

Here are the results of the CT August tourney and a write up from Toby...(I did NOT include the 1-1 record for byes in these records).

Toby defeated Gene 4 games to 3 in the finals

Gene defeated Harry 3 games to 2 in the Semis

Toby Strite      15-7   4-3   19-10

Gene Abood      13-9   6-6   19-15

Harry Flawd      13-9   2-3   15-12

PJ Dibiase       9-11

John Moscal      8-12

Brian Favereaux 8-12

Luis Richards    6-12

Hi Folks, Gene slugged his way past Harry in 7 games to set-up our World Series. It was a dandy - I'll tease that the game winning RBI in game 7 was Aroldis Chapman off Sheehan's 5-5 HR7/Out in the clutch...

Game 1 - Wheeler at Eovaldi (NYN): Gene had some early traffic, but we were scoreless into the 5th when Toby converted consecutive 5-5's for 3 runs. That stood as the final score.

Game 2 - Rodon placed a Kolek call, with his hitters dotting him after 2 innings. Toby put two on the board in the 2nd on a Stott error. Toby went to the BP in the 4th, and decided Cleavinger should face Raleigh with two on, two outs. Toby was rewarded with a pitcher's card roll, but Raleigh converted the diamond to 7 for a commanding 9-2 lead, which Rodon was happy to cough up by getting shelled for five runs in the 4th - Ketel finishing with a Salami to make it 9-7 after four innings. Gene added on in the sixth with a SacFly. Toby had a chance to tie on a Zac Neto diamond to 13, missed, and things wound down from there.

In this series, Toby was dead nuts on HR splits, but I think O for Infinity on diamond splits to 7,11,13 and (yes) 17. 10-8 was the final, Thielbar earning the save.

Game 3 - Bello@Abbot (PHI) - Gene had another quick start, highlighted by a Grisham pure shot to make the score 3-0. Toby answered with two in the 4th. Gene started the b4th SI,BB,BB,BB at which point Toby yanked Bello, and was rewarded when Chapman limited the damage, 4-2 Gene after four. Doubles by Belli and Dingus tied the game in the 5th. Both managers changed out of their loafers into their Nike's - ready for a marathon. Toby had a 3-run diamond chance to 17 in extras, denied by the 20-sided. Ketel Marte's meatroll finally put Toby ahead in the 13th, and a dotted Cade Smith survived a one-our double to retire Lindor and Gleyber in the clutch for a 5-4 final score, Toby ahead 2-1.

Game 4 - Scheduled loss for Toby with Merrill Kelly visit Yamamoto and Gene's 9 lefty sluggers in PHI. It's Strat - Kelly cruised nearly unscathed through five, his only blemish was 3 BB's and a Single in the 3rd. Meanwhile, Alonso legged out a Bregman open double, scoring an early run for Toby. Toby missed a 3 run diamond chance to 11, else he'd have had a comfy lead. Also, a solo 6-5 to 7 was missed. Having survived 5 dicey innings by Kelly, Toby decides to go for the jugular in the bottom 6th with Aroldis, to which Gene scoffed - Rice singling on Chapman's 5-11, Lindor 3-4 shot to 12. A late Polar Bear HR pulled Toby to within 1 run, but Yamamoto finished his 8, and Maton and Phillips were good for the save and a 3-2 series evenner.

Game 5 - Eovaldi@Wheeler - Toby scored first on a cheesy Marte 3B/out split and a 2B-B+ defended well by Gene. Gene got Stowers and Lindor HR's and scratched out a 3rd run to take a 3-1 lead into the 9th, both starters throwing 8 innings. Gaddis retired Marte to open the 9th, but yielded singles to Teel and Naylor before walking Gunnar to load the bases, one away. Phillips got the call, getting J-Rod to hit into a FC, out at the plate. "Signature Moment" Fernando Tatis was called back in the clutch for Noelvi Marte who dropped an absolute thunderbolt 2-10, hitting the triple split to 2, so J-Rod didn't even have to scratch gravel to plate the go-ahead run. Phillips settled down to get Bregman, Aroldis Chapman on for the save. Lindor singled, but Yandy could do no harm before Kyle Tucker hit into a game ending double play on the x-Chart. Game 5 and a 3-2 lead to Toby, who would face to lefty starters in NYN.

Game 6 - Rodon @ Kolek-call rematch - Kolek still wasn't fooling anyone. Three singles, 3 BB's in the first plated five, and decided the game. Rodon pitched well, giving up just a run in 5 IP. 5-1 was the final, and we headed to Game 7...

Game 7 - Abbott @ Bello - Stowers solo shot put Gene ahead in the first. J-Rod homered off Abbot's 5-5 and Caballero converted a 2-6 (remember, Toby can only convert HR splits, not

diamonds). Both starters pitched well, and it was 2-1 at the intermission. BP's held through 7. Toby dropped in Aroldis for a six out, series clinching save opportunity. His top 8th was clean, while Toby made some noise in the b8th which led to the aforementioned clutch RBI for Aroldis, when Toby declined the opportunity to hit a 3-run HR had a posiiton player pinch hit. Emboldened by his insurance run, Aroldis trotted out to pitch the Top 9th, and promptly faced 1st/3rd one out with Cal Raleigh at the plate. Mound visit. Gestaculations... but finally, Chapman agreed to walk Raleigh to load the bases for Devers (Gene's pitcher was on deck, only Josh Smith available). Devers rolled a 2-6 to drive in a run, but we'll leave it to the reader to check what 2-6 would have been on Raleigh's card. Gene took out his TRS-80 and determined that the 2-11 Si17/out made Josh Smith a better bet against Aroldis than a RH Pitcher. With 2nd/3rd, 2-away, Aroldis almost certainly uncorked a wild pitch, but the gold glover Dinger behind the dish almost certainly made a game-saving block, and Josh Smith when quietly in the end. Game 7 to Toby, 3-2.

An absolutely epic WS thoroughly enjoyed by both managers. Each has grievances, each was granted some amazing reprieves. In the end, it was Aroldis' batting acumen, or we'd probably still be playing extras...