

CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB INC
Summer Season
2010-2011



Rustlers

JUNIOR PRESENTATION
Sunday, 3 April 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

TBALL

To Michelle - another fantastic year! It's your last, and on behalf of the club, thank you for your dedication to this age group. To fill your shoes will be a difficult task.

This program continues to be a great introduction to the sport and provides the necessary building blocks for enjoying baseball. I would like to thank the parents for your work this year. The goal, as a club, is to build on this to ensure that we are able to provide a quality program into the future.

The main aim at Tee-ball is to have fun – I hope this has been achieved and everyone has had a good time.

To all the coaches, scorers, umpires and helpers - thank you for your efforts and we hope to see you next year!

JUNIORS

To Peter/Stell/David - The club fielded 17 junior sides again this year. This is a lot of work. A lot of the time, effort and planning that goes into this is unnoticed but shows up in what happens during the year at training and on game days. Thank you for your efforts. Overall, the learning and development continues and we can only get better if everyone is part of the team.

Congratulations to the U14 Mariners for their Grand Final win! To the U14 AAA side, you had a great season and came so very close to a Grand Final win. Congratulations to all the players who represented the club in State sides and the South East Mariners.

Again to all the coaches, scorers, umpires and helpers - thank you for your efforts. We cannot do it without you!

SENIORS

To Hayden/Matt/Michael – The club fielded 10 senior sides over 3 divisions this summer. Along the way there were ups and downs with injuries, unavailable players, wins / losses and all the other usual things that make life interesting for coaches and selectors.

At this level it is a team effort to get all the sides filled on a week by week basis and be competitive. So to the "whole" team - thank you for your efforts over the year.

The club making the finals in Division 1 for the first time in 33 years (as our Chairman of Selectors kept telling us!) reminds us how competitive this division is, along with the amount of hard work and team effort that is required to succeed. To reflect on this and think about all the talented players who have stepped out for the club over those 33 years makes us take a moment and know that we cannot relax or

another club will quickly replace us at the top end of Division 1. It is important to continue to set high standards and work towards achieving team goals.

Congratulations to the Division 1, 4ths and the Division 4 side on their Grand Final wins!

Again to all the coaches, scorers, umpires and helpers - thank you for your efforts. We cannot do it without you!

CLUB LEVEL

This year has been a big challenge with all the rain that we have had. Financially, some weekends were reduced to 50% or less of what we budgeted for. At a Committee level, this has made us nervous about spending money. Our latest figures show that we will break even this year.

The following are some big positives from my point of view:

- New website, reports, stories and communication
- Thursday night meals were a great success for the club
- Continued success of our Tee-ball program
- Continued success of the in-house U12 centre
- Senior games played at Cheltenham mid week

Where to now:

- New committee members are required – some jobs were not filled this year putting pressure on the members to pick up extra functions – this is not sustainable!!
- Try to continue to assist aspiring coaches
- Establish an U14 / U16 in-house centre
- Continue to keep working on improving facilities – diary notes of our contacts with Council are on the website.

How can you help:

- Make yourself aware of what is happening around the club. The club website – cheltenham.baseball.com.au - is a great source of information
- Assist the coaches where possible – let them coach
- Keep us informed of changes to email addresses
- If you are able to do little things, the committee can focus on a few more big ticket items

Anyone who may be able to help with sponsorship or fund raising, please feel free to contact me on 0407 096 451 or email carlilej@bigpond.net.au.

Yours sincerely,

John Carlile
Summer President
Cheltenham Baseball Club

LITTLE LEAGUE COORDINATORS REPORT

TIME AND GAME.....

The curtain falls on another Summer Little League Baseball season and, despite the four seasons of weather we seem to have had over the last 6 months, we've got through relatively unscathed with just 2 washouts.

First off, I must congratulate Rob Hogan and the Springvale Lions for winning the championship! It was wonderful to have their strong side in our Friday Night Competition as it certainly made the 5 Cheltenham sides rise to the occasion and play good, competitive Baseball. Well done to all the Springvale players, parents and helpers.

To our wonderful coaches:

Firstly, to our legendary Sunday Rep Team Coach, **Colin Upfill** - I have only known this man for 3 years and in that time I have come to regard him as a friend and a mentor not just for the children he devotes so much time and enthusiasm to but to me personally and I am sure many parents along the journey. As he retires from a long and decorated coaching career I am thankful I was a small part of it and my son was as well. What a wonderful season we all had this summer under Colin. He brought out the absolute best in all the boys and, almost criminally, we missed the finals by 3%. I have no doubt we would have won the premiership had we sneaked in as we were the form side of the competition. Thanks for everything Col. Time to relax, have a training reward. Fight the sun our friend.

To my Friday Night Coaches:

Karen Peterson has now coached the Red Sox team to 2 play-off Finals in two years and done a wonderful job with all her players over this time. She has been a very enthusiastic and approachable role model for all her young charges and I am sure they have all learnt a lot over the summer. Congratulations and my sincere thanks for everything Karen, a job well done!

Anthony Bowley has a fantastic knowledge of the game of baseball, having played most of his life and coached at many levels and has been an inspiration to his Phillies team. I enjoyed playing against Anthony's team each time because I always learnt something from him. Ant has become a mate over the years since our initial rivalry back in tee ball days - thanks bud!

Craig Sexton put his hand up to look after the Devil Rays and with an undermanned side throughout the season has kept his team upbeat and certainly brought the best out in all of them. He is extremely enthusiastic and I sincerely thank him for all his efforts over the summer.

Finally, the Yankees. What a wonderful trio of young lads **Will Mason, Stefan Taranto and Zak Palmer** have been right from the outset when they stuck their hands up to coach an Under 12 team! These are 3 incredible Clubmen who, despite limited success over the season, have kept positive and enthusiastic with their team.

Their knowledge of the game has no doubt rubbed off on all the players and 3 more polite boys you would not meet! Thanks guys so much!

A lot of people have contributed to the success of the Little League Friday night competition this summer. I want to thank Dave Coppen and Steve Pocock, who both umpired nearly every Friday night which helped enormously; all the assistant coaches as well as Nicole Croker who filled in a couple of times for Craig when his work took him elsewhere. To Tina and Kath in the canteen; Peter and Stell for their input; John Carlile for his confidence and support; the wonderful Robyn Jones (do we stop emailing now?) for her brilliant and efficient communication skills; Steve Campitelli the legendary webmaster; Gaby Taranto and Michelle Ogilvie for their hard work for the Club and the rest of the Committee for their hard work - I also say thank you.

On finals night we were treated to Club superstars Hayden Dingle and Daniel Mack coming down to umpire 2 of our matches. The kids were gob smacked and they all put on their best performances in front of 2 Rustler greats. Thank you so much to both Daniel and Hayden for supporting us on the night.

Nothing would be possible for Under 12 Friday night baseball if not for the incredible efforts of John Ferguson. Ferg coordinated our Wednesday night training sessions from start to finish with excitement and enthusiasm. He was there every Friday afternoon setting up the diamonds in order that we were ready to go at starting time and in every little nook and cranny around the Club you would find John. He is a true legend of the Club and continues to prove his love of the game at every level, every year. From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of everyone Ferg, thank you so much for everything!

Thank you to all the parents for coming out each Friday night and supporting your children and their team. It is a terrific social atmosphere where parents can wind down at the end of the week and cheer the kids on. I hope you have all enjoyed it.

My biggest thanks go to the players. Five teams of boys and girls who have embraced the game of baseball and hopefully have enjoyed the season and made improvements to their game along the way. I am sure you have all made new friends and hope that these friendships continue through your baseball careers at Cheltenham.

Finally thank you to my amazing son. Thank you for dragging me down to tee-ball 3 years ago and allowing me to be a part of your emerging and ever-improving baseball career ever since. I have enjoyed every minute! Love ya Dude!

Enjoy the winter everyone. See you next summer!

David Holland
Under 12 Coordinator

UNDER 12 AAA MINOR LEAGUE

John-Paul Callil
Jack Dunn
Archer Hall
Michael Moore
Jake Pocock

Samuel Doree
Jackson Fear-Keinast
Matt Holland
Angus Octigan
Mackenzie Robins

Apart from winning the flag I don't believe I could have finished my coaching career on any better note than this season with the Under 12's. In the final three weeks of the year the team convincingly defeated 3 of the top four sides culminating in the heroic win over the previously unbeaten Berwick outfit.

The guys started the season sluggishly and this, combined with an unlucky draw, saw them fall just short of the finals. That notwithstanding, the players improved every week and in the last game proved beyond doubt that they were the hottest team in the conference.

Jack Dunn had a sensational back half, shouldering the role of starting pitcher and leading the batting averages with .455. He was the catalyst for the teams form reversal and deservedly MVP.

Much of the catching responsibility fell to Mack Robins who held down the spot with great authority as the season wore on. Mack was also dangerous in the batting box supplying drive from the lower order.

Mr. Reliable at first base was Angus Octigan. He has had another fine season with both bat and glove, converting over 50 outs from just about the same number of opportunities; batting .372 and on base over .600.

Matthew Holland has made second base his own, having another impressive year with only one error. Matty was also our lead-off hitter and his knack of getting aboard .667 OBP was often the reason we were able to go on to victory.

With an errorless display at third base, Archer Hall was outstanding. Archer's aggression in the batting box put him in the top three hitters with a BA of .429. A very professional and polished season and good things are in store for this young man.

At shortstop was the classy Jake Pocock. He is among the very top players in the competition. Although he may have wished for a slightly higher batting average, Jake was on base an amazing .778 and his devastating speed tore up the opposition.

From acorns mighty oak trees grow, and at left field at the end of the season John-Paul Callil was our oak. John-Paul's natural tenacity and hard work paid dividends as he grew to be not only dependable but also in the mix of our best contributors.

In lonely Center Field waits Sam(uel) Doree... waits for a chance to shine, and so often Sam did, whether in the field (Samuel also provided some solid pitching

performances) or with the bat, finishing high in the averages. This guy will be a force to be reckoned with next season.

Michael Moore did a great job at Right Field and other utility spots around the diamond. He is a natural athlete and built for baseball with left hand bat & right hand throw. Finishing in the top four hitters with .409 and second in OBP, Michael was a key player in this group.

Finally, but not least, utility player Jackson Fear-Kienast, who filled several roles including catcher through the season, all with excellent skills. Jackson put up solid numbers in all areas and will be an important player next season.

Thanks to Harry Goakes & James Eadie for their contributions.

I was blessed with a wonderful group of parents, who made sure I did not take myself too seriously through the year. So thanks for your support and the obvious excellent contribution you have made in the upbringing of your kids.

Special thanks to Brett Octigan for his input and assistance, Gary Hall as Assistant Coach, David Holland our exceptional scorer and his "here give me that, I'll do that" approach, and James Albert (Jimbo) without whom I may not have gone the journey.

Thanks baby for letting me out to play one last time.

Cuppy
Fight the Sun

Coach – Colin Upfill
Asst Coach – Gary Hall
Scorers – David Holland, Brett Octigan

LITTLE LEAGUE DEVIL RAYS

Samuel Doree
Declan Croker
Charlie Douglas
Daniel L'Abbate
Jordan Hart

Jackson Fear-Keinast
Ben Sexton
Ryan Tyquinn
Josh Pedigrew
Ethan Cha

The Devil Rays started the season with 4 second year players and 5 rookies. We lost a bit of 'sting' early when experienced player Declan suffered a broken arm between game 2 & 3 but with the assistance of a couple of young stand-ins and despite the weather disrupted summer, the Devil Rays completed a credible 2010/2011 .

Of the returning players, Jackson stepped up early cementing a position as first up batter. He consistently battered well, ran hard between bases and finished with an impressive run total. This, combined with a great season of pitching, saw him take out the MVP award.

Another 'veteran of the game' Sam had a busy season after being selected for the South East Mariners and having pitching duties with the Cheltenham U12 AAA Rustlers. This limited what he could throw for the Devil Rays, but when he was permitted his pitching gave us a great boost. In our final game Sam finally hit his home run that had been eluding him all season.

Second year player Charlie had a solid season with some great hitting attributing to plenty of assisted runs. Charlie got a regular pitch this season and did well to record good strike figures.

As mentioned above, Declan would probably want to forget his first half of the season but soon after his plaster was off, he was back and took up regular catching duties. Although Declan is a 'lefty' catching behind predominantly right handed batters he proved it was no obstacle and was improving with every game.

Ethan has been the Rays quiet achiever. New to the game, he trained diligently and was quickly making headlines with his batting and fielding competence. Ethan also pitched regularly and threw a surprising high number of strikes.

Josh had his first season up from Tee-ball and would be happy with his achievements. He scored more than his fair share of runs due to his strong base running. He could also be relied upon to be the voice in the field when the team needed some 'talking up'.

Ben started his first season of baseball in style hitting a home run in Round 1. He continued his good form for the season with plenty of runs, good pitching figures and dependable catching performances.

New recruit Ryan showed great skills especially in the field. In his first game of baseball he took a magnificent catch at short stop. By the end of the season he was fielding first base like a pro.

Another newcomer was Ryan's mate Daniel who improved all season and played some good baseball and always enjoyed himself. In fact the entire team always seemed to be having fun even when games didn't go our way.

I should also mention a couple of young tee-ballers who stepped in to help us out in a big way when we were struggling for numbers to avoid forfeits. Cam and Jordan got a taste of real baseball and both contributed greatly to the team. Their time with the Devil Rays should give them a head start next year.

The reduced game time and training time due to inclement weather was particularly costly for our young team and it wasn't until the last few games that our fielding performance suddenly clicked. This was evident when we held the highly rated Springvale Lions to 2 in Round 13. I'm sure with a couple more games our batting performance would have seen the same improvement.

Of course like any kids sport we couldn't play each week if it weren't for the input of numerous adults like our scorers Justine Fear and Anne-Marie Pedigrew, along with regular umpire Dave Coppins, Coordinator Dave Holland and senior coach/groundsman John Ferguson.

Thanks to all!

Coach – Craig Sexton

Asst Coach – Nicole Croker

Scorers – Justine Fear and Anne-Marie Pedigrew

LITTLE LEAGUE GIANTS

Niamh Carmody
Jack Dunn
Matt Holland
Jana Montanaro
Tom Ogilvie

Julian Cook
Kyle Goodwin
David McDonald
Michael Moore
Mackenzie Robins

The Giants returned for another season of Little League Friday Night baseball with 5 'old' faces and 5 new players making our team roster this summer. We had some great games throughout, notably our 7-all final round draw against the eventual champions Springvale and a terrific final against Ant Bowley's Phillies who took a close victory in a great game.

In 2010-2011 the Giants were represented by:

Jack Dunn - Another outstanding season from Jack who finished with a .704 batting average and 1.370 Slugging , an obvious measure of his power hitting. His season was highlighted at the plate with 19 hits including 4 doubles, a triple and 4 home runs! Jack has a great arm and is well suited to short stop when not on the mound. Great season Jacky D!

Michael Moore - I cannot say enough about Michael! He has had a magnificent season with the bat averaging a staggering .750 . As a left handed bat and right handed throw he is the ultimate baseballer. He is a reliable 1st baseman and steady and accurate pitcher and has a huge future. Michael led OBP with .828 and also led runs and hits which included 2 home runs. Once again a pleasure to coach!

Matthew Holland - Yet another fantastic season from Matt who has become, in this team and the Sunday team, a superb 2nd baseman. Matt completed some outstanding defensive plays, and took some great catches, was a reliable and hard-working catcher and his batting was often inspiring. I was also very proud of his leadership and direction to others in the team. Matt batted at .433 and had a 1.000 fielding average with 38 put outs, 7 assists and a double play to finish yet another great season. Great job Champ!!

Mackenzie Robins - This lad has emerged as an outstanding talent especially with the gear on as catcher. Mack is aggressive and reliable behind the plate and has taken massive steps in his quick thinking and control of the game. His hitting has improved dramatically finishing with an average of .593 with 16 hits, 4 of them doubles. Our Golden Glove Award winner - well done Macca!!

Kyle Goodwin - In a year when everyone improved every week, I was particularly proud of Kyle who has emerged as a potential pitcher of the future. His accuracy was evident and with some strength, control and consistency he definitely has the ability to take the next step. He was our most used pitcher with 13 innings and an ERA of 3.00. Swing hard and get comfortable champ. Great season

Niamh Carmody - Niamh (Neve) has melted my heart every week! She has a beautiful smile and more importantly a steely will to improve every game. Niamh improved every week in all areas of her game especially her hitting and was unlucky on several occasions hitting hard only to be unluckily caught! Always with a smile, always listening and wanting to improve, Niamh has been a delight to have in the team.

David McDonald - What a goer!! David began the season without any experience and found it difficult to get bat on ball early on. His stance and swing improved and he soon found he was unable to miss! Dave learnt so much about the game in such a short space of time and finished with 5 hits and a good pitching performance and absolutely loves to play the game. Great work David!

Julian Cook - Another big improver, Julian has adjusted his style and batting action over the season and it has certainly paid off. I watch the better players play every week and they regularly get their hits but the most enjoyable moments of the season for me have been when Julian got his hits. The smile and joy on his face was what Friday Night baseball is all about!

Thomas Ogilvie - Tom has a natural baseball swing and as the season wore on he connected more frequently each week. Tom is still a tee-baller and so has a huge future as a baseballer. He loves to play and loves to try anything having stints as catcher and pitcher during the season. Tom had 9 hits (2 doubles) with an average of .333.

Jana Montanaro - Jana played just 6 games for us before Christmas before other commitments meant she could not continue. We certainly hope she returns to the Club next year. A delightful young girl!

Once again I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the Giants. It has been a wonderful 2 years and I have made many new friends. I have had a total of 16 children play with me over the 2 years and all have been a pleasure to coach. I wish all the team from this year every success next summer whether you be Under 14 or Under 12. Enjoy your baseball, practice hard and do your best.

I have again been blessed with a terrific group of parents who have supported their children week in week out and I want to especially thank **Karen Dunn, Richard Goodwin** and **Ruth Moore** for scoring, **Pete Moore** for all the help he has given me over 2 years and my special thanks go to **Alex Marshall** who volunteered his assistance at the beginning of the season and has been a blessing for me and the players. Alex's assistance at training and Friday nights cannot be understated and I truly could not have got through each week without him. A great young lad who is admired and respected by all players and parents. Thanks Mate!!

Thank you to all coaches and players for wonderful sportsmanship and a fun summer of baseball!

GO PIES!!

Coach - David Holland
Asst Coach – Alex Marshall
Scorers – Karen Dunn and Ruth Moore

LITTLE LEAGUE PHILLIES

Nils Bellarts
Oliver Bowley
John-Paul Callil
Max Markham
Peter Vacouftsiss

Per Bellarts
Angus Brooks
James Eadie
Thomas Newton
Kaleb Willmshurst

The 2010/11 Season has come and gone in a hurry. With a new team, some already having played but most new comers to baseball coming over from Tee-ball, the challenge was there for everyone - coaches, scorers and players.

We started the year coming up against the Giants who had some experienced players and some new faces too. We started as well as we could going down 6-4. I said at the time the Phillies were coming, and we were well on our way. The second game we matched it with the big boys from Springvale winning 10-9 in a close game. The following week we had a draw against the very respectable Red Sox. After three games and only dropping one, were the Phillies the surprise team of the year?

With five more wins from six matches and a couple of washouts the Phillies were sitting equal 1st and that's when the wheel started to fall off. We came up against the big hitting Springvale matching it with them for four complete innings. Starting the last innings at 5 all Springvale managed 3 runs, which we were not able to respond to in our last batting innings, losing 8-5.

The next week we ran into the red hot Red Sox getting a lesson going down 12-2. The following week we played much better against the Yankees winning 10-4. With a smaller percentage than Springvale the Phillies had to play the Giants for third position. Starting for the Phillies was John Paul doing a great job only allowing 1 run to be scored. The Giants started with Jack Dunn but the boys jumped out of the blocks scoring 3 runs in the first inning.

With a very tight defensive game the Phillies only allowed the Giants to score one more run for the game, which came off a solo home run from Michael Moore. The Phillies scored two more taking out the game 5-2. With a win loss record of 10 wins, one draw and 4 losses I think the Phillies were well and truly there. And we will be back next year, bigger and better.

Rather than talking about each player individually, I would prefer to talk about them as a team. The boys combined well supporting each other, knowing their weaknesses and strengths. They also developed and put into practice some more advanced skills and plays. Their improvement throughout the year was obvious. I hope the boys enjoyed the year as much as I have and I look forward to taking the Phillies a step further next year. Well done boys!

Before I finish, I would like to thank everyone who helped throughout the year. To my long time assistant (dating all the way back to the Tee-ball Pirates!), Paul Eadie - thank you for your help.

To Tracy Eadie for scoring - see Tracy, it wasn't that hard once you got the hang of it, was it?! Thank you to Andrew Newton for scoring when Tracy couldn't be there. And thank you to all of the parents who helped out throughout the year. Thank you also to Dave Holland for running the comp and a big thank you to John Ferg for preparing the grounds every Friday and running training every Wednesday.

See you all next year - Go Phillies!

Coach – Anthony Bowley

Asst Coach – Paul Eadie

Scorers – Tracy Eadie and Andrew Newton

LITTLE LEAGUE RED SOX

Dante Caruso
Graham Deberux
Michaela Henry
Angus Octigan
Jake Pocock

Gianni Caruso
Ben Henry
Nosuke Komuro
Bryce Peterson
Billy Ryan

The Red Sox had a great fun season of baseball this summer with 9 wins, 1 draw and 3 losses. We had a good combination of experienced players and new players to baseball with everyone getting on with each other and playing well as a team. One of the things I loved most about this team was their big hitting and they could steal a base under anyone's nose.

Angus Octigan – was one of the more experienced players in the team. He played behind the plate for most of the season and did a great job. He was also our leadoff batter and never let the team down, keep up the good work Gus.

Ben & Michaela Henry – had their first season together at Cheltenham baseball Club, and they had good basic skills. With more games under their belt I look forward to their future development.

Billy Ryan - This was Billy's first season playing baseball and what a terrific first season he had. Billy showed a big improvement when he came back from the summer break and his batting really improved as the season went on.

Bryce Peterson – I relied on Bryce to be the starting pitcher on most games and he never let the team down, sending many players back to the dugout.

Dante Caruso – was by far the smallest and youngest player in our team this season and boy does size not matter with this guy. He has a natural talent for baseball both on the field and with the ball. Dante is a future rising star.

Gianni Caruso – had a terrific season this year and I could put him in any position and know he would do a great job. He was a real asset to the Red Sox team.

Graham Deberux – was a new starter this season. His skills and confidence developed quickly. He was always happy to have a chat and was a pleasure to coach.

Jake Pocock – had another great season of baseball both on the field and with the bat. Jake can take on any position with confidence. He also made it into the South East Regional team this year.

Nosuke Komuro – Another new player to baseball, Nosuke was always very keen to do his best for the team and he showed a lot of improvement as the season went on. Keep up the good work Nosuke.

Special thanks to:

- Trent for being assistance coach again this year, I could not have done it without you, your knowledge of baseball and encouragement you gave the players was invaluable.
- Stephen for umpiring every week and for also being my Team Manager.
- Joe, Sarah, Monica and Susan for sharing the scoring job.
- Vicki for helping with the chocolate fund raiser for our team.
- Jamie, Bernie & Brett for being our great cheer squad every week.
- All other parents who helped out when help was needed and who supported the team so positively throughout the season – thank you.

Coach - Karen Peterson

Asst Coach – Trent Vanderhiden

Umpire/Team Manager – Stephen Pocock

Scorers – Joe, Sarah, Monica & Susan

LITTLE LEAGUE YANKEES

Harry Goakes
Jackson Holt
Declan Hynes
Max Miller
Jack Wilmott

Archer Hall
Brodie Hopkins
Mackenzie Lawrence
Josh Smith

The Yankees have been a fantastic team this summer. We've all had great fun and enjoyed each other's company throughout the season. This was a team that was full of kids eager to learn the game with close to all of them finding their way to training every week. At training the boys learned from experience to bring all protective gear (box) to every training session, ...sorry Max.

Everybody brought something different to the team, finding talents in the game they didn't know they had. Thanks to Archer, Harry, Mac and Max for pitching throughout the season for us and to Brodie and Jackson for catching a fantastic season, and hopefully Declan learned not to dare his coaches to put him last on the batting order or be put in right field! Everyone in the team brought an energy to every game, especially Josh, who rocked up every week with an attitude of a superstar. This made it easy for us to coach week after week.

Thanks to Jack for staying with us throughout the season and to Woodley, Jet and Sebastian for filling in when we were short of players.

The Yankees are a young, inexperienced team who played with flashes of brilliance. Unfortunately this wasn't enough for them to chalk up many wins over the season but hopefully the boys have gained more experience and had lots of fun on the way! Good effort this season, boys, and hope to see you all back again next year.

A big thank you to Gary, ably assisted by Gabriela, for scoring week-in and week-out. Also, a big thanks to Ferg for helping with training and setting up the diamond each week.

Coaches - Will Mason, Zak Palmer & Stefan Taranto
Scorer – Gabriela Taranto

U14 COORDINATORS REPORT

The group of children at Cheltenham in this age is both deep in numbers and talent. The questions is how to find a place for as many kids as possible and look after everyone? 75 kids - just in the U14 age group alone. That's more than many teams have across their whole junior program. As in most junior sports coaches are hard to come by. Friday night training sessions were a sight to behold. After a few weeks teams were split based loosely on friends playing with friends, teams having balanced sides, and if possible also evening out the teams. We were never going to get the evening out completely right, but that's OK. Life is a bit like that too, so it wasn't too big a deal. The coaches who put their hands up were Pedro Enciondo, Stuart Holding, Graeme Chittenden, Rod Anderson, and at the last minute being a coach down Terri Landt agreed to step in and take the last team. A team I add that was full of bottom age kids all keen to have a crack at U14 baseball. Thanks to all those people for stepping up and looking after their teams.

The SE U14 Division season started with 12 teams, but by the end only 8 remained - of which 5 were Cheltenham sides. All the Chelt sides performed very well with no Chelt team losing any games to another club side. No surprise that we finished in the top 5 positions at the end of the season. Whilst the level of play was not quite as high as we would have preferred, having local derbies each week ensured that the friendly rivalries and competitiveness between coaches and players was given plenty of exercise.

At the end of the season four Chelt teams battled in the semi's for the right to take part in the GF. It ended up being Mariners and Red Sox who went through. These were the two teams with the oldest and biggest kids, so to see these two in the final was not a surprise to anyone. The grand final was a fantastic game enjoyed by all the people who made their way down to enjoy some Friday evening action. Red Sox lead the way early, but a last inning defensive lapse saw Mariners come home strong and manage to tie the game five all at the end of regulation. Daylight (or rather lack of it) halted the game, then after a few phone calls to BV to validate we could do this, a draw was called. Then (as per St Kilda/Collingwood) a rematch was scheduled for the following Wed. And to ensure that we would get a result, a 5:30 start time was agreed on. Unfortunately this game wasn't a repeat of the thriller we'd all enjoyed the previous Friday. Pedro's Mariners got on top early, then any hope of a comeback was snuffed by an injury to Stu's ace Max Barrett. From there Mariner's coasted into the GF victory.

The Sunday teams also all experienced success of varying levels. The same logistical challenges existed and over 40 boys tried out for the three teams. Unfortunately some very good bottom age kids couldn't make the teams, but some last minute negotiating with Springvale found a place for those that wanted to play Sundays. We found two coaches in Paul Cummings and Rick Porter for two of the sides, and (for those unaware) I ended up looking after the Major League team when hopes to lure ex coaches out of retirement failed. The initial "qualifying" period has been discussed ad infinitum, even blind Freddie could see that we had one side who would go straight into Major League, and two other teams who could both have played in Major league and been competitive. But as per BV guidelines, one side played Majors, and the other two got to dominate in AAA. U14B had a great season finishing

second but knocked out in the first final, U14A made it all the way to the Major League GF only to be pipped at the post by a very strong Berwick side by one run, and U14C went through the season undefeated, winning the AAA GF in dominating fashion 10 - 0 against an untypically flat Waverley side who gave them no resistance at all.

We were also very well represented at the National U14 tournament with 10 boys making state teams, and also in the State LL Summer tournament the South East Mariners were peppered with Cheltenham juniors. Our State reps were Blue team members Max Barrett, Koji Campitelli, Jack Enciondo, Riki Preston, Koki Fukusaku and George Callil. White team members Josh Goschnick, Sam Trend- Beacom, and Murad Mohamed (Territories). Our Little League Mariners representatives were Luke Buckthorpe, Luke Sexton, Matt Stenhouse, Jak Cummings, Ashley Flynn and Ryan Taranto, as well as U12 boys Sam Doree and Jake Pocock.

I would also like to thank and recognise some of the other club members who do things to support not only this age group, but the whole club. First of all I've got to thank Ferg, John Ferguson. For those of you who only see some bloke who's either setting up grounds, or painting bases, let me tell you there's a lot more to him than first meets the eye. His advice and guidance has been invaluable. As well Ferg, Dave Coppins and Ian Curnow's help in setting up diamonds on Friday's made all the coaches' lives so much easier. All the Friday and Sunday coaches get huge a vote of thanks too, and not just the U14 group I'm referring to. Junior coaching is a balance between guiding, teaching, having fun, being a role model and if possible, appeasing all the egos (parents I mean not kids). Just giving time to this is not something that happens without individuals making sacrifices to other parts of their lives. We have to remember that everyone is a volunteer and giving their time and efforts freely. There are also the normal workers around the club who also need to be mentioned. I've seen firsthand what goes on in the background so have to thank the committee and helpers for their work. People like John Carlile, Peter Leslie and Robyne Jones (to name a few) are always involved in cleaning, running BBQs, behind the bar etc etc. Nothing "just happens". If not for the tireless work of that hard working few, this club would quickly stall. Thanks all.

Stell Michael
U14 Coordinator

U14 SUNDAY A

George Callil
Jack Enciondo
Josh Goschnick
Sam Michael
Riley Parker
Sam Trend-Beacom

Koji Campitelli
Koki Fukusaku
Mitch Holding
Michael Natoli
Riki Preston

The Major League team was made up of a very talented bunch, pretty much all capable of being starting pitchers and lead off or clean up hitters in most teams. It's rare that you are in a position of having too much talent, but for this team to work, players would have to accept other roles and share the glory. In order to get enough pitching and time across the total age group some very good players were placed in the AAA sides and given the year to develop. This is a great long term strategy and worked very well. In the Major League team we settled on four main pitchers with a few boys getting cameos during the year. This allowed the rest of the team to get their pitching time on Friday nights. This year level's depth was indicated in the high number of boys selected to the two state squads, and the number of other boys who went deep into the selection process.

So the Major League team had been formed, and due to the round robin qualifying 5 weeks, was to be known as U14A. The two other coaches also selected their teams (let's call the U14B and U14C for now), and the qualifying pre-season was ready to start. In our draw we were "fortunate" enough to come across a settled and mature Waverley side first game. This is a team who had been training before we even started our selection process. It was our first real test and was a great opportunity to identify the areas of improvement. The final score 10-2 Waverley's way showed a few growth opportunities for the team. The main (in my mind) was the attitude they took into the game. We were soundly beaten, and this was a real wake up call to the lads. Giving up 7 unearned runs, and leaving 13 men on base for the game won't beat anybody. That was the reality check we needed, and in the following two games the boys showed they'd learned the lesson. Wins by more than 20 runs showed the futility of this preseason system. Our last two games were a wash out and a forfeit, so in the end the teams ended up where they were always going, and we'd lost 5 weeks of what could have made for a much longer season.

The season started and a first up game against Blackburn had us down 3-0 early. A bit of panic soon settled as the boys realised that in a two hour game we had the depth in hitting and pitching to outlast most teams. That pattern continued for the season, we either would get on top early and break away, or have an arm wrestle for a few digs, but eventually our depth and constant pressure would wear down teams. Our seemingly endless pitching attack of Koki, Riki, Jack and Josh would wear out their hitters. Only against Berwick in week two did we allow someone to come back, giving up an 8 run lead to only win by 3, but I think that my player movements and substitutions may have had a bit to do with that result...

Our finest hour was the long awaited rematch against Waverley in week 4 of the season. Smarting from the 10-2 drubbing we'd suffered at their hands when we last

met, the team were as focused as I've even seen a junior side. Our depth came good for us; a great pitching effort from Koki going into the 4th dig was then supported by Josh closing off the game with 2.6 great innings in relief. Hitting by nearly all the team and 2 home runs to Jack kept the Waverley team on the back foot. The final score 10-5 Chelt's way. This was a very good win against a very, very good team.

The team went through the season and managed to finish on top of the ladder. This was both a blessing and a curse. Last game of the season was against a weak Preston team who were in Majors probably for the experience. Then the first final was against Doncaster, a team with a small group of very good players, but no real depth. The first final was won by 8 runs putting us into the GF. The final was played at Waverley, and we met up with a hardened Berwick team who had just come off playing two games against title contenders Waverly. Both games were at the Waverley home ground, the site of the pending U14 Grand Final the next week. Berwick lost the first game by one run, with both coaches holding back their key pitchers, but then a great turnaround win in the semi put Berwick into the GF.

The Grand Final was the kind of game I wished we'd been able to have all season. High, high standard against a big hitting, very talented team went right down to the wire with Cheltenham at the wrong end of a 9-8 result. To end the season on that note was disappointing, however there's no shame in losing a close game like that to very talented opposition. Standouts for Cheltenham were Koji Campitelli who caught fantastically all day, and batted 1000 with a HR and two singles, and Sam Michael, who also had a great day at bat, also hit 1000 with a HR, a DB and a single and was involved in two double plays in the field. The only other safe hits of the day were George with a solo HR and Sam Trend-Beacom with an RBI double. To end the season like that was disappointing. Hopefully we got some lessons about preparedness and focus. Complacency when you're unchallenged all year is a hard habit to break. The team did well to play as poorly as we did, and still only lose by one. One or two more boys ready to play may have made a huge difference.

The team was made up of the following boys:

George Callil: easily the best athlete in the side. Started most games at Short Stop, and could also catch, play outfield and pitch. A natural talent, who lead the team in BA (600) and OBP % (667).

Koji Campitelli: our hardworking catcher and part time outfielder. A steady hitter and very clever baseballer always ready to put in at games and a real leader amongst the team. Backbone of the side. Great game in the GF, 3-3 including a solo home run that got us back to 1 down in the bottom of the last inning.

Jack Enciondo: he held down third base defensively, gave us another pitching option, and led the team in regular season home runs (8) and RBIs (20). Hit multiple home runs in 2 games.

Koki Fukusaku: excellent pitcher, only boy to throw a complete game at the National Carnival in QA for both Vic teams. Also a lightening quick fielder who can play anywhere on the ground. Defensive player award due to his hard work, starting pitcher in all the key games. Also finished 3rd in OBP and high in the RBIs.

Josh Goschnick: a steady first baseman who also specialised in closing games out for us on the mound. Also a very good hitter who drove in many runs for us.

Mitch Holding: first baseman in this team, but also a very skilled catcher, and our #3 hitter. A dependable fielder and great power hitter. Second top in home runs (5) and RBIs (16). Hit a Grand Slam against Blackburn in the first game of the season.

Sam Michael: 2nd baseman and #2 hitter, capable fielder all over the ground, lead the team in runs scored. Batting highlight of three home runs against Essendon. Great batting stats for year, 3rd BA, 2nd OBP, 3rd SLG and equal 2nd in RBIs. Had a great Grand final, hit 1000 including HR and DB plus 2 RBIs.

Michael Natoli: a very quick athlete who spent most of his time either in the outfield or at short stop. A very strong arm and quick around the bases.

Riley Parker: another exceptional athlete who whilst not as experienced as the other boys gave us a very fast dependable outfielder. Unfortunately half way through the season he was lost to another sport. Riley made the State Volleyball team so only played the first half of the season.

Riki Preston: a great two way player. Held down left field defensively, had our second lowest ERA pitching, and finished second in the batting average. A great competitor who with his great attitude and behaviour is the type of kid any coach wants in their team.

Sam Trend- Beacom: new comer to the club, starting centerfield, is flexible enough to play most infield and outfield positions. His hitting went in leaps and bounds after Christmas, 14 hits for the season, 6 of them doubles. Hit a key double in the GF to drive home our second run in the first inning, and had a great F8 to 4 double play early in the game.

There's no team without the support of the parents group. First of all I'd like to acknowledge my assistant coach Tadaki Fukusaku. Always ready to help and provided me great support at trainings and games. Worked with the pitchers and made my life much easier. Even taught me to count in Japanese, so I could understand his pitching count notes. The next person to thank is team manager Stuart Holding. Took care of set ups of the grounds, bench, changes to scorers. He and his team of parents could get a diamond ready in minutes. Having the guys doing that really allowed me to focus on the game and made sure we were always ready to play. Tony Preston who scored for us every week also gets a big thanks. We just knew he'd be there, so just one less thing to think about. During the course of the season we had a few umpires, thanks Peter Rizzi to come down and do some home games for us (thanks to his manager Pedro too..). We also had Brad Heenan and Kane Davidson do games for us when they were available, thanks guys. All those guys' efforts were great! Club guys who help teams to which they have no family connection is what makes for a strong club. I also need to give Steve Campitelli a big thanks, he also umpired a few games for us (as well as some practice matches) and also was on me to get my match reports in, as well as scribing our first report before I found my artistic feet (and last report I must add). His BP at training was also appreciated, but not as much as his organisational skills in getting eldest son Yoshi down to throw just a little bit harder than Steve to the boys. Also it would be remiss

of me not to mention his work on the web site. He's turned that into something we are all very proud of, and this has even been recognised by BV in their updates. Thanks guys.

I'd be lying if I didn't say I was disappointed with the way the season ended, But in the light of day (with a few reds under my belt) I have to concede that losing by one run in a great game, to a pretty good team that flew under the radar all season, may not feel good at the time, but is a great learning experience for us all. So hopefully we've all taken something out of the season and that last final, and will become better baseballers and competitors because of it. Thanks.

Coach – Stell Michael

Asst Coach – Tadaki Fukusaku

Team Manager – Stuart Holding

UNDER 14 SUNDAY B

Darcy Bowley
Jak Cummings
Jack Daniels
Ashley Flynn
Murad Mohamoud
Ryan Taranto

Matt Cameron
James Cunningham
Jack Filimua
Sam Hayes
Matt Stenhouse

This year I had the pleasure of coaching Chelts under14B Team who competed in the re formatted Sunday competition.

During the pre season grading games this team did everything it needed to qualify for the major league division finishing 2nd in our pool. Unfortunately the new rules meant we couldn't compete in the Majors as only one team from each club could compete in that Division.

We were placed into the AAA minor league along with the competitions Premiers Chelts under14C team coached by Rick Porter (Congratulations Rick and the Boys) As the season got underway I soon realized I had a team of fantastic young men who were all really keen to learn and improve their game.

Our defence revolved around our four main weapons: Darcy "sticks" Bowley, Sam "bad boy" Hayes, Murad "wild thing" Mohamed and lefty Matt "try a smile" Stenhouse. As a team we were very lucky to have such pitching depth we always knew that one of these guys would bring the goods each week which reflected in our season results.

Our offence was a whole team effort led by Matt "the hitman" Cameron who consistently set us up in his lead off position.

The younger members of the team Ashley "movie star" Flynn, Jak "Boofa" Cummings, Ryan "the mouth" Taranto and previously mentioned Stenny, all held their own both with the bat and in the field all holding down infield positions all year with Ashley also being used as catcher and right fielder. These four boys were selected to represent the South East Mariners Little League team in this year's summer tournament.

We had a rather challenging season at times dealing with player's being banned from all baseball for five weeks by his parents, we had players waiting on BV to give playing clearances and if that wasn't enough Murad went and injured his leg and couldn't play for three weeks. That then guaranteed me a phone call almost every week until the end of the season from Adehlia to discuss well I'm still not sure. Then Matt Cammo injured his knee and would catch for the remainder of the season. The last injury was the one I didn't want to hear and that was when sticks Darcy told me he had a rotator cuff problem.

The other members of the team were the two Jacks, Jack Daniels was my fix it man whenever I needed a hole filled. JD was my man and in the second half of the

season Jack was my starting catcher as Cammo injured his knee. Then we had BIG Jack Filiuauamuauaiuamu (well that's how I seemed to say it every week!). Jack F was like the gentle giant of the team he never really said much but his batting and fielding ability spoke volumes each week and regularly held down 3rd base. I have left the best until last - James "funny man" Cunningham is a very infectious person. He is so full of life and can always put a smile on your face, James was a regular at RF with the ability to back up a pickoff at first and chase down fly balls while catching them mid air. James has one of the strongest bat swings in the team and will one day be batting at 3 or 4. Just remember James, you have to sit with the team and not with all the mums.

Our season ended with a very hard fought contest in the semi finals against Waverley losing 10/7 a very good effort by all.

Well done to everyone and I look forward to watching you in the years to come. Many thanks to Scott Cunningham for team managing and writing his team reports for the web site each week.

Many thanks to Anthony Bowley for all his work as Assistant Coach I look forward to maybe working together again sometime.

Coach – Paul Cummings
Asst Coach – Anthony Bowley
Team Manager – Scott Cunningham

UNDER 14 SUNDAY C

Max Barrett
Declan Chittenden
Michael Leslie
Jarrod Peake
Logan Tuki-Jones
Jack Vorbach

Luke Buckthorpe
James Fiori
Matt McKenna
Luke Porter
Zach Vandenhoven

After a difficult pre-season selection process a group of 11 boys were chosen to represent the "Cheltenham U/14 Minor League AAA "C" side". I was lucky to retain 5 boys from last season and gain 6 new ones all having varying amounts of experience. As this was my 2nd season of coaching I was still uncertain as to how the season would pan out but felt that the commitment and keenness shown at pre-season by the boys would have us, at the very least, competitive.

Our 1st game in the qualifying season was against Melbourne (1st team) and although being defeated we showed enough to confirm that with some hard training and listening we may be able to have some success. We managed to win the remaining 4 games to qualify for the AAA League and with all the boys showing improvement we looked forward to the rest of the season.

We continued our winning form due to our pitchers headed by Max Barrett, with back up from Michael Leslie and Luke Porter sharing the duties. With great support from our catchers Declan Chittenden, Jarrod Peake and Matthew McKenna it was proving to be extremely difficult for opposing teams to score enough runs to challenge our highly talented batting line up. We were lucky to have Luke Buckthorpe and Logan Tuki-Jones who often batted at the top of the order to consistently get on base and give us the opportunity to score early runs. Taking full advantage of this, we had James Fiore, Jack Vorbach and rookie Zach Vandenhoven regularly smashing the ball to score many runs.

As the season progressed so did the boys attitude and their willingness to learn and improve enabled the team to finish undefeated on top of the table. I was extremely pleased with their effort as every player at some point made a valuable contribution, not only for himself, but more importantly for the team.

Our 1st Final against Werribee was at Cheltenham and whilst the boys seemed nervous at the start of the game it soon became obvious that the lads were here to play, coming away with a convincing 13-4 victory. This was due to EVERY player making a positive contribution which held us in a strong position to face our opponents Waverly in the Grand Final. To be brief, the 11 boys left their best 'til last and displayed some of the most exciting and disciplined junior baseball that I have witnessed, enabling us to come away with a comprehensive 10-0 win. Once again every player had a hand in this victory and I take this opportunity to congratulate each and everyone on their achievements and sportsmanship.

The team in focus:

Declan: Wonderful catcher who batted with authority and aggression to become an excellent cleanup hitter.

Jack: Restricted in number of games consistent in all positions fantastic athlete and a great hitter.

James: Showed immense improvement with his hitting to win the Most Improved award.

Jarrold: Flexible player who could catch and play outfield. Power hitter proven with two home runs in the grand final.

Logan: Very quick fielder in the outfield or infield. Also very consistent contact hitter who managed to get on base most of the time.

Luke B: Exceptional 2nd Baseman who used his pace in running bases cleverly and chasing down balls in defence.

Luke P: Great support as relief pitcher and ever reliable at 1st Base. Valuable contributor with the bat.

Max: Outstanding pitching throughout the season who overpowered AAA teams with his raw paced pitching also hit very well.

Matt: Fantastic back-up catcher and batting showed continual improvement over the year.

Michael: Also great support as relief pitcher and a masterful 3rd Baseman.

Zach: Our rookie Zach showed significant continuous improvement with his skills, both with batting and fielding and played vital roles over the season.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the many parents who have assisted me with the smooth running of our team whether that be at training, setting up of diamonds and other numerous things that make it possible for our boys to enjoy playing baseball. Also a special thank you to our scorer Ros McKenna who week in and week out provided me with a faultless scorebook.

Finally it was a pleasure to be involved with a wonderful group of boys who I hope enjoyed the season as much as I did.

Coach – Rick Porter
Asst Coach – David Buckthorpe
Scorer – Ros McKenna

UNDER 14 DODGERS

Zach Allas
Matt Cameron
James Cunningham
Ashley Flynn
Riki Preston
Alex Warren

Lucas Anderson
Jak Cummings
Andrew Di Giovambattista
Koki Fukusaku
Adam Thatcher

This summer I had the pleasure of coaching the U14 Dodgers in the Friday night, South East Centre competition. From the first training session it was obvious that I had a great group of boys who were keen to learn & enjoy their baseball. Our philosophy was to share the load around and give the boys a run in as many positions as possible and while victories were important they weren't the primary focus of the team.

Our season started with a washout, which unfortunately was to strike on a few more occasions as for some strange reason our 10-year drought seemed to want to break on Friday nights! Once the weather allowed we started with a good away win at Sandringham followed by a couple of tough games against fellow Cheltenham teams. Our team was helped by the hard work of the players who participated in Sunday teams as well as those who also were in representative teams, Riki & Koki in the State u14's and Ash, Jak and Lucas in the South East Mariners. In the lead up to Christmas many of the boys were training & playing six days a week. One direct result of all this hard work was that the boys really began to play some great / smart baseball.

As the season progressed our toughest challenges were against fellow Cheltenham teams as well as a strong showing by Sandringham in the last game, which was in the balance for a long time till the boys were able to come away with a 5 – 1 win and seal 4th position.

Unfortunately our finals participation started & finished pretty quickly but the boys should all be proud of their efforts and improvements throughout the season.

Some of my highlights for the year include:

- The sneaky lefthanders pickoff by Lucas and subsequent rundown play by Matt and Ash to kill off the Sandringham challenge in the last home & away game
- Zach's late season batting which was a revelation and really gave the team a kick along
- Andy's determination to come back from a nasty injury before Christmas and finish off the season strongly as our catcher
- The cool professionalism of Riki & Koki who played in any position asked and helped lead the team
- Every safe hit & RBI throughout the season (love the aggressive batting)

Special thanks to Paul for his help with coaching, Tony for his efforts scoring all year, Tadaki & Dale for umpiring duties, Graz for standing in with Coaching duties when I was away & for everybody else who helped out throughout the year.

Coach – Rod Anderson

Asst Coach – Paul Cummings

Scorer – Tony Preston

UNDER 14 MARINERS

Darcy Bowley
Stephen Clarke
Ben Dickens
James Fiore
Jarrod Peake
Matt Vorbach

Ethan Cha
Jack Daniels
Jack Enciondo
Fred Holten
Jack Vorbach

Congratulations guys on finishing on the top of the Ladder on the home and away season and making the grand final. It takes a lot of enthusiasm and focus to end up in the Grand Final in any sport. Great job guys! It has given me nothing but great pleasure watching and teaching them to further improve their baseball skills and the feeling of being successful on growth of these kids.

I would like to thank all the parents for their support this season and a big thanks to all the Dads that assisted me in umpiring, pitch counts and help the kids with the diamond after the games. Special thanks to Andy for doing a great job at coaching on 3rd base and Ms Fiore for doing most of the scoring.

What a satisfying season I have had. I congratulate my team for a successful season and the proud parents who witnessed yet another great season.

Coach – Pedro Enciondo

UNDER 14 PHILLIES

Harry Bingham
Jesse Doree
Ben Landt
Nicholas Mindum
Matt Stenhouse
Max Thompson

Christian Cicco
Sam Hayes
Sam Michael
Luke Sexton
Ryan Taranto

Well, what a season being one of the five (5) Cheltenham teams! Missing the finals by a small margin... I had a very young side.

I think that some players found it a hard season. A few players had training several times a week. Different Coaches and different ideas of the importance of Friday night games made it a challenge. In my eyes, Friday night baseball was to play as a team and for players to have a go. With 5 Cheltenham sides it quickly became evident that everyone was after the win on the board. Some players found it hard to play against other Cheltenham sides. This was shown in the effort and enthusiasm on game day. The Phillies had heaps of drive to beat other clubs. Having the youngest side, the Phillies showed heaps of skill and ability! I only hope that all players especially those who have not made State or Metro teams continue to play baseball. Each and every one of you is an asset to your team.

Harry Bingham: Keen player. Harry worked hard on his throwing... Harry loved playing 2nd base as well as catching. Keep up the hard work Harry. Good Job.

Christian Cicco: Great season. Heaps of improvement throughout the season. Throws the ball hard. He got a great swing. Take instructions really well. Great to see you do so well at 3rd Base and outfield.

Jesse Doree: Great natural talent. I wish I could shake him, does not have to work hard to get results. Jesse, you need to believe in yourself. You can be the glue to hold it all together.

Sam Hayes: Came into the team late. Made himself well known. Sam only got to throw off the hill twice. Great job. Sam is an all-rounder pitcher, catcher, short and outfielder.

Ben Landt: Keen. Would not show what skill he has. Wants to catch but has to apply himself to the bases first. Never give up and move on. I know what you can do!!!

Sam Michaels: Main Pitcher. Sam has had an awesome season with the bat. Sam loved to pitch. Sensational base running. Great Job.

Nicholas Mindum: Has some real ability. Nicholas just needs to back himself; sometime his hesitation can cost him. Believe in your base coaches. He always puts in 100%. Great team player.

Luke Sexton: Maybe in-between positions. Very reliable glove at 1st on a good day. Determination shone through. Worked hard at training and it showed. Good job. Pleasure to have in the team.

Matt Stenhouse: One of the pitchers. Matt found it difficult not being able to throw off the hill each week due to Sunday pitching commitments. Also the pitch restrictions made it a tall order. Loved to play 1st base. Good season.

Ryan Taranto: Always a keen fielder. Ryan loved to play 2nd base. Ryan knows the game well and reads the play well. Ryan is a great voice in the field. Good job.

Max Thompson: Outstanding job. Max loved stepping up, to learn to catch. Stepping into positions when needed. Love your determination and drive. You are an asset to any team. Keep going!!!

I would like to thank all that helped me. Especially Emma Thompson (Assistant Coach). Great job, she even gave the boys a run for their money doing sprint work with them. Brad Lark, (who stepped in whilst I was in Queensland at Pan Pacific winning a gold medal). Stell Michael for your patience and organization. For all the people who scored Pauline Stenhouse, Stell Michael and Sarah (Max's Aunty who came to support and scored for us when there was no one else. Thanks umpires. A big thank you to canteen: awesome job.

I will leave with one last comment. Please remember that your team mates now will go through to senior baseball with you. Baseball is a team sport. You Can't Play on your OWN. Look after your team mates, always encourage. No one goes out to make an error in the field or to miss the ball whilst batting.

Coaches – Terri Landt

Asst Coach – Emma Thompson

Scorers – Stell Michael, Pauline Stenhouse

UNDER 14 RED SOX

Max Barrett
Blake Cumming
Jack Filimua
Matt McKenna
Connor O'Neill
Kelan Williams

Henry Beven
Tia Cumming
Mitch Holding
Murad Mohamoud
Liam Rizos

The Red Sox came together at the first training session and it was clear we were in for a good year with skill levels varying from first year beginner to club representative players through to State representative players. It was impressive to see all team members apply themselves to every training session.

First pitch of the first game and bang!! Murad slams a home run over left field. Two pitchers later and bang! Jack smacks a double through left field as well. The 'sox went on to win 9-0. Game 2 saw Max let his bat do the talking with 2 safe outfield hits and 2 runs scored. The Sox win again 10-3.

From Game 3 onwards our main pitchers – Mitch and Matt had settled into their roles and took command from the mound. In total over 13 games the Red SOX pitchers only gave up 37 runs (less than 3 per game on average). On the offensive lots of batting practice and fast base running paid off with 113 runs scored for the home and away season (more than 8 runs per game on average).

Other great highlights were Game 6 where Henry landed a triple at centre field and Connor and Kelan were very selective at bat and managed to extract 4 walks each. Ben also had 3 safe hits and added 2 runs to the Red Sox – 16-3 victory.

Blake and Liam have improved game by game particularly in the field where they have proved handy at second base and shortstop.

BATTING AWARD – Jack Filamau – BA – 474 SLG – 579

Jack has proven time and time again to be a great batsman. Regularly batting at number 3 Jack has had 9 safe hits and 12 runs for the season.

PITCHING AWARD – Matt McKenna – ERA – 0.91

The "Closer". Matt has finished off nearly all season and with his high strike rate has only allowed 10 runs to score for the season.

COACHES AWARD – Connor O'Neill

Connor has listened closely and applied what he has learned to his game. By attending nearly every training session he has improved his skills and knowledge to a point where he now regularly plays at second base. With an OBP of 500, Connor is a good player to have in the line-up.

I would like to thank the parents for their support throughout the year – in particular Roselyn McKenna for scoring all year and Paul Barrett for umpiring. It has been an honor to coach the boys and I look forward to seeing their progress in the future.

Coach – Stuart Holding
Scorer – Ros McKenna

UNDER 14 YANKEES

Declan Chittenden
Riley Ghent
Naoki Liu
Michael Natoli
Logan Tuki-Jones

Mark Digby
Michael Leslie
Yoshi Mori
Sam Trend-Beacom
Zach Vandenhoven

At the start of the season Ben and I were unsure of how the team would perform but as we progressed we were both pleasantly surprised with the level that the team achieved. The boys were a pleasure to coach and all improved in both their skills and understanding of the game. Further they enjoyed each other's company and had lots of fun during the season. Many wins during the season were achieved with losses only to the Mariners and Red Sox although in those encounters we were very competitive. The team finished in third place and narrowly lost a final to the Red Sox by 1 run. All in all a very good season.

Michael Natoli: Our starting pitcher and our most consistent batter, Michael was also solid when fielding. His speed around the bases was a great asset in scoring runs and his contribution lead to many victories. Michael was always a pleasure to have in the team.

Michael Leslie: Michael became our second catcher after Xmas due to injury and performed admirably there. A solid season with the bat, some relief pitching and a fine season in the field showed his good all round value to the team.

Mark Digby: Mark was injured over Xmas and was unable to play the second half of the season. Poor to that he was our second catcher and played on first base, both jobs which he did very well. His value to the team was further enhanced by happy disposition and mischievous sense of fun.

Sam Trend-Beacom: Sam was our closing pitcher and 3rd baseman both jobs which he did with aplomb. His batting was solid all season and with some minor technical adjustment came on strong at the end of the season. Known for his commitment at training for one, his bright and sunny nature added much to team morale.

Logan Tuki-Jones: Logan was injured several times during the season causing him to miss a few games. However his quiet determination when he was playing coupled with his solid batting technique and good fielding at short stop and second base and a little relief pitching made him a valuable contributor to the team.

Riley Ghent: Riley as the youngest member of the team Riley showed great determination and a never-give-up attitude. He made some great plays at second base during the season and his batting improved markedly with some great hits towards the end. Never one to give up he always added to team morale.

Yoshi Mori: Yoshi was a delight to have in the team as he never stopped smiling. He improved markedly during the season and whilst playing mainly in the outfield also made some great plays in the infield when given the opportunity. His batting got better as the season progressed with some good hitting in the later part of the season.

Naoki Liu: Naoki was a solid contributor all year with his earnest endeavour impressing both coaching staff. His raw power with the bat is impressive and when he is able to harness this more regularly he will become a potent force in the batting box. A strong contributor in the field at third base and outfield made him a valuable member of the team.

Zac Vandenhoven: Before the season Zac had not played baseball before so we were pleasantly surprised at his ability as the season progressed. His batting improved with some technique coaching and his speed and great hand to eye coordination made him a very good outfielder and base stealer. His positive outlook was always good for team morale.

Declan Chittenden: Declan was our starting catcher and relieving first base. His solid glove work at both positions was a big influence on team defence and his batting was powerful and he regularly got around the bases. His confident demeanor was a great asset to team morale and his lack of errors in the field was a huge bonus.

Finally I would like to thank my assistant Ben Leslie who was an outstanding helper during the year with his knowledge of the game, technical advice and great sense of fun which helped contribute to the good year we had. Also I would like to thank all of the parents who came down and supported the team on game days and also were of great assistance in scoring, umpiring and lifting team morale.

Coach – Graeme Chittenden
Asst Coach – Ben Leslie

2010/11 AWARD WINNERS

U12 AAA Minor League	MVP & Batting Award JACK DUNN	Golden Glove Award JAKE POCOCK	Rising Star Award MATT HOLLAND
LL Devil Rays	MVP Award JACKSON FEAR-KEINAST	Most Improved ETHAN CHA	Rising Star Award BEN SEXTON
LL Giants	Golden Glove Award MACKENZIE ROBINS	Batting Award MICHAEL MOORE	Most Improved NIAMH CARMODY
LL Phillies	MVP Award JAMES EADIE	Batting Award JOHN-PAUL CALLIL	Most Improved THOMAS NEWTON
LL Red Sox	MVP Award JAKE POCOCK	Coaches Award GIANNI CARUSO	Most Improved BILLY RYAN
LL Yankees	MVP Award ARCHER HALL	Coaches Award HARRY GOAKES	Most Improved JOSH SMITH

U14 Major League	MVP Award KOJI CAMPITELLI	Batting Avg - .600 GEORGE CALLIL	Best Defensive Player KOKI FUKUSAKU
U14 AAA Minor League B	MVP Award DARCY BOWLEY	Batting Avg - .568 MATTHEW CAMERON	Coaches Award RYAN TARANTO
U14 AAA Minor League C	MVP Award MAX BARRETT	Most Improved JAMES FIORE	Coaches Award MICHAEL LESLIE
U14 Dodgers	MVP Award RIKI PRESTON	MVP Runner-up LUCAS ANDERSON	Coaches Award ANDREW DI GIOVAMBATTISTA
U14 Mariners	MVP Award JACK ENCIONDO	MVP Award JACK VORBACH	Coaches Award JARROD PEAKE
U14 Phillies	Batting Award SAM MICHAEL	Most Improved MAX THOMPSON	Coaches Award CHRISTIAN CICCIO
U14 Red Sox	Batting Avg - .474 JACK FILAMAU	Pitching Award MATT MCKENNA	Coaches Award CONNOR O'NEILL
U14 Yankees	MVP Award MICHAEL NATOLI	Most Improved ZACHARY VANDENHOVEN	Encouragement Award NAOIKIU LIU
Grand Slam	U14 Major League v Blackburn 14/11/10 MITCH HOLDING		

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website – it looks ace!