



ANNUAL REPORT

1974



LEO ANDERSON PRESIDENT



ALAN TANNER CLUB COACH

Rustlers

CHELTHENHAM PRAHRAN BASEBALL CLUB

SECRETARY'S REPORT 1974.

Gentlemen,

In presenting the second annual report of the Cheltenham-Prahran baseball club I find that 1974 projected the realization that our club is faced with a great number of difficulties and problems to solve in the ensuing years. I feel that the aims of the club and our future success falls into two main categories, one being administration and the other dedication of players and coaches.

It has been said that the club cannot be successful without a strong administration and I feel that the Rustlers are in need of the support of a few more members in this area of the club.

The success of any club is judged by achievements on the playing field and unfortunately our club did not have great success during 1974 but I feel sure that the relative positions of our senior teams may have been improved with a little more dedication and support by players.

COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE

Most members of the Committee accepted the responsibility placed upon them and fulfilled their duties admirably and on behalf of the Club I wish to thank them for their efforts. Once again our President, Leo. Anderson; Treasurer, John Ferguson; Assistant Treasurer, Gordon Dosser and Assistant Secretary, Graeme Ainscough gave a great deal of time and untiring effort to the Club and I take this opportunity of offering the thanks of all clubmembers to these officers.

TROPHIES

It was decided by the committee that individual trophies would not be presented to any section of the club, but that the members of Premiership teams would be presented with individual penants to mark the occasion.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Once again the club is indebted to a number of people whose efforts helped to keep the club mobile and I take the opportunity of noting some outstanding efforts and sacrifices made for our club by members and supporters. Newcomers to the club John and Elizabeth Landry were great helpers and supporters. John helped in many capacities, wherever and whenever asked and little sister, Elizabeth's efforts in sales of tickets and assistance to the social committee were outstanding. The efforts of Mary and Max Johanson and Raylene Tanner in conducting the Dance at Caulfield have already been noted, but I feel this section of the report would not be complete without further thanks. Colin Anderson and Phil. Purvis were tireless workers in organizing social events and much of the social success was due to the fine efforts of these two willing workers. Gordon Dossor was the man behind the scenes whose solo efforts in many cases produced outstanding success. Very few night at the club rooms were held without Gordon behind the counter; thank you Gordon. Thanks must also go to Bill Quaiffe for the supply of a second refrigerator and to Lance Purton for attaching the locks to same, also to Mrs. Sandilands (Glen Siddels Mother-in-law) and Mrs. Turnbull for their efforts in slightly improving the uniform situation. Leo and Roger Anderson were responsible for the ground preparation at the Kingston Centre every Saturday - great work well done. Harry Kalinski kindly opened his doors every week to selectors and I thank him on behalf of all. The Tanner residence, Colin Anderson's parents home and Ross Upfill's abode at Black Rock were made available for social functions during the year and for this I thank the appropriate parties.

Page 2 .. 1974 Secretary's Report.

I would also like to thank donors L. Anderson, J. Upfill, D. Smythe and F. Babidge for their tangible gifts.

I trust you will forgive me for not mentioning a host of others who have helped throughout the year and I look forward to continued support in 1975.

PLAYING ACHIEVEMENTS.

A1 - VBA. Our top side began their premiership campaign in great style and before long were sitting in top position on the ladder following some fine wins in a competition which was tough and even. The acquisition of pitchers, Ross Chapman and John Hennessy and the fine form of the last years reliables - Ted. Wale, Ross Upfill and John & Paul Ferguson was setting the stage for a great year. However the rain continued to fall and our home ground became almost unplayable and the loss of form of some players put us under the hammer for a few games in the middle and latter stage of the season. Consequently a number of close games were lost leaving the side in 4th. place at the start of the final series. A fine team effort against Malvern in the elimination final advanced the team to the semi-final and although the side played tight ball throughout, our batters could not drive home enough runs to take the game. Consequently the side finished fourth, as in 1973. However we look forward to improvement in 1975. Club coach Alan Tanner was dedicated and determined as a leader and it was no fault of his that further success did not eventuate.

A2 - VBA In a most even competition our second side was used to try out promising young players and although very inexperienced in most games, the team held a place in the four for most of the season and with good wins at the end of the season eventually finished the home and home rounds in second place. In a tight semi final against eventual winners, Melbourne, we had a number of opportunities to score runs but were unable to finish off some fine individual efforts and found ourselves down 2 - 1 at the end of the ninth. The preliminary final against Coburg found our inexperienced side on the receiving end of an avalanche of runs and sad to say were never in the event. However a number of new players were tried and I feel sure some will go on to play top baseball in the future.

A Grade - DBA Being the third side of the club, with exception of a couple of older players who were not available for VBA matches, this side found itself just a little undermanned at various times during the year. Although it got off to a bad start early in the season the team finished in fourth place at the end of the home and away games. The team faced MYF in the semi final with out Lindsay Royston and Lance Purton and after fighting their way back into the match were unable to finish the game in front and finished the season in fourth place. The team was coached by Fred. Capper and I feel sure that, had a number of players given Fred a little more co-operation and dedication this team would have gone closer to a premiership.

B Grade - DBA Max. Johanson captained the fourth team of the club and on many occasions this team was playing against the first team of the opposition club. Consequently this side was faced with an unenviable task and although the players gave of their best the B Grade team did not make the final four. However a number of young promising players gained considerable experience and the coach showed promise of a coach of the future.

Southern Zone - VBA The former A 3 side began the season quite well with a number of 'new' players in the side, some of whom were to rapidly be promoted. However the side battled on and eventually ended the home and home games in fourth place. They faced up to Blackburn in the semi final on a very wet ground and although the side battled well they were unable to hold their opponents to a losing score and another of our sides had to be satisfied for

another season. The side was led by Graeme Ainscough and in his absence by Alan Black and many thanks goes to both men.

C Grade - DBA The sixth senior side set out to win their grades pennant for the first time and at various times during the season looked at though they might succeed. When the finals arrived the side was confident of getting through to the grand final. They finished in third place and faced Bonbeach (St. Chads) in the semi final and in fine performance raced away to a 14 - 4 victory and went on to play Dingly in the preliminary final. In a game which fluctuated throughout the day the Rustlers, after being in front on several occasions were not able to end the game on top so unfortunately did not make the grand final. Captain Harry Kalinski took charge of the team and was ably assisted by Kel. Roberts.

JUNIOR TEAMS.

Under 17 - DBA It appears that every year one team suffers from the lack of players and 1974 was certainly the year for the U/17 side to suffer. In most games the boys lined up with seven or eight players and much to their credit and the patience of coach Alan Grierson the team battled on gamely to win most of their home and home games. The boys won their semi final in grand style and played Bonbeach in the preliminary final. In a close fought game which presented opportunities for a victory our stars of the near future eventually went down by one run. My thanks go to Alan for organizing the side and to John Ferguson who was of great assistance to Alan.

Under 15 - VBA With a sprinkling of last years side and a number of former Pee Wees Gordon Dossor took charge of the more volatile youngsters of the club and with raw talent the boys set about showing their opposition that they were prepared to win by hitting the ball and giving support to their pitcher. At the end of the first round matches the side was in fourth place and faced Sandringham, the eventual winners, in the semi final which proved to be a great game with the batters of both sides facing very competent batteries. The boys led early in the game but some good batting by the opposition but too much pressure on the Rustlers and although they fought the game out well were eventually beaten by two runs. I congratulate the boys for their efforts and I am sure we will see much more of some of these lads in the future of the club.

Under 13 - Pee Wee - VBA The club entered two Pee Wee teams in the competition at sandringham and to the delight of all, the club's only Premiership was won at Sandringham. The side was handled by Ted. Wale and assisted by Graeme Ainscough. This team had some good wins during the season and faced Moorabbin in the semi final. After a great performance the boys came home with a victory and only the two Waverely teams stood between them and the flag. The preliminary final proved to be another good result for our youngsters and with an 11-4 victory they confidently moved into the grand final. With astute leadership, a good pitcher and great teamwork the young heros took all before them and in a great performance went on to a great victory by ten runs. Congratulations boys the club was very proud of you all.

The B team was mainly confined to the younger boys who will be playing again in this grade next year. I thank Colin Anderson and Ross Uphill for their patience and dedication in helping these boys into the game of baseball. The side was not successful in winning games but this did not deter them and we look forward to seeing these youngsters back again next season.

You will see from these brief summaries that all but two sides reached the finals but most sides did not progress much further and I feel that we must endeavour to push our sides harder and higher next season.

1973-74 SUMMER TEAMS

The club entered two teams in competition last summer. One coached by Ted Wale was entered in the V.B.A. Summer Competition and the side was mainly manned by younger players who showed the potential to become topline players in the near future. The team performed well and were dedicated towards winning the competition and played a big part in the final series. The side was eventually defeated by Fitzroy in the Grand Final after a long hot summer of good baseball.

A second team, led by Alan Tanner played in the newly formed Twilight Competition of the D.B.A. The side consisted of "Oldies" and a few young players and played on Wednesday evenings. The side performed well during the season losing only one match and eventually went on to win the Premiership by a handsome margin.

Owing to the amount of administrative work required to run the club for a whole 12 months it has been decided not to enter teams in summer competitions this summer.

SCORERS - The club is indebted to those who scored for various teams throughout the year and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all concerned for their assistance in this regard and can assure you that your efforts are much appreciated.

In conclusion I congratulate each member of the Club who made some contribution towards making your Club a Top Club and hope to see you all back in 1975.


Allan Burdett,
(HON. SEC.)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT - YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER, 1974.

The 1974 season was an extremely successful one from the Social side of Club activities.

The Social Committee of Kel and Joy Roberts, Paul and Iso Ferguson, Raylene Tanner, Colin Anderson, Gordon Dosser and Mike Trevorah all worked hard during the season to ensure that a number of enjoyable and successful social functions be organized.

The social programme for the year included a Wine Tasting on 18th May at Alan and Raylene Tanner's. This function was extremely well attended and the Committee would like to thank Alan and Raylene for making their house available, Jack Ferguson Snr. and John Ferguson for their assistance with the 'liquid supplies', and Mr. and Mrs. Landry for their donation of the major raffle prize.

The social programme also included a Fancy Dress Party, held at the Country residence of Mr. Ross Upfill, this again proved to be a successful night and our thanks to Ross for his support. The 20th July saw a Beer Tasting-Gambling night at Colin Anderson's, the Committee would like to thank Colin for supplying the venue and to those who assisted during the evening. The highlight of the social year was undoubtedly the Caulfield Dinner Dance, attended by over 350 people. The Committee would like to extend special thanks for the tremendous amount of work undertaken by Mary and Max. Johanson who worked virtually non-stop during the season to ensure that this night was a success.

Other social activities during the year included Wrest Point Casino raffle, the sale of pontoon cards, Little Tatts and Racing Doubles.

The Committee would like to extend its thanks to all those who supported the Club in selling the above and those who attended the social functions. We would like to make special mention of the 'great' efforts of Liz. Landry and John Ferguson who gave us very strong support in each of the fund raising areas.

In conclusion I would like to thank each member of the Committee for giving so freely of their time and the amount of effort they extended to ensure that '74 season was a social success.

P. PURVIS.
(Chairman)