



NJ Nationals Open Season with 2-1 Win over DiMaggio Bombers

EDISON, NJ- The Metropolitan Collegiate Baseball League opened its second season of play on Sunday with a 2-1 victory for the New Jersey Nationals (1-0) over the DiMaggio Bombers (0-1).

The Nationals offense scratched across runs in both the 7th and 8th innings to secure their first win of the season.

After struggling offensively, picking up just 2 hits through the first 6 frames, the Nationals ended their scoreless drought, sending 7 batters to the plate in the 7th, capitalizing on three free passes and two fielding errors by the Bombers.

Following a leadoff double by freshman right fielder [Tyler Sanfilippo](#) (Wayne, N.J./Morris County College) to start the home half of the 8th inning; advancing to third on a groundout, sophomore catcher, [Jeff Lombardi](#) (Kendall Park, N.J./William Paterson University) delivered the go-ahead RBI-single sending a ground ball through the left side of the drawn in infield.

On the mound, sophomore, [Tyler Zuppa](#) (Livingston, N.J./Morris County College) went 6 innings, surrendering one unearned run on three hits while striking out eleven. Senior, left hander [Charles Castellano](#) (Bayonne, N.J./Bloomfield College) picked up the win in relief throwing two scoreless innings with one strikeout. Senior, [Ellis Sanchez](#) (Kearny, N.J./Bloomfield College) notched his first save of the season pitching a scoreless 9th inning while striking out one.

Freshman third baseman [Joe Norton](#) (Cranford, N.J./Montclair State University), junior catcher [Jack](#)

[Paladino](#) (Bedminster, N.J./Fairleigh Dickinson University-Florham) and junior second baseman [Joseph Bonaccorso](#) (Scotch Plains, N.J./Fairleigh Dickinson University-Florham) accounted for the 3 hits for the Bombers.

The Nationals will take on the Pineland Starz Wednesday, May 24 at Wardlaw-Hartridge School at 5:30 p.m.

Jeff Lombardi