



THE BASEBALL REVIEW

2021 WINTER SEASON

6

Four from four!

3 big wins and a point from a forfeit! All good news.

ROYALS HOLD ON - JUST!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Despite seeing its four-run lead whittled down by the end, ROYALS still held off Hawkesbury for an 8-7 victory on Saturday.

ROYALS grabbed an early lead, scoring on a fielder's choice by Adam Forster in the first inning, an error in the second inning, a single by Brad Murray in the second inning, an error in the second inning, and a fielder's choice by Glenn Hughes in the second inning.

Todd took to the mound and threw 6 strong innings. Certainly, wasn't our best day with 10 errors in the field and left plenty of men on base.

Bottom of the last we were up 8-4 with Steve taking to the mound for an injured Todd. We dropped a few catches in the wind and threw the ball around, but just held on by the skin of our teeth to win 8-7.

Was an ugly win!! But a win is a win!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

G2 continue their unique way to a win!

The first three innings saw some very fast pitching from Mt. Druitt, keeping our boys from getting any runs, but both Macca and Doc's pitching kept the run count low, 2-0.

The fourth and fifth inning saw us and them do some great batting and it was becoming tense.

Suddenly a nail-biting comeback saw the score at 6-7our way.

Matty Jones reliever pitching was the catalyst for our surge back.

The boys had a stellar last dig, holding onto a slender lead, as everyone at bat got on base and brought the runs home that we needed. This resulted in the first win of the season!

A well-deserved 11-10 victory.

G3 had all the best intentions!

But Mackillop had a very rare no show and forfeited accordingly.

H! As beautifully articulated by Marina!

The mighty H graders got lost in time and space travelling to Mt Druitt's tribal home. There were nine of us today, perfect! The dark sleety clouds had replaced what was. Good, no glare but the wind, fairly steady, was encouraging foul balls. Did anyone notice the cold? We were determined ball players looking for our first win of the season against a fellow winless team.

The first three innings saw the score even at 5 each but we had a let a few chances slip away as we had two batters given out for batting out of the box.

So, in the 4th dig, the tension was so thick you could taste it. Marina was at bat with a determined glare to the pitcher. The pitch was fast, but the bat and ball made that sweet sound we like to hear, placement not great, but a fumble had me safe at 1st!

The umpire, the home team warned from experience, enjoyed enforcing the rules. While technically correct, could quickly undo our slim lead. With a turn of the shoulder or foot outside the box, our 'fun' game could sour. Hey guys, this is H grade.

My vantage was now set for what was to come.

With me on first, and the bases loaded, my view to home plate was unhindered. Loaded bases. Hell, we've all been here before! What comes next matters, big time.

Tom approached home plate, bat in hand, too stoic for his years. I knew 2nd base was mine.

The pitch was good, steady and fast. The swing was powerful and flat but no 'crack'. Strike! "Nice power Tom", "You've seen it now".

Next pitch, ball. "Good eyes, Tom". Maybe, a foul next? The details are blurring as I focus on the count, 2 strikes and 3 balls. It was impossible to check his countenance. All I could say, "You got this Tom".

All eyes on that ball, now floating through time and space. The bat had connected, with a delayed crack, and we all held, waiting for the outcome.

I was there. I saw it all, unhindered. The pitch came in fast and flat; it was good. Tom unwound his whole body into the swing and follow through, spinning on his heel (Inside the box). He looked unstoppable. The ball started travelling flat between third and shortstop. The most experienced gloves were down that side to stop it, but it kept moving. Hovering above the ground, past 3rd and beyond left field.

At some point we started to run as the ball, with a life of its own, continued over the fence. What the!!

We were ready for him as he came across the plate, a momentary beam of pride washing over his face as he accepted the congratulations and acknowledged his first ever home run.

Good luck finding the ball...

Congratulations Thomas.

Loaded bases. Home run. Sealed a win with 7 runs scored. Phil cleaned up their last dig for only 2 more runs. So, the runs in each innings were 1: 3, 3: 2, 1: 0, 7: 2, = Final score of 12: 7

First win of the season (except for the forfeit against us last week).



The seventh round of games should play out as follows fellow base folk: -

G1 – LOMATIA PARK – 2.30 GAME V DA RIFF

G2 – CORBIN RESERVE – 2.30 GAME V QH BLACK PEARLS

G3 – ANDREWS ROAD – 12.15 GAME V DA RIFF BIG KITTS

H – LOMATIA PARK – 12.15 GAME V PLUMPTON LAKHOTA



HERE IS A NICE STORY FROM THE TRENCHES!

After last Saturday's game against the Mt. Druiitt Lions, the G2 family joined the visitors at the Royal Hotel for a beer, frivolity and dinner in some cases.



What a great bunch of guys, but an even better back story.

As it was related to us, the Lions are not a registered Baseball club as a company (ABN) like us they are a registered Charity. Their modus operandi is youth rehabilitation.



The chap with the beard is a social worker (and short stop) and the Islander boys his charges.

Here they are doing double shots with Danny (our bearded lady) and CJ. It may not have ended so well.

One of the best nights I have had in a long time. Viva la Baseball!

NEW HOODIES ARE ON THE LIST – SAMPLE NEXT WEEK!

Boy was that embarrassing! -The changes in bat rules that is!

Last Saturday the umpire at Lomatia happily informed batters going to the plate that their bats were now illegal.

Several bats were rejected at the plate and replacements found hastily.

So here is the ruling from the powers that be (SMBL) –

11.10 Bats shall be of aluminium, graphite or ceramic construction or one solid piece of wood or wood composite.

11.11 Division 1 to Division 3 are restricted to wood bats or BBCOR with a maximum weight to length differential of -3

11.12 For all grades below Division Three the maximum weight to length differential of bats is -5 and they must have label BBCOR or USA approved (not USSSA)

11.13 1. In the first instance umpires will remove the illegal bat from the game if it is brought to their attention. If bat is used again in the game there will be \$50 fine.
2. Repeated infringement by a team will incur a \$100 fine or loss of points or both
3. Any breach of the revised bat rule should be recorded on the result sheet

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So now you know!

We shall persist!

BLUE MOUNTAINS BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL CLUB AGM

The Royal Hotel - Monday the 7th of June at 7.30pm.

For anyone even slightly interested! Maybe get involved -new blood?

Welcome our new scorer to H grade – Steve Lindsay (HMM Steve L- I like it!)

Paint dries quicker than decisions are made.

Wil, AT and yours truly attended another meeting with the designers of the new Lomatia facility and true to form what was proposed was vastly differing from what was conveyed to the architects.

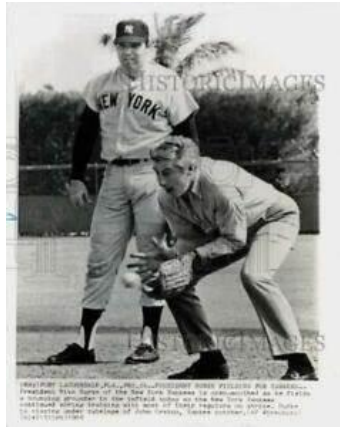
“thank you for the input -we will be in touch”

And so goes the merry go round!

Go on think about it!



Deep from the book of the wit and wisdom of L.J.!



“A Baseball Club is a part of the chemistry of the city. A game isn’t just an athletic contest, it’s a picnic, a kind of town meeting”

Michael Burke – President New York Yankees

WHAT DID YOU EXPECT -PEACE IN GAZA!

DROP DOWN AND GIVE ME 20!

