



Old Time Athlete's Association  
of Northern California  
Founded 1930

# The Roundtable

## Fall 2015

*The Roundtable...A semi-Annual Publication*

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## A Lesson in Scouting

By Gerry Stratford

How do they do it? How do they identify the players who will one day make a tremendous difference in the future success of their team? Oh, to be sure, anyone could have recognized the promise of that young man who played for St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron. Even the least among sports writers was writing headlines about the promise of young LeBron James. And another boy from Akron was an obvious pick, and so Steph Curry went early in the 2009 draft. But such players are rare, and the NBA teams must draft many more to fill their farm teams and plans for the future. How do they detect those with hidden talents?



Our October speaker clearly has many of the answers. Kirk Lacob is much more than an assistant to the General Manager of the Golden State Warriors.

For six years Kirk has managed the player evaluation and scouting programs for our Championship team. He served two years as the team's player development representative to the League office, as part of a program that is devoted to personal development of these remarkable young men, both on and off of the court. Kirk is devoted not just to

teaching basketball skills, but also those attributes that embellish adult lives, investment strategies and life goals.

It was Kirk who identified a minor league team in North Dakota, managed the team as a GM and brought them to Santa Cruz where they are now a vital part of the Warrior farm system. With Kirk's leadership years the team has made three straight trips to the D-League Finals and succeeded in winning the title this year. All of which speaks to not only exemplary leadership, but also a fine eye for noticing that special ingredient that enables a particular player to make his team better.

Such talents are sometimes hidden. Kirk Lacob certainly looks at statistics, but some numbers are not as important as points scored or shots missed. Sometimes, a team performs better on offense or on defense when a particular player is on the court despite the absence of any obvious contribution, and technology now makes the compilation of such data possible.

Part of his awareness surely comes from Kirk's own experience as a player. He continues to play in local leagues including active participation on an Olympic Club A League team.

Will he tell us his secrets? What does the future hold? Will San Francisco soon have another team sitting on a dock by the Bay? Don't miss this chance to learn some answers to your pressing questions.

## NOTE

**Per action taken by the Board of Directors as of January 1, 2016, the Annual Dues will increase to \$35.00 per year. This will allow us to handle increased costs and to continue to subsidize the cost of the Bi-Annual Dinners.**

## The Ring Bairer

By Gerry Stratford

Our Spring Meeting was a joyous celebration as Jack Bair came with tidings of a sweep by the Giants over our hated foes to the south. Indeed a Bair with very large brain and fondness for words (unlike A.A. Milne's creation) our speaker recounted highlights of his 23 years with the Giants, not least of which is a record tying three World Series championships. Only a few of us remember the last time a team accomplished that feat (it was the St Louis Cardinals in 1942, 1944 and 1946). Another indication of Giant resilience is ten straight entries into Post Season Play, which is only one year shy of the Yankee record of eleven.

Our speaker reminded us of all of the reasons we should be proud of our team and its commitment to continuity. While we must occasionally suffer the departure of players (we all miss the Panda) Bair felt it likely that the inspirational role models such as Pence and Posey will be with us for the long haul. And, many of our players are "homegrown" in the Giant's extraordinary feeder system.

More Giant Minor Leaguers have made it to the Bigs than from any other system. How many of us knew that the Giants have a AAA team in Sacramento, or that the AA Richmond Flying Squirrels and the Single A Augusta Green Jackets are part of the Giant system?

Bair's stories about the AT&T Park Stadium were impressive. Candlestick attendance at a typical game back in 1993 often hovered below 1,000 fans, while now every game in the brick building has been a sell out and there are 30,500 season ticket holders. While in most parts of the country, interest

appears to be growing in San Francisco as the trend is toward a younger average spectator age. This developing interest is quite possibly a result of the Team's commitment to Community Affairs in general and Junior Baseball in particular.

Giant outreach has also embraced the tech universe. The Giants were the first team to host a team website, the first to host a Spanish Language site, and they now have three million followers on Facebook.

Hope you got a chance to shake hands with Jack, it would have been a rare opportunity to hold a very big diamond encrusted ring in your right hand.



# NewKIDS

**We Welcome the following new members:**

**Jim Boyd** attended St. Ignatius high School, where he played football for four years.

**Peter Delucca**, graduate of Galileo High School, class of 1948. He played 55 years in the San Francisco Park & Rec Softball League.

**Leonard Grilli**, graduated in the 1958 class at Bellarmine College Prep, San Jose, CA where he starred in baseball and followed that up by playing 4 years at Cal Poly Univ, San Luis Obispo, CA. Len is currently President of the Old Timers Baseball Assoc of S. F.

**Pete Quevedo**, a Mission High School graduate, class of 1946. His sport was soccer. Pete retired as one of "San Francisco's Finest."



## OTA Office Information

Initiation Fee: \$15  
Yearly Dues: \$35

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## Roundtable Coordinator Needed

We need someone to coordinate the Roundtable twice a year. Our present person has to step down because of health issues and is unable to continue. Anyone interested in taking over the duties should contact Andy Burke at 650-591-8585

## Members and Guest at the 2015 Springl OTA Meeting

### Members Present:

Jack Abad  
 Manny Agorastos  
 Vince Agular  
 Jeff Alcorn  
 Mark Avelar  
 Jack Babcock  
 Gary Bader  
 John Bain  
 Jack Bair  
 Charles Baker  
 Wayne Batmale  
 Larry Bingham  
 Frank Brady  
 Bop Braghetta  
 Bud Bresnahan  
 Andy Burke  
 Leo Burns  
 Harry Bush  
 Mel Canevaro  
 Lou Carella  
 Dan Casey  
 Dan Costello  
 Marc Christensen  
 Art Citron  
 Sam Citron  
 Francis Clifford  
 Dave Clisham  
 Bill Collins  
 Aldo Congi  
 Jim Conolly  
 George Cosmos  
 Mike Crilly  
 Mike Cronk  
 Mike Cutone  
 Pete Dalton  
 Ron Darling  
 Bob Datwyler  
 Bernie Davey  
 Ron Davis  
 Terry DeYoung  
 Laird Doherty  
 Jack Donahoe  
 Mike Donahoe  
 Mike Dotterweich  
 Jere Driscoll  
 Kevin Dunleavy  
 Alonzo Emery  
 Warren Fannin  
 Don Feehan

Roger Ferrari  
 Bob Fife  
 Jack Fitzpatrick  
 Jack Fleming  
 Steve Franceschi  
 Richard Friedman  
 Charlie Gagan  
 Art Gerrans  
 Jerry Gibson  
 Jeff Graff  
 Ray Greggains  
 Bob Guerrero  
 Tom Gumina  
 Bob Hagler  
 Jack Hayes  
 Frank Hedley  
 Walt Heim  
 Allan Hitchcock  
 Dick Hoedt  
 Bill Hogan  
 Tim Hornbecker  
 Don Hourigan  
 John Iocco  
 Dean James  
 Gary Johnson  
 Tom Johnson  
 Bob Jonsen  
 Bob Kahl  
 Brian Kearney  
 Terry Keeley  
 Rick Kell  
 Andy Kerr  
 Herb Kessler  
 Kris Kimball  
 Quentin Kopp  
 George Korte  
 John Kristovich  
 Tom Lagrave  
 Charley Leach  
 Tim Leach  
 Bob Lee  
 Phil Lellmen  
 John LeTourneau  
 Arney Lundquist  
 Bill Lynch  
 Dave Mackin  
 Mike Maffei  
 Bob Maloney  
 Joe Marino  
 Mario Maso

Robert Max  
 Walt McCall  
 Ray McDonald  
 Tom McGraw  
 Val McKeever  
 Don Meek  
 Rich Mercurio  
 John Mohr  
 Al Monaco  
 Shaun Morrison  
 Gene Mullin  
 Rich Murphy  
 Stephan Negoesco  
 Steve Negoesco  
 Robert O'Donnell  
 Chuck Osborne  
 Jim Owen  
 Steve Panos  
 Tony Passanisi  
 Howard Powleson  
 Jack Phelan  
 Nick Poppin  
 Fred Quinn  
 Kirk Rademaker  
 Ted Rademaker  
 Jim Radetich  
 Bob Randall  
 Buck Reed  
 Tony Ribera  
 Baxter Rice  
 Joe Richardson  
 Cliff Righetti  
 Robert Roche  
 Jim Rohrer  
 Al Romero  
 Lou Rovegno  
 Bernie Schneider  
 Murray Schneider  
 Jack Scramaglia  
 Bob Simi  
 Chuck Smith  
 Jeff Stahl  
 William Stevenson  
 Gerry Stratford  
 Bob Strohecker  
 Carl Sundquist  
 Tom Swartz  
 John Sweeney  
 Terry Taylor  
 Jeffery Thomson

Al Tripp  
 Dick Verbrugge  
 John Wagner  
 Urie Walsh  
 Dick Welch  
 Jerome Williams  
 Deloss Wood  
 Larry Zemanski  
 Russ Zeibell

### Guests Present:

Greg Bodmer  
 Jim Boyd  
 James Burke  
 Paul Cadurro  
 John Chisso  
 Tony Corica  
 Peter DiLucca  
 Mark Duncan  
 Larry Fioranelli  
 Mel Johnson  
 Phil Lara  
 Sergio Negoesco  
 Frank Noonan  
 Jack Panos  
 Matt Panos  
 Mike Togrotti  
 Jim Tressler



## Last of the Ninth

*Since our last meeting we have lost the following friends:*

**Rugger Ardisoia**  
**Roy Diederichsen**  
**Tom Doonan**  
**Grover Klemmer**  
**John McCarthy**  
**Bob St. Clair**