

The 2nd inning was scoreless for both teams. Then in the 3rd, Skepton led off with a double over centre field and he scored on a Burke double. Sherriff was dominating their hitters and so at the end of the 3rd, we'd extended our lead to 2 - 0.

It was still that score at the halfway point in the game going into the bottom of the 5th when Canada struck back. Sherriff had a no hitter going at this stage but they put together a walk and three hits including a home run, that saw them score four and so they were now in front 4 - 2. Hall came in to the game to pitch for Sherriff and closed out the inning.

But we hit back straight away in the 6th when Rae and Myles singled, and in between them Burke had rifled a drive down the right field line which was literally two inches foul. When MacDonald walked, it meant we had loaded bases with two out. Then Armstrong, in an outstanding piece of clutch hitting, doubled to deep left centre to score all three runners and we'd regained the lead 5 - 4. Hall kept them out and so it was a one run game going into the 7th.

Cooper Morgan in his first pitching appearance of the tournament, then replaced Hall with two out. Hall had thrown an excellent almost two innings of scoreless relief. Morgan got a ground ball out and we were into the 8th still clinging to that one run lead.

We then got ourselves some insurance runs when Maguire singled and Armstrong walked. Then with two out, McCallum clutch singled to centre to bring them both in and we were out to a 7 - 4 lead. But with two out and none on, Canada strung together three consecutive hits to score two and make it a 7 - 6 game going into the 9th.

With one out in the top of the 9th, Rae and Burke hit consecutive singles to give us runners on first and second. Myles then singled up the middle but their centre fielder came up with a great play to throw Rae out at the plate in a bang-bang play. So we headed into the bottom of the last three outs away from victory.

But there was still plenty of baseball left in this game. With the count at two and two, their lead off hitter was hit by a pitched ball and it was then the baseball gods finally decided to smile on us. The umpire ruled he made no attempt to get out of the way and made him come back to the plate. This was exactly what had happened to us in the first game against Nicaragua when the same call had gone against us. Morgan then got him to fly out. One out, two to go. Cavill came on to pitch to the right hander and got a ground ball out. Two out, one to go. Lee then came on to face their left hand hitter who hit a ground ball which sneaked through the gap between first and second. A ground ball was then thrown away at first (our first actual throwing error of the tournament) which meant they had now runners on first and third. But Lee held his nerve and their next hitter popped up to centre field and we'd claimed a memorable victory.

All five pitchers had made significant contributions to the win. Rae had starred with the bat getting three hits, and Burke and Myles two each. Armstrong and McCallum had both delivered clutch two out hits which resulted in five RBIs.

Head Coach, Steve Fish said at the start of the tournament there were going to be plenty of close games and we needed to find a way to win these ones. Remarkably, in our five games played so far, four of them have been one run games competition is indeed very tight at this level.

The schedule for the Super Round will be finalised tonight but by qualifying we're now in there with a good shot of playing for a medal.