

Catino League Headlines – Week 3

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By Jim Avent

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALLY TOWNE

Monday, January 19

Morning Games – Quail Creek Country Club and Twist & Shout Diner

The morning games pitted Twist & Shout Diner against the Quail Creek Country Club. Both games were hard fought contests with the outcomes undecided until the final outs. Twist & Shout needed strong team hitting from six different players to edge Quail Creek 20-18 in the first game and then hang on to win the second game, another squeaker, by a score of 14-12.

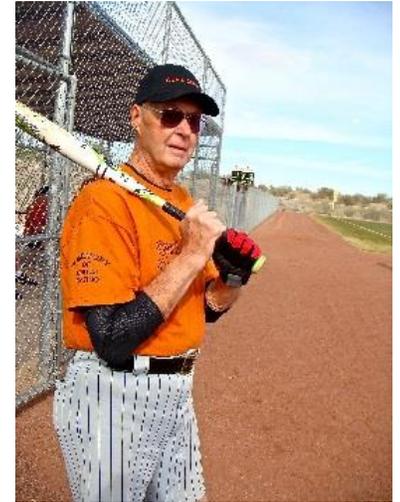
For the victorious Diners, Doug Arenson banged out 7 hits, 3 of which were triples. Bob Barry and Mark Haskoe contributed 6 hits apiece while Mike College and Chas Palacios each added 5. Bobby Epstein had 5 hits including 2 doubles and a triple.



Doug Arenson has 3 triples for the Diner's

Quail Creek was led by 6 hits including a home run from Gary Mannesto despite his torn rotator cuff. Dennis Grimm chipped in his own 6 hits and home run to go with 5 hits from Bob Udell and Bob Thorne. Greg Hansen slammed a homer for Quail creek, as well. Several strong defensive plays by the Twisting Mark Haskoe helped preserve the narrow victories for the Diners.

After the game, Twist & Shout Diner's manager Bobby Epstein waxed poetically, "Triples and doubles will give them all troubles."



Quail Creek's Bob Royes sizes up the competition.

Afternoon Games – Animal Care Center of Green Valley & Insurance Center of Green Valley

The afternoon games featured the undefeated Insurance Center of Green Valley against the Animal Care Center, still looking for their first win on the young season. True to form, the Agents stormed out to a quick 9-2 lead using solid hitting against somewhat porous defense. Doing their best Packers impression, they settled in for a leisurely afternoon.



Ron Severson singles as Manager Dick Purdy surveys the battlefield.

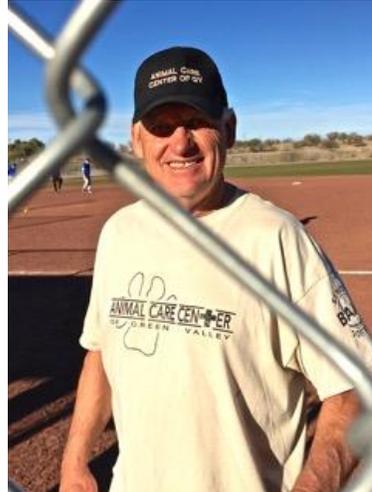
Refusing to give up, the Animal defense gelled and pitcher Bruce Peters got serious. The Animal Care

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Center clawed back to tie the game in the bottom of the 7th at 11. In the top of the extra inning the Insurance Center of Green Valley woke up and pounded out 7 more runs.

Refusing to roll over and play dead the Animal Care Center came roaring back in their half of the inning. Just as the Animals appeared to be on the verge of their first victory the Agents found some fine print in one of their policies which handed them the victory 18-16 on the technicality.

In the second game it was all about the Animal Care Center. Bruce Peters continued his mastery on the mound for the Animals. He had the free-swinging Agents chasing their tails all afternoon. The solid Animal defense led by John Brassell at shortstop chewed up the resultant ground balls. The Animal Care Center easily neutered the Insurance Center of Green Valley in the second game 22-9.



Bill Kuhn goes 6 for 8, including a home run, for the Animal Care Center's first win.

Wednesday, January 21

Morning Games – Animal Care Center of Green Valley & Jeff LeFave Investments

Wednesday morning was beautiful as the Jeff LeFave Edward Jones Investment team faced off against the Animal Care Center. In the first game the Investors started off slowly but got it in gear by the third inning. Perfect hitting by Bob Kirchberger and Jack Naughton included home runs. Dave Erickson, Al Mitro, and Fred Moultrie were also perfect at the plate with each player smacking a triple. The result was a 16-6 win for Jeff LeFave.



"We win!" exclaims Dorie Carrol and Paul Vitale as Manager John Brassell struts behind.

On the afternoon the Animals rode the bats of Walter Schultz who went 5 for 6 and Bill Kuhn who went 6 for 8 including a big home run in game 2. Al Clayton and Bruce Peters were both 5 for 7 while Husten Pettet and Paul Vitale were also 4 for 6 for the Animal Care Center.

Forced to wear the collar of shame, the Agents went home to lick their wounds while the Animal Care Center celebrated their first victory with undoubtedly many more to follow.



Solid team effort by Jeff LeFave's Investors

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In the second game the Jeff LeFave Edward Jones Investment bats remained hot but in the hands of different players. John Houghton, Jerry Miller, Vic Albertini, and Robert Ruble did the damage with homers by Albertini and Ruble being the big blows. The solid team effort gave the Investors the 27-11 victory over the Animal Care Center.

Afternoon Games – Insurance Center of Green Valley & Quail Creek Country Club

The afternoon was a rematch between Quail Creek Country Club, the Insurance Center of Green Valley, the sun and the wind. The wind ruled the first game playing havoc on both teams causing an unusually high number of walks, whiffs, and fielding miscues. With the most grit in their teeth, Quail Creek took the first game 20-18.



Greg Hansen, Quail Creek Country Club

The night cap was a game for the ages, literally, as it lasted that long to complete. Several players celebrated birthdays and/or anniversaries during the contest. Once again the elements had their way with both teams but the sun now the major culprit. This allowed both teams to score at will. The 5 run rule kept the score low and tied at 22 after 6 innings.

Batting first, in the open 7th, the Insurance Center went down without a run by hitting into a double play. In their half of the 7th Quail Creek's Dennis Grimm led off with a booming triple. Facing the next batter the infield was forced in and managed to throw out the pinch runner at the plate. Two outs later it was still tied at 22.

In the extra inning the sun was now horizontal making even ground balls almost impossible to field. The Insurance Center took advantage their good fortune and opened up the offensive floodgates. Jeannie McEldowney's homer into right field corner was the dagger.



Jeannie McEldowney crushes one for the Insurance Center

Eyeing their turn at the plate, Quail Creek saw that the setting sun was now no longer blinding the Insurance Center defenders. Acknowledging the safety concerns brought on by the increasing cold and advancing darkness, Quail Creek graciously conceded.

League Standings

Chuck Catino League							
Team	W	L	RF	RA	PCT	GB	
Insurance Center of GV	8	2	204	161	.800	-	
Twist & Shout diner	4	2	116	92	.667	2	
LeFave Edward Jones	5	3	126	90	.625	2	
Quail Creek Country Club	2	6	122	163	.250	5	
Animal Care Center of GV	1	7	94	156	.125	6	

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