



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2005 - BRAD LARK

In this, my first year of President on the Board of Management I thought it was very important to consolidate the work done by previous committees in regards to the Cheltenham Baseball Club's business plan. I didn't feel it necessary to reinvent the wheel but that it was more important to pursue the direction established by previous Boards. There was however a need to become more inclusive to our Club's membership and take on suggestions that our members felt could be beneficial to our Club's long term interests. We initially did this through representing ourselves in a summer season newsletter, outlining our objectives and goals along with the actual structure and workings of the Board of Management. We also felt it was important to assist the Winter and Summer Committees in a supportive non-intrusive manner that made it easier for them to run their sections. The response of both sections' Committees is a credit to their people and I feel I can confidently report that the Club as a whole is working together very cooperatively.

The Board has continued to pursue a number of initiatives including continued improvement of our facilities. With council budgets offering less and less in the way of direct funds for maintenance and renovation we have eagerly pursued many grant initiatives being offered by state and federal government agencies. Greg Blaskett has undertaken this role with good success early, his continued presence in this role is very important.

Despite receiving some grant funding it is becoming clear that both sections of the club need to continue to pursue good financial outcomes during their respective seasons. This involves hard work and planning and it is essential that we target the right people to achieve optimum results. Financial independence is an achievable goal that would present us with more opportunities and security as we move forward. A step that we have taken, as a Board is to have levied each Section \$1500.00 during their respective season. This decision was supported by both sections and is a practical demonstration that we have a common purpose. The money will be set aside in a ground and facility improvement fund that we hope to build on through other fund-raising initiatives. It is our belief that we present a far better case to grant committees if we can approach them saying ' This is what our goal is, this is what we have raised, how can you help us?' Funds raised for this purpose will never allocated to any areas other ground or capital improvements to our Club.

The Rustlers logo, featuring the word "Rustlers" in a blue, stylized script font with a blue underline.



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I feel that is indicative of the momentum we are building that we are about to run our inaugural Gala night, an event that the Board hopes to make an annual fund-raising effort. Through the generosity of one of our junior parents, John Davidson, the evening promises to bring together people from a broad cross section of our Club. Not so long ago this initiative may not have received the great support it has from respective Committees. It promises to be a great evening.

In closing I would like to thank all committee people from the Board, Summer & Winter for their support over the past twelve months. I trust that together we can continue to work in unison to achieve the best possible outcomes for this great club. Exciting times lay ahead and with the help of our club membership there is nothing we cannot achieve.

Bradley Lark
**President, Cheltenham Baseball
Board of Management**

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