

Crystal Lake Babe Ruth took first place in the 16U division of Disney's New Years Classic. This annual tournament brings together cold weather northern teams together with year round southern teams between the holidays.

Game 1 of pool play was won 13-5 over the CR Future Stars of Florida. Chris Waylock hit a HR and was 4-5, Lou Bagdonas was 3-3, and Colin Hansen struck out 10 in 6 innings pitched.

Game 2 was played in Champions Stadium and won 19-1 over a team from Pennsylvania. Matt Ruiz threw a complete game 1 hitter as Lou Bagdonas added 3 more hits and AJ Juliano drove in 3. Every player on the team either scored or drove in a run in the complete team effort.

The third and final game of pool play was won 11-5 over Team Dynasty of Florida. Joe Wolfe had a complete game with 8 strikeouts and the go ahead hit. Chris Waylock and Colin Hansen also added 3 hits a piece to secure the overall #1 seed.

In the semifinal game, Pat Lawson and Nick Glaviano combined to allow only 2 hits over the New South Wales Thundercats in a 17-2 win. Adam Vance had 3 hits and 3RBI and Idris Hanidu added 2 hits.

The final game on New Years Day was a rematch with the Future Stars won dramatically 6-5 in 8 innings. Chris Waylock had the game winning hit. Joe Wolfe was 3 for 4. Pat Lawson threw a perfect 8th inning for the win.

Overall, CLBR outscored its opponents 66-18, batted .392 for the tournament with a team ERA of 2.94.

The tournament was held at Walt Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Florida. The fields are the spring training home of the Atlanta Braves and has also hosted regular season and World Baseball Classic games in the last 2 years. The games were played from December 28 to January 1.

Team members were Lou Bagdonas, Brandon Dybdal, Nick Glaviano, Idris Hanidu, Colin Hansen, AJ Juliano, Pat Lawson, Matt Ruiz, JR Schultz, Jake Staab, Zach Staab, Adam Vance, Chris Waylock, and Joe Wolfe.

The 1st place in the 2007 tournament followed up a 2nd place finish in 2006 and 3rd place in 2005.