



## Williamstown Baseball Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

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# COMMITTEE & OFFICE BEARERS

President
Chris Jackson

Vice President
(Non Voting)

Daniel Chircop & Ray Baker

**Secretary**Stewart Cassell

**Treasurer**Jason McDonald

Club Coach
Agron Green

Uniform & Merchandise (Grounds Manager) Mitch Clement Events Co-Ordinator
Nick Gray

Junior Co-Ordinator
Michelle Coote

**Dunior Coach**Craig Evans



## LIFE MEMBERS

1946 1946 1948 1951 1953	William (Bill) Gravell Albert (Bert) Colvin Samuel Martin (Marty) Bowyer Colin Milne James (Sam) Thompson
1954	Keith (Tiger) Eddy
1956	Alan Woods
1957	
1960	Robert (Pinto) Wilson
1963	Ken Addison
1963	Ken Gunn
1963	George Halley
1963	Norman (Nozza) Thomson
1970	Max Wainshtein
1974	Paul Collins
1978	Les Flower
1979	Ray Baker
1979	Rhona Pedretti
1980	John Humphries
1987	Norma Kinnaird
1987	Neil Pedretti
1989	Laurie Treadwell
1994	Ernie Poole
2000	Alan Moloney
2003	Jennie Moloney
2003	William (Bill) Hardy
2008	Alan Kinnaird
2013	Stewart Cassell
2013	Glen Hardy
2019	Moira Hardy
2019	Murray Hardy
2020	Roger Twist
2021	Mark Chircop
2023	Aaron Green



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 2022/2023 Summer Season was eventful to say the least. Unfortunately After 3 1/2 years at the helm President Michelle Sadler tendered her resignation. I took over as President from the Senior Vice Presidents role for the remainder of the season. I would again like to thank Michelle for her amazing service to the club as President. Michelle has a long list of achievements during her tenor including; assisting with the hitting tunnel project, including fund sourcing. Launching the new website. Multiple successful grant applications and greatly assisting in getting a Women's team off the ground for the first time in many years.

As I mentioned we successfully fielded a Women's team this season for the first time in a very long time. I have already thanked Michelle but I would also like to thank Daniel Chircop who was also instrumental in the recruitment as well as putting his hand up to Coach the team for the year. I would also like to thanks Jen Moloney who volunteered to score, Stewart Cassell who assisted scoring when Jen was unavailable and Ray Baker who was number one supporter and Chief Score Board Operator. It was great to see the girls around the club, joining in senior trainings and also playing in the various senior teams on the Sunday as well. It was evident at presentation night the team loved having Daniel as their coach for the year and while a lot of members where completely new to the game some amazing development was seen over the course of the season.

Regretfully Michelle Coote after seasons end tendered her resignation from the position of Junior Co-Ordinator. Myself and the committee would like to thank Michelle for all her amazing work running the junior program with the assistance of Jo Tyers and the junior subcommittee. Michelle resigned due to a conflict of interest after taking up a full-time position at BV. I would like to wish Michelle every success in her new role. Michelle and her family will still be around the club, and I know Michelle will always be willing to help out when she can moving forward.

The committee in the off season has made a significant investment in additional training aids for the upcoming season. The training equipment was researched and requested by Daniel Chircop and the committee quickly approved the request to help develop and support both the junior and senior playing groups development.

Sponsorship was down this year, however I would like to thank our sponsors, Epic Arena, 2nd Avenue Grocers and D'Asporto Pizza for their continued support. We had some successful fundraising initiatives across the season including, Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser, Social nights and Training BBQ's run by Stewart Cassell. I will take this opportunity to invite any of our members who might be able to assist in sponsorship or has any ideas on potential sponsors for the upcoming season to please reach out to me directly.

This year I was extremely privileged to be able to announce Aaron Green as the latest addition to the prestigious life membership club.

Each year we also award a best Clubman, while the award title is very much outdated and should be best Club Person (its on the list to update!) it was two hard to single out one person this year. It was jointly awarded to Jo Tyers, Di Diblasi and Daniel Chircop.

Lastly I would like to thank the committee, volunteers, coaches, players, supporters, the "Old Farts Committee and families for there continued support of the Williamstown Baseball Club. I am extremely proud of the culture we have out our club and I look forward to a successful season ahead both on and off the field.





## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

In October 2022 President Michelle Sadler tendered her resignation from the club citing medical reasons. Senior Vice President Chris Jackson took over the president's duties.

The club had a good year on the field with the 1sts making it to the grand final but unfortunately we went down in the 3rd game to our cross town rivals Newport.

For the first time in about 6 years the 4ths failed to make the finals.

While our Monday warriors the Masters made the finals again.

This season saw the re-introduction of a women's team. While most of the women had never played baseball they soon got the hang of how to play with some excellent coaching from Daniel Chircop. Each week they improved and were enjoying themselves.

Next season could be entirely different because Baseball Victoria are looking at changing the divisions and bringing in a 16 team Premier League and also changing playing days.

I would like to congratulate all the trophy winners in both junior and senior teams. This year we were fortunate to land 2 Bunnings BBQ's which brought in just over \$3000. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help out on both days.

I would like to thank everyone who supports the training night BBQ's.

All profits go back into the club.

Next season I would like all players honour their shifts as either junior/women umpiring or in the canteen.





## TREASURER'S REPORT

This is my first year taking back over as Treasurer again.

Thanks to Mark Chircop for setting up many great functions and processes that assist in managing the money for Williamstown Baseball Club.

The first decision for the year was to remove the ANZ accounts that have remained open but unused. This simplified the banking only leaving the two Bendigo accounts.

Looking at the results now the profit of \$16,000 odd is a good result.

The club benefited from investment in training materials with a long run into finals.

The longer run meant greater canteen sales with the \$20,000 odd a major contributor to the profit. Combined with some great fundraising through the Bunnings BBQs and Willy Cup.

Given the recent talk of changing the day of play. If we had to share this income or have it impacted in any way due to sharing with the cricket club WBC would be severely impacted.

Having Winter and Womens teams has rounded the club into a much more sustainable model. Further investment is needed in these areas along with our junior program to bolster the future of the club and allow it to fit the model BV seems to be proposing as they try to take baseball into the future.





## **CLUB COACH**

Firstly I would like that thank the players for their effort, input and commitment throughout the last season.

Numbers at training were fantastic and the best we have seen in a few years. The willingness to learn and take on feedback was excellent and the future of the club is in a good place.

Non of this would be possible without a great support network of coaches.

Having Daniel step up and take on training session plans each session was a huge success and a great asset to the club and all involved this season.

Having a non playing assistant coach in Justin Charles was not only beneficial for the players but also myself in allowing me to get my own work in. J.C's input and knowledge at training and with team selection was a huge benefit and help to all coaches and players.

To all the other senior I want to thank you all for you efforts with trainings and team selections. Smacky and the seconds I want to thank you all for efforts on the field and support all season of the firsts.

Snorks and thirds this season would be one of the youngest senior teams we have ever fielded. The feedback each week from Snorks to the other coaches was always positive and a credit to the young players coming through. I'm excited to see these guys pushing their way in the seconds and firsts in the years to come.

A big thanks to Caine Bergin and Chef for their help at trainings and doing whatever was asked of them, from hitting ground balls to throwing BP for the players. Your input was another reason why trainings ran

I would like to extend my gratitude to the committee for once again trusting in me to be the club coach. To the committee I want to thank you all for you time and efforts around the club in what was I feel another great year to be apart of.

I think I speak for everyone in thanking Disco for his work and dedication to the club again. Not only does he do everything from the BBQ to scoring but this season going above and beyond in giving the firsts and seconds live stats after every game.

I can't thank all these people without mentioning the OFC, year in year out they do everything they can to ensure we have the best ground and facilities to play on and are always looking for ways to improve our facilities.

Lastly I want to thank everyone that has supported me as a coach over the past few years. From the committee, other coaches but most of all the players. Thank you for showing up each week and giving the club and myself 100%.

When I accepted the coaching position years ago, I was hoping that when I finished up as the club coach that the club would be in a strong position and have a mix of younger and experienced players throughout all teams. I feel as a club we have achieved this and I think it is the right time for me to step aside and have a fresh voice to take over the role and take the club to Division 1.

I hope the committee and players give the same level of respect and trust that you have shown me over the years as the club coach. I know we are in good hands.





## **LIFE MEMBER**

This year I was extremely privileged to be able to announce Aaron Green as the latest addition to the prestigious life membership club.

Greeny has played over 400 games for the Club, has won 5 Senior batting awards in the 1st's, as well as 7 1st"s MVP's.

He has also been a significant contributor off the field over his many years at the club. He is always the first to put his hand up when help is required.

Congratulations again Aaron!





# Dunior Snapshots



















## **JUNIORS REPORT**

Williamstown fielded three junior teams in the Summer 2022/2023 season U16 State, U16 Metro & U12 State West B plus our TBallers who trained every week.

There were around 35 kids playing baseball this Summer across 3 teams with around 8 players joining Murray for TBall each week. The Wolves were again competitive, supported by rigorous training sessions jointly run by all the coaches.

We were fortunate to have Seniors step forward to coach junior teams; thank you to Hiroshi Narasaki, Caine & Jacob Bergin for coaching U16 State, Ian Jamieson & Yo Takehara who coached the U16 Metro and we had Andrew Fisher step forward for a coach the U12 State with the help of Liam Simpson & Chris Jackson. We thank for your time and effort in helping out our players, and to all the seniors that give encouragment to our junior players

Thank you to our Team Managers and Scorers!! Having a Team Manager for each team who was able to coordinate things directly with their respective parent groups was fantastic. Being a Team Manager or Scorer for a junior team is not too difficult but does contribute significantly to the smooth running of the teams and club.

Congratulations to Spencer Tyers, recipient of the Ned Baker Junior Clubperson Award. Also congratulations to all the players who were awarded MVP and Coaches Awards. We had an amazing amount of players take part in representative baseball club - it was so great to see so many Willy players in these teams.

Around 12 of our junior players also took part in our Senior teams each week, with Roman Coote selected for the 2s team, Sadie Derrig & Athena Koulis playing in the Women's team, Jai DiBlasi joining his dad, uncle & cousin in the 4s team, and other joining the 3s team affectionately known as the Kindergarten - Thanks for Craig Evans for all his help with this.

With many of our junior players playing seniors they were also required to umpire senior matches, many of the players hadn't umpired before so we contacted Stewart Howe to come along and give them some pointers. We had about 15 players & parents take part. Stewart gave lots of great advice and encouragement as well as leaving us with some green 'learner' vests to show opposition teams we are still learning about umpiring.

The Winter season also saw us fielding one U15 team with 14 kids in total with Michelle Coote coaching the team. Highly competitive team who came away from the season with a premiership! Great effort to get up on those cold mornings in Winter!

Thanks to Hobsons' Bay City Council 'Make it Happen' Grant we were able to run a school holiday Baseball Clinic with around 25 kids attending - Thanks Izzy, Jacob & Ashton for helping out with the planning and coaching of this.

On the last training session before Christmas we held a Xmas party & Ho Ho Home Derby, this was well attended and great fun night!

Michelle Coote
JUNIOR CO-ORDINATOR



# JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

We congratulate the following junior Wolves players who made representative teams

Twins Little League Development – Oliver Chrimes

Twins Junior League Team – Chris Woodney, Roman Coote & Oliver Bergin

Twins Senior League Team – Jai DiBlasi, Rivi Zdraveski, Monty Pithouse & Walter Le Fevre

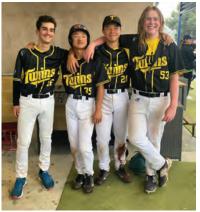
**U16 Victorian State Team** - Roman Coote

Victorian Youth Women's State Team - Athena Koulis

Victorian 18 & Under School Boys Team - Jacob Bergin

CityWest U14 Team (Winter) - Chris Woodney & Onni Zdraveski
CityWest U16 Team (Winter) - Monty Pithouse, Walter LeFevre, Jai DiBlasi & Spencer Tyers
City West U18 Team (Winter) - Rivi Zdraveski



















#### **T-BALLERS**

So, I took on the seemingly daunting task of coaching the Tballers this season.

We had around 15 kids come through with a regular group of 6-8 each week.

The growth shown by the kids from the start to the finish was really pleasing.

Varying the with different drills to suit the variety of skill levels was rewarding when you see the growth in the kid's performance.

Thanks to Jo & Michelle for their hard work & helping out at the start of each session with setting things up.

To the parents that helped out in sessions I really appreciated it.

Disco thanks for cooking the BBQ a little bit early.

Lastly to some of the senior players that were doing extra work before senior training but offered / happily left the hitting cage for the Tball kids to use when the weather wasn't cooperating. It this attitude that makes this club so great

Regards,

Coach Muz

Murray Hardy





#### **U12s STATE WEST B**

After a couple of years interrupted by Covid it was great to get a full season of 16 rounds plus finals this year. The team stepped up from the Little League Minors held on a Friday night to the U12 State competition which dealt with the dew on Sunday mornings, and it was fair to say that the start of the season was a challenge. However, with Liam (Simpson) running training and Chris (Jackson) and Liam guiding the team on game day the team quickly developed and by Christmas was playing as a team worthy of challenging for finals. Indeed, the team finished the regular season in #3 spot and earned their place in the finals. After a really tough game we lost the first final 12-11, but every single player contributed, played really well and should be very proud of themselves.

The under 12's are the future of our club, and it was really great to see the development of the entire team during the year. At this age it is not usually the effort that needs focus but technique and skills; and you could see the development leaps every time one of the seniors gave up their time to come down to training and help. So, a big thanks to the seniors (and especially Daniel Chircop for his guidance to the team and the coaches with training regimes) who invested their time in developing the future of the club and also to those that got out of bed early on Sunday mornings to umpire our games. Really appreciated.

Finally, a big thanks to all the parents that chipped in and helped, supported and did whatever needed to be done during the year – don't underestimate how important a role you play both in supporting, role modeling and encouraging your kids, but also helping the coaches be able to focus on coaching. And a big thank you to Justin Chrimes for stepping in to the team manager role during the season, Jo Tyers who managed everything in the background with the club and Baseball Vic and to Liam Simpson who doesn't yet realise just how much the kids look up to and model their baseball on him.

And to the team – the coaches (and parents) are all really proud of you and we know you were gutted going down 12-11 in the final; but hold your heads high, you are all much better ball players than you were at the start of the season; lets build on this and make next year even better than this year.

Andrew Fisher



ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

#### **U16s METRO**

Reflecting on the past season, the outcome may not have met our initial expectations; however, it is crucial for us to acknowledge the unwavering commitment and relentless effort exhibited by each player.

As coaches Yo and I understand the challenges of maintaining motivation when the scoreboard does not reflect our desired results. Nonetheless, our players never faltered. They consistently attended practices, honed their skills, and approached every game with passion and determination. We encountered formidable baseball teams throughout the season, none more so than the eventual league winner in the last round. Despite the challenges, we emerged victorious in four games and grew as individuals and as a team.

I would like to acknowledge the parents of our players, who tirelessly transported them to various locations in Melbourne on early Sunday mornings and ensured their participation in training sessions. I would also like to express my gratitude to our dedicated scorer, Micky, for his exceptional work and to Jo for her invaluable assistance and unwavering dedication in organizing various events throughout the year. Special recognition goes to Hiroshi, Yo, Caine, and Jacob for their support during training sessions, and a special mention to Yo for his continuous assistance on game days throughout the season.

Finally, I'd would like to congratulate the team's award winners, Spencer and George, for their outstanding performances with both the bat and ball throughout the season.

Their contributions have been truly remarkable.

In conclusion, despite the challenges faced, the 2022-23 season has been a valuable learning experience for all. Let's carry forward the lessons learned and strive for even greater success in the seasons to come. Thank you all for your support and dedication.

Jan Damieson



## **U16s STATE TEAM**

The U16 State squad was made up of all but one player playing in their first year at the U16 level, playing on a full-sized diamond. Coming up against some very talented and more experienced squads, we lost our first few games by quite a few runs and gave us a lot to work on. We indeed worked hard at practice and very quickly made some drastic improvements as the season progressed, resulting in victories against some very strong sides, including a win in the last game of the regular season against eventual league champions Sandringham, who beat us by 20+ runs in the first game of the season. As per usual this squad played their high energy, team style baseball where anyone in our starting 9 could step up and contribute on any given day and could rely on a handful of pitchers to get the job done on the mound. Although we did not make the playoffs this season, most players will be returning to this age group with a years' worth of experience and look to go much further this upcoming season.

## Hiroshi Narasaki



## **U15s CITYWEST - WINTER**

What a great group of kids!

It was an absolute pleasure to coach these extraordinary young players.

Keeping them happy and motivated to play every week was easy, as they all had an internal drive to play at their best each weekend.

The team lost one game all season, and went on to win the competition.

Michelle Coote



## **HOLIDAY BASEBALL CLINICS**

During September 2022 school holidays we were able to host a school holiday clinic that spanned two full days with the support of Hobsons Bay City Council's 'Make it Happen Grant.'

With twenty-eight bookings, attendance was strong and from all accounts a super fun couple of days.

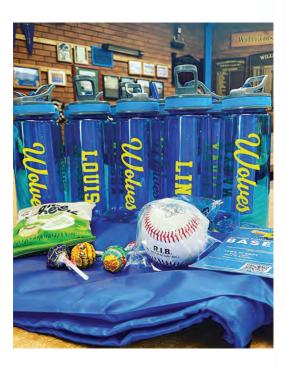
Isaiah Finn headed up the coaching along with Ashton Coote and Jacob Bergin, with planning support from Daniel Chircop. The event was organised by Junior Coordinator Michelle Coote and Junior Sub Committee member Jo Tyers.

The event is a great pre-cursor to preseason training for summer, and a feeder to recruitment efforts, one that we hope to repeat each year. The clinic was a chance to introduce baseball and our club and our facilities to new kids and their families and a chance for our current juniors to work on their baseball skills and have fun with their friends.









Hobsons' Bay City Council "Make It Happen" Grant



## **JUNIOR CLUBMAN**

Congratulations to Spencer Tyers recipient of the Ned Baker Junior Clubman Award.

Spencer was a popular choice for Junior Clubman, he's willingness to help out anywhere needed & his enthusiasm for baseball shone through this season especially.

While playing in both U16 Metro team & Thirds, and a couple of times filling in for the U16 State team, he also attended all of the Women's games either helping out with coaching or umpiring.

He also umpired a couple of 4s games & helped out in the canteen.

He helped with U12s & Tball training sessions when he could.

He's baseball crazy on & off the field and we appreciate and recognise his dedication to his sport.





# Yeah the Girls!

























## **WOMEN'S TEAM**

It's with much pride that I am able to write the first annual report for the Women's team for Williamstown Baseball Club in many years.

After 3 years of slow, yet steady advertisement and recruitment, we felt confident that with 8 keen players, we would submit a team and run a preseason.

A challenging pre-season had us lose a few early numbers, leaving us scrambling to make numbers by the start of the season. We commenced the season with 8 confirmed players, and 1 fill in, who swiftly jumped on the bandwagon after game one.

Leading into the last 3 games before the Christmas break, we hadn't won a game, but had shown signs of significant improvement week to week. In our last 3 games before the break, we had a draw, followed by back to back wins…amazing stuff!

We finished the season 2-12-1. Our bats were the shining success story, outsourcing the 2 teams above us on the ladder.

In the season, we had 12 different players participate, a coaching staff of 3 by the end of the season, a regular photographer, a world class scorer and a Victorian Representative player to boast.

I'm really excited and energised for the season ahead. The playing group is just as keen, showing enthusiasm to continue to recruit and build the program.

On a personal note, coaching this team has been some of the most fun I have had in my 25+ years on the baseball field. Working with the exceptional group of players has been extremely rewarding and I look forward to continuing to contribute to this program as much as possible.

## Daniel Chircop



## **2022/2023 MILESTONES**

**100 GAMES**Dennis Neal

**150 GAMES**Ed Popinski
Justin Gourlay

**200 GAMES**Mike Gwin

**250 GAMES**Gus Dobricic

**350 GAMES**Jason Lester

**550 GAMES** Murray Hardy



## **LEADER BOARD**

## Games Played

Laurie Treadwell - 850

Les Flower - 760

Glen Hardy - 599

Ernest Poole - 576

Murray Hardy - 572

Neil Pedretti - 557

Maxwell Wainstein - 500

Craig Evans - 488

Ray Baker - 483

Aaron Green - 481

Alan Moloney - 479

Ryan Camov - 469

John Humphries - 465

Daniel Chircop - 435

Michael Hurstfield - 400

Alan Kinnaird - 385

Scott Meager - 381

Peter Collins - 370



## **SENIOR CLUBMAN**

Each year we also award a best Clubman, while the award title is very much outdated and should be best Club Person (its on the list to update!) it was two hard to single out one person this year. It was jointly awarded to Jo Tyers, Di Diblasi and Daniel Chircop.

Jo did a mountain of work in particular supporting the junior program however Jo was always the first to put her hand up for anything else that needed doing.

Di did an amazing job managing the Canteen, she spent hours working in the canteen but even longer making sure it was always fully stocked, compliant to food handling rules and increased but the top line revenue and profitability.

Daniel was instrumental in getting the Womens team off the ground after a couple of false starts and put his hand up to coach the team also. Additionally he also spent many hours writing the senior and junior training programs, assisting Aaron Green in running trainings and also helped out with juniors throughout the season.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank the three award winners on all the work they did to assist the improvement and smooth running of the club throughout the season.



## **GROUNDS & FACILITIES REPORT**

The ground and facilities at Greenwich Reserve were utilized to accommodate more than 90 competition games for Juniors, Seniors, Women's, and Masters during the 2022/2023 season. Added to that training twice weekly and Charter try outs.

The field held up very well and remains one of the best surfaces in Baseball Victoria competition.

No major constructions were conducted this year, however, a great deal of maintenance was completed on the main field prior to the commencement of the season by the "Old Farts Group" Les Flower, John Humphries, Laurie Treadwell, Alan Moloney and Ray Baker and Roger Twist.

Attempts were made to obtain a permit to replace the back net on the Ray baker Junior diamond, however, the council would not agree to the proposed construction and only agreed to a plan that was quoted at more than \$ 18K. Totally over our budget and the little financial assistance that was going to be provided by Council was insufficient for us to continue.

The back net on the main field is beginning to show wear and tear and in the next few years will need to be replaced. A major financial exercise for the Club.

The batting tunnel has been utilized substantially again over the pre-season and during the competition year. There have been couple of hitches with the Hack Attack machine but this did not hinder the use of this fantastic building.

Les Flower







## **EVENTS & FUNDRAISING**

Last year we had a handful of events with an additional event that was a ball of fun and we have the hopes of bringing it back again this upcoming season.

The first event was Life Members Day. This day is always great to see all the Life Members come down as Williamstown plays in their old school jerseys. Had a good attendance as well as a BBQ put on by the club as well.

Next was Trivia Night. This was our additional event of the season which was a big hit. With a big thank you to Michelle Coote and Jo Tyers putting this event together and making it a very fun and wacky night that brought seniors and juniors together.

International Beer Day is done at the last home game of the season for the first and seconds before the Christmas Break. A simple and great way to end the season, with pizza being organised as well.

John Humphries Horse Racing Night was another electrifying night. With it getting competitive throughout the night and really getting the blood flowing.

This season included two Bunning Barbeques. These BBQs are always a great fundraiser, that gets heavily looked after by Stewart Cassell, so a big thank you to him and the many volunteers that helped on the day.

Mick Gray





## **UNIFORM & MERCHANDISE**

This season I concentrated my efforts in 2 areas, finding a new supplier and selling Viva Stock. The club sales through the website have been strong, we have managed to sell most of the remaining Viva stock. Left with mostly odd sizes remaining in a few items and baseball pants. Now with the club's outlay recovered we can move forward with new items and designs.

I searched for a new supplier for our uniforms, choosing to source goods locally rather than importing from overseas. Deciding on Starsubs Apparel, for new warms up tops and baseball jerseys. The yarn is knitted in Spotswood, fabric dyed in Sunshine, before being cut, sewn and printed in Hoppers Crossing.

These locally made garments are good value for the quality while supporting Australian business. Dealing directly with the manufacturer, having no minimum order requirements has allowed the club to be flexible to needs of our members.

The next step will be to ensure uniform supplies for our T-Ballers and off-field supporter wear.







Mitch Clement



## Around the Diamonds































#### **MASTERS**

Firstly congratulations to our Firsts, it would have been an amazing end to the season to win the premiership and move up. I had the opportunity to see most of the finals games, it was exciting and trilling to watch these games. The quality was amazing and I loved the team spirit that you have all created, I hope you all stay together given this another crack next year.

For us in Masters it was one of the more enjoyable seasons we have had in a while and amazing to end up third on the ladder and also play finals again this year. Key to this year was our regular playing team, week in week out and not too many injuries. So well done to all and I am sure we all enjoyed the games, lots of banter on the bench (luckily everyone has thick skin) and terrific support from our regular supporters.

Special thanks to Jennie for scoring all year for us, to Al, Tready, Twisty and Grant for regularly coming on down, you guys probably don't realise how much a difference this makes to the atmosphere of the game and also beers after the game. Thank you also to Stew for the meals and Les for the ground prep for all the home games.

Regards, Paul

## Paul Detering





## **VSBL AWARDS**

**DIVISION 2** 



Congratulations Dennis Neal
on receiving Pitching Award at the VSBL Awards
(1.01 ERA)



## **SENIOR FIRSTS**



Coach
Aaron Green
Assistant Coach
Justin Charles
Scorer
Stewart Cassell

**MVP AWARD**DENNIS NEAL

BATTING AWARD AARON GREEN (.429) **HOME RUNS**COOPER CARRISON





#### SENIOR SECONDS

Another challenging year for 2nds this year unfortunately not making it to the finals. Whilst our best was good enough to challenge the top sides we lacked consistency across the course of the season. We unfortunately dropped a few crucial games against lower ranking teams that ultimately cost us a Finals berth.

It was great to see some fresh faces in the 2's this year with the addition of Emerson and Cooper Rickard and Hudson Carter. Emmo took out the MVP hitting a lazy .500 as well as pitching some quality innings in relief. It was also pleasing to see the addition of junior Roman Coote who slotted into the group seamlessly and developed well throughout the season. We have an exciting bunch of juniors coming through the ranks who have a season or two of 3rd's baseball now under their belt, I am very excited to welcome them into the team next season and beyond.

Despite the challenges we remained in the hunt most of the year and where competitive in most outings. A big thankyou to all the players for the year, in particular the senior guys who offered allot of support and guidance to the younger guys throughout the year.

Lastly, I would again like to thank the entire coaching group many hours are spent each week selecting teams and discussing our options, planning trainings etc... Also to all the volunteers throughout the club, be it scoring, umpiring, running the canteen, coaching a team, ground maintenance or any of the other many jobs that require doing. It would be impossible to have a successful club like we do without this work from the volunteers.

I look forward to a strong pre-season and season for 2023/2024

Chris Jackson



#### **SENIOR THIRDS**

Whilst not necessarily as successful as previous seasons in the win/loss column and missing out on finals, that no less than 11 junior players appeared in the 3rds lineup this year – 8 of them regularly, has to qualify as one of the best in my 10+ years as manager.

At 8 wins, 8 losses and a draw, the kids gave as good as they got. We certainly took our lumps along the way, but the walk-off wins are what we'll remember going forward.

With such a young core and with many playing their first full season of senior baseball, it was fantastic to have spectators in the form of parents around the 3rds again! It's a long day for the kids playing mornings and afternoons, but thank you to all the parents who spend much of their limited free time to support their kids and the club.

Thank you to the under 16 coach cohort of Hiroshi Narasaki, Caine and Jacob Bergin, Yo Takehara and Ian Jamieson for the time they put in with the kids midweek and Sunday morning. Thanks also to the senior players (some of whom aren't that far removed from being juniors themselves) who made cameos in the 3's this year to either get some more AB's or to eat some innings - I value and appreciate your contributions and I know the kids absolutely soak up the experience you bring to a game. The willingness to include and accept these kids as senior baseballers was most evident during the 1sts finals campaign, and I have no doubt that experience will pay dividends in the not too distant future.

Finally, I'd like to make a special mention of the contributions of Zack Hurstfield, who while limited to 8 games by injury showed up every week to help wherever he could. Throwing batting practice, coaching bases, demonstrating leadership beyond his age, a fantastic example of what it is to be a team mate and culture we should all aspire to.

Craig Evans





## **SENIOR FOURTHS**

So, a challenging year was had for the 4ths as we missed finals for the 1st time in a while.

We welcomed the DiBlasi crew into the side & a few new/old faces as well.

Congrats to Jai & Nathan DiBlasi on the co-MVP's & Nathan on the batting award as well.

To Gus & Will for shouldering most of the pitching & Nathan for the majority of catching thank you.

Thanks to Les & the "Old Farts" for their tireless work on the ground & to Moira for scoring each week.

Muzza

## Murray Hardy



## **WOLFPACK MEMBERS**

STEWART CASSELL

JENNIE MOLONEY

**ALAN MOLONEY** 

MARK CHIRCOP

JASON McDONALD

LAURIE TREADWELL

Wolf Pack membership costs \$250 annually and entitles the member to a free drink of their choice at home games, a small gift from our merchandise store, and a ticket to the Senior Presentation.



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