

Tualatin Junior Baseball Organization Midget Federal Team Takes #1 in State Tourney



1st Row: (L-R) Caden Robbins, Connor Zralka, Kyle Dervedde, Cameron Atkinson, Caden Dickson, Drake Harris, 2nd Row: (L-R) Kyle Kamp, Bryce Hulse, Jack Rose, Bridger Steppe, Travis Schiele, Gavin Moore, Back Row: (L-R) Head Coach Mark Dervedde, Assistant: Keith Zralka, Shane Harris and Tim Atkinson,

WRITTEN BY: MARY DERNEDDE

It was an exciting Tuesday, July 19th evening at Wilsonville's Memorial Park, Field #4. The Tualatin J.B.O. Midget (ages 9-10) Federal Team was battling against Lincoln for the championship. The result was an 8-5 victory!

The tournament started on Friday July 15th with Tualatin scoring wins over Canby and Clackamas; and Saturday, July 16th against Lincoln. With three straight wins Tualatin was heading to the championship game on Sunday! Due to rain during the day on Sunday the game was postponed until 8:30pm. Tualatin came out battling but lost against Lincoln (14-5), but it wasn't over. The tournament was double elimination; and we had another chance to capture the title. This happened Tuesday night. It was an amazing evening and we battled until the end! Lincoln scored the first two innings taking the lead (4-0), but Tualatin's bats started warming up and we took the lead with 5 runs in the third inning, taking the lead (5-4). Fourth inning started and we held Lincoln to only one run with our great pitching and defensive fielding. The game was tied going into the bottom of the fourth, and Tualatin rallied their bats and

scored another 3 runs, to re-gain the lead (8-5). We were nervous and excited about going into the top of the fifth inning. Tualatin Pitcher, Kyle Dervedde managed to strike out the first two batters, and with only one more out and we would win the game. The next Lincoln batter got a hold of the ball and hit a straight shot high in the air to center field... We were all holding our breath watching the centerfielder.... will he catch it? And the ball landed right in the middle of Caden Robbins glove! We WON the game!

Tualatin J.B.O. Baseball is all about Community! We had a large crowd

of family, friends and players from the other J.B.O teams there cheering us on to victory! Here is what Coach Mark Dervedde had to say to his players and parents: "Thank you again to all of you, for your support and the opportunity to coach your boys. It has truly been a great season with a magical storybook ending. I am very proud of all of our boys and their coming together as a team. They have truly built memories for a lifetime. We will have more opportunities in the future to watch and support all of these boys compete. I love our Tualatin family, and was absolutely humbled last night by the support of so many other families from Tualatin we all know. We are a community that values our youth and appreciates each other - it is a very special thing. My wish is that we all make a special effort support all of the players regardless of what teams they land on in the future, and nurture them into wonderful young men and continue to build our sense of community."

For more information, Contact: Mary or Mark Dervedde via e-mail at md7354@att.com Or for more information about J.B.O Baseball in Tualatin, www.juniorbaseballorg.com/championship_tourneys.html