



Australian Baseball Team International Competition Game Summary

Opening Round - Game 2

Aust. 1
def.
Korea 0

Date: 31 August 2019

Tournament: Under 18 World Cup

Venue: Gijang Hyundai Dream Ball Park
Busan, Korea

AUSTRALIA vs. KOREA

	Inn / Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
V	Korea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4
H	Australia	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		1	6	1

Bat	Australia	Pos	At Plate	Hits	RBI's	Walks / HPB	Sacs	Stolen Bases	Runs Scored
1	T. Bazzana	2B	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	J. Rae	LF	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
3	C. Burke	C	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	L. MacDonald	3B	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	C. Myles	DH	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
6	S. Maguire	RF	4	2	1	0	0	1	0
7	L. McCallum	1B	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	B. Armstrong	SS	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
9	A. Skepton	CF	3	0	0	0	0	0	0

Pitchers

Australia	Innings Pitched	Ks	Hits	Walks	HPB	Runs	Earned Runs
L. Waite	6	4	4	2	1	0	0
J. Lee	2.33	0	2	1	0	0	0
K. Hall	0.67	1	0	0	0	0	0

Important game tonight against Korea, one of the power houses of world baseball, and a large vocal crowd was in attendance to cheer the home team.

Lachlan Waite was our starter tonight. Their lead off got on with a single but was thrown out by Burke when attempting to steal second. For the first time ever at these Championships, the video review is being used similar to what's done in MLB. Korea appealed the decision but after the review, the original call of out remained. You're only allowed one unsuccessful appeal per game so it meant Korea had used theirs in the first inning.

We came out to bat in the bottom of the 1st and they had a left hander on the mound. For those who don't know, it's universal baseball etiquette around the world, that you ask your opposition if they're throwing a righty or lefty. They told us they were starting a righty and this was confirmed at the same time by the WBSC Technical Commissioner. So imagine our surprise when a lefty goes out there. They'd changed their pitcher AFTER receiving our line up because we have a bunch of left hand hitters, and I will say it quite publicly that it was an appalling act

of poor sportsmanship (and I'm cleaning up my words here!!). The world governing body, the WBSC, were also incensed and are hitting them with the maximum allowable fine

Waite threw a tidy first two scoreless innings highlighted by a great play from our shortstop, Armstrong, from deep in the hole. We also didn't score and so it was locked up at 0 - 0 after two.

In the 3rd, Japan got a walk, then a single and had runners on first and second with none out. They then attempted to put down a bunt but a great play from Burke got the out at third. Waite then got himself out of trouble to shut them down without scoring. Armstrong got our first single of the night and when Rae also singled with two out, after a great seven pitch at bat, we had runners on first and third but couldn't convert.

Waite kept them out again in the 4th. Then with one out, Myles hit a towering pop up to the third baseman who lost it above the lights. He'd busted out of the batter's box and ended up at second when the third baseman dropped the ball a great piece of base running. Maguire then singled with some clutch two strike hitting to bring him home. Maguire then stole second and got through to third on a pass ball. And when Armstrong walked, it meant we had runners on first and third but we left them out there. Still we'd taken a 1 - 0 lead after four innings.

Then in the 5th, Korea drew a walk with one out but then a routine double ball play was errored, followed by a base hit which saw them load the bases. Waite then showed enormous composure to strike out the next hitter, followed by an infield pop up and he'd kept them out once more.

Again Waite kept them scoreless in the 6th, and again we got two runners on after a Myles walk and a Maguire single. Both McCallum and Armstrong then smoked consecutive line drives straight at fielders, and so at inning's end it was still a 1 - 0 game.

Waite was relieved by Lee for the start of the 7th. He'd thrown a magnificent game, keeping one of the best teams in the world scoreless for six innings. Like Sherriff yesterday, it had been a fantastic performance.

Lee shut them out and in the bottom of the 7th we then had a golden opportunity to score. With one out, Bazzana singled and Rae executed a perfect hit-run play to move him over to third. But then we failed to execute a squeeze bunt and they got out of the innings.

Lee had a three up three down 8th inning as did we, so it was still that 1 - 0 score line heading into the 9th. A lead off walk saw Hall come on to pitch. They bunted their runner through to second but Hall held his nerve under great pressure, striking out the next hitter, before a towering fly ball to deep right centre field was run down by Skepton for the final out.

So we'd run out 1 - 0 winners, a score line rarely seen in baseball, particularly at this level. Our three pitchers had done an outstanding job under enormous pressure, our defence was great, and our one run had come about because of some outstanding base running by Myles.

This win puts us right back in the mix with our destiny back in our own hands.

We play China tomorrow at 3.30pm.