

## New Lowell defeats Bolton in home tournament final

By Jake Courtepatte

The North Dufferin Baseball League got a taste of what to expect in the first playoff round from the league's top team.

The New Lowell Knights were the champions of their own tournament over the Civic Holiday weekend, trouncing the Bolton Dodgers in the final 11-0.

New Lowell got on the board early by knocking in three runs in the first inning, and adding another in the second. Seven runs in the fifth inning put the Dodgers away for good, putting the mercy rule into effect.

Bolton was able to record only two hits through the five innings.

New Lowell, who emerged this season as a powerhouse team in the AA league, last won the tournament in 2011.

Bolton reached the final on a 2-0 round-robin record, with a hard-fought 6-4 win over the Creemore Barons followed by a 4-4 tie with Niagara Falls Sunday. The Dodgers earned the win thanks to the tiebreaker, having left the most runners on base.

Creemore defeated the Mansfield Cubs 9-3 in the consolation game. New Lowell's Todd Gowan, one of the top hurlers in the NDBL year after year, took home best pitcher honours.

The most valuable player award went to Creemore's Eric Orser.

Interestingly enough, the Knights and Dodgers are opponents in the first round of the NDBL playoffs, the Knights finishing the regular season as the top seed and the Dodgers squeaking in at eighth.

The Dodgers will be a heavy underdog in the best-of-five series, with the Knights having lost just four games all season.

The series opened Tuesday evening in Creemore, shifting to North Hill Park in Bolton for Game 2 Wednesday. Game 3 will be played Sunday in New Lowell, with a 1 p.m. start time.

If needed, the contest returns to Bolton Wednesday for Game 4. The start time is set for 8:45 p.m.

For stats, schedules and more information, visit [www.ndbl.ca](http://www.ndbl.ca)