

St. Mary's Crusaders Softball Update

Submitted by Coach Diane Dahlin

Our St. Mary's Crusaders were in great form for our games on Monday, July 25 with St. Francis!

Our first inning started off with a walk and two strike-outs, but then our bats kicked in, scoring 5 runs. We held the Tigers scoreless in their first inning. In the 2nd inning, we scored with a solo homerun from Matt St. Claire - an out-of-the-park homer! This was the FIRST homer over the fence that I have seen from any team in our youth league in all the years I have been coaching! So exciting! The Tigers scored 2 in the 2nd, narrowing the score. The Tigers kept us scoreless in the 3rd, and we also held the Tigers in the 3rd inning. Our Crusaders added 4 more runs to our score in the 4th inning, and were able to keep St. Francis from scoring. We added 2 more runs in the 5th, and were able to shut down the Tigers to take the game by a score of 12 to 2. Those Crusaders contributing to our batting success were Anna St. Claire, Grant Johnson, Caleb Lage, Dustin Hoffart, Gunner Cadreau, Matt St. Claire, Ty Kamletz and Trinity St. Claire.

Our 2nd game on July 25 began with a scoreless 1st inning for both teams. We started up the bats again in the 2nd inning, scoring 5 runs on a double from Matt St. Claire, singles from Grant Johnson and Ethan Reineke, a double from Caleb Lage, a triple from Gunner Cadreau and a single from Josh St. Claire. We held the Tigers scoreless. The 3rd inning saw hits from John Loh, Ty Kamletz, Kaylee Berg, Matt St. Claire, and Trinity St. Claire, which added 3 more runs. Again, we were able to hold St. Francis. Our 4th Inning was more bats! A triple from Caleb Lage, a single from Dustin Hoffart, and an out-of-the-park (for the 2nd time that night!) 3-run homer from Gunner Cadreau, followed by 2 walks and a single-turned-triple from Zach Hoffart, scoring 2 runs, added 5 more runs to our score. We were able to keep the Tigers scoreless in the 4th. Our Bats continued in the 5th inning, with hits from Anna St. Claire, a couple walks, singles from Trinity St. Claire and Grant Johnson and a double from Caleb Lage gave us another 5 runs. St. Francis tried valiantly to come back, but we held them once more to take the game by a score of 18 to 1. These were some of the most exciting games that we have played - when all of the players put their efforts together and were able to string the runs into hits! So much fun to watch their skills increase as the season goes on!

Our Crusaders' games on August 1st were with St. Joe's Team #2, whom we had not faced yet this season.

We started our 1st inning with a string of hits from Anna St. Claire, Ty Kamletz, Braedyn Aubrey, Josh St. Claire, Trinity St. Claire and Grant Johnson sending 4 runners across home plate and taking the lead early in the game. St. Joe's answered back with 3 runs of their own. St. Joe's held us in the 2nd inning, while adding 1 run to their score to tie the game at 4. The 3rd, 4th and 5th innings were a stand-off, each team holding their opponent to zero scoring. The Joey's jumped in with 4 runs in the 6th to take the lead. We answered in the 7th inning with one run, but it wasn't enough to take the game, and we lost by a score of 8 to 5.

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Our 2nd game with St. Joe's was a tough one as well. They scored 4 runs in the 1st, while holding us scoreless. Each team held the other with no scores in the 2nd. We were able to hold St. Joe's scoreless in the 3rd, while we scored 1 run in the 3rd inning when Gunner Cadreau sent Ethan Reineke across the plate. The Joey's added 4 more runs to their score in the 4th inning while they held us scoreless. The Joey's put 5 more runs on the board in the 5th, while our Crusaders continued to struggle without scoring. In the 6th inning, St. Joe's scored 2 more runs. Our Crusaders fought back and were able to score 1 last run in the 6th, but it wasn't enough. St. Joe's took the 2nd game by a score of 15 to 2.

The last games for the season will be on Monday, August 8th. This will be our 3-game tournament, with games at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30p at the North Softball Complex on Hwy 81 north. All are welcome to cheer on our Crusaders one more time in 2022! Let's play ball!