

Farmers vs. Home Tint

It was a perfect evening at the Field of Dreams. Last spring's champs, Farmers, were back on the field against a good looking Home Tint team. Plus, one of our favorite Announcers, Jimmy Reese, was on the Mic; Bill Maynard kept the scorebook, and Bob Potter had the scoreboard. Farmers' coach, Sean Curry, brought a RRSA Champions Trophy built by one of our RRSA players (picture attached). Way cool! Also we had some great umpires with George Wendt behind the plate, Carol Rumberger at first and the one-armed Jeff Peck covering the left side.

It looked like bombs away in the first inning as both teams scored five. Farmers was or were up first and did not disappoint. Steve Courtney (3/3, Dbl) and Bill Smiley (3/3, Trip, 2 RBIs) singled and were promptly sent home with John Gauthier's (3/3, Trip, 3 RBIs) smash somewhere (I remember it was nice but I forgot to write down where it went). Steve Tafoya (2/3) and Coach Sean Curry (2/3, 2 RBIs) singled followed by Jackie Fox lining one over 3rd to load the bases. Bob Wheeler 'Wheels' (3/3, 2 RBIs) wrapped it up for Farmers with a shot over 2nd base to bring in the last 2 RBIs to make it five runs for the inning.

Home Tint was just as impressive. Mike Flatt (3/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs), Dale Frazier (3/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs), and Mike Lorenc loaded up the bases for Carl Caruso (2/3, RBI) to drive in the first run. Ken Ford (3/3, Dble, 3 RBIs) then proceeded

to clear the bases with a stand up double. Jeff Duncan (2/3) and Lois McElyea (2/3, RBI) singled to get on base and were brought home by Greg McElyea's (3/3, 2 RBIs) drive to make it a five spot.

This game was a bit of feast or famine. Farmers' Danny Thomas looked to start off the 2nd inning with a blast to right center but Dianna Duncan shut him down with a fine catch and pretty much that was that.

Home Tint flexed in the bottom of the 2nd and scored 5. Louis Berthold (2/3, loud voice) singled and scored on Joe Nuttal's (2/2, 3 RBI's and my MVP at the plate) rip over 3rd base. Dianna (2/3) hit and scored. I was impressed how Mike Flatt (3/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs) squatted to drive a low pitch over SS. Frazier doubled and Mike Lorenc lined one over 3rd base to score the last 2 RBIs for 5.

And so it went, either a lot of runs or none.

Farmers got a lot of runs in the 3rd. Jay Wissink (2/3, Dbl, Trip, 4 RBIs) cleared the bases with a triple and Kelly Wissink (2/3, RBI) knocked up, I mean knocked in her husband and Sean drilled one to left center to wrap up their 5.

Home Tint got a goose egg and it was tied after 3 innings, 10 - 10. But that was Home Tint's only goose egg. Farmers got their second goose egg in the 4th but not

without some smiles and some drama. Wheels singled but not before Home Tint pitcher, Carl Caruso, caught Wheels flat footed and grinning at a pitch right on the corner of the plate. Danny T singled and Cheryl Bryson pounded one down the 3rd baseline & 3B Jeff Duncan barely nicked Cheryl at first.

Home Tint showed their depth in the 4th scoring with Greg McElyea (3/3, 2 RBIs), Ty Nelson (2/2), Randy Catron (1/2) all singling and Joe Nuttal picking up 2 more RBIs with his single. Big Mike Flatt choked up on his bat, kind of like a Nellie Fox and after taking a little heckling from the crowd, ripped one to left for the third RBI but then got jammed up at second base with another runner and that was the end of the 4th inning with Home Tint leading 13 - 10.

Both teams scored well in the 5th, highlighted by Jay Wissink's two RBI double leading to 4 runs for Farmers. Home Tint responded with 3 runs highlighted by Lois McElyea's RBI base on balls with the bases loaded, followed up by Greg's RBI hit.

Home plate umpire, George Wendt declared that the 6th would be the buffet, last inning with Home Tint leading 16 - 14.

The visiting Farmers led off with 'Wheels' and he tried to rally the troops with a single but that was it and the score ended 16 - 14, Home Tint over Farmers.

Although it didn't end with a bang, it was exciting. It also points to the parity we are seeing in the league; compliments to the RRSA Board.

Carol, that was just Italian sign language, right?

I love The Robson.

Johnny B



Caption