

BK Control Softball

Season: 8
Recap: 10
Game: 12
Game Date: 7/28/10

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK....

Our final regular season game wound up being a battle for second place. Our record was 8-3 and the Amadons were at 7-4. We had already beaten them once, so we had a slight advantage. Our goal was to obviously win and not worry about tie breakers, but it boiled down to this. In order to hold second place (and get home team advantage in the first round of the playoffs), we could lose, but not by more than seven runs. The tie breakers are as follows: 1) head to head record 2) total runs for those games 3) total runs for the year. We beat them 23 to 16 the first game, so that's where the seven runs came from.

I had a feeling they really wanted this game, and I was right. As always, I showed up at the field an hour early, with our game slated for 7:30. To my surprise, their entire team was already there huddled around in some kind of big team meeting. Hey whatever works I guess.

After about fifteen minutes they all started warming up together. Almost all of them had team jerseys on except for a few. That's not really unusual in softball, but the three guys who didn't have team jerseys, I had never seen before. Now, obviously I have not watched all of their games and we only played them once, but these three guys really stuck out. They actually looked like athletes! LOL!

One thing for sure, you don't judge a book by its cover, especially in softball. A perfect example is the Scorgasms, who look real good, but suck! LOL! So, I just let it go turned my attention back to getting ready for the game.

This league and Park District get more and more odd every week. There are two main softball fields where adult leagues are played. On Wednesdays there are two leagues going on at the same time, an A League and a B League (we are the B league). Each week the two leagues rotate between the two fields. I started to watch the field that we were supposed to play on and noticed that the game had not started yet; it was at least fifteen minutes later than the scheduled 6:30 start time. At first I thought there may have been a forfeit or something, but both teams had enough guys. Then it hit me! They didn't have an umpire! The umpire scheduled for that game was a no-show! The field supervisor came walking by me and I asked him what was going on.

Me You don't have an ump for that field?

FS Nope. He didn't show.

Me Nice!

FS Every week it's something new with these leagues. I've never seen anything like it.

Me: Not good
FS Were you here Monday?
Me No.
FS Yeah, the late games all got canceled because we couldn't get the lights on again.
Me Holy Shit! Really?
FS Oh yeah. It's unbelievable!
Me You'd think that with all the trouble over the past few weeks someone would do some maintenance on them or something.
FS You'd think.
Me Do you have an ump on the way?
FS Yeah.
Me You may want to turn those lights on now to make sure they work!
FS Not a bad idea.

He then made his way back to the field and took the role of umpire to start the game.

Then I looked over the other field and noticed that the teams from our league were on that field. I was like...what the hell? Somehow, somehow, someone got the field numbers messed up. Lucky for us I guess. That game started on time and had an ump.

Anyway, let's play some ball.....

We were home team, so they were up first. Immediately you could see the impact that these three new guys had. They were hitting three through five in the batting order, so that said something right away. They all got up in the first inning, and they all had big hits. This was without a doubt a completely different team than the one we beat a few weeks ago. These guys flat out turned this team around. In the blink of an eye they had three runs on the board. I knew for sure they were going to put up a lot of runs!

We did not help ourselves by going down quietly with no runs in the bottom of the first. We left the door wide open for them to open up a big lead.

They jumped all over us with hit after hit after hit after hit! Their big guys hit the ball long and their other guys hit the ball short. They were on a roll to say the least. By the time the third out was made, they scored six runs for a nine to nothing lead. I do believe in the process, one of their new guys hit their first homerun.

In the bottom of the second, we finally started to wake up. With one out Scummer singled. Then Andy moved him a long with another single. I then knocked in Scummer (actually whoever was running for him) with a single between short and third, for our first run of the game. Then Eddie, Danny, Phil and Lee all singled consecutively, giving us seven singles in a row (there is a pattern here). Phil drove in two runs and Lee drove in two runs. All totaled we scored five and cut the lead to nine to five.

In the top of the third the Amadons kept at it and continued to pound the ball. Once again these three guys led the way. Another one of them hit a homerun, putting them one away from the three homerun limit per game. It got to the point where I started telling Scummer to let them hit another one right away to reach their limit.

From there any homerun after the third is an automatic out. They wound up scoring another four runs increasing their lead to thirteen to five.

In the bottom of the third, John led things off with a single. Two batters later Scummer singled as well. Then Andy hit a fly ball to right that the right fielder dropped allowing one run to score and another to reach third. I then brought in a run with a short sacrifice fly. Eddie walked and Danny reached on an error to load the bases. Phil then brought in two with another single. Lee knocked in fifth and final run of the inning. We were chipping away, cutting the lead to thirteen to ten.

In the top of the fourth, they just kept at it. It was like the only thing we could hope to do was keep the run totals per inning down, but there was no way we could stop them from scoring. Another homerun was hit, giving them three. They scored another three runs increasing the lead to sixteen to ten.

We hit the skids in the fourth coming up empty at a bad time. We really needed to keep pace with them.

There was just no end in sight to their hitting and scoring. In the fifth they continued to pound the ball. We tried playing deeper in the outfield, but apparently not deep enough, as balls continuously got hit over our outfielder's heads. The pushed another five runs across the plate extending the lead even more to twenty-one to ten.

In order to avoid losing by the slaughter rule of ten runs after six, we needed to put some runs on the board. I led the inning off with a single to right to get things going. Two batters later Danny singled, followed by Phil and Lee, which knocked in one run. Joe then brought in another with a sacrifice fly. John knocked in two more with a single. Dave then singled to move the runners along. Scummer stepped up and knocked in two more with a single to end the scoring at six. We once again cut into the big lead, giving us a chance. The score was now twenty-one to sixteen.

In the top of the sixth, we finally shut them down no runs! We had a golden opportunity to take the lead if we could just keep our momentum going.

Eddie started us off by hustling and reaching on an error. Two batters later Phil singled for his fourth hit of the game. Lee walked to load the bases. Joe then knocked in Eddie with a sacrifice fly, and that was it. We could not get a rally going. The score going into the last inning was twenty-one to seventeen.

In the top of the seventh, we held them to two runs. They now led twenty-three to seventeen. Remember the run differential tie-breaker of seven runs? Well, it was now official, we covered that. So, technically at this point, whether we came back to win or not, it didn't make any difference in the standings; we had second place locked up. However, we still wanted to WIN! Unfortunately, that didn't happen because we came up empty again in the bottom of the seventh.

We lost a tough game, and to be honest, I don't know what to think. I don't like backing into to second place with a loss for one. Winning outright would have been felt a lot better. However we improved from last year (we finished 4th at 7 -5), and we have at least one home game in the playoff tourney. So, I am kind of mixed on that front.

Then of course, there is what to think about these three players they brought in. One thing is for sure, they completely turned that team around. In my opinion, with those three, they are the best team we have faced in quite some time. Losing to a

legitimate quality team is perfectly fine. But, are they legitimate? That's where I don't know what to think. Maybe they are, maybe they aren't.

What I will say is this. If they aren't, that's the kind of shit that comes back to haunt you.

So, we move on to the play-off tournament. We play these guys in the first round of the semi finals.

	Line Score							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T
Amadons	3	6	4	3	5	0	2	23
BK Controls	0	5	5	0	6	1	0	17

	Box Score								
	AB	H	R	BB	SAC	2B	3B	HR	RBI
Danny	5	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phil	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
Lee	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Joe	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
John	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dave	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scummer	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Andy	5	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Pete	4	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	2
Eddie	3	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
		24	17	2	3	1	0	0	17

Big Hitters

- We had three guys with four hits: Phi, Lee & Scummer. Danny and Andy added three each.
- Phil and Lee led the way with 4 RBI each.

Coach's Corner

- We had 24 hits, with 23 going for singles! That's nuts! We for sure missed the long ball! The outcome could have been different if we had a few extra base hits.
- If the Amadons were smart enough to put these three guys on their roster from the beginning of the year, then good for them. Nice move. That would mean that we lost straight up, and that's the way it goes. However, if these guys are not on their roster, then I have a problem with that. Let's face it, all kinds of shit goes on during the regular season with teams using players that aren't on their rosters. I am perfectly fine with that, especially on Saturday make-up games or games that don't really mean much. Shit, we did it on that one Saturday game

with five guys that weren't on the roster...and we still lost by the way. Look, I don't even necessarily have a problem with a team bringing in a good player, or even two maybe, but THREE?! Really? Really? Like I said, if these guys were on their roster, good for them. I have no problem with it. However, if not, this kind of shit comes back to haunt you. See you in the playoffs!

Comic Relief

Gut Shot

Scummer got nailed with a line drive right in the gut. Everyone was pretty concerned, even the ump.

Everyone: You okay Scummer?
Scummer: Yeah, I'm alright
Ump: You sure you're okay Scummer?
Scummer: Yeah, I'm fine
Ump: Well, at least you're not talking in a high pitched voice!

I Don't know

Lee was trying to find out what score the ump had.

Ump: You don't know?
Lee: No. I don't know.
Ump: Well, if you don't know I don't know.
Lee: No, I really don't know anything for that matter
Ump: I just take whatever you give me.
Lee: Yeah, I really don't know what that is.
Pete: What the hell are you talking about?
Lee: Not knowing the score or anything for that matter.
Pete: (*To The Ump*) Whatever the question is, he don't know!

Vania Is Here

Joe's wife Vania made her first appearance in a very long time.

Pete: He's having a rough night.
Vania: Yeah Joe. What's going on here? I come to watch you play and this is what I get?
Joe: You know I don't feel well.
Vania: No, you're upper cutting Joe. You're not swinging level.
Joe: But you know I don't feel well.
Pete: Oh suck it up!
Vania: Yeah suck it up. I told you that.
Joe: I'm just not right.
Vania: I'm telling you, you're dipping your shoulder and upper cutting. That's the problem.
Joe: I have a fever

Vania: Yeah, I had to take your temperature and you do have a fever, but you're still not swinging level.

Pete: WOW! You better listen to her Joe. She knows what she's talking about!

Vinnie's Shorts

Remember when the young kid Vinnie played for us a while back and he showed up wearing some funky-ass Bermuda shorts? Well, Kenny showed up wearing something similar. However, there was one big difference.

Pete: If I didn't know any better I would have thought you were Vinnie.

Kenny: Vinnie?

Pete: Yeah, you remember what his shorts looked like when he played for us that one night.

Lee: Now that's the second time he has come up in conversation tonight

Pete: Yeah, but it was classic.

Kenny: The difference is I don't play in these.

Pete: When you first got here I saw just your jersey and thought maybe you were going to give it a go. Then I saw the shorts and was like yeah, he's not playing.

Kenny: I got dressed and put my jersey on then decided to put something on that would force me to NOT play. These worked.

The End!

The Coach Has Spoken.....