





# **Crooked Numbers**

#### Dirty Dozen, Bethesda, 11/16/15, 6:30pm

We finally did it. After three straight rainouts, the **Dirty Dozen** got on the field for the final time again **The Shockers**. It was the end of an ugly, 2-7, season, where we already had last place clinched and the game meant nothing as far as the standings were concerned.

We did, however, have a few things left to sort out. We had a Batting Title to decide, for a few guys, but we also had a Horse Trophy to award to some lucky player and that involved everybody. We also wanted to beat a team who'd beaten us twice in a row.

We were Visitors and began the game with a donut, despite a pair of one-innings singles that were stranded. **The Shockers** scored two for the early lead. In the second inning, we got our sticks working and led off with a double and a single. After a fly-out, we got on the board with a single, 2-1, then we tied the game, 2-2, when "Igneous" **Rock McCoy** singled home a run. A fly-out followed and a single loaded the bases, then **Mike** "Chev" **Drolet** delivered a two-out, two-run single! A fielder's-choice ended the run, but we led 4-2, middle of two. **The Shockers** answered our four spot with a three and led us 5-4 after two.

Neither team was able to score anything in the third or fourth innings as both defenses had settled in. We got going in the fifth inning, though we began with a ground-out. A single and double put two guys on the downhill side of the diamond then both men scored when **Mike** "and Mike" **Drolet** doubled to put us up 6-5! After a ground-out, "On My" **Mark Irwin** delivered a two-out double for a run, 7-5, and **Josh** "Magna" **Carper** added another run with a base hit and we led 8-5, before a fly-out ended the four run rally. **The Shockers** had a third straight donut and we'd held our lead, through five, 8-5.

We got going quickly in the sixth inning with two singles and a double to make it 9-5. A tenth run scored on a fly-out and a single followed. A double and ground-out made it 11-5, with two down, then the real fun started. Andrew "Ender" **Hess** tripled for a pair and scored on a base knock from **Mark** "Monkey Wrench" **Irwin** before a fly-out ended the inning. This time we put sic on the board and led **The Shockers** 14-5. A funny thing happened in the bottom of the sixth. **The Shockers** were down by nine runs, so, with the clock almost dead, they made three quick intentional outs to earn a seventh inning... and let us bat again... I know, I know. Me, too. Anyway, we led 14-5 after six and on we went to the seventh and final inning of 2015 and **The Shockers** had taken **Josh Carper** "Diem" off the hook for the Horse.

In the seventh, we knew darn well that whoever made the last out of the inning would take home the iron. We started with a single and line-out and followed that up with a single and ground-out, then **Jay Thornton** ended the inning and hoped for extras. **The Shockers** had outsmarted themselves, by making all those intentional outs in the sixth, but it kind of work because we didn't score anything in the bonus inning. We hit the field on last time, leading by nine, but **The Shockers** made a game of it and rallied hard, scoring six runs in the inning, but we held them off and won the game, 14-11!

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Dirty Dozen	0	4	0	0	4	6	0	14
The Shockers	2	3	0	0	0	0	6	11

It was a good win and a pretty solid performance. We had a defense issue or two in the first two innings, but settled in and played well after. Our offense was up and down and we dropped four donuts, but when we did hit we scored four, four and six runs and all those crooked numbers got us the win. Nice job, **Dirty Dozen**!

"Open" **Mike Drolet** was 4-4 with three RBI. **Josh Carper** "the Friendly Ghost" and **Leroy** "Laser" **Frazier** were each 3-4 with a rib and **Jason** "Fortune" **Tyler** was 3-4, too.

# Locker Combination

#### Jets, George Pierce, 11/17/15, 9:00pm

The **Jets** had three more games left on the schedule, all rainouts. We had the **Men of McKendree** on our usual Tuesday night, then a double-header against **Acura Carland** on Thursday. During the day, Tuesday, we learned that the Hondas had decided to forfeit their last three games.

We were 4-3 on Tuesday morning, but jumped to 6-3 when the Hondas failed to start in the cooler weather. Now Tuesdays game would end the season, though at 6-3 we clinched second place. We still had a batting title to decide and also had to place the final Horse Trophy of 2015.

We had defeated the **Men of McKendree** earlier in the season, 15-5. We'd built up a 7-0 lead after four, but the **Men of McKendree** threw five on the board in the top of the fifth to make it 7-5, but we answered with an eight spot and won the game 15-5 in a run-rule. The **Men of McKendree** are a young team for the most part and very green in spots. We expected to bring home another win.

We jumped out to a quick lead when a single and double loaded the gun and Jon "The H-less Wonder" Vanderveen fired a live round with a single and we led 1-0. Two more singles made it 3-0, a fielder's-choice gave us one down and a base hit loaded the bags with Jets. A fly-out let a fourth run score. Then we really hit the ball. Jason "Friday the 13th" Tyler stroked a two-out double for a run and Mike "Olé" Drolet followed suit with a two run double and we quickly led 7-0. Tyler "Pulmonary" Edema singled home a run, 8-0, and another base lick followed the "Night of the Living" Dean McDermond singled for a run then Jon "Katniss" Vanderveen tripled, two more runners scored and we were up 11-0! Chris "Fifty Shades" Barker singled Jon home and we led 12-0 before a fly-out ended the rally. We batted sixteen times in the first inning and Kelvin Rachu, Dean McDermond, Jon Vanderveen and Chris Barker were each 2-2. When the Men of McKendree batted for the first time, they were down by a dozen runs. They dropped a bagel and we led 12-0 after an inning.

It was more of the same in the second inning, but this time around we scored six runs and batted only eleven times. Jon Vanderveen and Chris Barker each had two-out, RBI singles as we rolled to an 18-0 lead. It was 18-1 after the *Men of McKendree* batted in the second.

In the third inning it was all but over. We led by seventeen runs. If we went down 1-2-3 in the third then held the *Men of McKendree* to three runs of fewer we'd have the "W". We didn't go down 1-2-3, though. We started the third inning with two singles and a walk then scored a run on a single. A fielder's-choice scored a run and a fly-out scored a third one and we led 21-1. We had more than enough runs to win the game, but now it was crunch time with the last Horse Trophy looming in the dugout. Kelvin Rachu "Pichu" doubled home a two-out run and "Diamond" Dean McDermond singled home another then Jon Vanderveen gashed a gap and ran a lap for a two-out, two-run, inside-the-park homer and we led 25-1. "Ruth's" Chris Barker tripled then scored on a single from "Hurricane" Andrew Hess. Rocky McCoy hit his second single of the inning then Tim McCoy hit into a fielder's-choice for the final out of the rally. We batted thirteen times, scoring eight runs and led 26-1.

For the *Men of McKendree* to stay in the game and force us to bat again, they would have to score eleven runs in the bottom of the third. They had a bagel and we won the game, by run-rule, 26-1!

Run rule	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Jets	12	6	8	-	-	-	-	26
Men of McKendree	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	1



It was the end of the season and the *Jets* learned an important lesson, by beat a weaker opponent hard, to stay sharp. We had no opponents left to stay sharp for with the season at an end, but I hope the lesson carries over to Spring 2016. It was a great game and a good way to lead 2015. We made all the plays in the field and our run totals looked like a locker combination. Good job, *Jets*!

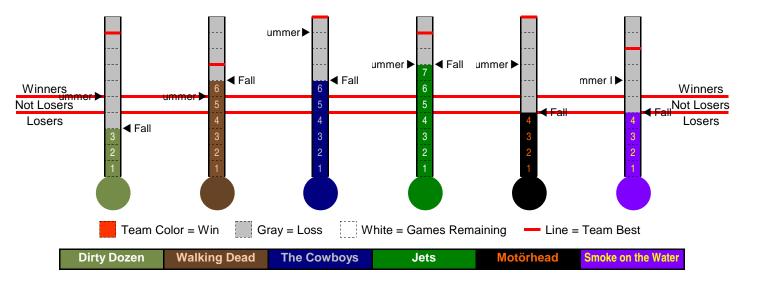
Jon "May the Odds be ever in Your Favor" Vanderveen was 4-4 with six RBI, Chris Barker "Dozen" was 4-4 with three ribs and Kelvin "Absolute Zero" Rachu was 4-4 with a pair of ribbies.

# Honda Candyland

#### Jets, George Pierce, 11/19/15, 7:00-8:00pm

We learned on Tuesday that the Hondas would not be playing their final games, one on Tuesday and two against us on Thursday.

Rainout	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Rainout	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Jets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Acura Carland		-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acura Carland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Jets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



Rain Numbers for Each Park									
Bethesda	Bethesda	Geo. Pierce	Geo. Pierce	Bethesda	Bethesda				
(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882				

"When in doubt, come on out."

#### <u>#Error</u>

Bold Italics = Our team. Normal Brown Italics = Our next opponent, PST = Post Season Tournament. TBD = To Be Determined. Asterisks after an opponent's name represents how many times we play that opponent if we play them more than once. A team in "<>" is a team we do not play during the season. The far right column shows our overall record against that opponent.

# **Bethesda Park Teams**

Monday - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals No Spring PST						
🖈 🛛 Bull's Eye	10-0	0-1				
Dropped Balls **	7-3	3-6				
The Shockers **	6-4	2-3				
Calloway Title	5-5	3-0				
The Latinos	4-6	0-1				
Cool Breeze	4-6	6-0				
ightarrow Sandlot Reloaded	3-7	0-1				
🔌 🛛 Royal Flush	3-7	1-2				
irty Dozen 🔗 🔬	3-7	n/a				

The **Dirty Dozen** had a bad season, no ifs ands or buts. We've had a lot of turnover in the past few seasons as we try and replace the retired half of what used to be the cream of the McCoy Softball crop.

We won our final game and looked good doing it, but when the games mattered our ugly scabs showed.

This team should have been better that its 3-7 record, maybe 5-5, but we underachieved.

We'll get it going in the right direction in the Spring, guys.

Monday - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals No Spring PST						
Batmen **	9-1	2-3				
DUCK! **	7-3	9-4				
Walking Dead	6-4	0-0				
Dirty Ducks	6-4	10-3				
Bears **	6-4	4-5				
The Hammy's	3-7	1-0				
ATLiens	3-7	1-0				
Road Dawgs	0-10	1-0				

The *Walking Dead* played our last game and finished Fall 2015 at 6-4, winners, though not where we really wanted to be.

It was another up and down season in an up and down year. In 2014 we finished in second place all three seasons and vowed not to do that again. We were right on.

We finished 4-6, 5-5 and 6-4 and placed sixth, fourth and third, so we did improve over the year, but not as much as we'd hoped. See ya in Spring 2016!



Wednesday - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals No Spring PST							
What? **	7-3	0-2					
Those Guys **	6-4	1-1					
Royal Flush **	5-5	18-1					
Motley Crew **	5-5	13-5					
Motörhead	4-6	0-0					
Wild Wing Bar & Grill **	3-7	3-2					

*Motörhead* played its final game of Fall 2015 and lost another tough one to finish 4-6.

We started 2015 8-0, had an epic choke and came in second at 8-2 in the Spring. After a 3-0 start in the Summer, then an inexplicable loss to a church team followed by three more wins, we still looked okay at 6-1, but stumbled to a 7-3 for a second straight second place finish.

We lost the first game of Fall then won the next two to get back on track then freefell to a 4-6, beating only hapless *Wild Wing* the rest of the season. This fiasco left us in fifth place out of six teams and at 4-6 we are losers for the first time since Summer 2011. Not only did we lose games in the Fall, but also seemed to lose the ability to care.



Wednesdays - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals							
Sons of Pitches **	7-3	1-1					
Ball Busters **	7-3	0-2					
Smash & Dash **	6-4	1-1					
The Tribe **	5-5	1-1					
Smoke on the Water	4-6	n/a					
ImagineAir Flyers **	1-9	1-1					

**Smoke on the Water** played its last game of 2016 and beat a team who had beaten us earlier in the season.

We finished 4-6, actually not bad for a brand new team. We were very, very green as a team when we started and improved over the season. We split with four of our five opponents.

I saw more good than bad this season. Yes, we made some rookie mistakes from some rookies, but all of that is fixable. We didn't always get it done at the plate or in the field, but we had the important part figured out pretty quickly.

We had guts. We had dedication. We had team chemistry. Our below .500 record technically makes us losers, but I saw a lot of winners in those purple shirts.



#### George Pierce Park Teams

Tuesday - George Pierce Men's - No Homers, No Steals No Spring PST						
Caught Looking **	7-2	3-2				
The Big E	6-3	3-1				
The Cowboys	6-4	0-0				
Bombers	6-4	3-3				
Wolverton Wolverines	5-3	2-1				
Red Devils	5-3	2-1				
One Bad Inning	5-4	2-4				
Scared Hitless	4-5	6-3				
Swift Machines	1-8	4-3				
Sage Sluggers	0-9	3-0				

*The Cowboys* played their final game of 2015 with a triple header, winning two.

We under achieved in the Spring, going 6-4 in a fairly tough division, but went 9-1 in the Summer the only McCoy Softball Championship in 2015 in a weaker division. We clinched at 9-0 then took the game off in the final match. We also set a new mark for Men's defense for a season and nearly took down the coed record.

Fall saw the toughest of the three divisions. We pulled a 6-4, underachieving a bit, and underestimating **Caught Looking**, who burst on the scene and started beating everybody.

It was a decent year and we were winners every season. Good job, **Cowboys**!



Thursday - George Pierce Men's - No Homers, No Steals No Spring PST						
Hammerheads **	8-0	4-13				
Jets	7-3	0-0				
Team Eddie **	4-4	1-1				
Jaamarti **	3-5	6-1				
Men of Mckendree **	2-6	2-0				
Acura Carland **	2-8	2-0				

The **Jets** ended Fall 2015 with a 7-3 record, the same record we had in Summer 2015. Aside from the **Walking Dead**, none of our other teams came even close to their Summer records.

I'll take a 7-3 from these newfangled **Jets**. We lost our first two games against tough opponents while we were finding ourselves. We played well after that. We nearly beat the undefeated leader and finished above the rest of the pack.

In a rough season for McCoy Softball as a whole, the *Jets* were a bright spot. Next Spring we go get us a Championship!





**Russell Ray** had another shoulder surgery recently, in a long string of surgeries. Russ last played on 4/22/13.

We miss ya, #28!



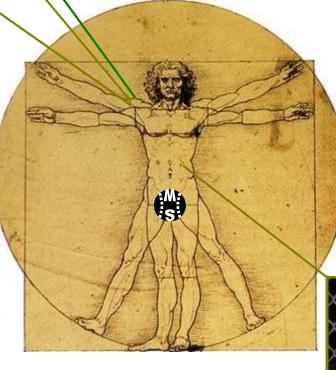
**Kyle Jones** will be missing the Fall season with a shoulder injury.

We'll miss ya, #3!

# The DL



NelsAndersoninjured a rotator cuff andmayneedsurgery.Eitherway,he'llbemissing all of Fall 2015.Hang in there, #2!





Larry Civelli strained his lower abdomen Monday night and will have to miss his final *Dirty Dozen* game. (Lucky duck...)

Hang in there, #6!

November Birthdays 11/4 FRANKLIN, JAWSH HESS. ANDREW 11/6 STEELE, EDDIE 11/711/8 STEWART, ROB **ROBINOWICH, HOWARD** 11/9 LANGLEY, RYAN 11/11 WHITE, MARK 11/11 COBLE, CODY 11/12 LYLES, BOB 11/1211/14BRACKMAN, MATT CARPENTER, MIKE 11/14PALERMINO, TONY 11/14 GILBERT, COREY 11/15 HUDNALL, BUBBA 11/15MORELAND, JOHNNY 11/18WILLIAMS, MATT 11/18 BREHM, RICH 11/19 BURSON, MARIE 11/20FISHER, DAVE 11/20 AHRENSTEDT, KRISTIE 11/22DREW, RODNEE 11/22EPSTEIN, ALAN 11/22McCoy, TIM 11/22 PINTO, TONY 11/22 ARNOLD, MIKE 11/24 CUILLI. SAL 11/25 HARTMAN, KYLE 11/26 RUBINO, STEVE 11/26 BALL, MIKE 11/27 HUMPHREY, GARY 11/27CRAWFORD, SEAN 11/28LITTRELL, JOSHUA 11/30 December Birthdays IBARRA, SAUL 12/1MACABEE. JEM 12/2VASSALL, EDMUND 12/412/5HIBBARD, JOHN HUTCHINS, ROCKY 12/5MARTIN. DEAN 12/512/6 WHITE, STEVE BABER, BRIAN 12/9 FINCHER, TERRY 12/11MCCAULEY, TAYLOR 12/13 12/13 UNDERWOOD, MARTIN WHITLEY, JEFF 12/13 MOON, TERRY 12/14 **TUTOR, AUSTIN** 12/1412/15 MANN, JOE GRASSI, JULIAN 12/19 LAW, JUSTIN 12/19SULLIVAN, SHAWN 12/19 FRIEDERICK, ANDREA 12/20 SMITH, JERRY 12/21 DALTON, DAPHNE 12/23 MILLER, THOMAS 12/24 **IRWIN, MARK** 12/25 CABALLERO, JAMIE 12/26 MONSON, DARRELL 12/27

WRIGHT, DWAIN

HUMPHREY, DREW ADCOCK, CHARLIE

REAMS. MIKE

12/27 12/29

12/30

12/30

**Birthdays & Batting Titlists** 

Fall 2015



# Horsing Around in 2015



# **Bat Certification Testing**



From now on Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation will use a new procedure for certifying Softball bats used at Bethesda, George Pierce and Best Friend Parks.

Before a bat can be used in a game it must be tested to verify that it conforms to ASA guidelines regarding compression.

It's a simple test. The barrel of the bat is placed into a fixture to steady the bat and position it at the proper location on the barrel. The handle rests on a pad to hold the bat level. A gauge with a dial is screwed down onto the barrel of the bat. This does not damage the bat and only takes 20-30 seconds.

If the reading on the dial shows a legal bat then the person testing the bat will affix an orange sticker (pictured on the left) just above the tape on the handle.

If a bat fails, it's no problem, but no sticker, either.

To use a bat in a Gwinnett park you need the sticker, regardless of the manufacturer's stamp, or list of bats on a website, or a note from your Mom or the Pope, or any other form of verification. No sticker, no bat.

Bat testing will begin before the first game every night and end sometime before the first game starts. Bats may also be tested at the GCPR office during regular business hours as long as you make an appointment.

Any player using an illegal (non stickered) bat will be called out. If a player steps in the batter's box with a non certified bat, he's called out. If he gets a hit with that bat and somebody notices after the fact, he's out.

All bats must be tested before the first game of every new season.