

# 2022 CHAPPY TOURNAMENT

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## CHAPMPS!

It started off rough for the 88s.

They learned they'd be without an important defender for the duration of the tournament, they lost their opening game 9-3, their speedster was severely limited since early in game 2 and they were facing a tougher than expected pool of teams.

Yet somehow under the searing heat of the August sun the 88s knew they had to galvanize together if they wanted a chance to turn things around.

This is a story of redemption.

After game 1 began with 6 scoreless innings, their bats were sparked to life with a solo homer from a pinch hitting Myles in the 7th followed by 5 straight 2 out hits from Jeff, Marnie, Seb, Sean and Kylie.

The offensive momentum that was built up got carried over into game 2 to help the 88s square their record at 1-1 following a close 13-12 win over Dixon Cider.

Joce had a big game with 3 hits, 2 runs and 3 RBI but first star honors in this one went to Jeff who batted 4/4 + 3 runs + 3 RBI while pitching all 6 innings.

Getting a taste for winning, the 88s followed that up with another slim 7-5 win in game 3 vs Wrecking Balls thanks to 2 RBI from Marnie and Jeff and another big 2/2 + walk game from Joce who continued her assault on the Chappy tournament.

Reinforcements arrived ahead of game 4 with April coming to pitch.

After shaking off a little hangover fog and calibrating for the blustery wind she was off and running to help the 88s notch their 3rd win in a row to end the round robin with an 8-6 win over the Brew Jays.

Leading the way offensively was John going 2/2 including a massive triple, 2 runs and 2 RBI along with Nikki's 2/2 + run + RBI line and Brian's huge triple + walk + run + RBI.

The semifinal game was highlighted by Joce burning the outfielders for a 2 RBI double to knot up the game at 2-2 in the 4th, clutch hits from Myles, Seb and Jeff in the last inning to take a 4-

2 lead and a game saving relay between Seb, Sean and Adam to nab the opponents fastest player at 3B in the bottom of the final inning to secure the narrow 4-3 win.

After 4 nail biters in a row the 88s found themselves in the championship game, matched up against the same team that kicked off their day on a sour note some 7 hours earlier.

Little did the Bulldogs know that the 88s were now a whole new team. Their new players were settled in, April was mastering the wind and they seemed forged together by the humidity and hard fought wins to get to this point.

Helping make his 88s debut a memorable one, Seb got the championship game started off by blasting a home run deep to right center field. With the flood gates opened, Jeff and Joce followed that up with impressive triples. After another 3 hits from Brian, Kylie and Adam the 88s were off and running with a fast 5-0 start.

The 88s of 9:00 a.m. may have let the Bulldogs 5 run answer in the bottom of the 1st get to them but that team was long dead. The 88s stepped up and pumped through another 5 runs in the top of the second highlighted by Jeff's second triple in as many at bats.

From there it seemed pre-determined well before the final pitch was thrown.

Adam finished 3/3 with a home run and 4 RBI, Joce wrapped up her epic day by going 3/3 with 4 RBI of her own and Nikki went 3/3 to help the 88s hit a ridiculous .714 as a team with very few defensive miscues to think of to help them secure their first Chappy crown with a 20-9 mercy win.

As they posed for the winning team photo at home plate they were bleeding, aching, hungry and sun burnt but they were smiling. Pain heals. Scars fade. Glory, lasts forever.