

CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB INC
Summer Season
2007-2008

Rustlers



Little League Players

JUNIOR PRESENTATION
Saturday, 15 March 2008

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This year a lot of effort (mental and physical) has been expended to keep the key short and long term issues of the Club on track.

These issues revolve around:

- Financial security
- Club environment
- Short term facility maintenance
- Long term facility planning and development
- Continual player development
- Support to club members.

Success in these areas can be measured in various ways and interpreted by individuals differently.

From my view, most of these areas are in the satisfactory quadrant which is above average given the voluntary nature of the effort involved and the size of the Club.

Over a year decisions are made with short and long term views by many people within the Club. These decisions are made sometimes under pressure (e.g. game day) or after consideration (e.g. facilities). As a group we need to respect these decisions, right or wrong, as the Club cannot function without a decision being made.

We have continued to be competitive with our senior and junior sides which gives the Club some confidence that it is getting a lot of things right. As a whole over a season there are very few games when a Cheltenham side takes the field and is not competitive.

I would like to thank the following people for their contribution to the club:

- Congratulations and thanks to all coaches for their efforts this year and hope that they have enjoyed the experience.
- Thank you to our Age Group Coordinators for their dedication to the club and for their continued support throughout the season.
- To Matt Gourlay, I congratulate and thank him on an outstanding effort as Club Coach and his commitment to the players and Club.
- I would like to thank all members who have given up time to support the running of the Club during the year.
- To the Committee, I would like to thank you on behalf of the Club for your efforts during the year.
- To Tina Cooen, your running of the canteen was again exceptional and cannot thank you and your family enough.
- To Steve Gourlay for running the Bar and making sure it was well stocked – you have been outstanding.
- To John Ferguson for his grounds maintenance.
- Peter Katz and John Olsen for their efforts with the batting cage.
- To everyone who attended our working bees – please accept this as a personal thank you.

- To our signed players Kable Hogben, Adam Blackley, Travis Blackley and Tom Ellis, thank you for allowing our juniors to meet and talk to you. (Unfortunately Andrew Gribbin was not available on this particular evening).

Congratulations to our State and VPBL Players on their achievements and selection at State level.

Kable Hogben U18 State
John Blaskett U18 State
Nick Rossell U18 VPBL
Nathan Aron U18 VPBL
Daniel Farmer U16 State
Matthew Carlile U16 VPBL
Scott Jansen U16 VPBL
Yoshi Campitelli U14 State
Ben Leslie U14 State
Brett Curnow U14 State
Matt Wilson U14 State

Special congratulations to Nathan Aron on being signed with the Yankees' organisation during the season.

I would like to thank our club sponsors APC Logistics, Huntingfield Investments, Michael Trevorah (warm up tops), Lockbar Steel (batting cage)

In closing, thank you to all and look forward to seeing everyone back again next year.

Yours sincerely

John Carlile
Summer President
Cheltenham Baseball Club

LITTLE LEAGUE DIAMONDBACKS

When a team goes through a season with 7 wins, 1 draw, 3 losses and 0 byes you would expect a spot in the finals. However we could not beat the teams above us and to finish fifth was a fantastic effort.

It is not the results that count but more importantly to see the improvement of all players throughout the season was very pleasing. Every player made a valuable contribution to the team every game. You should all be very proud of your efforts.

I have really enjoyed coaching this group of boys and I hope I got the right mix of having fun and a bit of discipline that will only get tougher as you progress through the age groups. Good luck to you all.

The team could not run (walk) on to the field without the help of great support from Matt as my assistant coach, Paul for your help warming up the team on match day, Fabian for umpiring, Claire, Peter and Ros for scoring (sorry about all the changes) and most of all a big thank you to all the parents for getting your boys to training and match night. Your encouragement and behaviour was appreciated by us all.

Best Wishes,
Shayne and Matt Harvey

Team Members

Stephen Clarke
Mark Digby
Michael Fiore
Rhys Pierce

Jak Cummings
Jesse Doree
Will Mason
Luke Porter

Andrew Di Giovambattista
James Fiore
Matthew McKenna
Michael Leslie

LITTLE LEAGUE MARINERS

What a fantastic group of kids, parents and supporters, as coaches we feel very lucky to have been apart of this team, "The Mariners". Our team philosophy has been to have fun, enjoy the game and our team mates, along with improving our skills and for all players to try a number of different positions throughout the season.

The team is a combination of ages and abilities and has made a noticeable improvement on their baseball skills. It has been great to witness significant contributions by all players to the team. Regular attendance to training has been excellent. (Our training sessions have been so good we always seem to have extras). A special congratulations to our top three batters; Hikaru Yokota, Alex Wearne and Agnes Evangelista, who have consistently performed well.

A very big thank you to Gabriela Taranto for scoring each week (it must be the neatest scorebook in the league) and thank you to Steve Campitelli for umpiring our home games, well done.

Kids you have been fabulous, you have a great team spirit and have shown excellent sportsmanship, you are a credit to yourselves, your families and Cheltenham Baseball Club. Also thanks to all the parents and supporters who have always been positively cheering on the team each week.

All the best in the future, we look forward to following your baseball progress.

Jenny McDonough and Steve Smith
Coaches

Team Members

Mackenzie Beadman	Koji Campitelli	Agnes Evangelista
Mitchell Freeman	Alexander Marshall	Georgia Smith
Ryan Taranto	Stefan Taranto	Alex Wearne
Danielle Wearne	Hikaru Yokota	

LITTLE LEAGUE REDSOX

Throughout the season we had some ups and downs. We ended up 6th with 5 wins and 5 losses. However we had an extremely enjoyable season coaching this particular team throughout the entire year. It was fantastic to see all the players try new positions and improve their skills with every game under their belt.

Brandon Stenhouse: was a fantastic player and team leader this year. Whether it was batting, base running, pitching or fielding this young kid has it all. With the natural ability that he has shown us throughout the year there's no telling where he'll end up in the future to come.

Jack Daniels: is an extremely positive and aggressive baseballer, whether he's in the batters box or in the field he always applies himself to the task at hand and gets the job done.

Jack Enciondo: hit the ball extremely hard throughout the entire year. Jack always gives 110% as soon as he crosses that white line and it shows in his entire baseballing ability.

Jack Warner: was one of our senior players this year, and was given the job as starting pitcher most weeks. His pitching was absolutely outstanding this year, frightening many batters with his speed and accuracy. As well as pitching he also hit the ball with great power this year.

Liam Bell: was a first year ball player who improved his skills with every game under his belt. In his first season he did extremely well, also collecting a solo homerun in a clutch game for the Redsox.

Logan Tuki-Jones: we could not have asked for anything else from this young kid. Not only was his ability in every department outstanding he was a pleasure to coach.

Matty Stenhouse: is one of the funniest baseballers we've ever seen. He always brought a smile to all the players' faces. Being one of the youngest players in the competition he was fantastic. He was an extremely aggressive hitter in the batters box and it showed with the tally of hits this year.

Mitchell Moody: was one of the many players who truly improved his skills throughout the season. By the end of the season he had improved in almost every aspect, dominating in the field and with the bat.

Sam Layton: this kid's ability in his first year of baseball was phenomenal; he could hit, field and catch with ease. He was extremely eager to learn and was an absolute pleasure to coach.

Tom Snowden: was one of our other senior players in the side, and he did a fantastic job in demonstrating how and what a good baseballer should look like. Keep up the good work.

Also big thanks to Heather Warner for scoring this year, you were a great help and also to the parents who came down week in and week out to support your child and the team. Thanks...

Michael Rizzi and Jarrod Hall
Coaches

Team Members

Liam Bell
Mitchell Moody
Matthew Stenhouse
Sam Layton

Jack Daniels
Tom Snowden
Logan Tuki-Jones

Jack Enciondo
Brandon Stenhouse
Jack Warner

LITTLE LEAGUE PADRES

The scene looked scarily familiar, a sea of children, some fully kitted out with Cheltenham uniforms and apparel, dragging half their worldly belongings behind them, and other wandering around lost clutching last year's T-ball glove tightly to their chests, and a range of kids falling somewhere in between. As a father of a young ex-T-baller I was quite keen to see how this mass of bodies would be formed into a series of well oiled and smooth running machines. As expected the old hands lead by Peter Leslie quickly started sorting them out and setting up various stations. "This looks pretty good". I thought to myself, "How hard can this be?" Famous last words.... These sessions went on for a few weeks and thanks to my agent Lance McGaw's normal fast talking, found myself nominated as a coach for one of the forty eight (or so it seemed) sides we were going to field in the Little League competition.

A bit of horse trading was needed to make sure that friends played with friends, and that the teams were fairly even. I ended up with three of the T-ballers making the transition to Baseball, and a few newer kids, as well as a couple of club stalwarts. Overall I had a good mix of youth (4 nine year olds at the start of the season) and experience. As I hinted previously, the group were a mixed bunch, and looked no better or worse than any other team Cheltenham had. The results were fantastic for the regular season, but I find it hard to single out any specific game or instance which stood out. We had very few home runs scored for us, but managed to keep teams from scoring in most of the innings fielded. That was started by our combination of pitchers Jack Dear, Matt Wilson and Mr "I can do 17 pitches today" Joel Whitehead. As well as cameos by a few of the other kids at times.

Our season opener was against the Mariners; we luckily got off to a good start and held the lead till the end of the game. This set the tone for us, and was typical of our games all year. We didn't get any more than four runs scored against us, but we'd vary our score typically scoring between 7 and 12 runs. There were however a couple of notable exceptions. A four-all draw against Moorabbin was a bit of reality check for the lads, we had a wonderfully closely fought 4-2 win against RedSox, and our final regular season game against Ormond Gold was a 19-2 victory. By that stage of the season the Ormond team was already thinking of their end of season trip, and the Padres boys were going through the standard process. All boys rotating the fielding positions, and running around bases when they got on. That ended our season with a record of 9 wins and 1 draw, but more importantly a bunch who had bonded and played all around the ground all season.

Our last game was the semi final against the first team we played, the Mariners. As we had done all season we rotated players and played our normal fielding game, giving up 4 runs for the game. Unfortunately finals play is played at a slightly more intense level (both for the players and parents/coaches), and we had no answer with the bat for the Mariner's pitcher. Given the state and metro restrictions being lifted the Mariners were able to use their Metro pitcher for the full 70 pitches. The Padres had no answer for his excellent pitching, so managed only one run. It was a disappointing end, but we could be very pleased that we played every game consistently and in good spirit, the loss in the first final the boys only loss for the season.

During the season the boys managed to score 85 runs, whilst allowing only 20. That in itself is a huge achievement. Because of the rotating of players no single pitcher ever threw for more than 2 innings in a row. However the number of 3 up 3 down batters against us was very high, and the lads took great pride in keeping fielding errors down. Whilst none of the lads was a standout, they again were steady, and worked well

together, in most cases would forcing the batters to hit the ball straight to a fielder. All the boys work in the field was fantastic this year. Given the added joy of a two person bench, I had rotated players off the ground, so four boys would only field for half the game each week.

Josh Burland: Whilst winning the award for attending the least training sessions, Josh is a very steady batter who got on base nearly 80% of the time. His fielding in the outfield and also at catcher was just as valuable to the team. Probably most famous for his irritating habit of making the pitchers wait till he gets his feet exactly right, each ball.

Jack Dear: a great kid on the field and at bat. Again hit at a very good percentage, did a lot of the work on the pitchers' mound, and was also a gazelle in the outfield with those long legs of his. Chasing down the ball and rocketing it back to the infield at a rate of knots

Mitchell Holding: whilst only still 10 Mitchell is one of our strongest batters and throwers. I have a view that he hits the ball so far so that he doesn't have to rush to get to first base. Quiet most of the time, but you know what they say about still waters...

Ben McGaw: Another young gun who's greatest pleasure in life was teasing the fielders with his base running. Runs like a whippet and made a career out of stealing bases all season.

Sam Michael: One of our little 9 year olds doesn't turn 10 till end of March. A handy fielder with good hands and balance, who was also able to give us some big hits during the year.

Zak Palmer: Mr Dependable. Zak seems like he's been part of the furniture for years, his great fielding and batting speak for themselves. Zak had the rare achievement of getting home every time he got onto base this season. 15 times on base and 15 times home. But the best thing he brought was leadership and support, especially with the younger kids.

Marcus Ryan: Another 9 year old who was a first year baseballer (no T-ball either). A good athlete who quickly got the hang of using the glove and the bat, and also very quick around the bases. A bit of an rarity, a kid who professes to prefer the outfield....

Callum Tate: Mr Athletic, great work as catcher for most games, and super quick around the bases and in the outfield. Has the fastest side arm throwing action of all time, and a real energizer bunny when he gets going.

Cain Whitehead: Still 9, the baby of the bunch. Showed some great improvement with bat and ball. Batted a respectable %, and has about 10 years of little league eligibility left. A player to watch as he matures.

Joel Whitehead: Our second State player, very clever in the field and batting, who also did some great work for us pitching when able. Joel's batting was also of a very high standard, and was also able to torment the fielders with his quick decisions and running around the bases.

Matt Wilson: came across from Sandy this year and I think never looked back. For another 9 year old did a lot of good work pitching and batting for us, but his real strength and asset in future is his ability to read plays in the field and make the right decision. Very, very smart and skilled player. Another one to watch.

There were couple of goals set at the start of the season, get better, bond as a team and enjoy our baseball!! Regardless of the finals outcomes the season has been a success for the Padres based on the above. The result the boys achieved is a bonus, and an indication of their commitment and enthusiasm. I'd like to thank each boy for his great participation and energy this year, and also the helpers. Firstly Peter and Claire who's team break ups gave me this great bunch, my dual team managers Annie Ryan and Karen Wilson, my umpires Craig Wilson and David Whitehead, Sue Palmer who bravely undertook to score each game for us. (I know I could never understand that) and of course Lance McGaw,

Assistant Coach, ground keeper, coffee barista, anything else that needed doing. There were other helpers, and I'd have to name each child and parent as the total group was wonderful, and the environment each week at the games friendly and positive. Thanks again for letting me loose on your kids.

Stell Michael
Coach

Team Members

Josh Burland
Ben McGaw
Marcus Ryan
Joel Whitehead

Jack Dear
Samuel Michael
Callum Tate
Matthew Wilson

Mitchell Holding
Zak Palmer
Cain Whitehead

LITTLE LEAGUE GIANTS

Although our season wasn't completely successful, I am sure that all the kids have had fun throughout it. There have been some great plays during the season with some terrific batting to go with the fantastic fielding.

Declan Chittenden – was a very good player who could play almost any position. He was also a very good batter with good eye for strikes.

James Cunningham – one of our more experienced catchers for the side. He is also a very good with the bat, and managed to bring in those extra runs to win the game. Keep up the good work.

Timothy De Rose – another of our very experienced players. Was very good in both the field and when in the batting box. He was also one of our pitchers. Just keep playing baseball Tim.

Izaiah Elisaia – just came up from Tee-ball and was already one very good batter. He also played many positions in the field and did quite good in all of them. Nice work.

James Felsenthal – another one of our great catchers. Was able to catch and play first base. Not quite as good with the bat but was still able to pull out the hits when it was needed.

Emily Fitzgerald – a good fielder who played second base. She also pitched a couple of games where she did very well. In the batting box she was often able to bring out the hits.

Samuel Hayes – Initially started of as an outfielder with a very strong arm, was then moved into the infield to play third base. Then later on was given a go at pitching where he would have had one of the strongest arms in the competition. Well done Sam.

Callum Kirk-Williams – although he only played a few games for us, he showed that he was a power hitter.

Harry Moller – A very bright kid with a good attitude towards the game. Was happy to play in any position we put him in. Also pretty good in the batting box.

Michael Natoli – Another one of our great all-rounders. Was able to play in any position and do well. He was really good at picking out the strikes from the balls when in the batting box. He was also a very talented pitcher who managed to pitch a shutout in one of our earlier games.

Jarrold Peake – A well balanced player who was able to play in any position. He pitched a couple of times and was very good at it. He did quite well in the batting box as well scoring a home run in the last match. Well done on a terrific season.

Nick Yangos – Was new to the game this season, but was able to do very well for a beginner. He liked to play in the outfield so next time try and go for the infield, it's much more fun in there. Nice work Nick.

We would also like to show our appreciation to Nick Fitzgerald for being our umpire throughout the season and also to the parents who came down and supported the team each week. We would also like to thank Christine Fitzgerald for scoring every week and driving Tom to all the games, Declan's parents, Sam and Graeme for driving me (Will) to training and to the game every week. Lastly on behalf of the team, I would like to thank Travis Blackley for coming down and watching our team and talking to us about his Major Baseball League experiences.

Will Felsenthal and Tom Fitzgerald
Coaches

Team Members

Declan Chittenden
Izaiah Elisaia
Samuel Hayes
Michael Natoli

James Cunningham
James Felsenthal
Callum Kirk-Williams
Jarrod Peake

Timothy De Rose
Emily Fitzgerald
Harry Moller
Nicholas Yangos

LITTLE LEAGUE STATE

At the commencement of the season it was predictable that there would be tantrums, crankiness and girls-blouse soft tissue injury, fortunately the coaches improved as the season progressed. The players themselves showed they were capable of playing some very good baseball. More importantly, each player in the team was dedicated to learn, and develop their game. Our hope is that these eleven young men are now ready to take their game to the next level.

We finished the regular season with six wins, four losses, a draw and a washout, which was enough to secure an elimination final at Geelong. The highlights of the regular season were a thrilling come from behind win over Geelong in the opening round; a phenomenal all-round performance to whitewash old foe and cross town rival Sandringham 12-0 including the one hit shut out by Justin Aron; and stellar hitting in high scoring wins over Essendon, Berwick and Werribee.

Our performance in the semi final against Geelong showed the excellent progression of this team, strong and accurate pitching along with competent defence gave the opposition little chance, this combined with the season's best batting performance scoring 13 runs off very capable pitching to win 13-6. This win set up a preliminary final contest with formidable foe Doncaster. Unfortunately this was a rare case where a champion team was defeated by a team of talented players, the Rustlers losing 10-3; the players were outstanding early, finally going out with flair and a myriad of excellent defensive plays. All in all it was a fine season with only positives to reflect on in the future.

One of the great strengths of this team was its hitting prowess, spearheaded by Brandon Stenhouse, who got multiple hits week in and week out, hitting two telling homeruns and also holding down 3rd base, and Justin Aron, who could change a game not only with his bat but also with powerful pitching performances amassing 5 wins for the season striking out 35 batters in only 31 1/3 innings. Joel Whitehead added consistency to the line up with an impressive average and became invaluable to the team in clutch situations, while Alex Wearne was excellent driving in runs in almost any situation and hitting well together with an outstanding finals series. Stefan Taranto punched well above his weight class and remains a fine exponent of the running bunt; Stefan may have had more success if he had changed his bat earlier. Meanwhile Zak Palmer added solidarity to the line-up and hit with power and intelligence, finishing with high OB and slugging percentages, a direct indication of run production.

The team's defence was a combination of the ability to make regulation outs, and the skill and athleticism required to make the extraordinary play. Lachlan Whiteside led the team with some exceptional catching and Lachie will soon learn that the greatest compliment the opposition can give is 'not to run'. Koji "the unit" Campitelli played shortstop like he had been there his entire life able to do everything required of him to get to any ball and make the out, Koji made only 2 errors for the season and was important at the bat. Rhys Pierce had an astonishing season at first base, making over 50 plays without committing a single error, he also came to the fore in the finals hitting a home run against Geelong and pitching masterfully against Doncaster. Will Mason came on in leaps and bounds during the season, he shone on the mound collecting a win and two saves including an overpowering game in the semi-final, and was dangerous on the base paths. Jack Warner could be relied upon to play any position on the field, and do it well, becoming entrenched at 2nd base later in the season. But it was his versatility, along with his on base average which helped us win games.

Finally to all those involved with the team this season a huge thank you, our scorer Gabriela Taranto and Claire Pierce who also scored on several occasions, although both failed to secure the phone numbers of the cute scorers from Geelong, for James. Thanks to Mick and Jenny, our team managers, without whom, we'd still be lost somewhere in the back of Warrandyte, and the ever bubbly Kathy Whiteside who's help both with the team and Baseball Victoria was invaluable. Thank you to our assistant coach Julian Aron who is just as bubbly as Kathy, except not at 8 in the morning, and to all the parents whose sacrifices have allowed the guys to have this experience. And Tina for the endless supply of Custard Tarts for Jimbob.

Also to John Carlile and the Cheltenham Baseball Club Committee, for their dedication and support.

Fight the sun
Col and James 'Jimbob' Upfill

Team Members

Justin Aron
Zak Palmer
Stefan Taranto
Joel Whitehead

Koji Campitelli
Rhys Pierce
Jack Warner
Lachlan Whiteside

William Mason
Brandon Stenhouse
Alexander Wearne

LITTLE LEAGUE METRO

The season did not end well with the side losing the last game to fall out of the finals and it hurt, the players were clearly disappointed, I do not mind the passion it showed desire.

I was heartened in this last game to see Stephen charging in and taking a catch, it wasn't just taking the catch, which was huge in itself, it was more the way he went about it, the thought process and the effort made. To me this was an example of the improvement in an individual player and all players have definitely improved and this makes all the effort worthwhile.

Our best I believe was probably the second best within the competition but that meant fielding the players in their optimum positions and not making any changes. This side had players in their last year and ranging to players with 3 years left and as such a wide variance within physical attributes and baseball knowledge. This is no idle boast as we were the only side to be in front of Waverley at any stage of a game for the season, in fact we were in front of them after the first and second innings and level after the third inning. However their all round batting strength told in the second half of the game and they drew away from us to win the game. Another highlight game was our 16 runs to 10 victory over the second placed Mulgrave in the first game back after the Xmas break, all the 9 players that played that day contributed and it was our best even performance for the year. It was the game that unveiled the new and improved Hikaru who came out throwing the ball 10 to 20% harder, and he continued that for the rest of the season. Throwing strikes was not a problem for Hikaru but I felt he was holding a bit back, obviously my Japanese improved as the season went on.

I thought the side was ably led by my catcher and one of the oldest players Michael Fiore who's enthusiasm and encouragement to other players was commendable and even though he has got a lot to learn about the art of catching I can honestly say he did not bludge once on any pass ball or wild throw. As I explained to the players all that I, the club, your team mates and parents require is your 100% effort for the 2 hour game. It is then up to me as your manager to fine tune and make changes if a player is having a tough day or form is suffering, but if you walk off the ground and say you gave it your 100% effort then that is all anyone can expect.

Connor Doody's hitting was outstanding. It's not often that a player can win a game with a home run in the last innings but Connor did this twice. As great as those 2 shots were, Connor hit a more impressive home run and that was his line drive hit over centre field against Mulgrave.

I like to thank all of the following people for their efforts which made my job easier and more enjoyable:-

- Claire Pierce and Peter Leslie our Little League Coordinators for their hard yards at the start of the season. Peter also assisted with scoring and base coaching. Most importantly for taking training in the last couple of weeks when work commitments made it impossible for me to be there on time. I knew each time I called Peter he would not shirk the issue, thanks mate.
- Fabian Fiore for being team manager and base coaching.
- Pedro Enciondo for putting up his hand and being the scorer for the team.
- Rick Porter and Yoshi Yokota for assisting in training, warm-ups and base coaching.

- Kable Hogben, Thomas Fitzgerald and Geoffrey Holland who helped with training at times during the year and provided the team with a more specialist and younger perspective.
- Lawrie Hall, Stuart and John Holland for umpiring for me during the season. We were the only Metro side that I saw to provide plate umpiring. I like to think a more professional approach. It gave me the opportunity to explain how the strike zone is different depending where the umpire stood. I wonder if any of the kids remember.
- Parents for being so supportive and putting up with me, my job is not just to coach and teach the kids but it is also to engage with yourselves and to get you actively involved with the club.
- Lastly but not least the players for putting up with me!

Bruce Fitzgerald
Coach

Team Members

Stephen Clarke
Alex Marshall
Jack Enciondo
Hikaru Yokota

Michael Leslie
Connor Doody
Luke Porter

Jack Daniels
Matthew McKenna
Michael Fiore
Emily Fitzgerald

UNDER 14 BRUMBIES

The Brumbies have had a great season and have played well for most of it we can only hope that we can go all the way.

Our starting pitcher this season has been **Adam Burdett** who has done a great job on the mound he has been helped out by **Jordan Russell**, **Tom Davidson** and **Ben Leslie**. They have all done well.

Catchers this season have also been Tom and Ben. They have done a great job and have not had many stolen bases taken from their throw-overs.

At 1st base this season it has been Jordan, he has done a great job and has proven himself on the bag.

At 2nd base this season **Siva Theiveekan** has played and has been one of the great improvers he has really taken some great catches there that have won us games.

At Short stop this season **Michael Mitchell**, also a great improver and he has shown that is his position.

At 3rd base we have had **Nathan Freeman** and Tom between them they have done a great job with some strong throwing to first.

Out fielders this season have not had a lot of work to do but when did, they all got it right. The out fielders were **Adrian Marcon**, **Nick Richards**, **Adam Asi**, **Lachlan Whiteside** and Nathan.

Our bat this season has been good with some home runs hit and some great single base hits as well.

I think that this season has been a great team effort by all and I would like to thank you all very much for a great season.

I would also like to thank all the parents for their support during the season it has been great would not have been able to do it without you all.

Thank you
Your coach
Daniel

Team Members

Adam Asi	Adam Burdett	Thomas Davidson
Nathan Freeman	Ben Leslie	Adrian Marcon
Michael Mitchell	Nicholas Richards	Jordan Russell
Theiveekan Sivabirunthan	Lachlan Whiteside	

UNDER 14 STALLIONS

Another season, another great team. This year our line-up consisted both of experienced baseballers and new players to the game, who all came out of the 07/08 seasons with new skills and more knowledge of the game. Although we have had a tough season trying to put points on the board, our team pushed every game to their full potential.

At the start of the season we pushed hard winning a good percentage of our games by big margins, which shows we may come out with great success with in the finals.

Our pitchers this year were Chase Cevec, Jack Ogilvie and Yoshi Campitelli, who all shown their tremendous talent on the mound this season.

Yoshi Campitelli- This year Yoshi only joined us in the 2nd half of the season, but for the limited time he played with us he has shown a lot of young talent. With a high batting ave and solid pitching this season he has a long way to go in the future.

Jack Ogilvie - This year Jack played like a pro. Throughout the season he stood up to be one of the leaders of our team and has shown it in the game. This season Jack played a wide range of positions, excelling when he pitched and caught.

Chase Cevec - Chase this year was our starting pitcher and what a job his done. Every game Chase would pitch at least 3 innings and still manage to be very strong with the bat and achieve a very strong average.

Connor Doody - Connor was another player that took the step up to U14 from the U12 competition. And he has shown that he is very capable within this level of baseball. He has shown his skill at third base making a number of high percentage plays throughout the season and contributing to the hits of the team.

Shane Vertigan - This season Shane contributed to our team within a wide range of different ways. He has been our solid short stop this season and has definitely contributed to our team with the bat. This year Shane hit the ball flat and came up with a number of RBI's when it counted.

Sam De Rose - This year Sam stepped up to be one of our most valuable players, for not only did he protect our home plate this season, he stepped up in the batting box and came away with a number of hits and very solid batting.

Callum Griffiths - Callum this year was one of our players that kept behind the team, and played with heart. Callum this year has improved a great deal on his ability in the batting box and within the field.

Mitch Adams - This season Mitch was confident in the field as well as in the batters box and was able to play the game with great skill. On the next few seasons Mitch may be a player that will need to watched out for in the batters box.

Justin Aron - Justin this year was a young player who decided to step and play U14 instead of U12 and was one of the boys that hit the ball with great skill. This Season Justin played first base and I must say played it brilliantly and with great skill.

Miffanwy Smith - Miffanwy this year was a very versatile player within our team. She was able to contribute to the team's success though her confidence in the field and when she wanted to, she would show the skill she had within the field with a number of plays throughout the season.

Ryan Taylor - Ryan is a player that no matter what the situation, he tries his hardest to get the job done. Ryan has played a number of different positions including doing a brilliant job behind the dish when he gets the chance.

Marika Unger - Marika this year was a new player to our team and the game. Marika has improved and is now learning the rules of the game. And with more experience may be able to put a lot into the game.

Thank you for the U12 players who stood up and took on the challenge of playing U14 to raise our numbers throughout the season - Will Mason, Jack Enciondo, Joel Whitehead, Zak Palmer

Thank you for all the parents who supported the team behind the field and especially to Janine Rizzi, our Scorer and Tony Cevac, our Umpire.

Peter and Andrew Rizzi
Coaches

Team Members

Mitchell Adams
Chase Cevac
Jack Enciondo
Miffanwy Smith
Marika Unger

Justin Aron
Samuel De Rose
Callum Griffiths
Ryan Taylor

Yoshi Campitelli
Connor Doody
Jack Ogilvie
Shane Vertigan

UNDER 14 STATE

On paper we had a fairly strong side aiming for at least a top 4 spot, this showed before Christmas with us being on top of the ladder with no losses and great attitude. However after Christmas everything dropped away. With the Grand Final still in the grasp our attitude at training and respect for what our coaches give up to train these kids I found really hard to take before the finals. Kids at this age need to realise that how they train is what they take into a game or a grand final and especially a grand final.

I would like to thank all my scorers. Special thanks to Ian Curnow as assistance coach who didn't miss a training or a game and to Peter Burdett for his assistance in coaching and umpiring game days. Thank you to all parents who showed up for our games and supported us.

Please note due to time restraints, I am writing this before we have played in the Grand Final. I could only hope the best for the boys and hope in the future each of these boys activate their self control and give 110% in practice and respect to those who deserve it. Some of the attitudes throughout the season were to say the least disgraceful, I would like to mention one boy's attitude who completely turned around and after Christmas really trained hard, listened and prospered from this - well done to Ben Leslie.

Those trophy winners – congratulation, but I feel there was no one-off stars in the team. At this level of state baseball a player needs to realise their level and potential and play where fielded by their coach.

I would just like to make a quick mention; whilst being pleased to see all parents there on game day, I would like to say all coaches are on a voluntary basis and try to do their best by the club and the side, not always things go in your favour but your support should be with the side and the club at heart. This making a stronger close knit club.

As a member of Cheltenham Baseball Club congratulations to John Carlile and the Summer Committee on their work ethics and would like to thank John Ferguson for ground maintenance, Matthew Gourlay as Club Coach, Steve Campitelli as Under 14 Junior Coordinator and special thanks to Tiny T and her family for a great job in the canteen.

I hope by writing this on the Wednesday night, being that this was due in tonight, that our attitudes will be great on Thursday and the Grand Final score line was in our favour.

Yours in Baseball,
Dave Stenhouse

Team Members

Kane Bode
Chase Cevec
Ben Greer
Shane Vertigan

Adam Burdett
Brett Curnow
Ben Leslie
Matthew Wilson

Yoshi Campitelli
Thomas Davidson
Jack Ogilvie



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for their support with Junior Presentation

Thank you to
Connie Upfill
for being the best MC!

Thank you to
John Davidson
for the loan of the sound system for Presentation

AND

A big thank you to
Janine Rizzi
for jointly coordinating Junior Presentation

Sue Felsenthal
15 March 2008