

## **2011 DIXIE MAJORS BASEBALL FUTURE STARS EVENT**

### **LAKE WALES, FLORIDA WIN TOURNAMENT TITLE**

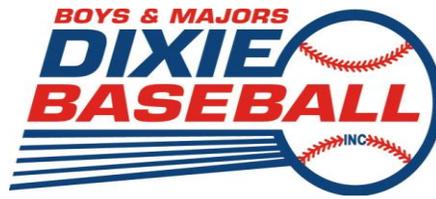
Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. conducted a wooden bat tournament the weekend of June 17-19, in North Charleston, SC. The inaugural event in the Dixie Majors division featured four teams. Competing teams in the event included: the *North Charleston* host team; a team from *Lakeland, Florida*; a team representing *South Carolina* and a squad from the eventual tournament champions: *Lake Wales, Florida*. Each team played three games in a round robin format with the two teams with the best records meeting for the tournament championship. A consolation game was also held on Sunday morning to determine the third place finisher. The championship team photo and the lines scores from the tournament appear in this article.

Players arrived Friday for check-in and begin preparations for the first set of games slated for Friday afternoon and Friday evening. Collins Park located in North Charleston served as an excellent venue for the event. The City of North Charleston has much experience in hosting quality events that included numerous Dixie Pre Majors and Dixie Majors World Series events. Old Hickory Bats provided the teams with wooden bats for the tournament. Visit the following website if interested in obtaining products: [www.oldsickorybaseball.com](http://www.oldsickorybaseball.com)



The opening game of the tournament on Friday pitted the Lakeland, Florida team against the Stars from South Carolina. Lakeland held the South Carolina team to only one hit en route to a 7-1 victory. The South Carolina team also committed five costly errors. In game #2 of Friday evening tournament play; the Lake Wales, Florida team edged the host team from North Charleston by an 8-5 score. Lake Wales, Florida rapped out ten hits while the host team gathered seven in the loss. Errors did play a part in the outcome of this game also.

Saturday play included four games to complete the round robin format and seed the teams for championship play. In Game #3 of the tournament, the Florida teams met with Lakeland, Florida squeezing out a 9-8 victory over the Lake Wales, Florida team. The hits and errors were about even as this game was the closest of all tournament contests. Game #4 of the tournament had the two teams from the State of Carolina battling. North Charleston easily defeated the South Carolina Stars in recording an 11-0 victory. North Charleston had nine hits to only the two collected by the SC Stars.



Saturday afternoon play from Game #5 was again a one sided game with the North Charleston host team winning the contest 13-3 over the Lakeland, Florida squad. Another good pitching performance by the host resulted in only two hits for the opponents while the host had eleven for their cause. Errors were even with one each for the teams. The final late afternoon game on Saturday resulted in the Lake Wales, Florida team taking a 16-4 victory over the South Carolina Stars. Lake Wales, Florida had twelve hits as compared to the three collected by the SC Stars team. With the completion of three games each in round robin play, the seeding for Sunday tournament play was set. Lakeland, Florida would play the South Carolina stars for third place while North Charleston (Host) would play the Lake Wales, Florida squad for the tournament championship.

On Sunday morning the third place game featured a rematch of an earlier game won by the Lakeland, Florida team. The South Carolina team turned the tables on the Lakeland, Florida team by defeating them by a score of 4-2. The victory by the South Carolina squad came at a good time as this was the first for them in tournament play, giving them a third place tournament finish. The championship game had the number one seed, the host from North Charleston facing off with the Lake Wales, Florida team. The team from Lake Wales, Florida already had an 8-5 victory over the host in opening round play and once again they defeated the host to capture the tournament championship. The final score was 9-5.

Ronnie Jackson, Deputy Commissioner for Dixie Majors Baseball from Avon Park, Florida served as the tournament director. Mr. Ronnie Jackson stated, "Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. is very appreciative to the City of North Charleston, SC for hosting our first Dixie Majors Future Stars Event. Collins Park is an excellent facility and Kenny Wilkinson was as usual very organized in conducting all aspects of the event on behalf of the host. Dixie Boys always enjoys visiting North Charleston and we are always treated with great hospitality by everyone associated with the North Charleston Recreation Department. The participants enjoyed the event and it is our hope that we can make the event even bigger and better next year."

Founded in Alexandria, Louisiana in 1957, Dixie Boys Baseball continues to provide opportunities to meet its mission of providing youth the chance to participate as part of a local program. The Dixie Majors division of Dixie Boys baseball is administered for the age group of 15-19. A Pre Majors division also exists for age 15-16. The 2011 Dixie Majors World Series will be held in Ozark, Alabama beginning July 30<sup>th</sup> while the Pre Majors division will be hosted by Independence, Louisiana during the same time period. In 2011, all age groups of Dixie Boys Baseball (age 13-19) were provided the opportunity to participate in a wood bat event as part of the Dixie Future Stars tournament trail. Overall 30,000 players participated in a Dixie Boys Baseball program in 2011. For more information visit the website at [www.dixie.org/boys](http://www.dixie.org/boys).

**DIXIE MAJORS FUTURE STARS EVENT**

**\*\*\* LAKE WALES, FLORIDA \*\*\***

**2011 TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS (3-1)**



**2011 DIXIE MAJORS FUTURE STARS EVENT**

**NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**JUNE 17-19, 2011**

**LINE SCORES**

<u>GAME # 1</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lakeland, Fla.	7	6	2
South Carolina	1	1	5

<u>GAME # 2</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lake Wales, Fla.	8	10	4
North Charleston	5	7	3

<u>GAME # 3</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lakeland, Fla.	9	10	4
Lake Wales, Fla.	8	9	4

<u>GAME # 4</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
North Charleston	11	9	0
South Carolina	0	2	1

<u>GAME # 5</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
North Charleston	13	11	1
Lakeland, Fla.	3	2	1

<u>GAME # 6</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lake Wales, Fla.	16	12	1
Lakeland, Fla.	4	3	1

<u>GAME # 7</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
South Carolina	4	9	3
Lakeland, Fla.	2	6	3

<u>GAME # 8</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
Lake Wales, Fla.	9	10	3
North Charleston	5	8	2