SOUTH SHORE SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE PLAYOFF NEWSLETTER 2025

First Round Results

Goose 20, Hockman 17 WP K.Robbins HRS Morris, Brenton, Payne

Grasso 12, Thorne 11 WP Introne HRS McLeish, Dunphy

Grasso's team entered the bottom of the ninth down 10-11, but scored two runs for the walk-off win. **Hockman's** crew, sluggish through most of the game, staged a huge rally in the ninth, scoring six runs to pull within three, and had the tying run at the plate *twice*, but came up short. Two exciting playoff games, just the way we like it.

Second Round Schedule 9/28

Spooner home vs. Goose at High School, 9:15 Byrne home vs. Grasso at Central/Lawson, 9:15

Good Day at the Plate

Correction from 9/14: Warren Ackerman went 6-for-6 on 9/14

Round One Hitting:

Four Hits Paré, Cobin, Brenton (HR), Dunphy (HR, =)

Three Hits Papich, Rust, Morris (HR), Cusick (2 triples, BB), Ron Payne (HR), Introne, Nielsen.

Mann, McLleish (HR, =), Chisholm

Two Hits Ackerman, Delnickas, Anderson, Grossman, Lobosco (BB), Giannangelo, Rinaldi

(BB), Olivieri (triple), DJ, Kiely, Thorne, Fegreus, Arbonies, Feinberg, Chin,

Sweeney, M.Smith, Grasso

<u>Good day in the field</u> Craig Chisholm for a diving stop at 3B and the throw to 2B for the out. Jim Dunphy for a DP force out at 2B and getting the batter at 1B. Bob Sweeney who, in Pat Grasso's words, "was the difference defensively, making numerous tough plays up the middle" and maybe giving Bob a new nickname, like "the Situation" from the Jersey Shore; how about Bob "the Difference" Sweeney?

<u>Coach Comments</u> Dave Hockman congratulated Billy Cusick, assistant, and Goose, coach, for their win, and thanks Sean Papich and Ray Voelker for subbing. Bill Thorne thanks Neil Feinberg and Ed Fegreus for subbing.

<u>Home Runs</u> Playoff HRS in **bold**: Sylvester 13. LeMieux 10. Brenton 9. McLeish 8. Dunphy 7. Pasini 6. Higgins, Ackerman, Rinaldi 5. Brosnan 4. Thorne, Higgins, Olivieri 3. G.Fallon, LoBosco,

Pollard, Tobin, Schneider 2. Belval, O'Donnell, White, Morris, Gilman, Cusick, Murray, Collotta, Sweeney, Marino, Rix, Martinelli, Cobin, Keeley, Kevin Stone: 1 each. **Brenton 1, McLeish1, Dunphy 1, Morris 1, Payne 1.**

<u>Pitching Wins</u> Spooner 19. Maher 15. Hockman 11. Meade, Introne 4. Fegreus 3. K.Robbins 2. Chisholm 1 . **Robbins 1; Introne 1.** One regular-season tie game, no winner.

Brian Sullivan just announced this would be his last season in the league. He was teased by Pat Grasso whose Coach Comment on one Sunday was "Brian Sullivan played an entire game with high blood pressure." And who will ever forget the time Brian left his keys on a truck while he visited the Johnny-on-the-Spot at the tower field? When he exited he found someone had driven away in the truck, keys and all. Or the time when Ken Schneider smacked Brian in the belly with a line drive, the sound of which was heard on the next field. Or, when pitching, he got entangled in the screen and was compared in the news to "a tuna caught in a net." Brian always took the teasing with his good-natured sense of humor.

But Brian had a *very* serious side, serving in Viet Nam as a military police officer before retiring from the USAR as a lieutenant colonel. He was an FAA special agent who would test security of facilities with the national airspace system and at airports. In the documentary film *Please Remove Your Shoes*, Brian appeared to warn the country of the security weaknesses our air travel still suffers, and he testified in front of a congressional committee about airport security weaknesses. All who know Brian wish him a happy and healthy retirement.