

Junior Legion Still Winless

Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga Junior American Legion team is still winless after four outings this season. The Junior Legion team played to a scoreless six-inning tie against Maiden in game one of a double header Saturday before dropping a 2-1 decision in game two. Watauga (0-3-1) only made two hits in the opener---singles by Colby Illich and Clay Mizner. Matt Lambert got the

starting nod, but left the game after the first inning because of a sore arm. Andy Gilliam came on in relief and turned in a solid effort; he went five innings and gave up two hits with five strikeouts.

"Andy did a great job for us," said Watauga coach Bradley Rudisill. "But we just aren't hitting right now. We're playing a lot better, especially on defense. We're not making dumb mistakes, but we just aren't hitting."

The American Legion rule concerning the scoreless tie in game one, "A game is called after six innings, if the teams are scheduled to play a double header," Rudisill said. "Those are the rules, and we have to abide by them."

Watauga lost the second game, thanks to a bloop two-run single in the bottom of the fourth inning. Losing pitcher Hunter Isaacs had a strong outing in the loss. He went four innings and gave up two earned runs on four hits. Offensively, the Junior Legion team only made five hits. Tyler Sturgill drove in Watauga's only run with an RBI single in the first inning. Watauga had a second run nullified when the Carson Isaacs was called out at third on an appeal play by Maiden.

"It was a tough call," Rudisill said. "I didn't agree with it, but the umpire who made the call didn't see it my way."

Sturgill, Steadman Sauls, Tyler Nigro and Dylan Lawrence had the Watauga hits. Watauga will play its home opener Monday night against McDowell at Pioneer Field at 6 p.m.