, Fruita, CO  
Dan Rudolph, Fresno, CA  
Mark Russell, Kitchener, ON  
David Santistevan, Littleton, CO  
Bobby Scott, Highland Village, TX  
Pete Stevens, Albany, NY  
Bob Surprenant, Jackson, WI  
Jim Surprenant, Jackson, WI  
Steve Tower, Medfield, MA  
Jay Williams, Marinette, WI  
Judah Williams, Marinette, WI  
Silas Williams, Marinette, WI  
Al Wilson, Phoenix, AZ  
Jim Woods, Farmington, MI

## **Thursday, July 18**

### **Pre-Con Picnic**

Temperature +100, good thing we had a covered shelter! We grilled brats, served chips and veggies, soft drinks. We had over 50 PLAAY gamers, spouses and kids for this event, which was just wonderful. No games, just great "tailgate" food and fun conversation! Kimbo Robinson made a special presentation of a WKRP "hoodie" in honor of my (many) years in radio. Nice!

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## **Friday, July 19**

### **Registration**

Registration began a little early, maybe fifteen minutes, as people were lined up and ready to go! Everyone got their swag bag filled with convention goodies and were then invited to browse through our impromptu sports game "flea market." A number of folks brought stuff to swap/sell--Bobby Scott laid out a TROVE of classic sports board games, which were eagerly fawned over! Bob Surprenant discovered (and acquired) MLB Showdown! Not sure how much merch was moved, but it certainly set the tone for a weekend of sports board game FUN!

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### **"PLAAY-Around" Demo Sessions**

This was something new for the convention, suggested by Jim Surprenant. The idea was to give an opportunity for some of the lesser-known PLAAY games to get some tabletop love. It was a huge success! Much of the attention was focused on Chad McEvoy's proposed HISTORY MAKER TENNIS, which may someday become a PLAAY Game (especially after the solid reviews it got from convention-goers!). Al Wilson ran a full 30-turn race with RWBR. Hockey (Steve Heller) and FTTM (Steve Tower) also picked up some views. It was a wonderful way to casually ramp up the convention action to our first full-fledged competitive tournaments...

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### **SECOND SEASON Express Tournament**

Every convention-goer got a copy of the not-yet-released Express version of SECOND SEASON Football game in their swag bag, along with a pair of teeny-tiny 5mm dice! We used these for the tournament, and started out by letting people choose their teams. Um, that wasn't a good idea. It was hard to get everyone "the" team they wanted. So, after handing out a few teams, we switched gears and did sort of a roll call. "Who wants the Cowboys? The Vikings?" And so on. There were crickets for teams like Tampa Bay, Jacksonville and Arizona, oh well. Eventually, everyone had a team and we read off the table assignments. Tables of four, everyone paired off against someone else at their table for game one. Then, winners played winners, losers played losers. The six table champs (2-0) were Denver (David Santistevan), Kansas City (Andy McEvoy), New York Giants (Silas Williams), New England (Bob Hansen), Indianapolis (Brian Preece) and Cleveland (Glenn Oberhauser). We chose two wild card teams at random from the 1-1 finishers, which turned out to be Green Bay (Travis Jansen) and Chicago (Dale Buckingham). Then we held our playoff quarter-finals with those eight teams. The "final four" were sent to the Sunday morning "Dawn of Champions!" Here's how it went down...

#### **PLAYOFFS**

Denver 24, Chicago 21 (OT)  
Green Bay 17, Indianapolis 10  
New England 31, Cleveland 14  
Kansas City 35, New York Giants 22

SEMI-FINALS: Green Bay 24, Denver 17; Kansas City 28, New England 20

CHAMPIONSHIP: Kansas City 35, Green Bay 27 (Green Bay took over with four minutes left trailing 28-20, but a costly fumble set the Chiefs up deep in Packers territory, and KC quickly scored. GB got that touchdown back with 30 seconds left, but the onside kick failed and the Chiefs were champs!)

## FACE TO THE MAT “Three-For-All Throw Down!”

Hosted by Steve Tower, host of AFR’s “Monday Night Tights.” All the participants agreed, this was a super-fun event! Each manager chose their “marquee” wrestler from the 2019 WAF set, and were then randomly assigned four other wrestlers. Click here for a run-down of the rules. Everyone competed in a series of three shows, squaring off against three different managers/stables. Steve kept a running total of the points standings, and at the end we held a “Super Show” between the top two managers--Jim Woods and David Kaufmann! The 2019 PLAA-Y-Dot-CON Super Show started off with John Kentt taking down Barista Siobahn in a back-and-forth match, earning two match points for Jim. The second event ended in a “no decision” between Kyler Bass and Nuke Newsome, putting everything on the line for the final match, Triple G vs. The Mortician. It was a fitting way to wrap up the event, as both wrestlers were undefeated in their three “main event” matches. The Mortician, after several whacks with his trademark folding chair, delivered the “Six Feet Under” big splash FINISHER for the win, earning David the title belt (and an AFR Monday Night Tights t-shirt!). Final standings for this event...

MANAGER points  
David Kauffman 32  
Jim Woods 26  
Randy Coryer 26  
Bob Surprenant 24  
Steve Heller 22  
Mark Russell 21  
Scot Long 20  
Scott Johnson 18  
George Adams 18  
Jim Surprenant 14  
Jason Retallack 13  
Brien Aronov 4  
Charles Helms 4  
Gary Brown 0

We also kept track of match points for individual wrestlers, with The Mortician earning top honors. We had seven wrestlers finish the session undefeated, but three of them (Beulah Roy, Emerson Schorr and Barista Siobahn) wrestled only in “opener” matches, so earned just six points. John Kentt won all three of his “opener” matches, and also an “overtime” match--he and The Mortician were the only wrestlers to go 4-0. Alberto Del Sol won all three of his matches, wrestling once in each slot--opener, mid-card, and main event! Here’s the 2019 PLAA-Y-Dot-CON Top Twenty...

1) The Mortician 24  
2t) Triple G 18  
2t) Madison Roone 18  
4t)Who Is This Guy? 12  
4t)Chris Babylon 12  
4t)Alberto Del Sol 12  
7) PGA Tour 10  
8t) Big Time 8  
8t) Mark Russell 8  
8t) Shanigan 8  
8t) Nuke Newsome 8  
8t) Sergeant Slash 8  
8t) AFR Steve 8  
14) John Kentt 7  
(Seven wrestlers tied) 6

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## Game Design Panel Discussion

One thing I’ve learned about sports board gamers is they love to tinker! There’s a little bit of game designer in ALL of us, so it made sense to have this year’s panel discussion focus on game design. We had three guest sports game designers: Gary Brown (Legends of Boxing, Quick Fixture Soccer, GridZone), Mike Fitzgerald (Baseball Highlights 2045, Football Highlights 2052), and Grant Fines (49 Football North and South). Each had a unique point of view, and it was interesting to listen as they outlined their philosophies. Of particular interest was the question, “FACs or dice, and why?” Mike explained that he preferred cards because of the diminishing universe of results as the deck is drawn. Gary Brown voiced a preference for dice-- for the exact opposite reason! Gary prefers that ANY outcome be possible at ANY point of the game. That left it up to Grant Fines to “break the tie.” Grant got a good laugh from the group when he pointed out that his football game uses BOTH

fast-action cards AND dice! (In the end, though, he sided with dice folks!). What's THE most important factor in a sports board game? Everyone cited different things. Mike: must capture the "feel" of the game. Gary: must be playable in a reasonable length of time. Grant split his vote between reasonable game time and realistic statistics. We wrapped up the discussion by taking a few questions from the audience. Of particular interest was the question, "when do you know a game is 'finished?'" The designers all agreed that it was more of a gut reaction than anything else. Grant got nods of agreement and chuckles from the crowd when he said that sometimes he's done with the game before the game is done with him! (Oh yeah. I can relate to THAT!)

## Guest Designer Game Showcase

When we hit our time limit for the discussion, we divided the room into groups of tables, and put a guest designer in each. Convention-goers got to experience game sessions hosted by the guest designers themselves--pretty cool!

## Cooperstown Kids Tournament

As we were planning the convention and kids began to be signed up, we felt that it would be fun to have a "kids only" event. Baseball was the natural choice, and the Cooperstown Legends cards was an obvious choice from which to draw our teams. As a bonus, each of the kids had a special Cooperstown card made for him (Dad got one, too!). To maximize game time, we divided the cards by position and had a quick face-down card draw for teams. Everyone chose a catcher, then a 1B, 2B and so on. Then we let everyone choose one additional player of their choice from the un-chosen pile (there were some good ones--like Ted Williams!). Once the teams/lineups were set we played a two-game schedule. We had some awesome games, as you would expect from teams made up entirely of Hall-of-Fame baseball players! HALF of the games went to extra innings, all of them decided by extra-innings home runs. Vlad Guerrero belted the game-winner in the top of the 10th to give Silas' team a 2-1 win over Andy's team. Andy hit his OWN game-winning homer (from his custom card), a 12th inning shot that defeated Bob's team 3-2. But the most dramatic moment was when Reggie Jackson clobbered a walk-off homer for Colin's team in the 13th inning of his game with Silas. As it turned out, no playoffs were needed for our tournament, as Judah Williams was the only one of the six kids to win both his games--by a combined score of 15-2!--thereby earning the distinction of Cooperstown Kids Champion!

## Saturday, July 20

### HISTORY MAKER BASEBALL Time Machine Tournament

This year's Time Machine Tournament was the biggest field EVER, 40 teams! Everyone chose a team when they registered for the convention, selecting from among the three published "Famous Fall Classics" card sets, and the soon-to-be-released "Famous Fall Classics FOUR" card set. The tourney format was the same as previous years: Tables of four, everyone paired off against someone else at their table for game one. Then, winners played winners, losers played losers. Ten table champs (those who won both games) automatically advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen" and we drew six wild card teams at random from the twenty 1-1 finishers to round out the field. The tournament then continued in the afternoon with those sixteen teams, single elimination, "win to stay in." The "final four" were sent to the Sunday morning "Dawn of Champions!" Here are the initial pairings and tournament results... "√" designates table champion, "x" for wild card entrant...

Glenn Oberhauser, 1985 Royals  
Sean Culnan, 1968 Cardinals  
[ x ] Brian Preece, 1960 Pirates  
[ √ ] Erik Holdaway, 1970 Orioles

[ √ ] Andy McEvoy, 2016 Cubs  
Brien Aronov, 1994 Expos  
Silas Williams, 1960 Yankees  
Scot Long, 1985 Cardinals

George Adams, 1973 Athletics  
[ √ ] John Lowe, 1993 Phillies  
Charles Helms, 1984 Tigers  
Mark Russell, 1993 Blue Jays

Steve Heller, 1899 Spiders  
Ron Bernier, 2001 Yankees  
[ √ ] Bob Surprenant, 2007 Red Sox  
Jim Surprenant, 1988 Dodgers

[ √ ] David Santistevan, 2007 Rockies  
[ x ] Judah Williams, 1991 Twins  
[ x ] Pete Stevens, 1965 Twins  
Jay Williams, 1966 Orioles

Luke McEvoy, 1995 Indians  
Cooper Gilbert, 1986 Mets  
[ √ ] Chad McEvoy, 2005 Astros  
Joseph Dowell, 1980 Royals

Al Wilson, 1980 Phillies  
[ x ] Bobby Scott, 2011 Rangers  
[ √ ] Dan Garlick, 1946 Red Sox  
Colin Garlick, 2018 Red Sox

Dan Rudolph, 2002 Giants  
[ x ] Randy Coryer, 1971 Pirates  
Grant Fines, 1970 Reds  
[ √ ] Travis Jansen, 1982 Brewers

Steve Tower, 1986 Red Sox  
[ x ] Lenny LaFrance, 1919 White Sox  
Dale Buckingham, 1954 Indians  
[ √ ] Bob Hansen, 1997 Indians

Scott Johnson, 2005 White Sox  
Keith Curtis, 1971 Orioles  
[ ✓ ] Chris Day, 1988 Athletics  
[ x ] David Kauffman, 1995 Braves

There was plenty of excitement in the preliminary round, including a thirteen-inning marathon between the 2011 Rangers and 1980 Phillies won by Texas 4-3 (two runs in the 13th), and a classic Coors Field slugfest between the '65 Twins and '07 Rockies, won by the Rox 10-9 despite seven homers from the Twins, Killebrew and Mincher each hit two dingers! After drawing our wild card teams at random, it was on to the play-off round...

### ***Time Machine Tournament "Sweet Sixteen" Results...***

'70 Orioles defeated '65 Twins, 6-2 (O's get three runs in 8th, two runs in 9th.)  
'97 Indians defeated '91 Twins, 3-2 (Justice brings home Thome with game-winner in bottom of 8th.)  
'60 Pirates defeated '16 Cubs, 2-0 (Skinner with double, HR; Mizell/Witt/Face combine for 5-hit shutout.)  
'82 Brewers defeated '07 Rockies, 4-1 (Haas scatters four hits over seven innings.)  
'05 Astros defeated '71 Pirates, 4-3 (Lane base hit in 8th scores Engberg for winning run.)  
'95 Braves defeated '07 Red Sox, 5-4 (Braves rally for 3 runs in the bottom of 8th off Papelbon, who walked 3!)  
'19 White Sox defeated '93 Phillies, 4-2 (James scatters four hits in seven innings.)  
'11 Rangers defeated '05 White Sox, 10-7 (Ranger HRs from Moreland, Murphy, Hamilton.)

### ***Time Machine Tournament "Great Eight" Results...***

'97 Indians defeated '70 Orioles, 9-4 (Giles, Thome, Ramirez HRs.)  
'82 Brewers defeated '60 Pirates, 4-3 (11 innings) (Thomas HR in top of 11th)  
'95 Braves defeated '05 Astros, 3-1 (4-hitter for Avery, McMichael; Mordecai HR win 7th)  
'19 White Sox defeated '11 Rangers, 8-7 (Rangers score 2 in 8th, 3 in 9th as Sox pitching fades--but not enough to pull it out!)

### ***Time Machine Tournament "Final Four" Results...***

'19 White Sox defeated '82 Brewers, 6-4 (Except for Oglivie's early HR Ciotte silences Brewer Big Bats, complete game win.)  
'97 Indians defeated '95 Braves, 2-1 (Wright with 2-hitter through 6 innings, 6 strikeouts; Assenmacher gets save.)

### ***Time Machine Tournament Championship***

'19 White Sox defeated '97 Indians, 6-5 (12 innings) (A re-match of first round game, won by Indians 2-0; Shoeless Joe Jackson with game-winning RBI, top of 12th.)

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## **All-Time Franchise Greats HOCKEY BLAST Tournament**

We had lots of newcomers for this tournament, folks who had never played the hockey game (aside from the PLAAY Around session) but wanted to be part of the fun. So we loosened up the format and went single-elimination to allow more time to enjoy the game. We drew teams randomly, and wound up with a really competitive field of teams, one that was minus the usual powerhouses (Boston, Montreal, USSR, etc.) That left it wide open for a dark-horse champion to emerge. We had exactly sixteen teams, which made for a perfect bracket. The "final four" were sent to the Sunday morning "Dawn of Champions!" Here are the results...

### ***First Round...***

Edmonton (Sean Culnan) defeated Washington (Jim Surprenant), 4-1  
NY Islanders (Silas Williams) defeated Winnipeg/Phoenix (Dan Rudolph), 3-0  
Columbus (Steve Heller) defeated St. Louis (Grant Fines), 3-0  
Vancouver (Luke McEvoy) defeated Ottawa (Keith Curtis), 6-1  
NY Rangers (Joseph Dowell) defeated Philadelphia (Dale Buckingham), 2-0  
Tampa Bay (Cooper Gilbert) defeated Minnesota/Dallas (Mark Russell), 3-2  
New Jersey (Jay Williams) defeated Pittsburgh (Chris Day), 7-1 (whaaa!? It was 6-0 after two periods...)  
Nashville (Charles Helms) defeated Hartford/Carolina (Jim Woods), 3-2

## **Second Round...**

Edmonton defeated NY Islanders, 4-2 (Gretzky clinches game with goal at 18:00, assisted by Weight, Messier.)

Columbus defeated Vancouver, 5-4 (Jackets make it 5-3 with 2 minutes to go, Canucks score in final minute but lose final face-off!)

Tampa Bay defeated NY Rangers, 3-2 (Stamkos game-winner in final two minutes.)

Nashville defeated New Jersey, 5-1 (Predators get three goals in final period, including empty-netter at the end.)

## **Final Four...**

Edmonton defeated Columbus, 5-2

Nashville defeated Tampa Bay, 5-2

## **All-Time Franchise Greats HOCKEY BLAST Championship Game...**

Edmonton defeated Nashville, 3-2 (Huddy with the game-winning goal in final minute of play! VERY exciting!)

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## **PLAAY Games Basketball Expo**

This was one aspect of the convention that I'd like to have as a "do-over," haha! We allotted two hours for this event, and wanted to give convention-goers the maximum amount of "hands-on" time playing the game. But I sort of short-circuited some of the fun, I think, by abbreviating the rules explanation to about 20 minutes. That left a lot of people glassy-eyed and confused and really did a dis-service to the game. I went from table to table to try to clarify, but obviously couldn't be in more than one place at a time. Still, I think people got a sense of where we're going with the game and a dozen or so folks went home with a play-test copy to tinker around with on their own time. I hope to get some good feedback in the coming weeks.

*NOTE: We devoted the 7/25 installment of our Thursday Night PLAAY Space LIVE (PLAAY Games YouTube Channel) to clarifying the game.*

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## **Fury Football Tournament**

Awesome! We had more coaches (28) than we had teams (24)! So we wound up having a separate division of duplicate teams from the base game (Rippers, Nukes, Lunatics, Hombres). Fortunately there were no duplicate teams in the playoffs. We used a "mini-season" format for this event, again grouping up into tables of four, but each table represented a "division." Everyone played everyone else in their "division," a three-game season, with the division champions advancing to the playoffs along with a single wild card team. We had an amazing diversity of results, with final scores ranging from 4-0 (Nashville defeating Miami) to 84-21 (New York over Los Angeles)! We were able to complete the entire tournament in one sitting, with the Nashville Twang (Steve Tower) besting the New Orleans Big Fun (Jim Surprenant) 28-12 for the championship, the final title-clinching sequence broadcast live on the PLAAY Games Community Facebook page!

Here are the final "Mini Season" standings and scores, [ √ ] designates divisional champion, [ x ] is the wild card. Unfortunately, I did not record who played which team! But I'm presenting the results here for reference--perhaps the Fury Football team you think is the "best," maybe can be beaten after all...

[ √ ] Nashville (3-0)

Philadelphia (2-1)

New York (1-2)

Miami (0-3)

SCORES: Nashville 8, New York 0 --- Philadelphia 35, Miami 29

New York 13, Miami 12 --- Nashville 34, Philadelphia 14

Nashville 4, Miami 0 --- Philadelphia 35, New York 21.

[ √ ] Boston (3-0)

Atlanta (2-1)

Gulf Coast (1-2)

Washington (0-3)

SCORES: Atlanta 26, Gulf Coast 15 --- Boston 15, Washington 9

Gulf Coast 37, Washington 15 --- Boston 12, Atlanta 8

Boston 18, Gulf Coast 12 --- Atlanta 46, Washington 25.

[ ✓ ] New Orleans (3-0)

Vegas (2-1)

Detroit (1-2)

Phoenix (0-3)

SCORES: Vegas 13, Detroit 6 --- New Orleans 20, Phoenix 8

New Orleans 28, Vegas 19 --- Detroit 38, Phoenix 29

Vegas 18, Phoenix 14 --- New Orleans 29, Detroit 23.

[ ✓ ] Chicago (2-1)

Cleveland (2-1)

San Francisco (1-2)

Pacific (1-2)

SCORES: Chicago 45, Pacific 12 --- Cleveland 25, San Francisco 24

Chicago 23, Cleveland 0 --- Pacific 17, San Francisco 7

San Francisco 12, Chicago 6 --- Cleveland 21, Pacific 18.

[ ✓ ] Dallas (3-0)

Minnesota (2-1)

Seattle (1-2)

Milwaukee (0-3)

SCORES: Dallas 45, Seattle 6 --- Minnesota 55, Milwaukee 22

Seattle 22, Milwaukee 18 --- Dallas 28, Minnesota 0

Minnesota 25, Seattle 15 --- Dallas 36, Milwaukee 6.

[ ✓ ] Denver (2-1)

Kansas City (2-1)

Los Angeles (1-2)

Houston (1-2)

SCORES: Los Angeles 32, Houston 26 --- Denver 47, Kansas City 37

Kansas City 30, Los Angeles 24 --- Houston 25, Denver 12

Denver 78, Los Angeles 8 --- Kansas City 25, Houston 16.

[ ✓ ] Detroit (2-1)

[ x ] New York (2-1)

Los Angeles (1-2)

Houston (1-2)

SCORES: New York 84, Los Angeles 21 --- Houston 28, Detroit 12

New York 33, Houston 0 --- Detroit 16, Los Angeles 6

Los Angeles 33, Houston 27 --- Detroit 30, New York 21.

### ***PLAYOFFS, First Round***

Nashville 20, Boston 0

Detroit 22, Chicago 21

Denver 32, Dallas 15

New Orleans 60, New York 6

### ***PLAYOFFS, Second Round***

Nashville 24, Detroit 6

New Orleans 28, Denver 18

### ***FURY FOOTBALL Championship Game***

Nashville (Steve Tower) 28, New Orleans (Jim Surprenant) 12

**Sunday, July 21**

## **PLAAY-Dot-CON “Dawn of Champions”**

We had championship series for three different tournaments happening simultaneously, creating a lot of energy in the room. Results have already been posted in this article (above), but congratulations here for our Tournament Champions: Andy McEvoy (football), Lenny LaFrance (baseball), Sean Culnan (hockey). (Wrestling, Fury Football and Cooperstown Kids tournaments were completed same-day.)

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## **HISTORY MAKER BASEBALL Trading Card Tournament**

Those who weren't competing for these championships were squaring off for a different championship, that of the HMB Trading Card Tournament! Everyone had gotten a box of baseball trading cards in their convention “swag bag,” about 40 cards per box, along with a copy of the Quick-Rate card for HMB. We again used the “mini-season” format (as we did for Fury Football) for this event, grouping up into tables of four, with everyone played everyone else at their table, a three-game season. The twist was, we played six-inning games and no extra innings-- games that were tied at the end of six innings went into the books as ties. At last year's tournament, we had planned a round of playoffs for this event but scrapped that idea when it turned out that just one gamer (Scot Long) who had won all three games. This year, TWO PLAAY gamers finished with perfect 3-0 records--Chad McEvoy and Brien Aronov! In a split-second executive decision, we decided to make them “co-champions.” Here are the final standings...

Chad McEvoy (3-0-0)  
Brien Aronov (3-0-0)  
Silas Williams (2-0-1)  
Mark Russell (2-0-1)  
Keith Curtis (1-1-1)  
Erik Holdaway (1-1-1)  
Jay Williams (1-1-1)  
Luke Williams (1-1-1)  
Brian Preece (1-2-0)  
Colin Garlick (0-1-2)  
Judah Williams (0-1-2)  
Chris Day (0-2-1)  
Joseph Dowell (0-2-1)  
Bob Surprenant (0-2-0)  
Jim Surprenant (0-1-0)

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## **PLAAY-Dot-CON Raffle Drawing**

One of the new things we did this year was to include a raffle in the mix of events. We put together a selection of PLAAY goodies and set up a container in the meeting room to collect tickets. Everyone got eight raffle tickets in their “swag bag,” and we awarded additional tickets to winners and runners-up in each of the tournaments. Over the course of the convention, people were encouraged to drop their tickets into the bins we had set up, each prize had its own bin. Then, at noon Sunday, we drew a ticket from each bin and awarded the prize to that person...

FACE TO THE MAT 20th Anniversary Edition: Dale Buckingham

SECOND SEASON 20th Anniversary Edition: Bob Hansen

Bundle of 99 un-opened, un-searched baseball trading cards, 1979-2019: Luke McEvoy

Complete HISTORY MAKER GOLF Course Collection (ONE through FOURTEEN): Glenn Oberhauser

HOCKEY BLAST All-Time Franchise Great Teams Collection and Carrying Case: Silas Williams

SOCCER BLAST 2018 World Cup Card Set: Scot Long

“League Of Their Own” Movie DVD and 1944 AAGPBL Cards:

PLAAY NOW “Double PLAAY” (boxed editions of Fury Football and Twisted Fate): Lenny LaFrance



## HISTORY MAKER GOLF 2019 PLAAY Gamer OPEN

After a quick lunch break, it was time for the convention's final event--the HISTORY MAKER GOLF PLAAY Gamer Open Tournament! Every convention-goer got a set of three customized HMG cards, representing three different skill sets of roughly equal overall ability. This year's course was the Avalon Farms course (TPC Potomac), which gave a bit of an advantage to those who were brave enough to choose their "big hitter" card. We played two rounds--first round, we grouped golfers randomly. Second round, we re-arranged the foursomes based on first-round score so that the leaders went last.

Silas Williams jumped out to an early first-round lead, with birdies on four of his first five holes. He finished the round with a seven under par 63, one stroke ahead of Brian Preece. The rest of the leader board was made up of Chad McEvoy (-5), Scott Johnson and Travis Jansen (-4), Joseph Dowell and Jay Williams (-3), Mark Russell and John Lowe (-2) and Chris Day, Al Wilson, Bob Hansen and Erik Holdaway (-1).

The second round saw surges from Steve Tower (+2 to -4), Bobby Scott (+1 to -7) and David Santistevan (even par to -6), all three moving into contention (at least temporarily) Silas was playing safe and clinging to the lead, picking up birdies on 8 and 11 to go to -9, with Brian, Joseph, Chad, Travis and Al in hot pursuit. The big drama of the afternoon happened when Silas posted consecutive bogeys on 12 and 13, dropping him into a tie with Chad and Joseph at -7. But he maintained his composure and picked up a clutch birdie on 14 while Chad scored par, regaining the lead. A birdie on 16 kept Silas on top, and he went into the clubhouse with pars on 17 and 18 and a one stroke lead. Joseph bogeyed 16 to essentially fall out of contention. Chad was unable to gain back a stroke, scoring pars on 17 and 18 himself, while Brian's birdie putt on 18 fell short, leaving a stroke between him and the leader. A round of applause broke out as our championship was sealed--for Silas Williams! Our final leaderboard...

	Round 1	Round 2	Total	SCORE
Silas Williams	63	68	131	-9
Joseph Dowell	67	65	132	-8
Brian Preece	64	68	132	-8
Travis Jansen	66	67	133	-7
Bobby Scott	72	<b>61*</b>	133	-7
Al Wilson	69	64	133	-7
Chad McEvoy	65	68	133	-7
David Santistevan	70	64	134	-6
Gary Brown	70	65	135	-5
Mark Russell	68	67	135	-5
Jay Williams	67	70	137	-3
Chris Day	69	68	137	-3
John Lowe	68	69	137	-3
Erik Holdaway	69	69	138	-2
Ron Bernier	73	65	138	-2
Steve Tower	71	67	138	-2
Scott Johnson	66	74	140	0
Bob Surprenant	69	71	140	0
Jim Woods	72	68	140	0
Bob Hansen	71	70	141	+1
Jim Surprenant	73	68	141	+1
Cooper Gilbert	72	69	141	+1
Charles Helms	75	68	143	+3
Brien Aronov	71	73	144	+4
David Kauffman	74	70	144	+4
Keith Curtis	71	74	145	+5
Andy McEvoy	75	72	147	+7
Luke McEvoy	74	74	148	+8
Judah Williams	75	73	148	+8
Steve Heller	72	79	151	+11

\* Bobby Scott had the day's best score, shooting a second-round 61, nine under par. Next best was Silas' first round 63, followed by Brian Preece (64), Erik Holdaway (64), David Santistevan (64), Ron Bernier (65), Gary Brown (65) and Joseph Dowell (65).