

2023 CHAPPY TOURNAMENT

CHAPPED

Thunder clapped and black clouds swirled while another threat assembled behind the Vale Centre Saturday morning.

Returning as 2022 defending champs, the 88s came locked and loaded with heavy artillery hoping for another successful showing at the Chappy.

With 4 of their regular militia stuck in the infirmary or on other missions, the 88s enlisted the services of highly decorated soldiers to fill out the platoon.

- Devin (13/17 with 2 HR + 7 runs and tourney high 7 RBI)
- Paul (9/16 with tourney high 8 runs + 3 RBI)
- Dan (7/15 with 3 runs + 5 RBI + 2 leafs tickets)
- Mark (3/7 with 1 run + 2 RBI while playing SS on Saturday)

Thanks in large part to these recruits, the 88s finished the weekend with a 4-1 record (+18) and had a great time on and around the diamond.

SATURDAY

Seb set the tone by getting dirty for a filthy catch in center field at 9:30 am

Joce showed off with several hard switch hits.

Myles made a ranging catch deep in LF.

Sandi didn't walk a batter all day.

Kylie knocked a hit in each game.

Nikki had a lady high 6 hits.

Marnie played flawless 1B.

Jeff was looking fly.

Together they slipped by with a narrow 6-5 win against a dangerous Mad Batters squad who played the long game of wisely conserving their energy for Sunday.

They finished 3-0 (+14) as the #2 seed before packing things up and switching into party mode.

SUNDAY

It could have been the copious amounts of deviled eggs consumed at Kris and Kelley-Ann's stag and doe or maybe it was their luck running dry after winning so many prizes.

Regardless, after Devin hit a walk off home run over the fence to get past the Ball Breakers with a 14-4 mercy win to punch their ticket to the championship bracket, the 88s hit a wall in the semi-final.

After trading 4 run blows in the first inning and finding themselves deadlocked at 6 in the 5th, this matchup against the Mad Batters felt like it was expected to be, the most pivotal game of the weekend on the coed side.

With plenty of luck left in the tank after going home empty handed the night before, Brian made his return to the lineup with 6 straight hits while John looked back to his usual self by playing strong 3B and smashing a ball off the center field fence.

Despite the 88s doing plenty right (including another home run by Devin in the first, a perfect 2/2 + walk from Jeff, and nearly mistake free defense), the Mad Batters had the 88s' number this time around and pulled away late with excellent hitting and strategic use of the rules.

EXTRA BITS

Dan and Jeff went back and forth all day on the silent auction of the Leafs tickets, finally settling on splitting them and going together. #cute

After mistakenly thinking it was 3 outs after a walk to Sandi, James experiences his first ever glitch to lower his book keeping average to .999.

The 88s come up with a front runner team name for the Jessica Cook tournament, stay tuned.