

Brewers end stellar season with a doubleheader split

By Jake Courtepatte

On the tail of a three-game win streak, the Bolton Brewers looked to end their season on a high note with two games in Midhurst against the Barrie Angels last Wednesday.

The Brewers entered the doubleheader needing one win to clinch second spot in the North Dufferin Baseball League (NDBL) standings.

The Angels appeared ready to battle for eighth place, jumping out on top of Bolton 5-0 through three innings.

The Brewers would not score until the top of the seventh, but by then it was too late. The Angels took the first game 6-3, tightening their grip on the final playoff spot.

The team struggled to string together hits all game, as 11 hits translated into only three runs.

Game 2 saw the Bolton squad once again rise to their potential, playing shutout ball as Andrew White tossed six innings while only giving up four hits. Trent Barwick came on in relief in the seventh, striking out two for a 1-2-3 inning.

Brett Chater went three-for-four with a run, while Brett Bond picked up a double to the gap eventually coming in to score. Mike Wallace Jr. and Travis Rumney also crossed the plate for the Brewers, who would take the game 4-0 to split the doubleheader.

Chater's run would pad his lead at the top of the NDBL scoring, finishing the season with 30 runs.

A perennially successful team, coach Mike Wallace told the Citizen that the Brewers' 2014 season was "a little more difficult than most."

"We battled the injury bug all year," he said. "So we needed some guys to step up, and they did. We worked through the injuries, and we're glad to be where we are."

Wallace said he was glad to see a deeper roster for the Brewers last Wednesday, as multiple players returned from injuries or otherwise missed games.

The Brewers now face the seventh seed Clearview Orioles in the first round of the Strother Cup, a team they held a 1-1 record against in the regular season.

Wallace and the Brewers will not be taking the Orioles lightly, as they finished the season on a 4-0-1 swing to jump into playoff contention.

"They kind of came on late," said Wallace. "So they're a different team than they were at the start of the season."

Playoff action begins next week. For playoff schedules, visit www.ndbl.ca