KIRKTON-WOODHAM OPTIMIST BALL TOURNAMENT 2022

It was great to see our Kirkton park come to life again this summer. There are not many ball parks that have mature trees, a swimming pool and a playground smack dab in the middle and are safely away from the road. A comment from one dad was that his kids wouldn't let him leave the playground. Kirkton is a real gem. The pool was busy as there were 56 swimmers from the ball tournament added.

The tournament featured 12 mixed teams and seems to be very popular as it is competitive yet friendly. Most teams have entered for many years and some now have 3rd generation players.

The pool committee did a really good job of organizing and running the food booth. It went very well and they can use the profits for their own special pool needs and causes. Did you notice all the young ones who helped out? The food booth had lots of young energetic helpers and we also had a young first time umpire. Their experiences and memories gained are hard to measure.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers who gave their time umpiring, bartending and fencing. I have to also thank the "Terrible T's" (Thomsons) ball team for all their work finding teams, scheduling, grass cutting, fencing, diamond prep and dismantle, scoring and clean-up. I couldn't do it without them.

Even though it is a lot of work, I get a lot of pleasure watching it all unfold over the two days and I hope everyone else does too. It is more than just a ball tournament and the money raised. I'm having trouble trying to find a word that describes it.

> Thanks again, sincerely, Cliff