Traverse City Softball Spectacular

**2017 Results**

Third Time's A Charm For Thunder 10U!!!  Expos Edge Thunder 12U!!!  Wildcards and Diamond Jaxx Stage A 14U Classic!!!  Michigan Rage Edges Shock Elite For 16U Title!!!

This is what summer softball is supposed to be like!  Close games, great plays, families having fun on a sunny summer Cherry Festival weekend in Traverse City...

...but the games!  Wow!  Three of the four titles were decided by one run in the twelfth installment of the Softball Spectacular, where a great defensive play here or a runner moving up an extra base there meant the difference between two quality teams.

Take for instance the 14U finale between two teams from the Detroit area, the South Farmington Wildcards and the Detroit Diamond Jaxx.  The top two seeds went into the clash with perfect 4-and-0 records, and it was evident from the start that the title game would be an epic battle.  The Cards scored an early run, but the Diamond Jaxx answered the next inning with a run of their own.  From there, the game was a clinic in fantastic pitching and top flight defense, as both teams struggled to get a baserunner on.  Then, in the sixth inning, the Cards leadoff batter walked, stole second, moved to third on a ground out, and scored on a ball that slid by the catcher and rolled to the backstop to give the South Farmington team a 2-1 victory.  As mentioned, the game was a classic, and was extremely well-played by both teams.  Congratulations to both teams!

In the 10U division, the Michigan Expos and TC Thunder met for a THIRD time in a championship game this summer.  The Expos won the previous two contests, but this time the Thunder bats were booming, and the Traverse City-based team came out on top, 11-6.  Way to go, ladies!  
  
In the 12U division, it was ANOTHER Expos-Thunder battle, with the Expos coming out on top of Jason Roelof's 12U Thunder team, 4-3.  Both teams played very well-good job!  
  
In the 16U group, two teams from the Detroit area again faced off, and it was the downriver Detroit squad Michigan Rage-Orange getting by Shelby Township's Shock Elite team, 4-3, in the championship final.  Both teams put together an impressive Sunday run to make it to the championship of a loaded 16U group, with the game ending just as the skies opened up for the traditional Sunday monsoon that Mother Nature has in store for our Traverse City tournaments, it seems.  
  
The consolation finals winners included the Warriors in 12U, Franklin Revolution in 14U, and the Traverse City Thunder 15U team in the 16U division.  
  
It was GREAT to see many familiar faces from our northern Michigan teams and meet a lot of new people whose teams traveled from a distance to play in Traverse City.  Thank you to all who attended--we hope you enjoyed your weekend in Traverse City!