



Game Recap | July 7, 2019

## Long Boarders Continue Winning Ways

Ethan Paulson's go-ahead grand slam gave the Long Boarders a boost needed in Sunday's 11-6 victory over the Hooks.

**Anthony Quach** – Communications Manager

**SAN MARCOS** – It only took one swing of the bat to change the entire complexion of the game. Down 4-1 in the bottom of the fifth, the Long Boarders put up six runs to take a 7-4 lead. Four of those runs came off the bat of Ethan Paulson, who delivered a go-ahead grand slam off Hooks' pitcher Daniel Velasquez.

"Coming into that inning, it was tough, because we couldn't really piece anything together," said Paulson. "It was nice to be able to get some runs on board and get the hype, change the momentum a little bit and then coming away with the grand slam was a lot fun."

Takashi Umino started for the Long Boarders - he lasted four innings and allowed two runs on four hits and five walks, but his head coach, Dillan Smith liked what he saw today out of his starter.

"He did a good job getting soft contact for the most part," said Coach Smith. "Only thing was he was running up his pitch count and getting deep into the counts, going 3-2, 3-0. Sometimes that happens but at least his [pitches] were looking good."

After recording two outs in the second, Umino loaded the bases then walked Michael Fritchman and Dimaggio Cazares to force in two runs as they took a 2-1 lead.

Christian LaPierre relived Umino in the fifth but was immediately hit for two runs by the Hooks. Chris Ritter had an RBI triple and later scored on Nathan Gelbrich's RBI double.

Down 4-1 in the fifth, the Long Boarders rallied for six runs that inning, highlighted by Paulson's go-ahead grand slam.

"He goes up there with a great approach, just thinking about barreling up the baseball and hitting it hard somewhere," said Coach Smith. "Next thing you know, he's hitting it out dead center, clearing the bases for us and it's a great moment in a baseball game when a player can come through and do that in a such big situation."

The Hooks continued to stay within reach of the Long Boarders when they scored two more runs in the sixth, but they were unable to keep up with their opponents' dominating offense.

Four more runs for the Long Boarders gave them an 11-6 lead as they held on for their seventh straight win and Paulson remains confident in his team's chances to extend their winning streak even further.



Ethan Paulson's (16) go-ahead grand slam in the fifth gave the Long Boarders the spark they needed to defeat the Hooks 11-6 for their seventh straight win. (Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League)



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“Being able to go out there and being able compete with any team out here is a lot of fun,” said Paulson. “Hopefully we’ll make it eight, nine, ten and keep it going.”

After today’s game, the Long Boarders sit on top of the SDL standings with an 17-5 record while the Hooks fall to 9-13.

Both teams will return to action on Tues, July 9th as part of the tripleheader at CSUSM Baseball Field. The Long Boarders will battle the Warriors at 9:05 A.M, while the Hooks will be in interleague action against the Solana Beach Redbirds at 12:05 P.M.