

NORTH SUBURBAN COLT LEAGUE Baseball News

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HIGHLAND PARK WINS 2010 TITLE!

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Highland Park	2	1	0	5	0	1	1	10	7	3
Niles Braves Red	2	0	2	0	0	3	0	7	8	4

WP- Jason Schwartz

LP- Meger

2B- Biondi (HP)

HR- Streicker (HP), Mitrovich (N)

Third seeded Highland Park used a five-run fourth inning to earn a 10-7 decision over top-seeded Niles Braves Red to claim the 2010 North Suburban Colt League championship. The win marked Highland Park's second title in the past four years as it first won the crown in 2007. Highland Park starting pitcher Jason Schwartz battled the heat and went the distance for the win.

Both teams tallied twice in the first inning. Highland Park's Daniel Oversen opened the game with a single and promptly stole second base. Adam Kaplan tripled home Oversen and then scored on an infield out. In the Braves half of the first, Matt Walsh (2-4, 2 runs) singled with one out and Nick Mitrovich (2-3, 4 rbi, 2 runs, 2B, HR) doubled him home. A Highland Park error allowed Mitrovich to score the tying run. In the second, Ben Streicker (3-4, 3 rbi, 2 runs, HR) singled and wound up scoring on a Braves error. Niles took a brief lead in the third. With two outs, Braves catcher Chris Roombos reached on an infield error and moved to second on wild pitch. Another infield error allowed Roombos to score and put Jared Deveau at second where he scored on Keenan Connelly's single.

Highland Park scored five times in the fourth to take an 8-4 lead. Christian Biondi opened the inning with a double and Alec Van Cleve walked. Streicker then blasted a pitch over the left center field fence for a three run homer. After a walk to Alec Greenberg, Emmett Smith's fly to center was misplayed, allowing Greenberg to score and Smith to take second base. Another Braves outfield misplay on a ball hit to left field by Oversen plated Smith with the final run of the inning. After a scoreless fifth inning, Highland Park tacked on a singled run in the sixth. Smith opened the inning with a bloop single to right field and moved to scoring position on an infield out. Jordan Schwartz's singled scored Smith to give Highland Park a 9-4 lead. The Braves made things interesting in the bottom of the sixth. After retiring the first two hitters, Schwartz hit Jason Meger with a pitch and surrendered a single to Walsh. Mitrovich came to the plate and deposited a fast ball over the center field fence to cut the Highland Park lead to 9-7. Highland Park added an insurance run in the seventh as Van Cleve led off with a single, stole second, and scored on a Greenberg single. Niles was able to bring the tying run to the plate in the top of the seventh thanks to two walks but Schwartz induced an infield popout to end the game.

Semi-Finals:

	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lombard Blue	4	5	1
Niles Braves Red	5	9	2

WP- Fiorito LP- Villeneuve
2B- Walsh (N), Roombos (N)

Top seeded Niles Braves Red moved into the championship game by topping Lombard Lightning Blue 5-4. The victory marked the Braves third one-run decision over Lombard Blue during the 2010 season. Niles scored twice in the first as Jason Meger (2-4, run) and Matt Walsh (3-4, rbi, 2 runs, 2B) singled to open the game. Meger scored on a Lombard error while Walsh crossed the plate on a Jared Deveau single. The Braves extended their lead to 4-0 in the second. Patrick Warner opened the inning with a single and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt. Meger reached on an infield singled and Walsh singled home Warner. Meger was caught stealing but Sean Pavel picked up the Braves with an rbi single scoring Walsh.

The Lightning cut the deficit in half in the fifth inning. Chris Bartosz singled and Adam Villanueva was hit by a pitch. Sam Gibson sacrificed both runners into scoring position and Kyle Pullia's two-out single drove home both runners. Niles scored the winning run in the bottom of the fifth. Chris Roombos doubled with one out, moved to third on a passed ball, and scored on a wild pitch. The Lightning cut the lead to 5-4 in the sixth. Seth Maack and Kurtis Ligoeki singled with one out and Bartosz walked. Villanueva's single drove in two runs and moved Bartosz to second base. The Lombard rally ended when Braves' catcher Chris Roombos threw out Bartosz trying to steal third base.

	<u>R</u>
Highland Park	16
Glenview	9

WP- Biondi
2B- Kaplan (HP), Biondi 2 (HP), Van Cleve 2 (HP), Streicker (HP), Jor. Schwartz (HP)
3B- Streicker (HP), Heroux (HP)
HR- Heroux (HP)

Highland Park trailed 6-5 going into the top of the seventh when Ben Streicker opened the inning by hitting a 1-2 pitch into deep right center field for a triple. Streicker scored on Alec Greenberg's game tying single. Winning pitcher Christian Biondi (7 2/3 IP) held Glenview scoreless in the bottom of the frame to send the game into extra innings. The Highland Park offense exploded in the top of the eighth, scoring ten runs. During the rally, Robert Heroux hit a rare inside-the-park grand slam home run. Adam Kaplan, Jordan Schwartz, Jason Schwartz, Alec Van Cleve, and Greenberg all drove in two runs for the winners.

First Round:

	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Niles Braves Blue	1	2	5
Niles Braves Red	6	11	1

WP- Deveau LP- DeLeonardis
2B- Deveau (NR), Connelly (NR)

NILES BRAVES RED used a five-run second inning and the two-hit pitching of Jared Deveau to cruise to a 6-1 win over Niles Braves Blue. The Blue team struck first, scoring their lone run in the top of the first inning. Jake Melnick led off with a single, moved to second on a fielder's choice and scored on Andrew Fialkowski's single. After the first inning, Deveau completely shut down the Blue offense, retiring 18 of the last 22 hitters that he faced. In the second, the Red team combined four singles and three errors to put five runs on the board. Sean Pavel and Deveau opened the inning with singles. Keenan Connelly sacrificed the runners into scoring position and Patrick Warner's single plated Pavel. Deveau was retired at the plate on an attempted squeeze play and it looked like the Blue team might wriggle out of a jam. However an outfield error scored Warner and Matt Walsh's singled plated the third run of the inning. Two infield errors allowed the final two runs of the inning to cross the plate. The Red team concluded the scoring in the third as consecutive doubles by Deveau and Connelly accounted for the final run of the game.

	<u>R</u>
Lake Forest	1
Highland Park	13

WP- Shimanovsky
2B- Kaplan 2 (HP), Jor. Schwartz (HP), Streicker (HP)
3B- Oversen (HP)

Highland Park dominated Lake Forest in this five inning affair as Brett Shimanvosky tossed a complete game, allowing eight hits while fanning five. Biondi helped his own cause by driving in two runs. Jordan Schwartz (2 rbi, 2B, 2 SB) also had a big day at the plate for the Giants.

	<u>R</u>
Zion	4
Glenview	14

Consolation Games:

	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Morton Grove	4	7	2
Niles Braves Blue	5	5	2

WP- Bobor
2B- Toledo (N)
3B- Duarte (M)

NILES BRAVES BLUE spotted Morton Grove a 4-0 lead and battled back to earn a 5-4 decision. Morton Grove scored once in the second as Patrick Burke singled and scored on a triple by Gabriel Duarte. In the third, the Mustangs tallied twice. With one out, Andrew Granato reached on an error and moved to second on an infield out. Consecutive singles by Kurt Schuetz, Zach Smith, and Burke accounted for the two runs. Duarte led off the Morton Grove fourth inning with a single and eventually scored the Mustangs final run of the game. The Braves finally got on the board in the bottom of the fourth. Kevin Burnes reached when his fly ball to center was dropped. Patrick Geary then walked and

Matt Decker singled home Burnes. A double play placed the rally in jeopardy but Herik Weber's single plated Geary and Tommy Toledo doubled in Weber. Niles scored the tying and winning runs in the fifth. Three walks and a Burnes single scored one run and Nathan Ireton's sacrifice fly drove in the winning run. Brandon Bobor picked up the win in relief of Weber and Burnes came on to record the final two outs of the game.

	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Niles Braves Blue	13	11	0
Waukegan	12	13	5
WP- Burnes			
2B- Villareal (W), Wozniak (W), Whiteside (W), Decker (N)			
3B- Hotze 2 (W)			
HR- Hotze (W)			

NILES BRAVES BLUE survived six Waukegan extra base hits and twelve walks to nip Waukegan 13-12 in the final game of the weekend schedule. Waukegan took a 3-0 lead in the first as Andrew Hotze (3-5, 2 rbi, 3 runs, 2 3B, HR) blasted a solo home run and Alex Alvarez, Matthew Ree, and Austin Chamernik all singled to plate two more runs. Niles got one of the runs back in the second as Matt Decker doubled and eventually scored on an infield out. Niles starting pitcher Tommy Toledo held Waukegan scoreless for the next three innings while the Braves built a lead. In the fourth, Jake Melnick and Kevin Burns walked scored on Nathan Ireton's (4-6, 7 rbi, run) single. Ireton eventually scored on an infield out to give Niles a 4-3 lead. Niles padded its lead with a four-run fifth inning. Sandwiched around three walks and singles by Melnick and Luke Moy was another two-run single by Ireton. In the bottom of the fifth, Waukegan sent twelve men to the plate and scored eight runs. Key hits in the inning included three consecutive extra base hits by Parker Whiteside (double), Jeffrey Payne (triple), and Matt Villereal (double). Hotze also had a triple in the inning. Trailing 11-8 going into the sixth, the Braves tallied twice as Ireton singled home a run. In the top of the seventh, Toledo and Max O'Malley opened with singles. After a strikeout, Melnick singled home one run and Ireton singled in two more to give Niles a 13-11 lead. In the bottom of the frame, Hotze tripled with one out and scored on a wild pitch. Waukegan failed to score on four consecutive walks as Matt Decker threw out a runner trying to steal third. A fly ball to left field preserved the win for Niles.

HIGHLAND PARK GIANTS – 2010 NORTH SUBURBAN COLT LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

