

Game Recap | June 25, 2019

Hooks Hang on to Win 10-8 Against Long Boarders

Anthony Quach – Communications Manager

SAN MARCOS – The Hooks outlasted the Long Boarders, 10-8 on Tues June 25, 2019 at the CSUSM Baseball Field in San Marcos.

The starting pitching matchup was between the Long Boarders' Michael King and the Hooks' Connor Kinney.

King only pitched 3 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings and allowed seven runs (five runs on eight hits) and two walks while Kinney lasted 4 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings and allowed five runs on nine hits and one walk to earn the win. Jonathan Kenney earned his first save as he allowed three runs on six hits in 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. "I used my slider and my changeup heavily and I used my fastball to come in towards the end as my out pitch," said Kenney. "I may have given up a couple of runs, but my teammates were able to come back and put up their own."

Despite the win, the Hooks' assistant coach/pitching coach Nate Russell believes there's room for improvement especially with pitching. "[We] definitely need to clean up some stuff on the pitching aspect, [we] left a couple balls over the plate and got hit a little bit, but our sticks came through really good today," said Coach Russell. "Whenever we went down, whenever we came back, and we needed some runs, we got runners on base and hitters came through when they needed to."

Harrison Boudreaux got the Long Boarders' first run in the second after Trevor Mattson scored on his sacrifice fly.

The Hooks tacked on four runs in the third to take a 4-1 lead. Zeahni Pena tied the game with an RBI single and Garrett Bevacqua extended his team's lead on a two-run single. The Hooks got their last run of the third after Michael Campagna scored on a throwing error.

The Hooks extended their lead in the fourth with three runs. Michael Fritchman picked up a sacrifice fly, Jason Sroufe scored on a balk and Jackson Bolitho scored on an error to make it 7-1.

The Long Boarders answered back with four runs in the fifth. Mcklane Elgin had an RBI single and Bailin Markridge picked up an RBI double. The two later scored on Drake Pierson's two-run single to cut the deficit down to 7-5.

Jackson Bolitho gave the Hooks an 8-5 edge after Jacob Freedman scored on his sacrifice fly in the sixth.

The Long Boarders continued to battle back and scored two more runs in the seventh to cut the lead to 8-7. Maimu Kobayashi scored on an error and Ethan Paulson got an RBI single that scored Trevor Smith.

With the bases loaded in the eight, Nathan Gelbrich smacked a two-run single that give the Hooks' a 10-7 lead. "I feel pretty good about my performance [today]," said Gelbrich who went 3-5 with two RBIs. "[Things] are starting to come around for me, so it's been pretty fun."

The Long Boarders managed to get another run in the ninth behind Ethan Paulson's sacrifice fly, but Kenney got the final out and secured the 10-8 win for the Hooks.



Nathan Gelbrich goes 3-5 and his two-run single in the eighth was the difference in the Hooks' victory over the Long Boarders (Kevin Dahlgren/San Diego League)



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With the win, the Hooks' record improves to 8-7 and they remain in second place, while the Long Boarders' record drops to 10-5 but they continue to maintain the first-place spot.

"It's always good to take a game against a good team like the Long Boarders," said Coach Russell. "[Michael King] had us off-balance the last time we faced him, so it was good to see our hitters make the adjustments [today]."

The Hooks will be in action against the Jets on Fri, June 28, 2019 at 3:05 P.M, while the Long Boarders will be in interleague matchup against the Solana Beach Redbirds of the Sunset Baseball League at 9:05 A.M. Both games will take place at the CSUSM Baseball Field.