

Brewers find their groove in win over Martingrove



Brewer Brett Chater slides safely into third against the Martingrove White Sox last Thursday.

By Jake Courtepatte

After more than a month of woes at the plate, the Bolton Brewers offence has got its groove back.

The AAA baseball team earned their second win of their inaugural season in the Greater Toronto Baseball League; a 6-1 victory over the Martingrove White Sox last Thursday.

Newcomer Zack Riddell had his second start on the mound, having been promoted from junior level in the off-season. Riddell proved his worth with a few starts scattered across the schedule last year, enough to impress coach Mike Wallace.

Riddell had a three-up, three-down top of the first, before the Brewers' offence, one of the most powerful in AA baseball last year, came to the plate.

Brett Chater started them off with a lead-off double, stealing third on a nice slide on the next batter. Wallace brought him in to score two batters later with a single to the gap, then moving to second on a passed ball.

A John Hutchinson walk, a Brendan Lyons RBI to bring in Wallace, and an Adrien Reid single loaded the bases with one out and a 2-0 score. The White Sox were able to get out of the inning only after a nice 3-2-3 double play.

Riddell was still on fire in the second, quickly striking out the side.

Back-to-back doubles in the bottom of the inning by Brett Bond and Chater ran the score up to 3-0, before Chater was caught trying to steal his second base of the game. After Brett Barwick walked, Hutchinson brought in both he and Wallace for his second run of the game on a full count that he hit to the fence.

Up 5-0 in the top of the third, Riddell finally allowed his first hit of the game on a short hopper with two outs. After walking the next batter, the White Sox broke the shutout by crossing the plate after interference was called rounding third base.

Matt Blacklaws came around to score in the sixth for a final score of 6-1.

The six-run game doubles any output the Brewers have had since the first game of the season, a 10-8 win over the Pickering Red Sox.

There's only one game on the schedule again this week for the Brewers, hosting the Thornhill Reds at North Hill Park tonight (Thursday). The Bolton squad can make some significant gains on the Reds with a win, only one spot back in GTBL standings. First pitch is at 8:45 p.m.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.gtbl.ca

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