

### NEK League Legion Roundup --- June 21st

Four Northeast Kansas League teams were in action last night with Atchison, Doniphan County and Royal Valley participating in the Doniphan County Tournament in Wathena and Hiawatha in a double-header with the Falls City Junior legion team.

For a full updated NEK League standings ([click here](#))

### **Doniphan County Tournament Gets Underway**

The first round matchups in the Doniphan County Tournament got underway last night with Northeast Kansas League team Atchison leading the night off against Rock Creek. Things went all Rock Creek's way as they got the offense working and cruised to a 10-0 four inning victory over Atchison. Branden Luker only gave up three hits and struckout eight for the pitching win.

The second game of the night was highlighted by pitching between Royal Valley and Doniphan County, as Craig Thurber and Dylan Gabriel pitched solid games; but the crucial part of the game proved to be a Doniphan County error. With the game tied at 2-2 it went to extra innings and in the bottom of the ninth, Royal Valley capitalized upon an error from Doniphan County and scored the winning run, taking the 3-2 win.

Thurber went the distance for Royal Valley pitching all nine innings, throwing 165 total pitches, striking out 11 for the win. Gabriel pitched seven stellar innings for Doniphan County and left the game with it tied at 2-2. Gabriel only allowed two-hits, struckout 15 and gave up two runs, which were both unearned, as all Royal Valley's runs on the night were unearned.

Doniphan County did have opportunities in the match to score drawing four walks, a hit batsman, tallying 10 hits and a pair of base runners from errors, but they would strand 14 on base during the game, falling to Royal Valley.

Doniphan County is now 5-11 (4-4 league) after the loss, while Atchison fell to 5-7 (3-3 league) with their loss. The two Northeast Kansas League teams will continue in the loser's bracket of the Doniphan County tournament playing Atchison on tomorrow at noon. For Royal Valley they improve to 7-11 (3-5 league) and will take on the Rock Creek at 6:00pm tomorrow in the Doniphan County Tournament.

The first round action of the tournament continues tonight with Seneca vs. Falls City at 6:00pm and Lansing vs. Silver Lake to follow at 8:15pm.

### **Hiawatha earns sweep over Falls City Junior legion squad**

Hiawatha earned victory number two and three on the season in the same night with a sweep of the double-header against Falls City Junior Legion squad, winning 12-4 and 11-8.

In game one Hiawatha dug themselves an early 3-0 deficit with Falls City Juniors plating those three runs in the first inning. Hiawatha would gain one back in the bottom of the first, and then explode in the second inning with nine runs to open the game in their favor. Jeff Costa led the Indians in game one with a 3-4 performance with a double, two runs scored and two RBI's. Shawn Green earned the pitching victory in relief going 4 2/3 innings.

Game two proved to be a high scoring affair with both teams having big innings and bigger run totals, with Hiawatha holding onto an 11-8 win. But maybe the most interesting fact about the game

was that it only featured six total hits between the two teams, but still saw 19 total runs scored.

Hiawatha only secured two hits in the game but was able to capitalize upon nine walks, three hit batsmen and three Falls City errors to help produce their run total. While, it was kind of the same story for Falls City Juniors who had only four hits, drew four walks and had two hit batters, with Hiawatha having three errors, also.

The big innings were the same for each team as in game one with Falls City plating five in the first but Hiawatha answering and then coming up with a big second inning, tallying eight total runs in the inning.

Hiawatha with the win improved to 3-15 (0-9 league) and will next play Sunday at Frankfort at 4:00 and 6:00pm.