#

**Result:**

**Australia 4**

**def.**

**Korea 3**

Round 1- Game 5



# Australian Baseball Team

# International Competition

Game Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date: | 2 August 2016 |  Tournament: | Under 15 World Cup |
| Venue: | Green Stadium, Iwaki, Japan | **AUSTRALIA**  | **vs. KOREA** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Inn / Team** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **R** | **H** | **E** |
| **V** | Korea | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| **H** | Australia | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  |  |  | 4 | 9 | 2 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bat** | Australia | **Pos** | **At Plate** | **Hits** | **RBIs** | **Walks** | **Sacs** | **Stolen****Bases** | **Runs****Scored** |
| **1** | H. Lyberopoulos | CF | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **2** | D. Bannon | 2B | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **3** | J. Stevens | SS | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **4** | C. Shepherd | RF | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **5** | D. WalshB. Fierenzi | 3B | 22 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| **6** | K. Jackson | 1B | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **7** | JD Winlaw | C | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **8** | L. McCallum | LF | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **9** | D. CrokerM. WatsonB. Cavill | P | 021 | 001 | 000 | 010 | 000 | 000 | 001 |

**Pitchers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Australia**  | **Innings Pitched** | **Ks** | **Hits** | **Walks / HPB** | **Runs** | **Earned Runs** |
| D. Croker | 2.33 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| M. Watson | 3.00 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| B. Cavill | 3..33 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

A 9.00am start today against Korea at Green Stadium, regarded as the main field for this tournament. This was an important game for Korea as they beat Cuba yesterday and so a win for them today would see them progress into the Super Round.

Declan Croker was our starter and after getting in a little trouble early in the 1st giving up a hit and a walk, he did well to get out of the innings without any damage. There was the exact same scenario in the 2nd but a double play got us out of it. In the meantime, our hitters were being challenged adapting to the Korean pitcher’s sidearm style of delivery.

Korea broke the game open in the 3rd on the back of two hits and a combination of walks and hit pitches which saw three runs cross the plate. Watson came on for Croker in a tricky situation but he did very well to shut them down without any further runs. In the bottom of the 3rd, we hit back straight away when McCallum singled to right field and he scored on a Lyberopoulos hit to centre field. Stevens then line drive singled to right field to score Lyberopoulos and a hard hit Shepherd ball was errored by their first baseman and we had tied the game back up at 3 - 3.

Both Watson and the Korean pitcher were able to stay on top of the opposing hitters, and so the score was still locked at 3 - 3 going into the 6th.

Cavill came on for Watson with two out in the top of the 6th .He’d thrown three scoreless innings and had done a great job. Two walks then saw the bases loaded but Shepherd took a magnificent diving catch in foul territory at right field to end the innings. We then threatened ourselves when Shepherd walked, Stevens singled and then a pass ball saw us with runners on second and third with two out. Winlaw then absolutely smashed ball but it went straight at their left fielder and so the score line remained the same.

They failed to score in the 7th, and then with one out, Cavill singled to centre field. A botched pick off attempt saw the ball get away from the first baseman and Cavill got to second and headed for third. A poor relay throw back in missed their cut off, and Cavill in a great piece of heads up running seized the chance and slid into home to beat the throw to put us ahead for the first time in the game at 4 - 3.

Cavill threw a five pitch 8th inning and Stevens led off our 8th with a single. He was bunted through by Shepherd so we had a runner at second with one out but we couldn’t get him in.

So we were into the 9th with a one run lead and three outs from victory. They led off with a double to right centre and so the pressure was really on. They bunted him through so they had a runner on third with one out. We moved our infield in and their next batter hit a hard ground ball to shortstop and Stevens made a great clutch play to throw the tying run out at the plate. An infield ground out to second base finished the game and we’d run out winners 4 - 3.

It had been a terrific performance highlighted by the relief pitching of Watson and Cavill, some great defence and excellent base running. The kids executed well and competed hard for the full nine innings. As I said to Blake Cavill after the game, it’s pretty rare to be the winning pitcher and score the winning run as well. And to do it at a World Cup is something I’m sure he’ll remember the rest of his life.

We now play another three games for the tournament in the consolation round. The draw and venues for these is not being made until after the final game tonight.

Tomorrow is the tournament’s scheduled rest day so our next game will be on Thursday.