

BOB WELBY MEMORIAL RECOGNITION OF SERVICE AWARD

Dave Blackburn - Internet Streaming Developer - 2011

DAVE BLACKBURN - Santa Monica, California



Born into a fastpitch family, Dave's father Ernie Blackburn was a well known pitcher in the Midwest during the 60's and 70's, and is a member of the Indiana ASA Hall of Fame. Dave started pitching at the age of 16, and hasn't stopped.

While still competing, Dave accepted Milt Stark's invitation to join the ISC organization officially in 2000, replacing Al Ruegsegger as ISC California Area Commissioner.

In 2001, after successfully testing at the Pioneer days Tournament in Salt Lake City, the ISC World Tournament entered the era of live streaming media, under Dave's guidance. He was responsible for identifying www.Sportsjuice.com as the streaming media distribution partner to send the ISC World Tournament, out to a Global internet audience.

By 2002, ISC Exec Director Ken Hackmeister created a new position in the ISC organization, and named Dave as it's first Commissioner of Streaming and Broadcasting.

In 2004, Dave worked closely with the local ABC TV affiliate in Fargo, to broadcast the ISC World Championship game live on prime time television, throughout the Dakotas.

In 2005, the first successful attempt to use live video streaming was experimented with from the World Championship game at Eau Claire, WI.

This new innovation was well received from the fastball fan base, that had been built up, on www.Sportsjuice.com.

After 5 straight years of webcasting live audio coverage of ISC World Tournament games, the ISC took a bold step in 2006 and allowed Dave to design and procure a live multi-camera video webcasting system, now known as Ballparkradio.tv.

After two successful years of webcasting in Kitchener, Ontario in 06 and 07, the ISC broadcast 24 games live from Kimberly, WI in 2008, and 20 more from Moline, IL in 2009.

He also manages the broadcast team, and maintains and assembles the broadcast equipment, on behalf of the ISC. Internationally, ISC fans have listened or watched from countries like Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, Japan, The Czech Republic, Venezuela, The Dominican Republic, Holland, Mexico, Israel, and all throughout the North American continent.

As a player, Dave has pitched nearly 1,800 games over the last 33 consecutive summers, and has pitched in 10 International Maccabiah Tournaments. These tournaments are held under the auspices of the ISF, in Israel, and throughout Latin America. In the summer of 2009, Dave became the first American player inducted into the Israel Softball Hall of Fame, after pitching the Gold medal Game at the 18th World Maccabiah Games. He is now the only softball player with 4 Gold medals in the World Maccabiah Games.

In 2005, for his work on behalf of the ISC as live TV and Webcast Producer, Dave was invited to become a member of the Producers Guild of America's New Media Council.

Dave also is a previous inductee and serves his local community as the Co-Chairman of the Southern California Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.