

The Korean national baseball team, led by head coach Ryu Joong-il, won 3-2 in the first round of the APBC 2023 qualifying round against Australia at Tokyo Dome in Japan. South Korea, which won its first game despite a rough process, has increased its chances of advancing to the finals for two consecutive tournaments. Players ahead of the match against Japan on the 17th and Taiwan on the 18th will also feel less burdened.

Even though starting pitcher Moon Dong-joo pitched well with five hits (one home run) and four outs, five strikeouts and two runs in five $\frac{2}{3}$ innings, the game did not go as planned as the batters were tied to two points. The only points the national team picked during the regular inning were Kim Hyung-joon's timely RBI in the bottom of the second inning and Kim Joo-won's timely RBI in the bottom of the eighth inning.

In the end, closer Jung Hae-young was called in the top of the ninth inning with two outs and runners on first and second bases at 2-2. It was a pitcher change considering that Hall hit a home run against Moon Dong-ju in the top of the sixth inning. Jung Hae-young showed off his powerful pitching and met the bench's expectations by striking out Alex Hall.

Jung Hae-young also showed a scoreless pitch in the top of the 10th inning when the game was played. After inducing Clayton Campbell to strike out at first and second bases with no outs, Kim Do-young, who failed to catch the ball at once during Christopher's Burke's hard hit, took third base and threw the ball to second base, catching two people.

The national team, which ended the top of the 10th inning without losing a point, ended the game with Roh Si-hwan's walk-off hit in the bottom of the 10th inning. Coach Ryu Joong-il said, "After Choi Ji-min in the top of the seventh inning, Choi Seung-yong defended well in the top of the eighth and the top of the ninth innings." Closing pitcher Jung Hae-young also did well. He also praised the bullpen's good pitching, saying, "I think Kim Do-young was able to win by defending well in the top of the 10th inning."

After the game, Jung Hae-young, who met reporters in the mixed zone (joint coverage area), said, "I practiced a match-winning game when I was training in Daegu, and I think throwing the ball at that time helped," adding, "I think it was a good result that catcher (Kim) Hyung-joon threw the ball low because he told me to look at the course low when playing a match-winning game."

Jung Hae-young said, "Before the extension, the coach and Hyeong-jun told me to be careful of the first pitch because the opponent may not bunt, but the opponent seemed to be more focused without bunt on the first pitch. "I thought if I blocked two more batters, I would be able to finish the inning without losing a point," he said.

How did he feel when the strikeout was directed toward third base with one out and runners on first and second bases. Jung Hae-young said, "I saw it right away (as soon as the ball flew away), and I don't know if it's a relief, but I missed the ball once and two outcounts were filled." (Kim)I thanked DOYOUNG," he said with a smile.

Currently, there is only one professional finisher for the national team. The rest of the bullpen generally experienced long relief. As such, Jung Hae-young will have a large proportion of the national team for the rest of the year.

Jung Hae-young said, "I'm not thinking about it separately or the coach or the coach ordered anything. "No matter when I take the mound, I try to perform my given duties hard," he said. "Even if I don't go out, all of our pitchers are good." "Even if I take the mound, I'm just trying to prevent it as much as possible, and I was able to win because we all played well today," he said.

In the remaining games, Jung Hae-young plans to devote all of her energy. His story is that he can take the mound against Japan, which will be held on the 17th. Jung Hae-young said, "I'm in good shape right now, so if I get to take the mound again, I want to throw hard," and added, "I'll smile at the end so I can go back to Korea."

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