



2011 GHBL ALL STAR GAME

The 2010 All Star Game likely will go down as the greatest of the 4 games played to date. The game was extremely entertaining, fast paced, had great defensive plays, terrific umpiring, a sensational announcer, loud fans, and an exciting finish. Overall it was a great end to an awesome day. Recap (on the following pages:



(The Beers Team talking it up before the game)



(The Brewers Team ready for the game)

Chris MacKay and Paul were the umpires for the game and they met with both coaches to exchange pleasantries and review the ground rules. The game was a 9 inning affair and both teams were hoping for a competitive, well umpped game. That is exactly what it was.



(The umpires ready for the action to start)



(Terps coaches strategizing before the national anthem)

After the ground rules it was time for the player introductions. Brent Neville announced each player to thunderous applause and they lined the infield for the in preparation for O Canada. Shannon Pilsworth came on to sing for her second all star game and she did a terrific job performing a beautiful rendition of our national anthem.



(The players lining the field)



(Brent Neville up in the booth)

After the anthem it was time for the team pep talks and the opening pitch. Team Beers were home and took the field first and Mike Evans of the Burlington Beers had the honor of throwing the first pitch of the game. Mike Jamieson was the leadoff man for the Brewers and he quickly saw what tier 1 pitching was all about as Evans struck him out. James Carruthers than ripped a single up the middle to give the Brewers their first runner. However he took to large of a lead as he thought of taking second and was picked off first base for the second out. Jeff Mueller of the Bandits worked the count full against Evans and with his teammate Chris MacKay umpiring behind home plate, Mueller knew Evans would have to throw him something good. Evans had different plans and painted a curveball off the outside part of the plate and with Mueller heading to first thinking it was ball four, MacKay rung him up for the third out of the inning.



(The Beers team having their pre-game pep talk in the dugout)



(Fans getting settled to watch the All Star Game)



(Mike Evans throwing the first pitch of the 2010 GHBL All Star Game)



(Jeff Mueller laughing off his strikeout after his teammate rung him up to end the first)

The Brewers sent Graham Howden to the mound to start the bottom of the first. Howden quickly got Taylor Broadbent to ground out to second than gave up a single to Steve Mote of the Burlington Bulls. Mote quickly stole second but Kyle Nicoletta of the Beers was punched out on 4 pitches. Joe Prokopec than flew out to center, stranding the runner and leaving the game scoreless after 1.



(Graham Howden on the mound for the Brewers Team)



(Steve Mote getting ready to rip his single)



(Kyle Nicoletta standing in the box)

In the second the Brewers struck twice off Mike Evans, although both runs were unearned. Chris Baren led off the inning with a shallow pop-up to the shortstop, however the shortstop dropped the easy fly ball and Baren was aboard. Graham Howden grounded out to the second basement advancing the

runner and Avi Sundar followed that with a strikeout but the ball got away from the Beers catcher who then threw the ball into the outfield allowing Baren to score to make the game 1-0. A sac fly scored Sundar and Evans ending the inning with another strikeout and the Brewers leading 2-0.

In the bottom of the second Howden picked up where he left off as Christian McFarlane reached on an error but Howden induced a terrific 5-3 double play to Sean Telford to get out of the threat. Rick Andrade singled but Howden struck out Mike Evans and the Brewers still led 2-0.



(Chris Baran on first base)



(Avi Sundar at the dish)



(Some Pirates enjoying the action)

Taylor Broadbent pitched for the Beers in the 3rd, striking out 2 Brewers and allowing 2 basehits with no runs. In the bottom of the third Chris Baran allowed a single and a walk but escaped the inning scoreless and with the lead through 3.

Broadbent pitched again in the 4th and got the first two batters out before Chris Baren ripped a triple to the fence. With 2 out Graham Howden was clutch as he roped a double in the gap, scoring Baren and giving the Brewers a 3-0 edge. In the bottom of the 4th, Baren continued his great all star game by retiring the side, getting Kyle Nicoletta to fly out to end the inning.



(Graham Howden ripping his double to put the Brewers ahead 3-0)

John Wheeler came on to pitch the 5th and 6th for the Beers and he was phenomenal, allowing only a Steve Huether triple while striking out three. Steve Huether was equally as effecting for the Brewers as he allowed a couple of hits to Joe Prokopec and Christian McFarlane but escaped both innings without allowing a run.

In the 7th Rob Uggenti of the Orioles took to the hill for the Beers and retired the side in order to keep the game close with the Brewers ahead still 3-0. In the bottom of the 7th Wayne Blythe of the Spitballers got Uggenti to fly out to center but than an error by the second baseman allowed Taylor Broadbent to reach base. Steve Mote walked and Kyle Nicoletta lined out to right field in what should have ended the inning, but because of the earlier error there were only 2 out.

Next to the plate was Joe Prokopec and he took the Blythe offering to opposite field and out of the ball park for a clutch 3 run game tying home run that elated the Beers Team bench and knotted the score 3-3. Blythe struck the next batter out but the damage was done and we had a ball game.



(The announcers booth reacts to the clutch Prokopec home run)

The Brewers team, like true gamers, struck right back as Steve Huether walked and with two out, Wayne Blythe ripped a clutch rbi single off Uggenti to put the Brewers back in front 4-3. A single by Mike Jamieson and HBP by Jay Carruthers loaded the bases. Uggenti then walked both Jeff Mueller and Chris Baran to make the score 6-3. With the bases still loaded the Beers Team made a pitching change and brought on Greg Cichosz of the Dundas Chiefs. In gutsy fashion Cichosz struck out Graham Howden to end the inning and limit the damage as the Brewers team celebrated their 6-3 lead.

In the bottom of the eighth the Brewers sent Blythe back to the hill and he allowed a basehit to Sean Telford and walked Rick Andrade to put two on with nobody out. In another key play, Blythe than struck out Mike Evans, however the ball got away from the catcher allowing a run to score and putting Evans

on first base with no one out. Braden Bishop then laced a long single to the fence scoring another run and cutting the lead to 6-5. Blythe got the next two batters out and with two out, John Wheeler came to the plate as both teams and fans were on the edge of their seats.

Wheeler took a couple of strikes then ripped a single back up the middle scoring two as the Beers Team took a 7-6 lead. Jeff Mueller came in to retire the next batter but the damage was done as the Beers had their first lead of the game heading to the 9th



(John Wheeler at the plate before his game winning 2 RBI single)

In the ninth, Cichosz got the first two batters out before allowing a walk to Tanner Downton. Steve Huether was the last hope for the Brewers Team and with 1 strike Cichosz got Huether to fly to right field, picking up the win in the process.

All Star Game MVP's



(John Wheeler of the Burlington Bees going 2-3 with a game winning single, throwing 2 shut out innings)



(Chris Baran of the Oakville A's going 1-3 with a triple, scoring twice and throwing 2 shut out innings)

The 2010 GHBL All Star Game

Congratulations to the Competition Champions:

Hit, Run, & Throw: Rick Andrade, Hamilton Pirates

Pitcher's Challenge: Scott Bailey, Burlington Bulls & David Duhan, Waterdown Wolves

Hardest Throw: David Cook, Burlington Indians

Home Run Derby: Andrew Armstrong, Burlington Bees

All Star Game: Team Beers 7 - Team Brewers 6

All Star Game MVP's: John Wheeler of the Burlington Bees & Chris Baran of the Oakville A's

