

2023 JESSICA COOK WOOD BAT TOURNAMENT

GOLDEN

The unquestionably greatest era of the 88s franchise was extended further by adding their first Jessica Cook gold division crown to their treasure chest.

They tried hard to earn their way up into the platinum division on Saturday but after a 5-4 loss to cap the day off they instead embraced a new challenge of going up against an exceptionally strong gold division.

The entire weekend was a perfect display of one of the team's biggest strengths; that it can be any player to carry the load at any given time.

It was the Henderson's who handled the heavy lifting during the 6-3 game 1 win Saturday morning by combining to bat 5/6 while knocking in 4 of the teams 6 runs.

In the game 2 mercy victory it was the dynamic duo of Joce and James going a combined 7/7 with 5 runs and 7 RBIs, which was good for over 70% of the team production for the game by being responsible for 12 of the 17 total runs.

Helping keep the 88s in the game 3 loss was Myles with the only perfect 3/3 outing while accounting for half the teams run production by also being the only player in the game with both a run and RBI.

Kris must have got a good sleep before hitting back to back inside the park home runs early Sunday morning to be the primary driving force behind a convincing 10-2 win.

During a windy second game on Sunday, it was Josh's turn in the spotlight by knocking in the first 2 runs of the game to make it 3-2 in the 5th, touching and tossing a pivotal double play in the 6th then pushing across another run in extra innings to help secure the 88s a 6-3 OT win.

While it's true having so many options to carry the load is one of their strengths, it's even truer that this team flies the highest when everyone is lifting together.

Such was the case in the gold division final where every single player contributed on both sides of the ball to put a stamp on a great weekend with a 13-1 W.

While dusk settled in on the horizon and on a wonderful 2023 season, the 88s reveled and strategized about how they can try and do it all over again next time around the sun.

EXTRA BITS:

A ridiculous 0.784 team batting average (29/37) in game 2 on Saturday

Overall: 5-1. +41. While drawing random positions: 2-0. +19

James' flawless inning at 3B and double catch in left field

Kylie turns beautiful double play on Sunday

Jeff's running grab and doubling up a runner on first

Myles cementing his legacy as king of getting doubled off with 2 more on the weekend

Reached the 5 run cap 5 times

The best individual batting average on the weekend was an appropriate 0.88888888888889

Special thanks to:

- Nathan and Jackie for filling in (and producing!) multiple games on Saturday
- Lucas for hosting a team shin-dig around the fire and hot tub Saturday night
- Linda for filling in as scorekeeper with flawless books while the usual starter was busy helping with team wins on the field