

NZ White Sox on the Road...

22/08/14

The White Sox battled a hardened Puerto Rican side yesterday for a place in the top 8 section of the world championships. The result was a 3-1 win to the Sox but the win did not come easily. Puerto Rico had runners on base most innings and the Sox defence had to soak up the pressure put at them. Mikayla Werahiko scored the first run of the game after getting onto base on a walk, was sacrificed to 2nd base with a Danica Ferriso bunt and scored on a Stacey Webber drive to left field. Ellie Cooper also scored in the same innings when she gained first base from a Puerto Rican fielding error and was driven in by Lara Andrews.

Puerto Rico came back at the Sox in the top of the 5th innings with a flurry of hits to score their only run. Rookie pitcher Tyneesha Houkamau came onto the mound with runners on base to replace starting pitcher Megan Farrell. It was a pressure situation to come into but she was helped with a clutch play at the plate by Danica Ferriso and catcher Kyla Bromhead. Houkamau settled in to nail the rest of the Puerto Rican batters she faced.

Ellie Cooper scored a consolation run in the bottom of the 5th when she was hit in for the second time by captain Lara Andrews. The White Sox now finish in the top 8 courtesy of the least number of runs scored against them in a 3 way tie between themselves, Cuba and the Czech Republic. It is a well deserved and exciting finish following round robin play.

The White Sox now face Chinese Taipei in their first game of the top 8 section. Rain continues to fall in Haarlem, but the team are willing and ready to get out and play ball.

Regards

Naomi