



The Morton Grove Cubs — Summer 2009

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Message from the Coach:

At times it wasn't the prettiest of seasons, but certainly the most fun team I have ever been a part of. Our Summer Ball team finished with a solid 17-4 record, which included a 13 game winning streak. I'd like give a special thanks to assistant coach F.Kruk for lending his amazing instructional baseball coaching tips to not only the players, but also to me. I've learned a lot from F.Kruk through the long Spring and Summer seasons and will certainly pass on his knowledge to future teams that I hope to coach. We were a much improved baseball team from the beginning of the season until the final game of the year, and much of this improvement is a credit to the coaching skills of F.Kruk. I'd also like to thank assistant coach W.Farrell, Sr., for being at nearly all our games, even when his son was unable to make it. At times when we were short handed with coaching, W.Farrell, Sr., assisted in helping coach 1st base, helped keep the scorebook, assisted with pre-game warm-ups, and of course bringing the water cooler to all those hot and humid days. I'd also like to R.Wiederer who helped coach 1st base when he was available and also gave some of our pitchers some great pitching instruction. I'd also like to give thanks to St.LeVine who helped keep the scorebook whenever he was available. Lastly, I'd like to thank the rest of the parents for putting up with the jam packed schedule which at times saw us play games on six consecutive days and nine games in ten days.

We had quite a range of ages and abilities between the 16 different players that suited up for us throughout the season. J.Rubin and H.Gargovic were two of our alternates, who while they did not play Morton Grove Baseball during the Spring season, they were given the opportunity to play in the Summer, and each of them logged in at least 10 games. H.Gargovic, even in his limited action with the team, tied for the team lead in home runs with 3, which included a crushing home run shot over the fence at Flick Park on July 31st and another one over the fence at Crowley Park on August 12th.

C.Quinn was another alternate on the team who by season's end had played over 10 games. C.Quinn lived in Virginia during the Spring season and came to Morton Grove for the summer. After discovering his love for baseball off the field, as he was always at the park, practicing his pitching and hitting, he was invited to join the team and made great contributions. Even in his limited action with the team, he finished the season second on the team in hitting and on base percentage, logging a .615 batting average and a .681 on base percentage, while also finishing tied for 3rd on the team with 8 doubles. Additionally, C.Quinn contributed to the team as a pitcher, where he made six appearances on the mound.

Our final alternate was 11 year old Sk.LeVine. After being given the opportunity to play, Sk.LeVine took full advantage of it, playing some great defense at 2nd base as well as in the outfield. Facing pitchers who in some cases were 2 or 3 years older than him, Sk.LeVine was able to hold his own at the plate, going 6 for 19 on the season. During the last week of the season, Sk.LeVine also pitched 4 innings for Morton Grove and he pitched very well, even at the longer pitching distance.

During the Summer season, we had several 12 year olds rostered, each of whom was playing at the Pony field dimensions for the very first time. L.Pearlstein and V.Kabat each played in about half of the games during the

season and each saw improvement as the season went on. L.Pearlstein struggled at the plate during the regular season as he was adjusting to faster pitching and seeing breaking balls for the very first time. However, in his final at bat of the season, he logged his only extra base hit of the year as he crushed a two run double over the center fielder's head in what was a close game vs Glenview. V.Kabat, who had just 8 hits on the season, also finished very strong, recording 4 of his hits in the season ending double header on August 22nd. Both V.Kabat and L.Pearlstein were also given the opportunity to pitch during the season, and while it was a work in progress, the experience they got as 12 year olds will surely be valuable as they move forward into Pony baseball in the future.

Ry.Wiederer was another 12 year old on the team who quickly made the adjustment to Pony Baseball. Ry.Wiederer started the season red hot, batting nearly .900 after the first three games of the season! While he had hit some bumps in the road, Ry.Wiederer finished the season with a solid .441 batting average and was 4th on the team with 26 runs scored. Wiederer was also one of the frequent pitchers for Morton Grove, logging in 17 innings of work. At times Wiederer struggled on the mound, while at other times he was dominating. With more practice and more games under his belt, Wiederer will certainly be a quality pitcher as he moves into Pony baseball in the future. Additionally, Wiederer was one of the most versatile players in the field for Morton Grove, as he played all infield positions, a few innings at catcher, and even some innings in the outfield.

The team also rostered three 14 year old players in G.Pappas, S.Garcia, and K.Casanova, each of whom were playing some of their last games of Pony baseball before moving into the scary world of high school ball. It was a lot of fun to have Pappas on the team as he had played in four different teams in the past that I had also been a part of as an assistant coach or a manager. Pappas finished the season 5th on the team in batting with a .567 batting average. Pappas led the team with 35 RBI's and also led the team in doubles with 11.

K.Casanova was the center fielder for the team and almost any pop-up hit his way was a sure out. At the plate... it was a much different story as it was either hit or miss. Casanova had the second most strikeouts on the team, but when he hit the ball, it sure did go a long way. Casanova had 7 doubles on the year, 3 triples on the year, and 3 home runs on the season. This contributed to Casanova being 3rd on the team with 29 RBI's even after missing a few games.

S.Garcia was one of our primary catchers on the team and also a solid hitter. Garcia ended the season 3rd on the team with 8 doubles while batting .525. Garcia will be remembered on this team as the guy who just couldn't get enough baseball. Garcia was almost always one of the first to arrive at the baseball field and was always one to try to push the rest of the team to get to the field earlier so that they could take batting practice.

The rest of the team was made up of 13 year olds who originally played on my Spring team and then continued through Summer. W.Farrell, Jr., much like Garcia, was always one of the first to arrive at the ballpark. One of the season highlights for Farrell was his pitching performance on August 8th. Farrell hadn't pitched much in the Spring or Summer seasons but on this one day he was spot on. Farrell had pitched two innings, struck out 4 batters, and did not allow a single hit.

J.Kruk was the workhorse of the team, logging a team leading 22 innings on the mound. In addition to his great pitching, John was one of the team leaders at the plate, ranking 3rd on the team in hitting with a .585 batting average, 3rd on the team with a .662 on base percentage, and second on the team with 27 runs scored. Kruk was very versatile in the field as he played several innings at shortstop and third base, while also catching a few innings behind the plate, playing a bit of first base, and logging some innings in the outfield.

B.Gallas, who was the only player to have played in all 21 games during the summer, was the well established leadoff hitter for the team. Gallas led the team with 40 runs scored, 6 triples, and was 4th on the team with a .580 batting average. Gallas, who stepped to the plate 85 times during the season, struck out just a miniscule 5 times! Gallas, who did not get the opportunity to pitch much during the Spring season, threw 12 innings on the mound and this added experience will surely make him a regular pitcher come next Spring season.

Our final two players are what I believe were our most improved players. To.Dynek who was a good pitcher at the start of the Spring season, became one of the elite pitchers in the league by the end of the Summer season. The development of a curve ball and his great accuracy has given him several tools to become dominant on the pitcher's

mound. As great as the strides as he made on the pitcher's mound, Dynek might have been even better behind the plate, as he threw out countless runners on pickoff players at 3rd base as well as runners at 2nd and 3rd. Tom also saw improvement at the plate throughout the season. After getting off to a slow start, he worked his batting average up near .500 and also was second on the team in runs scored with 27.

Last but surely not least is Sh. LeVine. Sh. Levine played on my Spring season and finished the season with a less than stellar .314 batting average. However, after flipping the switch at the end of the Spring season, LeVine batted an unbelievable .714 on the year with an on-base-percentage of .743. LeVine also hit for power as he finished 2nd on the team with 10 doubles, and 2nd on the team with 4 triples. His 34 RBI's were also second on the team and his 48 hits on the season were by far the most. LeVine also was one of the best contact hitters for the team, striking out only 4 times through the entire season, which was the least amongst all regulars. In addition to his vast improvement at the plate, LeVine was also one of the leading pitchers for Morton Grove, having tossed 18 innings. Additionally, his versatility in the field gives him the MVP award for the team.

All in all, I couldn't have asked for a better Summer season. Of our 21 games, 19 of them were decided by 6 runs or less, with several of them coming down to the final out of the game. There were a lot of memorable moments on the field, probably none more than our 3rd to last game of the year vs Wilmette. It was the bottom of the 7th, with Wilmette having the winning run at 1st base and Sk. LeVine on the mound. It was a hard hit ball to J. Kruk at shortstop who flipped to Ryne at 2nd base, who then tossed to 1st base for a game ending double play, which gave us the one run victory. I sure hope that each of you will have that one game, one at-bat, one hit, or one play in the back of your mind for years to come that reminds you of this Summer season. For the younger kids, I believe the added experience of this league will make you much better ball players for years to come. For the older, more experienced players, I wish you luck in any of your future endeavors, whether they be on the field or off the field.

For me personally, this league has taught me a lot about myself and my coaching ability. I have learned a lot from fellow coaches, from the players, and from just watching the games. I sure hope to have the opportunity to coach future teams and this experience will certainly make me a better coach for years to come. Lastly, I'd like to think that this team was not only about me helping coach the players, but also, friendships that were formed between myself and the players and parents, that I hope to carry on for years to come.

Thanks all for such a great season!

— M. Hagopian

[This season recap was privately distributed to parents and players on this Summer Baseball team but it was later put on the NSYBA website as an example as to what managers can put together for their teams. This recap has since been edited to remove some personal information per the Morton Grove Baseball and Softball Association Vice President of Baseball. Please email mases_hagopian@nsyba.org for the original unedited copy of this recap.]



The Team Photo





The Statistics

PLAYER	PA	AB	H	1b	2b	3b	HR	R	RBI*	BB**	K	BA	OBP
B.Gallas	85	69	40	28	5	6	1	40	27	16	5	0.580	0.659
Sh.LeVine	74	67	48	34	10	4	0	26	34	7	4	0.716	0.743
G.Pappas	74	60	34	21	11	1	1	25	35	14	11	0.567	0.649
Ry.Wiederer	71	59	26	23	3	0	0	26	18	12	15	0.441	0.535
S.Garcia	71	61	32	23	8	1	0	20	26	10	13	0.525	0.592
To.Dynek	69	52	25	16	8	1	0	27	18	17	12	0.481	0.609
J.Kruk	65	53	31	24	5	1	1	27	19	12	6	0.585	0.662
W.Farrell, Jr.	59	49	18	15	3	0	0	15	15	10	11	0.367	0.475
K.Casanova	58	42	19	6	7	3	3	23	29	16	15	0.452	0.603
C.Quinn	47	39	24	15	8	0	1	17	22	8	4	0.615	0.681
L.Perlstein	42	33	9	8	1	0	0	7	9	9	21	0.273	0.429
H.Gargovic	38	33	18	6	6	3	3	16	20	5	9	0.545	0.605
V.Kabat	34	26	8	7	1	0	0	9	9	8	13	0.308	0.471
J.Rubin	33	26	3	3	0	0	0	5	3	7	11	0.115	0.303
Sk.LeVine	24	19	6	6	0	0	0	7	7	5	8	0.316	0.458
Te.Dynek	9	9	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	7	0.222	0.222
TOTALS	853	697	343	237	76	20	10	292	292	156	165	0.492	0.585

ABBREVIATIONS:

PA	plate appearances	R	runs scored
AB	official at-bats	RBI	runs batted in
H	hits	BB	base on balls (walks)
1b	singles	K	strike outs
2b	doubles	BA	batting average
3b	triples	OBP	on base percentage
HR	home runs		

* Unofficial RBI count. RBI given if at bat while run scored. Includes runs scored through dropped third strike and when batter reaches on error.

** Unofficial BB count as it includes hit by pitches and reached base due to catchers obstruction.



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MORTON GROVE CUBS (MG)
M.Hagopian, R.Wiederer, F.Kruk, B.Farrell

Table with columns: DATE, DAY, DIAMOND, VISITORS, HOME, SCORE, C/S, W/L/T, REC. Rows include game details for July 14, 16, 18, 21, and 24, including pitchers used, game notes, and winning pitchers.



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DATE DAY DIAMOND VISITORS HOME SCORE C/S W/L/T REC

in and pitched the next 2 innings, giving up just 1 run while striking out 3 batters. G.Pappas pitched the 5th and 6th innings, giving up 2 runs and striking out 3 batters. J.Kruk closed out the game, giving up just 1 run while striking out a batter. All in all, Morton Grove pitchers combined to strike out 11 batters, while never giving up more than 1 run in any inning. Great pitching led the team to victory, but the defense was also remarkable. To.Dynek was outstanding behind the plate for Morton Grove, throwing out 4 Glenview base runners at 3rd base throughout the game, including back-to-back runners in the bottom of the 7th to end the game. At the plate for Morton Grove, S.LeVine continued his recent hot streak, going 3-for-3, including a smash hit to left field that went for a triple. K.Casanova reached base in all three of his at-bats, which included a well hit double in the 3rd. B.Gallas added two hits to seal the victory. Great game, Morton Grove Cubs!
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

July 28 TUE Pr View Skokie Youth Eagles Morton Grove 16-14 C L 3-3
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): J.Kruk (2), S.Garcia (1), B.Gallas (2), T.Dynek (1), G.Pappas (1)
GAME NOTES: While the score indicated a close game, it truly was ugly out there. Throughout the near 3 hour baseball game, the Morton Grove Cubs simply couldn't field the ball and the bats of Skokie Youth Eagles were really working. Skokie Youth put up 16 runs in the first 6 innings of the game, scoring at least 1 run in each inning. Skokie Youth Eagles was short handed and only had 8 players, but all 8 batters recorded at least one hit. B.Gallas pitched well for Morton Grove, tossing two innings while giving up just 2 hits. G.Pappas pitched the 7th inning and faced just 4 batters as he threw the only scoreless inning of the day for Morton Grove.
At the plate there were several bright spots. B.Gallas reached base in all 4 of his at bats, which included a leadoff double to start the game. K.Casanova was 2-for-3 on the day, but both of his hits went for standup triples. T.Dynek and R.Wiederer both laid down great bunts in the 4th inning, each going for singles. It wasn't the best effort by Morton Grove, but it still was a close game that went the way of Skokie Youth. Good game.
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

July 30 THU Dee Park Morton Grove Cubs Golf-Maine 14-10 C W 4-3
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): T.Dynek (2), L.Perlstein (1), S.Garcia (1), R.Wiederer (2), V.Kabat (1), S.LeVine (1)
WINNING PITCHER: T.Dynek. SAVE: S.LeVine
GAME NOTES: The Morton Grove Cubs started the game strong and it looked like it was going to be a runaway victory. All eight batters that came to the plate in the top of the 1st inning reached base as Morton Grove jumped out to a 5-0 lead. However, Golf-Maine did battle back and kept the score close throughout the game. T.Dynek was great on the mound for Morton Grove as he pitched two innings without allowing an earned run. R.Wiederer also pitched two great innings for Morton Grove by not allowing a hit and striking out three batters. S.LeVine closed out the game in the 7th by striking out 3 batters to seal the win.
At the plate, LeVine led the attack by going 4-for-4, with 2 RBIs and 2 runs scored. K.Casanova reached based in all 4 of his at bats, going 2-for-2 at the plate, including a double and a monster shot to deep left-center that went for a home run. H.Gargovic also crushed a triple to deep right center. T.Dynek blasted a triple to deep left field that just missed being an automatic home run by a couple of feet. L.Perlstein laid down a beautiful bunt in the top of the 6th that went for a single, which at the time gave Morton Grove a much needed insurance run. A well played ball game by Morton Grove.
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

July 31 FRI Flick Park Morton Grove Cubs Glenview 16-13 C W 5-3
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): J.Kruk (2), B.Gallas (1), S.LeVine (1), G.Pappas (2), T.Dynek (2)
WINNING PITCHER: T.Dynek
GAME NOTES: Another great back and forth game between the Morton Grove Cubs and Glenview. The Cubs' B.Gallas, who went 2-for-4 on the night, started the game with a lead-off triple. This triggered a great 1st inning for Morton Grove, which allowed them to jump out to a 4-0 lead. After adding 2 more runs in the 2nd, Glenview responded in their half of the inning by putting up 6 runs, which was capped off a double by K.Nelson which brought in 2 runs. Morton Grove took the lead back in the 3rd inning with a home run shot by H.Gargovic. However, another strong half inning by Glenview in the 3rd brought the score to 11-9 Glenview. The 4th, 5th, and 6th innings were relatively quiet for both teams, much to do great fielding by Glenview and great pitching from G.Pappas of Morton Grove. Morton Grove was able to manufacture a run in each inning, which included another lead-off triple from B.Gallas in the 6th. Glenview was able to put up a run in the 5th after a double by L.Bouchard. This brought the game to a 12-12 tie heading into the top of the 7th. After the first two batters for Morton Grove reached base on walks, S.Garcia broke the tie with a base hit. Later in the inning, L.Perlstein hit a single down the right field line that stayed fair by a matter of inches. This broke the game open as it gave Morton Grove a 16-12 lead. T.Dynek closed out the 7th inning by striking out 3 batters while allowing just 1 run. Great game!
— Mases Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 3 MON ... Larm West... Morton Grove Cubs Skokie Youth Eagles 21-16 C W 6-3
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): T.Dynek (2), C.Quinn (2), K.Casanova (1), G.Pappas (2), R.Wiederer (1)
WINNING PITCHER: T.Dynek



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M.Hagopian, R.Wiederer, F.Kruk, B.Farrell

DATE	DAY	DIAMOND	VISITORS	HOME	SCORE	C/S	W/L/T	REC
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GAME NOTES: A nearly three-hour offensive explosion between these two teams that saw at least 2 runs scored in 11 of the 14 half innings played. The game started off great for Skokie Youth Eagles, as they shut down the Morton Grove Cubs' bats in the top of the first. In the Skokie Youth half of the inning, Skokie came up with several hits that resulted in two runs. However, after the first inning, the Morton Grove bats really came alive, posting the maximum 5 runs in the 2nd, 4th, and 6th innings of the game. Leading the attack was G.Pappas, who went 4-for-4 on the night including a triple in the 3rd inning and a double in the 4th. S.Garcia also contributed with 3 hits, including a double in the 2nd and a triple in the 6th. H.Gargovic continued his recent hot streak going 3-for-3, including a double in the 2nd and a triple in the 7th. The pitchers for Morton Grove struggled to find the strike zone for much of the day, allowing 13 total walks. Time after time throughout the game, Morton Grove pitchers had pitched themselves into their own jams, only to struggle to limit the damage from Skokie Youth hitters. All in all, the pitching, defense, and base running were quite sloppy from Morton Grove, but the powerful offense allowed them to hit their way to a 5-run victory.

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 4	TUE	Pr View	Golf-Maine	Morton Grove Cubs	7-10	C	W	7-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): J.Kruk (2), S.LeVine (2), S.Garcia (1), G.Pappas (2)

WINNING PITCHER: G.Pappas

GAME NOTES: A competitive game throughout which resulted in a 3-run victory for the Morton Grove Cubs. Morton Grove hit the ball fairly well all day, but some poor base running limited the runs scored throughout the game. Great pitching from J.Kruk and S.LeVine limited Golf-Maine to just 3 runs through the first 4 innings. Morton Grove led 4-3 going into the 5th inning and after Golf-Maine scored a run in their half of the 5th, it was a tie ball game. Morton Grove was able to pull away in the 5th thanks to 4 consecutive hits from C.Quinn, J.Kruk, S.LeVine, and G.Pappas. Golf-Maine responded in the 6th by putting up two runs, making it a one-run game. In the Morton Grove half of the 6th inning, after a couple of walks, B.Gallas was able to hit a single that brought home two runs and gave Morton Grove a solid 4 run lead. G.Pappas was able to close out Golf-Maine in the 7th inning for the victory. An all around fun and competitive game. Nice job, Morton Grove!

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 5	WED	...	Larm West ...	Morton Grove Cubs	Skokie Youth 1	13-10	C	W	8-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): B.Gallas (2), R.Wiederer (2), W.Farrell (1), C.Quinn (2)

WINNING PITCHER: B.Gallas. **SAVE:** C.Quinn

GAME NOTES: A very fun and competitive ball game. Greenberg, who started the game for Skokie Youth 1, was terrific on the mound. In the first inning, he faced just 4 batters, of which the only runner to reach base did so on a dropped third strike. In the second inning, after a lead off single, a walk, and a pair of stolen bases it was 2nd and 3rd with no outs. Greenberg battled back and struck out 3 consecutive Morton Grove hitters to keep the shutout. It wasn't until the 3rd inning when Morton Grove finally got on the board. After a leadoff bunt by K.Casanova, Morton Grove was able to tally on 5 runs after several consecutive hits including a triple by B.Gallas, a single by Sk.LeVine, a double by C.Quinn, another double by J.Kruk, and yet another double by Sh.LeVine. Morton Grove added 8 runs scattered over the next 4 innings, with key hits being a double by T.Dynek in the 4th, a two out single by W.Farrell in the 5th, and another two out single by Sk.LeVine in the 6th. However, Skokie Youth 1 stayed right in the ball game, putting up 8 runs of their own in the final four innings. In the bottom of the 7th, with two runners on base, the tying run was at bat for Skokie Youth, but C.Quinn was able to toss a strike out to close out the game. Great game, Morton Grove and Skokie Youth 1!

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 6	THU	Winn Pony ...	Morton Grove Cubs	Ken-Winn Indians	21-9	C	W	9-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): T.Dynek (2), R.Wiederer (2), H.Gargovic (1), J.Rubin (1), Sh.LeVine (1)

WINNING PITCHER: T.Dynek

GAME NOTES: The Morton Grove Cubs hit the ball all game long and put up 21 runs, scoring at least 3 runs in 6 of the 7 innings. Each of the 11 players for Morton Grove had at least one run scored. Sh.LeVine led the attack for Morton Grove, going 4-for-5 including 3 runs scored and 5 runs batted in. K.Casanova also contributed by going 2-for-3 including a double in the 2nd and a home run in the 3rd. On the mound, T.Dynek was spectacular for Morton Grove. He pitched 2 innings, facing just 7 batters, allowing 1 walk and striking out 6 batters. With a big lead heading into the bottom of 5th, H.Gargovic got to pitch for the first time this summer and allowed just 1 run. J.Rubin who was also making his first appearance on the year, pitched the 6th inning. Sh.LeVine pitched the 7th inning and struck out 3 batters to close out the game.

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 8	SAT	Pr View	Ken-Winn Indians	Morton Grove Cubs	11-16	C	W	10-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): L.Pearlstein (1), B.Gallas (1), W.Farrell (2), S.Garcia (1), J.Kruk (2)

WINNING PITCHER: W.Farrell

GAME NOTES: A fun and competitive game on a 90 degree Saturday afternoon. Ken-Winn jumped out to an early 4-1 lead after one



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DATE	DAY	DIAMOND	VISITORS	HOME	SCORE	C/S	W/L/T	REC
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inning of play. L.Pearlstein, who pitched the 1st inning for the Morton Grove Cubs, was throwing strikes, but poor defense behind him led to a 4 run inning on several errors. B.Gallas led off the Morton Grove half inning with a leadoff triple and scored one batter later on a single by C.Quinn. However, a double play and a strikeout kept the Morton Grove bats limited to just this one run. Ken-Winn added to their lead and it was 6-2 after two innings of play. The Morton Grove bats came alive in the 3rd, putting up 5 runs, thanks to consecutive singles by C.Quinn, J.Kruk, G.Pappas, and then a double by S.Garcia. W.Farrell had his best pitching outing of the year for Morton Grove as he pitched the 3rd and 4th innings, striking out 4 batters without allowing a hit. Ken-Winn responded nicely in their half of the 5th inning, putting up 3 runs and tying the game at 9-9. Morton Grove was finally able to pull away in the bottom of the 5th and 6th, putting up 7 combined runs thanks to a double by R.Wiederer in the 5th and a home run by J.Kruk in the 6th. Great game, Morton Grove!
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 9	SUN	Larm West ... Morton Grove Cubs	Skokie Youth Eagles	10-5	C	W	11-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): Sh.LeVine (2), J.Kruk (2), S.Garcia (2), G.Pappas (1)
WINNING PITCHER: S.Garcia

GAME NOTES: A very close game throughout. Skokie Youth Eagles jumped out to an early 2-0 lead after 4 singles in the first. Sh.LeVine battled out of the jam and got a key strikeout on a full count with the bases loaded in the bottom of the first to hold the lead to 2-0. Runs were scarce over the next two innings as LeVine and J.Kruk were great on the mound for Morton Grove. After 3 innings Skokie Youth had a 3-1 lead, but thanks to a 3 run home run by H.Gargovic, Morton Grove was able to take a 4-3 lead. In the bottom of the 4th, the lead off batter for Skokie Youth reached base on a walk and later came around to score to tie the game at 4 apiece. After a 1-2-3 inning pitched by T.Bush, Skokie Youth Eagles would go on to take the lead 5-4 after 5 innings of play. In the top of the 6th, a key two out double by T.Dyneke brought home two runs. Dyneke would later come around to score to make it a 7-4 lead. With a 3 run lead, S.Garcia pitched a brilliant 1-2-3 6th inning, including a strikeout. In the top of the 7th, W.Farrell led off the inning with a single, followed by a walk. After a great sacrifice bunt by L.Pearlstein to get both runners in scoring position, B.Gallas smacked a triple to right center, bringing home two more runs. Gallas would score on the next pitch, thanks to a sacrifice grounder to the right side of the infield by Sk.LeVine. Now with a solid 10-5 lead heading into the bottom of the 7th, G.Pappas was able to close out the game. A fun and exciting game under the lights at Laramie. Great game, Morton Grove and Skokie Youth Eagles!
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 10	MON	...	Pr View	Skokie Youth 1	Morton Grove Cubs	15-21	C	W	12-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): L.Pearlstein (2), B.Gallas (1), R.Wiederer (2), C.Quinn (1), T.Dyneke (1)
WINNING PITCHER: B.Gallas

GAME NOTES: Skokie Youth 1 was a bit outmatched in this contest, as they were missing several of their regular players and needed to play a few 11 year olds to fill their roster for the game. However, Skokie Youth 1 did play well to keep the game close through much of the ball game. The Morton Grove Cubs pitchers had trouble hitting the strike zone for portions of the game and Skokie Youth 1 hitters took advantage of it by getting a few key hits with runners on base. Morton Grove fielders didn't help the cause either as there were plenty of errors to go around as well as several unnecessary throws, of which Skokie Youth took full advantage. On offense for Morton Grove, Sh.LeVine and K.Casanova each went 4-for-4, including a 3-run home run by Casanova in the 4th. On the mound for Morton Grove, R.Wiederer pitched a brilliant 3rd inning, striking out all 3 batters that he faced. T.Dyneke closed out the game for Morton Grove, striking out two batters and then snagging a hard hit grounder up the middle to end the game. Another victory for Morton Grove.
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager
— T.Kendall, NSYBA Co-Commissioner

Six-inning complete game called on account of darkness.

August 11	TUE	Crowley E Morton Grove Cubs	Glenview	10-6	C	W	13-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): J.Kruk (2), Sh.LeVine (2), C.Quinn (2), R.Wiederer (1)
WINNING PITCHER: Sh.Levine

GAME NOTES: A great game by both teams which included some quality pitching at times, as well as some magnificent defense on both ends. In the top of the first, after two consecutive outs, Morton Grove was able to string together 3 straight hits, including a double by K.Casanova which gave Morton Grove a 1-0 lead. The Glenview bats were on fire in the bottom half of the first, with 4 consecutive singles to right field by K.Kuncheria, B.Warak, J.Collins, and Q.Hagan. This was capped off by a double by Z.Kramer, giving Glenview a 4-1 lead. After giving up 5 hits in the first inning, the pitching for Morton Grove was amazing the rest of the way, allowing just 5 additional hits. J.Kruk pitched an excellent 1-2-3 inning in the 2nd, followed by two hitless innings by Sh.LeVine. C.Quinn pitched the 5th and 6th for Morton Grove, and while he allowed several base runners in both innings, both times he got out of the jam thanks to great defensive help. Morton Grove, who had 3 hits in the first inning, also struggled to put together many hits after the first. After scratching away at the lead in the 3rd thanks to two walks, it was the 4th inning that really broke things open. After the Glenview pitcher struggled to find the strike zone, walking 4 batters, H.Gargovic crushed a ground rule double down the left field line to bring in two runs.



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MORTON GROVE CUBS (MG), page 5

M.Hagopian, R.Wiederer, F.Kruk, B.Farrell

DATE	DAY	DIAMOND	VISITORS	HOME	SCORE	C/S	W/L/T	REC
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The next batter was Sk.LeVine, who blooped a single down the right field line, bringing in two more runs and giving Morton Grove an 8-4 lead at the time. After tallying on two more runs in the 5th thanks to back to back singles by B.Gallas and C.Quinn, Morton Grove took a solid 10-4 lead. B.Warak came in and pitched the 6th and 7th innings for Glenview and allowed just 1 hit as he prevented Morton Grove from adding to the lead. R.Wiederer came in to pitch the 7th for Morton Grove. Glenview was able to score two runs, but Wiederer was able to finish off the Glenview surge by striking out a batter to end the game. The game was the best defensive effort Morton Grove had seen all season. Great job, Morton Grove!
— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 12	WED ...	Crowley E	Morton Grove Cubs	Glenview	15-12	C	W	14-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): T.Dyneke (2), W.Farrell (1), G.Pappas (2), S.Garcia (1), B.Gallas (1), J.Kruk (1)

WINNING PITCHER: G.Pappas. **SAVE:** J.Kruk

GAME NOTES: The Morton Grove Cubs played well and notched another victory thanks to some great hitting. Morton Grove jumped right on Glenview in the top of the first, putting up 5 runs thanks to a lead off double by B.Gallas and then consecutive hits by Sh.LeVine, G.Pappas, H.Gargovic, and S.Garcia. The attack continued in the 2nd with a two run double to center field by L.Perlstein, giving Morton Grove a 7-0 lead. C.Coleman pitched the 3rd inning for Glenview and halted the Morton Grove attack by not allowing a run. Glenview then jumped back into the game thanks to several walks by Morton Grove pitching and some timely hitting, which included a bases clearing double by J.Collins. The game was all tied up at 7 heading into the 4th inning, but Morton Grove jumped back on top thanks to a solo home run by H.Gargovic and a two out RBI single down the right field line by Sk.LeVine. Morton Grove then pulled away in the 5th inning as 7 consecutive hitters reached base, including back-to-back doubles by J.Kruk and Sh.LeVine. Heading into the bottom of the 7th, Morton Grove had a solid 15-9 lead, but after a few hits and several walked batters, the score was 15-12, with the tying run at the plate. J.Kruk came into the game in relief with two outs in the 7th and the first pitch he tossed was hit to deep center by B.Warak, but was caught by Sh.LeVine to end the game. Great job, Morton Grove!

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 14	FRI	Pr View	Skokie Indians	Morton Grove Cubs	9-11	C	W	15-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): T.Dyneke (2), G.Pappas (2), ShLeVine (2), J.Kruk (2)

WINNING PITCHER: J.Kruk

GAME NOTES: A very close and competitive game between two strong teams. The Skokie Indians jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first thanks to 5 consecutive hits to start the ballgame. T.Dyneke was able to get out of the jam by striking out two batters to end the inning and limit the damage. The Morton Grove Cubs jumped on top with 4 runs in the bottom half of the first, led by a lead-off home run by B.Gallas, a double by G.Pappas, and singles by J.Kruk, Sh.LeVine, C.Quinn, and R.Wiederer. The Skokie Indians tied it in the 2nd, but in the bottom half of the inning, Morton Grove added two more runs thanks to back to back doubles by T.Dyneke and J.Kruk, followed by a triple by Sh.LeVine. The scoring settled down the next few innings until the top of the 6th, in which the Skokie Indians scored 3 runs to tie the game heading into the bottom of the 6th. After the lead off hitter got on base, J.Kruk smashed a hard hit single to left to break the tie. Sh.LeVine then belted his second triple of the game to give Morton Grove an 11-9 lead. In the 7th inning, J.Kruk was on the mound and after consecutive singles, he found himself in a tight jam with the bases loaded and two outs. With the tying run at 2nd base, Kruk tossed a strikeout to end this exciting ballgame. Great game, Morton Grove!

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager

August 18	TUE	Pr View	Morton Grove Cubs	Wilmette	12-11	C	W	16-3
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PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): B.Gallas (2), R.Wiederer (1), C.Quinn (2), V.Kabat (1), Sk.LeVine (2)

WINNING PITCHER: Sk.LeVine

GAME NOTES: The Morton Grove Cubs were able to jump out to a 9-3 lead after three innings of play thanks to several key hits during the 2nd and 3rd innings including a two run home run by C.Quinn. B.Gallas, who started the game on the mound for the Cubs, pitched two great innings, holding Wilmette to just 2 runs. C.Quinn came in in relief with the bases loaded and no outs in the 3rd, but was able to escape without allowing another run thanks to a pickoff at third base, followed by a strikeout, and then a groundout to end the inning. Quinn would then pitch a shutout 4th inning, striking out 2 batters. It wasn't until the bottom of the 5th where Wilmette finally got things going. After several batters reached based via walks, some timely hitting allowed Wilmette to put up a 7 spot and tie the game at 10-10. In the top of last inning, Morton Grove was able to take a two run lead after an RBI single by T.Dyneke and a clutch two out RBI by R.Wiederer. Wilmette had last bats and after a walk and back-to-back hits, the game tying run was at 2nd base with the winning run at 1st with just 1 out. The next batter hit a hard ground ball to J.Kruk at shortstop, who fielded the ball, flipped to R.Wiederer at 2nd base, who then tossed it to 1st for a game ending 6-4-3 double play! Eleven-year-old Sk.LeVine recorded the win after pitching two great innings for Morton Grove in his first outing of the year. A really exciting ending to what turned out to be a really close ball game. Great job, Morton Grove!

— M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager



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MORTON GROVE CUBS (MG), page 6

M.Hagopian, R.Wiederer, F.Kruk, B.Farrell

DATE	DAY	DIAMOND	VISITORS	HOME	SCORE	C/S	W/L/T	REC	
August 22	SAT	Pr View	Glenview	Morton Grove Cubs	8-16	C	W	17-3
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): G.Pappas (1), Sk.LeVine (2), C.Quinn (1), R.Wiederer (2), B.Gallas (1)									
WINNING PITCHER: Sk.Levine									
GAME NOTES: The Glenview Cubs jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first thanks to several consecutive hits to start the ball game. The damage could have been much worse but G.Pappas was able to record a strike out for the 3rd out of the inning when Glenview had the bases loaded. Morton Grove controlled much of the rest of the game thanks to some powerful hitting and great pitching. C.Quinn led the attack by going 4-for-4 including two doubles. B.Gallas went 4-for-5 and scored 4 runs. S.LeVine also batted 4-for-5 on the day driving in 4 runs. S.Garcia and V.Kabat each added two hits. On the mound for Morton Grove, Sk.LeVine pitched two great innings limiting Glenview the two runs. C.Quinn pitched 1 shutout inning in which he struckout 3 batters. R.Wiederer pitched the 5th and 6th innings, and after the first 4 batters he faced reached base, 6 consecutive outs kept Morton Grove ahead. B.Gallas closed out the game recording two strikeouts in a shutout inning. Great game! — <i>M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager</i>									
August 22	SAT	Pr View	Skokie Indians	Morton Grove Cubs	9-10	C	L	17-4
PITCHERS USED (INNINGS PITCHED): Sh.LeVine (2), T.Dyneke (2), J.Kruk (2), S.Garcia									
GAME NOTES: A very competitive game that came down to the wire. Both teams scattered runs throughout the first 5 innings and the Skokie Indians had a 5-4 lead heading into the top of the 6th. In the top of the 6th, the Skokie Indians exploded for 5 runs giving them a solid 11-5 lead. Most the damage was done by Indians cleanup hitter P.Papaioannou, who smashed a bases clearing double. Papaioannou finished 4-for-4 on the day with 4 runs scored. Morton Grove had the top of the order in the bottom of the 6th, but were not able to get anything going and after a 1-2-3 inning, they remained down by 6 runs. After holding the Indians in the top of the 7th, Morton Grove had last bats, still down 6 runs. After the leadoff hitter recorded on out, G.Pappas hit a double, C.Quinn had a single, and W.Farrell had a single. After a fielder's choice, which brought Morton Grove to their final out, V.Kabat recorded a single, B.Gallas hit a double, and T.Dyneke also had a single. Six hits in the inning made it a one run game with the tying run at first base. A groundout to 2nd base cut short the rally and ended the game. A very strong effort from Morton Grove and a well played game from Skokie Indians. Couldn't ask for a better ball game to end the Summer Ball season. Great game! — <i>M.Hagopian, Morton Grove Cubs manager</i>									