# Williamstown Baseball Club





Annual Report 2020 - 2021







#### Committee and Office Bearers



Michelle Sadler

President

**Chris Jackson** 

Senior Vice President

Stewart Cassell

355011

Secretary

Mark Chircop

Treasurer

Kim Hoy

**Junior Coordinator** 

Nick Gray

**Event Coordinator** 

Sarah LeFevre

Grounds Manager and Junior COVID Officer

Vice Presidents - non voting

Daniel Chircop

Ray Baker

Club Coach

Aaron Green **COVID Officer** 

Bill Hardy

#### President's Report

The summer season 2020/2021 was the season that suffered an uncertain and delayed start, less games in the fixture, and where relegation or promotion was off the table. It was also the season where most imports had no choice but to return home, and where we had no new internationals, which meant we were down a couple of junior coaches. Despite these effects of the COVID global pandemic we got to play ball. We still fielded four senior teams, a Master's team, six junior teams, and were one of three local clubs who had a rookie ball program and hosted a gala rookie ball event, with the other two clubs. As I write this, we are in the middle of a fourth lockdown, scheduled at the moment for just one week. Winter baseball is on hold as a consequence, and the Twins championships in Mildura, where we have three junior representatives, were cut-short mid-game, in order to give the participants time to get home, and avoid fourteen days of quarantine, when the announcement of the lockdown was announced. We are currently fielding one U15's team in the Winter Baseball League, who didn't get to play winter at all last year, and which is a reduced program from the year before for us, when we fielded two U15's teams in our inaugural winter.

There have been many positives this past year, including the completion of our Hitting Tunnel project, a very significant legacy for all involved and especially for our Club Person of the Year, Ray Baker. Our Life Members & Sponsors Day went ahead with great success despite rain and a few date changes. We had an in-person Senior Presentation, which we didn't get to have last year, and we managed a Bunnings BBQ fundraiser, after a couple of cancellations. After being Club Champions last year our teams had moderate success on the field with our 3's, 4's, and Masters making finals, with the Masters going down in their Grand Final. Our 1's just missed out on making finals.

We continue to proactively seek funding opportunities through grants and sponsorships and have been successful in a few smaller grants this year. We have had a great uptake of Wolfpack memberships and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Adam Vickers for promoting the program amongst his contacts. At the time of writing, we are preparing a grant application for the installation of safety fencing for our junior field and the

#### President's Report continued...

a series

replacing of the steel netting on our existing safety structure for our senior field. We have received a quote to supply and install black shade cloth wall coverings on our Hitting Tunnel, with a greyscale logos and will work towards seeing this installed in the near future.

Our club has been selected to take part in the Hobson's Bay City Council (HBCC), Strategic Planning for Sport and Recreation Clubs Project. We are receiving expert guidance (cost free) facilitated by Leisure Networks, and supported by Moore Australia, to produce a strategic plan for our club. The process will include a governance and a financial health check, with the organisations listed working directly with the incoming committee. The end result will include succession plans, job descriptions, and stated goals. This is a terrific initiative of HBCC's that is designed to assist clubs in navigating through and out of COVID, and an opportunity to demonstrate the strength and commitment of our club to council. Our long-term goals will include the construction of new club rooms, to share with the Colts Cricket Club and the Williamstown Lacrosse team, whose women's team currently make use of Greenwich Reserve for all of their home games during winter.

We are also growing our social media profile, and keeping our new website up to date, which is great for recruitment and exposure for our sponsors, as well as tools for communication and connectivity of our members. I encourage everyone to continue to contribute content every chance you get.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the committee on their support this year. Their adaptability and support for each other should be commended. Zoom committee meetings are here to stay. I don't think you can beat their advantages of convenience and effectiveness. We have enjoyed close to 100% attendance rate.

Michelle Sadler



#### With thanks to our Sponsors...





CNC OXY CUTTING
LASER CUTTING
PLASMA CUTTING
CNC DRILLING
SURFACE GRINDING









#### Wolf Pack Members

Mark Chircop Michelle Sadler

Stewart Cassell Kenji Chen

Glen Hardy Bill Hardy

Ray Baker Moira Hardy

John Humphries Mark Agar (BMS)

Roger Twist James McGregor (BMS)

Ernie Poole Paul Dixon (Scan & Locate)

Laurie Treadwell Adam Vickers (Asset Locating Services)

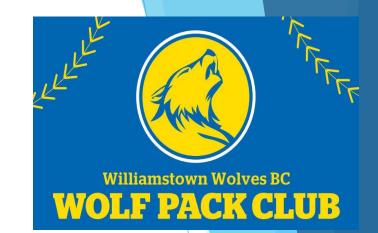
Adam Pyne Matt Plummer (MP Earthworks)

Mitch Clement Scott McKay (Bremac Plumbing)

Robert Speakman Mick Hurstville (Victoria Case Management)

Leslie Flower

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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#### Secretary's Report



This year we welcomed a couple of new members to the committee. So, I would like to welcome Nick Gray (Social Manager) & Sarah Le Fevre (Ground Manager).

The committee decided to re-appoint Aaron Green as club coach. This year the summer season was a delayed start due to Covid 19. When it finally started in December is was as a compromised season with about a third of the games cut from the fixture. Unfortunately, with the loss of a few players and now imports the 1sts & 2nds failed to make the final but both the 3rds & 4ths made the play-offs but were unsuccessful in winning the premiership. After scoring the 3rds elimination final and seeing how talented the juniors playing in that team shows we are on the right track.

I would like to congratulate the Twins Charter Intermediate team (u14s) on winning the premiership up in Ballarat.

We held the AGM via Zoom in September which was attended well & the committee continued to meet each month by Zoom.

Special thanks to Les Flower for all his work keeping the ground well maintained. And also the OFC with all their work in improving facilities around the ground.

Special thanks to Ray Baker's for his hard work with the overseeing of the construction of the new batting tunnel.

Personally, I would like to thank everyone who supports the training night BBQ's and all the profits from the BBQ's were transferred in to the club account. This year was shortened by Covid restrictions but eventually got underway.

Last year we were unable to have the Bunnings BBQ due to the pandemic but this year with strict rules and guidelines in place we had a successful day. So, I would like to thank everyone who participated on the day.

Going forward we need players to honour the canteen and umpiring rosters and not leave it to others to fill in for your non-attendance.

Stewart Cassell

#### Treasurer's Report

The 2020/2021 season was extremely challenging financially. The start to the season was delayed and training and playing restrictions meant a very different look to the season. Direct impact to the season was in a reduced fixture and requirements for a COVID safe environment at our home games.

The committee decided to reduce Fees for the season in line with the reduced number of games in an attempt to make Fees comparable in value with other seasons. This coupled with a reduced number of home games impacted the club's revenue when compared to previous seasons. It is planned for Fees to return to pre-COVID levels for the 2021/2022 season.

Despite these challenges I am pleased to announce that we returned a profit (excluding Hitting Tunnel donations and expenses) of \$5,848.11 for the season. The financial performance excluding non-Hitting Tunnel donations was still a profit of \$1,335.71 meaning our club has for the third consecutive year been self-sufficient, which is our minimum aim.

Overall income for the club went down from \$69,000 to \$56,363, while expenses were also down this year (\$50,515) compared to 2020 (\$58,677).

The Club received record support from Sponsors and participation in the Wolfpack Club which significantly boosted club revenue. The Club's major financial investment for the year was the construction of the Hitting Tunnel. While the club received substantial government grants (\$40,000) towards construction, in excess of \$45,000 in donations was also raised underlying the strong support the club continues to enjoy from its patrons.

The Club also invested in building a professional website, purchasing Accounting software, and a Zoom subscription in order to make the administration of the club easier going forward.

Our Club continues to build a strong financial position allowing us to reinvest funds into promoting our Junior Program, replacing equipment, and keeping Fees across the Club at a competitive level.

Mark Chircop

#### Social Report

The shortened season and Covid restrictions made it very difficult to plan and organise events, however we were able to fit in some small functions. During what should have been preseason hour first event was an online quiz night, which was in the midst of stage 4 lockdown. It was quite successful raising funds with no expenses incurred. We may develop this concept in the coming year to an in-person event. The next event was a pizza party after the last game just before the Christmas break, which was a great way to finish the day off together. The Life Members' day which had to be rescheduled due to Covid, was eventually held with sponsors coming down and the official opening of the hitting tunnels, so overall it was a great turnout. This season we were able to have presentation night in person, which was held at The Vincent in Port Melbourne, which is part of the Australian Venue group which sponsor our club. It was a great night to see the whole club down there. Overall, this season was made tough socially with the restrictions not allowing most of our events to proceed, but we are hopeful next season will roll out easier.

Nick Gray









#### **Fundraising**

There has been very few opportunities to hold events or fundraisers in the last year due to the continuing roll out of lockdowns. The club was lucky to have a Bunnings BBQ scheduled just at the right time after a couple of cancellations). It was the first weekend after a lock down, so we were very popular! An awesome fun day at Bunnings with all the DYIers grateful the snag in bread was back! Thanks so much to Club Secretary Stewart Cassell for organising our sizzle and liaising with the wonderful Maria at Bunnings Altona. Thank you for the continuing support of Second Ave Grocer for all our bread, and to all our shift workers: Mitch, Nick, Daniel, Hiroshi, Mark, Greeny, Justin C., Mike, Tyler, & JMac. Cheers Michelle.









Bunnings Altona, February 20th, 2021

#### Hitting Tunnel Project

Our Hitting Tunnel build was completed in December 2020 just in time for the delayed start of the summer season. The committee is planning to have wall coverings of black shade cloth with a large greyscale logo on both sides, as well as the installation of a special honour board detailing the contributors to this popular training facility. The build served as a wonderful project that kept our baseball community engaged with our club, and connected to each other. This project also provided our whole club something significant to look forward to, during the unprecedented times of social and economic lockdowns. Our Hitting Tunnel was officially opened by Tim Watts MP for Gellibrand on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 as part of our Life Member's Day celebrations. Ray Baker, pictured here with President Michelle Sadler was awarded the 2021 Club Person of the Year for his immense personal contribution in managing the build and seeing through it's completion.





Michelle Sadler President and Ray Baker Life Member and Project Manager Images are courtesy of The Star Weekly



#### **Hitting Tunnel Contributors**

The Williamstown Baseball Club extends our appreciation to the listed contributors for their help and support in enabling the construction of the WBC Hitting Tunnels



Izzy Finn

Robert DiBlasi and 4D Workshop Pty Ltd

James Harrison and Hard Rock Geotechnical Pty Ltd

Michael Wearne and Wearne Builders Pty Ltd

Murph LeFevre

Roger Twist

Les Flower

Laurie Treadwell

John Humphries

Alan Moloney

Ray Baker

Steve Benic

Luke Saric Earth Moving

Mike Gwin

Aaron Green

Nick Gray

Chris Jackson

Andrew Kenny

Mitch Clement

Michelle Sadler

Andrew Sadler

Aiden Sadler

Dylan Sadler

Adam Vickers

Kim Hoy

**Daniel Chicop** 

Lee Gill and Gplumb

Aiman Mansoor

Tom Charles

Citiwest Rentals

Dave Pink Freelance Engineering

Oxley Nets

Diamond Fencing

The WBC Playing Group

Hobsons Bay City Council

The Victorian State Government

# Life Members & Sponsors Day 2021 & Official Opening of the Hitting Tunnel Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021



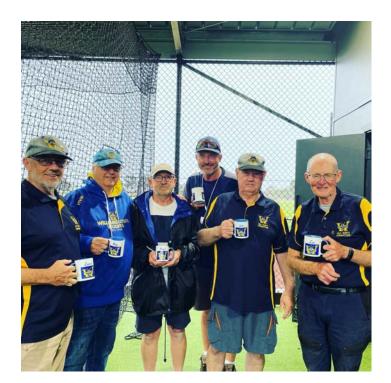
On Saturday, 13 March, we finally held our annual Life Members and Sponsors Day in conjunction with the long-awaited official opening of our new Hitting Tunnel training facility. It was also the final game for the home and away season for the 1's. This was after rescheduling a couple of times due to COVID-19 restrictions on large gatherings, including the recent snap lockdown. Despite the inclement weather, the umpires gave the game every chance of counting (a win may well have earned our 1's a finals berth), but the weather was too persistent. In fact, every game held Saturday was deemed a washout.

Tim Watts MP for Gellibrand was invited to our club to cut the ribbon, with what he remarked were the best scissors he'd ever held. Tim gave our club the necessary endorsement for our application for funding with the Stronger Communities Grant, which was integral to kick-starting the most significant building project our club has seen since our rooms were built in the 1970s. Tim was much relieved he wasn't asked to throw the first pitch. Those honors were given to our major Platinum Sponsor, Mark Agar of BMS Steel. Our other sponsors in attendance were Adam Vickers from Asset Locating Services, Paul Dixon from Scan and Locate, Matt Plummer of MP Earthworks, Scott McKay of Bremac Plumbing, Mick Hurstfield of Victorian Case Management, and Shae and Lee Gill of GPlumb. We thank every one of them greatly for their financial support.

There is a long list of contributors to our Hitting Tunnel who donated their labour, materials, equipment, or completed works at mate's rates. Special thanks were given to the self-named 'Old Farts Committee,' along with Mike Gwin. The OF's are all Life members; Ray Baker, Leslie Flower, Laurie Treadwell, John Humphries, Alan Moloney, and Roger Twist. These champions project managed, worked, and morning tea-ed their way through the build during 2020. Seriously a nuclear apocalypse wouldn't have slowed those guys down. All seven were presented with personalised club mugs. Many thanks to Mark Chircop, Andrew Sadler, Dylan Sadler, and Aiden Sadler for organising, cooking, and serving food and beverages on the day. Please make your way to our photo gallery for a pictorial of what was, despite the washout, a great day.

#### Official Opening of the Hitting Tunnel

Tim Watts MP for Gellibrand was on hand to cut the ribbon and present the 'Old Farts' committee with small gifts of acknowledgement for their hard work. Newly retired Michael Gwin was included in this special bunch of club members for his consistency throughout the project.



From left to right: Laurie Treadwell, Ray Baker, Roger Twist, Mike Gwin, John Humphries, Les Flower (Absent Alan Moloney).

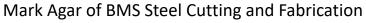


Tim Watts MP for Gellibrand
Images courtesy of Alex McCulloch



#### Life Members Day in Pictures - game play & sponsors







Lee and Chae Gil and their expanding family



#### Life Members



1946	William (Bill) Gravell	
1946	Albert (Bert) Colvin	

1948 Samuel Martin (Marty) Bowyer 2003 William (Bill) Hardy

1951 Colin Milne

1953 James (Sam) Thompson

1954 Keith (Tiger) Eddy

1956 Alan Woods

1957 William (Bill) Humphries

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

2008 Alan Kinnaird

2013 Stewart Cassell

2013 Glen Hardy

2019 Moira Hardy

2019 Murray Hardy

2020 Roger Twist



Alan Moloney presenting Roger Twist with his Life Members Pin

#### Grounds and Facilities Report

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the summer competition did not get under way until December, however, this did not stop major works being completed during the winter and prior to the season.

The biggest, obviously was the erection and completion of the batting tunnel. This will be a fantastic legacy for the club for years to come. The project could not have been completed without the enormous contribution of the *Old Farts Committee* and numerous other members and companies who gave of their time and equipment during the erection period.

The old batting tunnel was demolished, and this has provided the *Ray Baker Diamond* added area in right field.

Four new L Screens were purchased for use in the tunnel and for on field practice and two tonne of brick dust was purchased to top up the bases before the winter junior competition commenced.

The back net on the main field is starting to deteriorate and several repairs were needed to ensure spectators were safe from foul balls. Hopefully soon we can gain funds from Council or Government grants to replace the wire on the main diamond and construct a new back net on the Ray Baker Field.

Upgrade of the sprinkler system was completed by the Hobsons Bay Council. The upgrade and subsequent watering pattern provided by the council sees the surface of the diamond in the best condition for years.

After the completion of the summer competition, we asked Hobsons Bay City Council if they would dethatch the main diamond. It was duly completed, and this will give us a much flatter surface next summer. The field was becoming quite spongy and need the maintenance. We expected to have it completed in August/September when the weather began to warm, however Council were of the opinion conditions were conducive to completing the task now. This will ensure no disruption to pre-season for the 2021 2022 Summer season.

Thanks to all those who assisted in various capacities with on field maintenance, line marking, etc. during the summer competition.

We need to look to the future and have several trained personnel to complete line marking, diamond set ups as we field more teams each year thanks to the fine work of the junior recruiters.

I am always available to train /teach anyone who may like to volunteer.

Les Flower

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#### Player Profile

A son of 2 guns starts his baseball journey!
Zack Hurstfield, son of Mick and Jenni Hurstfield,
started his baseball journey this season at WBC.
Zack missed Round 1 in early December, due to an
injured ankle so his first game was in Round 2.
Zack's baseball debut was 5 years to the day that
his Dad, Mick Hurstfield, played his 400th and last
game for Williamstown!

Having watched Dad and cousins (The Collins and Hardy clans) play baseball for many years, Zack has displayed great baseball IQ playing at 3rd base and gave catching a go last week in a scorcher. Last weekend was Zack's 4th game....he now only has to play another 141 games to catch up to Mum, Jenni, and 396 games to chase down Dad on the Honour Board!! It's great to have Zack and his family at WBC.





#### Special Milestones

#### **Games Played Milestones**

Adam Vickers - 150 Games

Mike Gwin - 150 Games

Daniel Collisson - 150 Games

Paul Detering - 150 Games

Gus Dobricic - 200 Games

Troy Brown - 250 Games

Scott Meager - 350 Games

Congratulations to all those who achieved special milestones!







#### Leader board - games played

Laurie Treadwell - 850

Les Flower - 760

Glen Hardy - 581

Ernest Poole - 576

Neil Pedretti - 557

Murray Hardy - 531

Maxwell Wainstein - 488

Alan Moloney - 479

John Humphries - 465

Ryan Camov - 461

Aaron Green - 437

Craig Evans - 434

Michael Hurstfield - 400



#### **Stan Camov Medal**

It's always a special game, the one where we play the Port Mariners in the second half of the season. The Stan Camov medal is awarded to the player of the game, and this year, for the first time, the recipient was Daniel Chircop. Daniel was the winning pitcher and enjoyed a three-base hit (for the second week in a row). The score was Williamstown up 11-2, before the game was called due to poor light. Congratulations Daniel!







#### Senior's Report

Firstly I would like to thank the players and coaches from the Firsts through to the Masters for again putting in their best efforts in being very competitive this season.



It was a very challenging year to say the least with a very interrupted pre season and not knowing when we would be hitting the field.

The only positive was that we had extra time to get the fantastic hitting facility up and running at the start of the season. A massive thank you to all involved in making this happen. It will be fantastic for many years to come for the juniors coming through and for the seniors to use and get extra work no matter what the weather has for us. To all the seniors who gave up their time to coach a side and better the development and the future of the club I thank you.

To Les and the OFC for getting the best ground to play on up and ready for us each week. I think I speak for the whole club in extending a huge thank you.

Thank you to the committee, scorers, umpires and all volunteers for the efforts throughout the season in making the club run as smooth as possible through some pretty tough time.

The firsts had a very different season to last. After loosing a few key members from last seasons team, the door was open for some younger players to take their shot at it.

We had an up and down year where at our best we were unstoppable and when we were a little off not a lot went our way. To finish the season the way the playing group did is a testament to the whole firsts group.

With around 6 games to go it looked like we had no chance of even getting close to the final 4. We got hot at the right time and needing to win the last game of the season to make the play-offs we unfortunately got washed out after putting ourselves in a fantastic position to win the game until then rain set in.

A massive shout out to Dennis Neal and Daniel Chircop who pretty much carried the team on their backs in throwing all but about 5 innings for the season.

Not sure if this has happened before in the clubs history but we threw 4 no hitters this season which was pretty special to be apart of.

Unfortunately during the middle of the season our bats went a little quiet and we were unable to give the runs support our pitchers needed.



#### Senior's Report continued...

Looking to next season we aim to recruit players at all levels to the club and in doing so strengthen all teams and have every team go deep into the finals.

To all the senior coaches a huge thank you from me. I'm sure I speak for all players also in thanking all the coaches and assistants for giving up their time to coach their respective teams.

To Rednut, for assisting me once again and allowing me to continue as a playing coach, I can't thank you enough. From charting other team's hitters, doing pitch counts, coaching third base and offering your knowledge of the game is where we get an edge over opposition teams.

I look forward to having a full preseason and the challenge of getting the club back into Division 1 and staying there for the juniors coming through to be playing the best level of baseball available for them.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate all the award winners from presentation night and to Kenji for winning the fourths and thirds MVP. Again, I think this may be a first for the club.

Thanks Greenie

> Coach - Aaron Green Assistant Coach -Glen Hardy Scorer - Stewart Cassell

MVP - Dennis Neal Batting Award Aaron Green (.393) Home Runs
Justin Gourlay x 4
Jason McDonald
Mitch Collins
Scott Meager



#### **Senior Seconds**

STEEL CUTTING & FABRICATION

LASER CUTTING
PLASMA CUTTING
CNC DRILLING

It was a more challenging year for the 2<sup>nd</sup>'s this year after a long time up at the top of the ladder over the past several seasons we found ourselves battling it out in the middle of the pack for most of the year. With the COVID interrupted season we lost several players from the 1<sup>st</sup>'s and 2<sup>nd</sup>'s core playing group. This meant our depth as an overall club was challenged and opportunities arose for the next crop of senior players. Tobi Yamamoto had an amazing year doing a majority of the work on the mound. It was great to see Liam Simpson, Jett Popinski, and Jacob Bergin all make their 2's debut and all contributing strongly throughout the year. Despite the challenges we remained in the hunt most of the year and where competitive in most outings. Unfortunately, at the pointy end of the year we had a couple of injuries that didn't help us out.

A big thankyou to all the players for the year, most if not everyone was asked to play out of position at some stage of the year and the attitude and effort always remained. An extended thankyou to Gerard and Justin who offered allot of support in an otherwise very young team.

Lastly, I would again like to thank the couching group in particular Daniel Chircop who was the assistant coach for the twos. I look forward to a strong uninterrupted pre-season and season this year.

Thanks,

Chris Jackson and Daniel Chircop

Coach - Chris Jackson Assistant Coach - Daniel Chircop Scorer - Jennie Moloney MVP Award Tobi Yamamoto
Batting Award
Curtis Cox (.429)

Home Runs Ryan Camov



#### **Senior Thirds**

A difficult season to categorize for the thirds this past year, finishing with a losing record but still making finals. The small sample games also makes it difficult to report on the overall direction the team was headed.

STATION TEL.

The young core took another step up this year with Jacob Bergin, Jett Popinski and Liam Simpson all earning promotion to the 2nds at various points through the year, and only a snap lockdown and subsequent snapped finger preventing Ashton Coote from doing the same. I would expect these kids to continue to progress, and without an influx of experience and talent in to the 1's and 2's next year, I reckon some of them have played their last game in the 3's for a while.

There is no real need to go in to how difficult this past 12+ months has been for most. I can only surmise that the uncertainty of a season being played at all combined with a truncated pre-season had a negative effect on the number of players available for selection week in week out — whether that was due to a lack of player retention from season 19/20 or injuries sustained to regulars. The flow on not only made selection difficult, but meant on any given Sunday, 2 or more players from the 4's were required to double up (and another to score), on top of the 3 or 4 juniors who were already playing 2 games for the day. There is no doubt that this has a detrimental effect on performance, and I considered ourselves fortunate to make finals given our mixed results. The efforts of Kenji Chen in particular to catch 2 games most weeks cannot be understated, and his unprecedent dual MVP awards in both the 3's and 4's should be remembered for a long time.

Perhaps most difficult and frustrating of all was the effect our low numbers had on rostering of umpire/canteen duties of a Sunday. It's incredibly difficult to run a warmup when only 2 or 3 players can participate, it's unreasonable and unfair to think 16-year old's should be tasked with umpiring perhaps the most difficult of all leagues in the 4's on top of playing 2 games, and I can only imagine canteen revenues are down when it's staffed by kids not able to serve alcohol. The shortened season was a blessing in that with a limited number of home games, the same veteran players were not called upon to umpire 3 or more games (although the juniors did more than their fair share in the canteen). As a club we need to do better by the juniors in particular and not roster them duties on a Sunday in addition to their playing commitments.

Coach - Craig Evans Scorer - Ed Popinski MVP - Kenji Chen, James Dann, Jason Lester Batting Award - James Dann (.3708) Home Runs
Justin Charles x 2

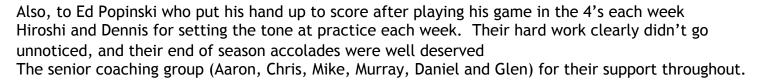


#### Senior Thirds, continued...

Special thanks to (in no particular order):

The Old Farts Committee and all involved with the completion of the batting tunnel project - as stated above, it's difficult to run a warmup with only 2 or 3 guys, but it would have been impossible without the hitting tunnel.

All of the guys from the 3's and 4's who doubled up regularly and probably played more baseball than what they bargained for.











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#### Senior Fourths Runners Up!

So another good year for the 4ths, we went through undefeated but went down in the grand final which was disappointing. Thanks to all the players that doubled up (sometimes tripled up with masters on Monday as well) and we welcomed some new faces in Jeffrey, Ryan, Paolo & some not so new faces in Vickers.



A few highlights this year being 'dad' Bergins 2 walk offs, Kenji hitting a few bombs & the prelim final which was a game game to be apart of. Thanks to the following; the committee for their hard work done in a shortened and difficult season; Moira for scoring; Mike, Snorks and the rest of the coaches; special thanks to Ed Popinski for playing the 4s, scoring the 3s and playing masters

For the 4s players lets go one better next year. Murray Hardy

Further to Murray's report, I would like to congratulate Murray on exceptional batting average, and Kenji winning the MVP! Also a big thank you to the old farts for their continued dedication to the club. Les great job on keeping the diamond in such great condition. It's a pleasure to play on.

Cheers Mike











Coaches -Murray Hardy and Mike Gwin Scorer - Moira Hardy

MVP - Kenji Chen Batting Award Murray Hardy (.583) Home Runs Kenji Chen x 3

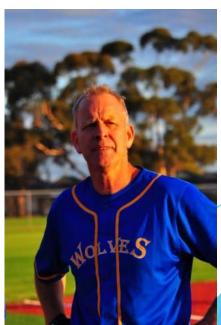


#### Masters in pictures

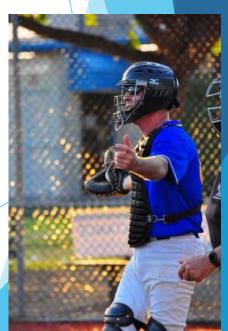












#### Masters +38 N/W



62-76 Second Avenue Altona North

#### Semi Final versus Sunshine down 10-4 before game was called for poor light

Well, no photo or chocolates from our semi-final. But what a fun and exciting season we have had. A good turn out each with many weeks playing 12 or more and strong support from the club, lots of tight games and a lots of laughter and excellent team spirit along the way. What masters is all about. A nice milestone to also play finals again this season after what we think was 15 years since the last time.

Special thanks for the season goes to all our support crew of Jennie, Al, Tready, Twisty, Stew and Ray who regularly turned up to support us and stick around after the game for a beer, it would not be the same without you. Also, to our long-term regular master's players over the years of Chip, Shaun, Mike, Eddie and Gus, thanks for sticking with us through the good & bad and to new regulars of Grant, Snorks, Browny, Rednut, Muzza, Adam, Justin and Jamo thank you for the efforts this season and we would love to have you all back in October for another crack. A special call out to Rednut amazing you started on the mound every week for the season and set us up. Justin thanks for joining us mid-season and we all appreciate the experience and wisdom you bring, and Jamo, just great to see you back on the park.

Well, we gave our semi-final a good shot, what a strong start, 4 to 0 after the first and then Sunshine slowly came back each innings to walk away with a 4 to 10 win after 7 innings. A lovely night for baseball and we should be proud of the way we played. Some of the key moments from the game, our outfield were amazing with a good number of very difficult fly balls, all caught and no errors in the field. Also very interesting, and perhaps impacted the game more than we realised, with Sunshine getting 4 double plays (they hurt), some interesting base running from us and perhaps a key call at home plate that didn't go our way. Anyway, in the end they were stronger with the bat and will play Essendon in the grand final next week.

Coach - Paul Detering Scorer - Jennie Moloney MVP - Glen Hardy Batting Award Gus Dobricic (.588)



# JUNIORS





#### Junior's Report

Williamstown fielded seven junior teams in the Summer 2020/2021 season including a Rookie Ball team! There were 67 kids playing baseball this Summer (a further increase of 21% from last summer); 23 kids new to Summer baseball. Three teams competed in Summer season finals with the Intermediate League team winning the Premiership and the Little League Majors and U16 Metro West teams playing in Grand Finals!



We were fortunate to have a few more Seniors step forward to coach junior teams; thank you to Hiroshi, Dennis, Justin and Kevin (a friend of Justin's who decided to help out and had a great time). Caine continued his commitment to coaching a junior team and we had Eulise and Andrew step forward to be first time coaches of the Little League Minors. The bolstering of junior coaches meant that the Little League Majors, Intermediates and Junior League teams could all train together in a squad format and there were more opportunities for individual technical coaching. The addition of the new hitting tunnel also streamlined trainings and enabled each child to have more repetitions with the bat.

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 Liam Simpson, recipient of the Ned Baker Junior Clubperson Award (pictured here with the Rookies). Liam assisted the Rookies and Minors throughout the Summer season and filled in at the canteen and umpiring in his Senior team when they were short! Ray recalls Liam being the first to training when he was coaching Liam and Liam always offered to help set up and pack up the field.

The Winter season has been able to get underway with Williamstown fielding one U15 team - best of luck for the Winter season ahead.

Thank you to the Junior Committee members, Jo Tyers for assisting with many little bits and pieces over the year and Ash Fraser for taking so many great photos and our team photos this season! After almost 3 years as Junior Coordinator, Kim will not be seeking re-election to the Club Committee. Kim will be available to help out the Junior Committee going forward and we are looking to restructure the Junior Coordinator role to spread the load...we are looking for more parents to help out on the Junior Committee, please consider volunteering a little bit of your precious time to help out!

Junior Committee - Ray Baker, Sarah Le Fevre and Kim Hoy



#### Junior Representative Players



We congratulate the following junior Wolves players who made representative teams:



wins Little League All Star Team - Oliver Bergin, Roman Coote, Chris Woodney wins Intermediate League Team - Jai DiBlasi, James Dinham, Walter Le Fevre wins Senior League Team - Ashton Coote

Loth Twins Little League and Twins Intermediate League teams finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Victorian State Championships and go onto complete in their respective National Championships.

Best of Luck to all involved!



Roman Coote, Chris Woodney and Oliver Bergin

#### Rookie Ball Team

Coach – Kim Hoy TM – Renae Liddell E NEW 3

What a fun year we had in Rookies this year! With all new kids other than Henry, the year was all about learning new skills and making new friends. We played games against Sunshine and Newport....funny enough, all games were drawn...a little bit different to games played at training against the Minors or parents which were hard fought and intense affairs! Thank you to all the parents and Liam who helped out at training and Renae who bought along snacks for the kids at games. Looking forward to seeing you all again next Summer!





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#### Friday Little League Minors

5<sup>th</sup> - Equal 4<sup>th</sup> on Win/Loss Percentage

With 7 new kids to baseball, this was a new team with a new Coach. The team is a very young group playing in a competition where a number of the other clubs have top age kids playing. They were very competitive when playing kids their own age and were able to develop their skills and game knowledge throughout the season. Thank you Eulise and Andrew for stepping up to coach the kids this year!

Coach – Eulise Silvera
Assistant Coach – Andrew Fisher
TM – Kim Hanrahan

MVP – Brodie Leigh Coaches Award – Oliver Chrimes







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## Little League Majors RUNNER UP

Coach – Caine Bergin Scorer – Micky Stojanovski



The Little League Majors team started a new era with only 4 kids (Roman, Oliver, Bastien and Thomas) remaining in the team from the previous year. They were joined by Chris and Luke who played Minors the previous Summer and Lachie, Eli and Kai from Footscray along with Finley who was new to baseball. It didn't take long for Coach Caine to develop the group into a team and they soon had wins on the board and were in contention for finals. A few losses toward the end of the season saw them finish 4<sup>th</sup> to play the 1<sup>st</sup> team in the Semi Final. An outstanding Semi Final win over Essendon resulted in a Grand Final berth. Unfortunately, they didn't win the Grand Final however a fantastic season overall for a new group of kids coming together this season!



MVP – Roman Coote

Joint Players Choice Award

Oliver Bergin and Chris Woodney





# Intermediate League PREMIERSHIP!!!!

Coach – Justin Gourlay
Assistant Coach – Kevin Hendler
TM and Scorer – Sarah Le Fevre



The words of Coach Justin - What a season it was! From the first moment we stepped onto that field we knew that this year was going to be different. With pre-season training looking slightly different this year, we had joined forces with the other junior teams and coaches to focus on the fundamentals of baseball. We could see that this hard work had translated into our first game, when we mercy ruled Fitzroy and setting the standard for the rest of the season.

The result of all your hard work, both on and off the field, saw us reach a grand final against Ballarat. Ballarat had only lost a single game this season and they would soon lose again to the Williamstown Wolves who only had 8 players. Over the season we saw that the future was growing brighter for the Williamstown Wolves. Not once, did we quit. We played every single inning and made every pitch count. Every single player should be extremely proud for what they achieved this season, not only for themselves but also for their club.

I hope that each of the players took away something that they will remember for the rest of their career or even their lifetime. It had been an absolute pleasure coaching all of you. The fact that we won the grand final is credit to you all as players, and I hope you have the hustle and drive I saw this year for everything else you choose to put your mind too. If you do, I have no doubt in my mind that you all will go far.



MVP – Walter Le Fevre Coaches Award – Rory Waters



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#### Junior League

7<sup>th</sup> - Equal 5<sup>th</sup> on Win/Loss Percentage

Coach – Hiroshi Narasaki Assistant Coach – Dennis Neal TM – Kim Hoy



Junior League Wolves competed in a strong Twins Charter league. Regular unavailability due to injury and other commitments created opportunities for many players to step up and try new positions, particularly pitching and catching. With senior baseball and State Team tryouts on the horizon for players of this age, coaches focused hard on developing good baseball habits, attitude and hustle, which everyone exhibited towards the end of the season. We concluded the season on a high by winning two games in a row to teams that we had previously lost to and would have won more games if the season was not shortened due to Covid-19 — Coach Hiroshi and Coach Neal



MVP – Caitlin Hoy Coaches Award – Zack Hurstfield





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## U16 Metro West Team - combined with Port Melbourne RUNNER UP



With insufficient numbers at each club for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, Williamstown combined with Port Melbourne to field the U16 Metro West team. Not being able to train together as a team meant there was a settling in period for the team however they were able to get enough wins on the board to finish 4<sup>th</sup> and play finals. The team played an exceptional Semi Final to defeat a strong Essendon/Doncaster combined team who had only lost one game during the rounds winning 14-12. Unfortunately they were beaten in the Grand Final to Werribee however the team had a great season overall!

Coach – Matt and Jack from Port Melbourne TM and Scorer – Anita Duhig

MVP – Declan Kwok Coaches Award – Ashton Coote



#### U18 State League Team - combined with Newport

10th - Equal 9th on Win/Loss Percentage

Williamstown and Newport combined to field an U18 State League team this Summer season. It didn't take long for the kids to get to know each other as many of the kids knew each other from Twins teams or playing against each other over the years. U18 State League was a strong competition with high quality baseball being played every week. Thanks to Mark at Newport for coaching the kids this season!



Coach – Mark from Newport TM – Sarah Bergin

MVP – Jacob Bergin Coaches Award – Tyler Gwin



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