

Game Recap | July 20, 2019

## Hooks Avoid Sweep and Take Series Finale Over Jets

Anthony Quach – Communications Manager

**SAN MARCOS** – In a game filled with action and drama, the Hooks and Jets battled it out in the series finale of a Saturday tripleheader on July 20<sup>th</sup>, at the CSUSM Baseball Field.

After they dropped the first game, and tied the second, the Hooks needed a win to salvage the series. With the help of seven unanswered runs, the Hooks came back and defeated the Jets, 11-7.

It was a “big fun” win according to Hooks’ Jack Early, who went 2-for-5 today. “Our coach always talks about how important it is [in] late innings that we need to gel together as a team and grind out the runs,” said Early. “We finally did it and it was nice to see [and] it was nice to come together.”

It was matchup between two of the San Diego League’s former Pitcher of the Week between the Jets’ Dylan Moran and Hooks’ Jansen Lublin.

Moran pitched six innings and gave up four runs (two earned) on six hits, one walk and struck two. Lublin lasted 4  $\frac{2}{3}$  innings and allowed four runs on five hits and five walks and struck out three.

After the Jets scored a run in the first, the Hooks tacked four runs in the second to take a 4-1 lead. The Hooks got two RBIs from Early and Ian Grylls and scored two more runs via error.

A ball lost in the sun scored three runs and tied the game for the Jets after Ryan Cho’s fly ball dunked in for a base hit. The Jets would later retake the lead in the fourth behind Sam Dinerman’s RBI triple.

Moran was relieved in the seventh by Nathan Flake who made his SDL debut today but quickly ran into trouble after he loaded the bases with one out. The Hooks would proceed to score seven unanswered runs (four in the seventh and three in the eighth to take a commanding 11-5 lead.

The Jets managed to put up two more runs, but it was not enough as the Hooks took the series finale 11-7. “We’re feeling good,” said Early after today’s win. “Some guys are starting to heat up when we need them to and [our] pitchers have been pitching pretty good lately, so we’re starting gel as a team right in time for the playoffs,” said Early.

After Lublin exited the game, Connor Kinney came in and pitch the rest of the way and only surrendered two runs on two hits, one walk and picked up the team-leading fourth win.

Kinney’s outing was what the Hooks needed in today’s victory over the Jets, according to assistant coach, Nate Russell. “He came in, pitched with the lead and did what we wanted him to,” said Coach Russell. “Connor got hit a little bit but he also worked really quick through those last three frames.”

After today’s game, third-place Hooks to while the third-place Hooks improve to 12-16-1 while the second-place Jets fall to 15-13-1.



Hooks’ Connor Kinney delivered 4 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings in relief and allowed only two runs on two hits, one walk to secure the win for his team. (Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League)



**SAN DIEGO  
LEAGUE**



With one tripleheader in the books, another one begins, as the SDL will be involved in another three-game set on Sunday. Both the Jets and Hooks will be in interleague action against the Solana Beach Redbirds at the CSUSM Baseball Field. The Jets will face their interleague opponents first at 9:05 A.M and the Hooks will take them on after at 12:05 A.M.

“One of the things that we’re going to go and look forward to representing the league well and putting our guys out there and again taking care of business,” said Coach Russell. “Our pitchers are going to go out there and still throw strikes and pound the zone and our hitters are going to stay locked in and we’re going to see what happens but we’re definitely going to give them a good game.”