



Game Recap | July 26, 2019

Jets' Late Rally Stuns Long Boarders 10-8

Ryan Cho's hot streak continues with a clutch two-run double in the eighth

Anthony Quach – Communications Manager

SAN MARCOS – As summer continues to heat up, so is the competition in The San Diego League. With the number one seed secured by the Long Boarders, three other spots are still up for grabs. One of those three teams are the Jets, whose playoff seed remains to be determined.

Down 8-7 in the eighth, Ryan Cho stepped up to the plate and ripped a two-run double to give his team the lead. Cho scored one more run for good measure on a wild pitch to take a 10-8 lead over the Long Boarders, as they Jets held on for the win.

Cho went 2-for-4 today with four RBIs and extended his hitting streak to six straight games. “[I was] just looking for good pitches to hit and catching it out front and hitting them as hard as I can,” said Cho. “We’re not fazed by adversity, we just battle through it as hard as we can, as long as we believe it, it’s going to happen.”

This is also Cho's eighth straight game with an RBI and he has hit safely in 18 of the 21 games played this season.

After knocking off the first-place Long Boarders, Jets' head coach Wayne Franklin believes this win sets the tone for the remainder of the season. “Every time we would get the lead, we give it back up, and something lit a fire under them and I'm really proud of them,” said Coach Franklin. “I think it's a big win for us moving forward just to show us what we're capable of doing.”

Today's pitching matchup featured a pair of 31's taking the mound, as the Long Boarders sent out No. 31 Christian LaPierre, while the Jets sent out their No. 31 Nathan Flake.

Flake lasted only one inning and gave up two runs on one hit and four walks. LaPierre went five innings and allowed five runs on five hits, five walks.

Ethan Paulson accounted for the first three runs for his team with a two-run double in the first, and an RBI single in the third. Paulson finished the day 3-for-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored.

Cho's first pair of RBIs came in the fourth when his bloop single dunked for a base hit as his team took a 5-4 lead.

The Long Boarders scored four unanswered runs to take an 8-5 lead, but Jets looked to respond back, and they did in a big way.

First, Niko Diaz chipped away at the Long Boarders' lead when he walked with the bases loaded to force in the Jets' sixth run. Diaz then started the Jets' four-run eighth with an RBI single followed by Cho's two-run double and Cho scored the final run on a wild pitch.



Jets' Zach Smits (center) hangs onto the ball for the final out of the game after he crashes into the bullpen fence as his teammates Kyler Crone (left) and Vito Fowler (right) looks on. (Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League).



The Jets got the final out after Stephen Rausa popped up in foul territory to Zach Smits who made one of the top plays of the season. Smits tracked the foul ball down the first-base line and crashed face-first into the fence by the bullpen and still held the ball in his glove for the final out.

Dylan Vail picked up the win after he relieved his teammate, Dylan Moran in the seventh. Vail threw three shutout innings and allowed one hit, three walks and struck out three. "I was just sticking to my game, throwing strikes and making them put the ball in play," said Vail. "[The 10 runs] definitely helps a lot as a pitcher because it give you more patience and you have more confidence up there."

After the game, the Jets improve 16-15-1 record and maintain a two-game lead over the Hooks for second place. Meanwhile the first-place Long Boarders drop to 25-7 on the season.

"We played the [Long Boarders] tough lately, and we had a lot of leads against them and we just haven't been able to be on top after the ninth inning. Today we did a great job of shutting them down there," said Coach Franklin. "With so few games left, [today's win] is a real boost going into this last week."

Both teams will take part in a Saturday tripleheader at CSUSM Baseball Field. The Long Boarders will battle the Warriors in the first game tomorrow at 9:05 A.M, while the Jets will be in interleague action against the San Diego Reign at 3:05 A.M.