

## **Dog Gone It vs. Home Smiles**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The second game of the season is in the books and what started out as a snoozer ended fairly close with a lot of highlights. Coach Mick Calverley of Dog Gone It welcomed a few new faces to the league; Keith and Vicki Furnish and Michael Kidd while Tim Jeske's Home Smiles welcomed Steve DePetra.

The umpire crew was also superb with Gary Warrick behind the plate, John Basse at 1<sup>st</sup> and Larry (LTrain) Lewis handling the left side of the infield. Jackie Fox had the scoreboard; Joyce Basse kept the book and Johnny B was on the mic. A special thanks to Joyce for leading a revamp of the sound system and playlists. Nice upgrade.

One of the biggest highlights for everyone was listening to David Ingram's new song, "Living My Best Life." David composed the lyrics and used AI to develop the song and voice. It was outstanding as it touched on many of the activities in which we all partake. Well done, David!

And as to the game. Well, the game had plenty of fireworks. Kenny Kamrath started the action with a gapper for a triple. Dale Hill (3/4, Trip, 3 RBIs) followed with another triple and five singles later Michael Kidd (4/4, Dbl, Trip, 3 RBIs) knocked in the 5<sup>th</sup> run and he was just getting started.

Back-to-back doubles by Dale Frazier (4/4, 2 Dbls, Trip, 4 RBIs) and Jerry Hinson (3/4, Dbl, 3 RBIs) led to 2 runs for Home Smiles.

## **Dog Gone It 5 – Home Smiles 2 after One Inning**

Coach Calverley plucked the right guy out of the stands and Ron Frusher (3/3, Trip) tripled to start another 5 spot for the Dogs. Kenny K (3/4, Dbl, Trip, HR, 5 RBIs) helped the cause with a round tripper and Sue Kamrath (4/4) and Tommy Gitchell (3/4) wrapped it up with RBI singles. Home Smiles were stumped and with the 2<sup>nd</sup> inning in the books, **Dog Gone It led 10 – 2.**

Inning #3 was much of the same with **Dog Gone It** upping their lead to **15 – 2**, but not without some fun highlights. Bidondo and Kamrath doubled for the Dogs and Dale Hill got his 5<sup>th</sup> RBI after just 3 innings.

David Ingram made a couple of catches on deep drives and Garla Shanks came up for Home Smiles and absolutely scorched one through 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Dale juggled a catch for a triple touch, and we were ready for inning #4.

The Dogs slowed down a touch, but Sue K, David Ingram (4/4, Dbl, 2 RBIs), Rich Standifer (3/4, Trip, 4 RBIs) and Michael Kidd did enough damage to score 3 runs. Tommy Gitchell drilled one toward 2<sup>nd</sup> and with the sun low on the horizon and directly in her face, Debbie Hinson made the catch of the game snagging a line drive over her shoulder to help limit the damage.

Home Smiles came right back with 3 of their own with doubles from Frazier, David Pryde (3/4, Dbl) and Craig Bishop (4/4, 2 Dbls, 3 RBIs) to the warning track. Jerry Hinson added a scorcher through the gap and Debbie singled and then with some heads up running; scored.

**18 – 5 Dogs after 4**

Free agent, Ron Frusher opened for the Dogs with a single and Jerry Bidondo (4/4, Dbl, HR, 4 RBIs) cashed it in with a 2-run homer over the left centerfield fence. Kenny K felt froggy and thought he might should test Tim Jeske's arm. Jeske's arm won the footrace.

Home Smiles rookie Steve DePetra (3/3, RBI) flashed some speed with an opening single, Shanahan knocked him in while cruising to a double, Cal Shanks (3/4, RBI) kept it rolling and Coach Jeske (3/4, Trip, HR, 4 RBIs) wrapped it up with a home run plating 3 for the home team.

### **20 – 8 Dogs after 5**

I would definitely be remiss if I didn't comment on some outstanding pitching during this game. David Pryde opened for Home Smiles and Dan Shanahan came in to handle the second half of the game.

Steve Bentley threw some shut down innings to start for the Dogs and Rookie Michael Kidd came on to throw some sky balls to rival Paul Vargo. That's not a bad thing, Michael, take it as a compliment. And, you don't have to take that as a challenge, Paul.

Keith Furnish (3/4, RBI) opened the 6<sup>th</sup> for the Dogs with a single. Sue Kamrath singled, Ingram doubled and Rich Standifer burned the left center fielder for a triple and 2 runs. Michael Kidd proceeded to double in the third and final run for the Dogs.

Then things changed a bit and Home Smiles switched into another gear. Singles by Pryde, Bishop, Mike Cummings, Rick Zinn, and the speedster Steve DePetra led to 4 runs.

### **23 – 12 after 6**

Shanahan's walk and Cal Shanks single set the stage for Tim Jeske's gapper to the fence for a triple and 2 more RBIs. Dale Frazier hit one well over the right fielder's head for a triple and another RBI. Jerry H picked up the RBI on a line drive up the middle and David P and Debbie kept it all alive with singles. Craig Bishop upped the hopes one last time with another double, but that was it.

### **Final Score**

**Dog Gone It 23 – Home Smiles 18**

As a neutral observer, what stood out more than anything was the sportsmanship coming from both teams and all players. **Well done! Impressive.**