

Quick exit at league playdowns for Sr. Red Sox

Extra-innings loss in first round particularly heartbreaking

There was no shortage of disappointment at this past weekend's Central Ontario Baseball Association (COBA) playdowns for the Senior Red Sox.

A 0-and-2 exit in the double-knockout tournament was heartbreaking enough, but the manner in which Milton dropped its first game made the quick departure that much tougher to swallow.

Down 7-3 heading into their last at-bat at Clarkson Park Thursday evening, the seemingly-finished Red Sox forced

the Brampton Battlecats into extra innings with a clutch uprising that was highlighted by a two-run single by Dave Teboekhorst.

However, Milton just couldn't build on that momentum — managing just one more hit and eventually getting eclipsed in the 11th, when Brampton led off with its fourth double of the night and pushed that run across with a one-out single.

Teboekhorst had three of the Red Sox's eight hits, while Kevin Comisky had a two-run single in the first to draw within a run of the Battlecats, who found all sorts of holes against Ian Zettle early on and finished with 18 hits.

Young reliever Steve Spiers showed a lot of poise over five-and-two-thirds innings — holding off Brampton's eventual victory with several hard-fought outs — while Taylor Lawton was a defensive rock at shortstop.

At Brian Best Park Saturday morning, Milton was held to a measly four hits, which offered no room for any comeback in a 7-3 elimination defeat at the hands of the Burlington Brants.

"We're not used to playing from behind," noted manager George Moore. "We did really well this season, but comeback wins were kind of a rarity for us."

Adam Finkbeiner worked two perfect innings before getting shelled for six straight hits — and four subsequent runs — in the third inning.

The Red Sox's three runs all came in the sixth, with Jeff MacLeod driving in the first two on a double and then scoring himself on a wild pitch and passed ball.

Despite the disappointing finish in the playdowns, Milton finished with its best overall record this season at 31-14. An 11-10 showing against 'A' level teams was also a marked improvement over the 4-12 record delivered last summer.



Teague shines in late-inning play

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Thriving in a late-inning pinch hitting role, the local slugger fueled the Brewers' successful drive with an 8-for-14 campaign, which included six homers and a pair of singles.

His potent performance included a game-tying, two-run dinger against Manitoba and a bases loaded RBI single in the initial victory over the Orioles.

Teague's Canadian championship triumph came on the heels of a third-place finish with Higgins at the August long weekend NSA Canadian World Series in Oshawa.

Going 19-for-24 overall with 10 homers, he was one of the main reasons why the newly-established club was able to shake off any ill effects from an 0-3 start and make it to the second/third place game — where they dropped a 28-26 slugfest to Quebec Lifescan/Transat.

"This was one of the best games I've had the pleasure to play in all season, but in the end we just couldn't pull it out," said Teague.

The Milton softballer had two homers and a couple of other hits in the battle for second, which served as revenge for Higgins' 22-18 decision over Quebec in opening-round playoff action.

Teague also captained one of the all-star teams in Oshawa and went 1-for-2 in the game.

Spots still open for women's triathlon

Hey ladies, it's time to get in gear for the 12th annual Women's Triathlon Milton.

Registration is still open for the September 10 event at Kelso Conservation Area. Part of a three-part summer series over the last few years that follows races in Orangeville and Grimsby, the local showcase — which has grown to include over 600 participants — includes three separate races.

First-timers can take part in either the introductory super sprint triathlon (375m swim, 10km bike, 2.5km run) or the super sprint duathlon (2.5km run, 10km bike, 2.5km run), while seasoned and more ambitious competitors will want to test their mettle with the 750m swim, 20km bike, 5km run sprint triathlon.

Organizers are also looking for volunteers — both men and women — to help out on race day. Those doing so are eligible for draw prizes, refreshments and a t-shirt.

Women's Triathlon Milton serves as a fundraiser for Girls Inc. of Halton.

To sign up as either a participant or volunteer, call Sue Leeder at (905) 878-7329 or visit www.womenstriathlon.com.



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