



Bristol Baseball Club

Match report, 9th May 2010, Badgers v Kent Mariners

While the day was somewhat overcast with cool temperatures, there was no rain. Thus opening day was upon us. Kent made the long journey to the West Country, and we were treated to 2 very good games of baseball. Amazingly the Badgers pitchers only gave up 1 hit over 12 innings of baseball, ably supported by strong defence. It was a real team effort with good results for the Badgers.

Game 1, Kent Mariners 0, Badgers 10 – This was our opening game of the season (finally), and we were rewarded with a no-hitter from our starting pitcher Gian! The Badgers won the game although maybe not as comfortably as the score suggests. After 3 innings we were only up 3-0. Then we got our hitters going and we won on the mercy rule after 5 innings. Notable performances include José, Dan, and Alex reaching base 3 times each; José and Fabian scoring twice each and Alex scoring 3 times; and Gian pitching to Fabian, facing just 22 batters. While Kent had 3 runners reach third base, our defence maintained the shut-out.

Game 2, Kent Mariners 2, Badgers 7 – Our pitching was once again outstanding as Jon threw a one-hitter in the late game, facing just 24 batters in 7 innings with Paul behind the plate. The first 4 Mariners all struck out, and in 5 of the innings Jon faced the minimum of 3 batters. Our defense was outstanding with Gian making 6 assists at third base, and 3 of the last 4 outs were to the old man in centre field. On offense we were well balanced with all 7 runs coming from different players. Notable performances include Gian, Dan and Fabian reaching base 3 times each; and Fabian having 2 RBIs.

Finally, this game was also notable in that the Badgers played 2 sets of fathers and sons in the same game for the first time ever. Thom with Gian, and Dan with Luke, made the game a real family affair. And Kent completed the double as they also had 2 sets of fathers and sons. We hope to see more of this in the future when other Badgers player's children make the team!

All in all it was a fantastic opening weekend of baseball for the Badgers. Lots of thanks goes to the players for making this happen, including the fencing set-up. But thanks also goes to Mike the umpire; our volunteer scorers; and our small group of fans who came out to cheer us on!

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