

CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB INC
Summer Season
2007-2008

Rustlers



U18 Metro Premiers 2007-2008

SENIOR PRESENTATION
Saturday, 12 April 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 and for his Chairman of Selectors commitment
- To Marcella Lapa and Andrea Osborne – thanks for your continued excellence with the uniforms
- 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
Nathan Aron U18 VPBL
Scott Jansen U16 VPBL
Brett Curnow U14 State

John Blaskett U18 State
Daniel Farmer U16 State
Yoshi Campitelli U14 State
Matt Wilson U14 State

Nick Rossell U18 VPBL
Matthew Carlile U16 VPBL
Ben Leslie 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
Lockbar Steel
Debbie & Peter King

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

UNDER 16 METRO

(These guys sure know how to keep everyone on the edge of their seats)

We set out at the start of the season, with the primary goal to have fun and enjoy the game of baseball. And, as everyone has more fun when their winning, we wanted to be victorious more often than not. Mission accomplished. We were ahead going into the last inning in every single game we played all season, including finals and that achievement alone is commendable. However, the saying goes “you can’t win ‘em all,” but you wouldn’t know that when you watched this team.

The season was generally a good competitive competition with most teams fielding relatively strong sides, making it a hard job to get into the four (Any time you beat out a Waverly outfit for a finals position is a good season). But in the end we found a way to get it done, as all great teams do, and finished with 9 wins out of 13 games with one draw.

More pleasing however was the fact that every member of the team improved over the course of the year and that every week I was pleasantly surprised by different players, as they challenged and overcame many difficult situations, individually as well as collectively. To compete, like we did against many club’s first sides, makes the effort even more commendable, and shows how strong the Cheltenham Baseball Club truly is. And I commend the entire squad for handling themselves with the utmost dignity and respect for the opposition, whether we were winning or losing. (A number of coaches mentioned it specifically).

Unfortunately the fairy tail ending wasn’t to be with us meeting our demise against a good Malvern outfit, in the preliminary final. It is interesting to note, however, that the eventual winners, Blackburn, were down 7 – 0 at one point during our regular season meeting. So congratulations to the guys on a great season. Thanks also to the U14 boys Chase Cevec, Tom Davidson, Jack Ogilvie, and Shane Vertigan for helping out throughout the season.

Special mentions go to Marcella Lapa, Sue Cevec and Ken Clark who kept the score book (in our favor most of the time) for the season. To Greg Blaskett, Justin D’Rozario, Tony Cevec and John Ferguson for umpiring (God knows why you do it). And, by this time you’ve all had enough of me, to Blake Cunningham (my Assistant Coach) for throwing BP.

Russell Ferguson
Coach

Team Members

Anthony Blaskett
Marcus Freeman
Kyosuke Noskaka
Scott Maxwell

Brittney Cevec
Adrian Hare
Oliver Oxley

Andrew Clark
Daniel Lapa
Nicholas Fitzgerald

Awards

MVP
Batting Ave .548
Coach's Award

Oliver Oxley
Marcus Freeman
Andrew Clark

UNDER 16 STATE

As it was explained to the guys at the start of the year - they would have to work hard and together to be a competitive team. Well, up until Christmas we were competitive and just out of the 4. After Christmas we fell away and only won one game.

Overall the effort was good during the year with good turn ups at training. Some more work needs to be done to ensure a positive body language on the field. During the year there were some great individual efforts which would keep us in the game and allow us to get over the line early in the year.

Adam Katz did a lot of the pitching this year and hopefully with the amount of work under his belt will keep improving.

Angus Macquire did most of the catching pre Christmas and Dale King post Christmas - both did well behind the plate. Both were able to keep runners honest with Dale throwing them out when they did run.

Scott Jansen played very well at short stop. Matthew Harvey held down 2nd base for most of the year and continued to improve through the season.

Tom Cotter made a late start due to illness and was improving rapidly before he became ill again - get better soon, we need you!!! I will not forget your game winning double against Doncaster!!!

Matt Carlile was doing well before the knee injury. Congratulations on your Grand Slam against Essendon.

Matt Felsenthal, Jesse Casserly, Dean Cooper all made improvements and contributed during the year to help us win games.

Thanks to Karen Cotter for scoring.

Thanks to all the Dads with their assistance with umpiring and ground marking.

Thanks to the family for letting me do the job.

Team Members

Jesse Casserly	Tom Cotter	Matthew Harvey
Dale King	Adam Katz	Angus Macquire
Matthew Carlile	Dean Cooper	Matthew Felsenthal
Scott Jansen		

Awards

MVP - Angus Macquire
Batting - Matthew Carlile
Most Improved - Matthew Felsenthal

Grand Slam - U16 State v Essendon, 21/10/07 - Matthew Carlile

U18 METRO – PREMIERS

I started out the season not really knowing what to expect from the team as I hadn't seen many of these kids play before apart from a couple who I had, had last year.

We got off to a great start being on top of the ladder after 3 games, and from then on we went up and down from 1st and 2nd position with Blackburn, who got to stay on top of the ladder due to forfeits from other clubs giving them a better percentage.

Throughout the season we built up a strong batting and fielding line up as everyone, we had Trent Davidson, Tony Cevic, and Ben Coen for our pitches.

Andrew Rizzi work hard behind the dish all season, Will Felsenthal, Peter Rizzi, Tom Fitzgerald, Todd Grierson, Max Palmer, James Murray, James Brake and Tristan Kay filled the rest of the defence.

We had a slow period before the finals but waited till exactly the right time to come into form, even after a disappointing loss in the first final to Blackburn which we played good ball in. Berwick was the next hurdle in the preliminary final who we dealt with, with a convincing 10-4 win. With the whole team swinging the bats the best I had seen all season and Ben Coen did an outstanding job on the mound for us.

We went to face off with Blackburn the following Sunday for our grand final.

It was 0-0 until the 3rd inning where we scored a run we managed to get another 4 runs by the 6th and Ben Coen had around 15 pitches left to throw the last dig, he managed to end the game with one pitch remaining to bring the team and club a flag, and ruin Blackburn's 3 year premiership!

I'd like to thank the boys for there hard work all season and helping set up the diamond if I was occasionally late and the parents for bringing them down each Sunday morning and Janine Rizzi for her scoring, even if I didn't know what half the colours in it meant.

Hopefully we can bring another flag home next year!!

Regards,

Kane Davidson

Team Members

Andrew Rizzi	Peter Rizzi	Ben Coen
Trent Davidson	James Brake	Max Palmer
James Murray	Will Felsenthal	Tom Fitzgerald
Todd Grierson	Tristan Kay	Tony Cevic

Awards

MVP – Tony Cevic
Batting Ave .488 – Andrew Rizzi
Coach's Award – Will Felsenthal
Best Finals Player – Ben Coen

U18 STATE

As another season draws to a close and for some, their junior careers. Let us reflect on missed opportunities.

At the start of the season, Kevin Williams was appointed team manager. Due to Kevin's involvement with the seniors this season, this was going to put a strain on Kevin's family commitments. After managing the side for the first round due to Kevin's unavailability, I asked Kevin if he would like me to continue on as U18 Manager. Which he agreed.

We had what I believed to be a strong side, and I believe that we had the potential to go all the way. As the season unfolded it became obvious that any two of 6 or 7 teams could be playing off for the Premiership. At the Christmas break we were 3rd and at the end of home and away season we were 2nd on the ladder. There was only 1 game separating the top 4 sides and only 00.5% between 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

We played Newport in the 2nd semi and held them to 1 unearned run behind a strong pitching performance from Kable Hogben. Only problem was we were unable to score and went down 1-0.

We then played Geelong in the Prelim, the best team we had played during the season in my opinion. Our bats were again kept quiet and we were behind all game. Our defence finally cracked, giving up 6 runs in the last dig to go down 10-3.

Season Highlights

Nathan Aron being signed by the New York Yankees after the U18 Nationals.

On a National level, John Blaskett being selected in his 5th straight Junior State side.

Kable Hogben in his 3rd straight State side.

Nick Rossell being selected in his 1st National rep side, being picked in the Vic Provincial team. Congratulations to Nick, this really shows how perseverance can pay off. Every year Nick would go to try-outs and every year he would get a bit further but eventually be cut. In his final year of juniors all his hard work finally payed off.

Nathan Aron selected in Vic Provincial side in his 1st year of U18.

Club level. All the guys who played week after week in positions that weren't their strongest, but due to senior commitments couldn't play in their regular spots. Kyle Brookes who probably thought his pitching days were over, becoming our 2nd pitcher and putting in every week.

Elliot Macquire's glove work at Short Stop.

Will Osborne's determination at 3rd base.

Ryan Morris, one of two players who came to play with us on permits from Sandringham, and Nathan Aron both batting over .500 for most of the season, and both 1st year U18.

We used 16 players during the season and every one of them put in, thankyou.
Thankyou to all the guys for a most enjoyable season.

Thankyou to my scorer, Janette Holland, my chief umpire Al Gribbin and my line umpire Ian Brookes.

Thanks to all the parents who would come along every week and support not only their own kids, but the whole team. To John and his committee thanks for the support during the season, even after I had been tossed in the last dig of the Prelim.

Matt Gourlay for his assistance and allowing us use of the main diamond for training.

Trevor Hogben
Manager U18 State League

Team Members

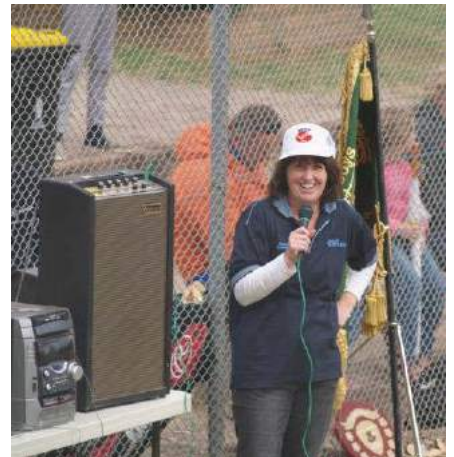
Nick Rossell	Sam Brewster	Ryan Morris
Nathan Aron	John Blaskett	Kable Hogben
Kyle Brookes	Elliott Macquire	Geoff Holland
Will Osborne		

Awards

MVP	Kable Hogben
Batting Ave .400	Nathan Aron
Coach's Award	Nick Rossell

Shut Out, CBC U18 State v Waverley, 27/1/08 – Kyle Brookes

SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS...



1ST NINE

Cheltenham back where we belong in Division 1.

Unfortunately, through lack of consistency, we will be back grinding it out in Division 2 next year.

We showed, throughout the year, that we have the skills to be a Division 1 club. We just struggled at times to put a full 9 innings of quality baseball together.

We had 27 different players get game time this year, including a base running clinic from Kev Williams at Essendon. Priceless!!! I still think you could have taken out the catcher a bit better.

Once again, we continued bleeding young players for future success. Tony Cevac, Nathan Aron, Kable Hogben, Ben Macquire, Kane Davidson, Jarrod Hall, Nick Rossell, Dylan Trevorah and Dale Ravesi all showed that they will be pushing for positions in the First 9 next season.

Our junior program produced another professional ball player with Nathan Aron signing with the New York Yankees. A fantastic achievement.

We welcomed Jason Cousins to the Summer Rustlers. He fitted right in playing great defence and hitting an impressive 0.311. Our pitching was led by Tom Ellis. He always wanted the ball and lives to see Cheltenham succeed. He finished with a 2.74 ERA. Our biggest positive of the season was the performance of Blake Cunningham. He looked like a veteran on the mound pitching over a quarter of our innings played.

Our hitting was led by Daniel (D Willy) Williams. He was our lead off hitter, clean up hitter and everything in between. His 0.364 average shows what a great year he had.

I would like to thank Kevin Williams, Mick Trevorah, Robyn Hogben and Jack Warner. You all made life a lot easier for me. Thank you to: President, John Carlile and the Committee, Selection Committee, Bruce for the BBQ and Michael Gourlay.

Congratulations to the Award Winners.

As you may or may not know, I am stepping down as Club Coach. It was a hard decision but one I believe is best for the club. I hope I have left us in better shape than when I took it on.

We must continue to strive for that one flag that is missing on our wall. Division 1 First's Premiers.

Let's win our way back up to Division 1 for Season 08-09.

Matt Gourlay
Club Coach

Team Awards

Gwen & Len LePage
MVP/Club Champion

Batting Ave. 364
Coach's Award

Tom Ellis
Daniel Williams
Daniel Williams
Jason Cousins

2ND NINE

First of all congratulations to all the members of this team throughout the season for you all your hard work. Unfortunately we came up short in the Grand Final but I will take many great memories from this season with me.

What I will remember most about this team is its ability to win games from any situation – more so than any other team I have played with in my ten years as a senior player.

This started in first the game of the season in a see-sawing game against Newport when we scored two runs in the last inning to steal a win in which we were seemingly in control of all.

There were also comeback wins at home against Geelong from 5-0 down to get a 6-5 victory. And against Malvern in the rain we rallied again from 5-0 down to win 6-5.

By continuing to win games like this there was a belief instilled in this team that we could win from any situation.

The highlight of the season was our fist final against top of the ladder Malvern at their home ground. We dominated for seven innings. Dale Ravesi through a complete game only giving up four scattered hits and Nick Rossell was a standout at the plate with four RBI's from three hits.

Tony Cevec was fantastic at the plate this season twice as many hits as everyone else, stealing heaps of bases and catching everything that came his way in the outfield. His improvement from the start of the season to end of the season was so great he has really exceeded all our expectations. Tony I look forward to watching you tearing it up next season.

Jarrood Hall had an outstanding season at short stop and with his hard work at training, always being one of the last to leave the cage his batting improved steadily. He was the one player throughout the season who was sorely missed when he didn't play showing how valuable he really is.

Finally a big thank you to our scorer all season Sue Cevec. It's a long season and we really appreciate your effort this year.

Matt Coppens - Coach

Team Awards

MVP – Jarrood Hall

Batting Champion – Tony Cevec

Coach's Award – Dale Ravesi

3RD NINE

The thirds team of this year consisted of a much more mature team from previous years - with returns of Bryce, Pat D and myself. We were a team of up and downs. We had a great first half of the year when we had Sean Gabb on the mound, but we lost him in the second half of the year and that's where a team went sliding down the ladder.

We were a team of "What ifs"

- "What if" Sean pitched for us all year?
- "What if" Geoff didn't break his finger?
- "What if" Rizzi didn't get thrown out of the game? (and yes you were out of the batters box)
- "What if" Wiggy didn't have red hair?
- "What if" Bryce played sober?
- "What if" Coppo rolled a triple play every inning?
- "What if" Pat D could throw straight?
- "What if" Kyle sat on our bench?
- "What if" Dylan didn't cry for being tagged to hard?
- "What if" Will relaxed?
- And the most asked question "What if" We had a real coach?

I would like to thank Janet Holland for scoring all season even when Geoff wasn't playing or even there. Very big thanks.

Also like to thank everyone who played in the team I had loads of fun.
See you all next year.

Pat O'Neill
Manager

Team Awards

Batting Ave .566 & Joint MVP Bryce Marshall

Joint MVP Sean Gabb

Joint MVP Pat Di Siervi

Shut Out, CBC 3rd Nine v Newport, 7 innings 10-0 – Sean Gabb

4TH NINE

This was the year the older guys shifted aside for the young ones and not before time!! Game time is very important part of learning the game.

This group seems to have a good understanding of what the game is about and enjoy each others company. Where they are:

James Upfill, as the older statesman, did a power of work behind the plate and thankfully took all the WP's for the year. Needs a trigger with his bat.

The Rizzi boys made the transition from its "only a game - a bit of fun" to "I can play and make a difference". Need to concentrate more.

Will Felsenthal while still improving in all areas of his games, needs to get a "game face" to replace his good nature off the field. More steel in the diet required.

Matt "Mr Fill In" Felsenthal - less time on the couch!!

Tom "the hammer" Fitzgerald needs to keep his head down (in the batting box) and bounce more on the field. Look sharp - appearances are important.

James Brake always surprises with that hit that counts - always keen - always has a smile - keep it up.

Adam Katz needs to work on his strength and swing the bat hard. His pitching is coming along but needs to assert himself more on the mound.

Ben Cooen needs to work on arm strength and more self confidence.

Nick "mini me" Fitzgerald - speed, speed, speed - work hard on your running.

Angus Macquire - great attitude - needs time to grow!!

Dean Cooper - same as Angus - keep up the hard work and the rewards will come.

Matt Carlile - injured - 2008/09

Big thanks to Janine Rizzi for scoring. Thanks to all the people who helped out with umpiring. Thanks to Fitz for turning up each week and having a chat on the bench - as I said in the first line "the older guys shifted aside".

John Carlile
Manager

Team Awards

MVP - James Upfill

Batting - Peter Rizzi

Most Improved - James Brake

5TH NINE

The Mighty 5ths had what could be called a season of mixed success. With a few returning players from the past few seasons teaming up with some “new” players, ably led by Dave Stenhouse, we were able to register some excellent wins but also put in some lesser performances against outfits we probably should have beaten. Unfortunately, it’s the nature of 4th division baseball that you just can’t seem to take the field with the same guys each week and, in the end, that probably led to us bowing out prematurely in the preliminary final against Waverley, a team we had beaten convincingly the week before.

We did have a very even team effort with guys putting in at different times in different games pretty evenly across the board. Some of the highlights probably include a very solid year behind the plate for Pete Burdett; some big home runs to Steve Kavanagh; solid pitching from Daniel; the senior debut of young Mattie Wilson; and some sweet plays from Steve ‘Wheels’ Campitelli, including getting tagged out at 3rd after safely making it there then wandering off base, and making two lovely outfield catches for Doncaster (“One we got Donnie! Woo hoo!”).

Well, at the end of the season, we did manage to make finals action and did get to a preliminary final, so it was a fair effort.

Thanks to Dave for taking the team for the season and thanks to the guys that played. Also thanks to Emily Burdett for being our main scorer – you did a fabulous job!

Well done boys; see you next season!

Steve Campitelli

Team Awards

MVP	Steve Kavanagh
Batting Award	Peter Burdett
Batting Award	Steve Smith

CLUB AWARDS

Junior Champion Award

Kable Hogben

Best Junior Coach

Kane Davidson

Senior Clubman Award

Peter Leslie
Peter Katz

Life Members Junior Clubman Award

Thomas Fitzgerald

Rookie of the Year CBC Summer

Blake Cunningham

Golden Glove Award

Jarrood Hall



2007-08 First Nine Team Photo



Daniel Williams



John Blaskett

Thank you to
**Steve Campitelli, Alan Gribbin, John Carlile, Kane Davidson, Trevor Hogben,
Russell Ferguson**
for their weekly team reports

Thank you to
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for taking photos of the First's

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Journalist for Leader Newspapers
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(parent of Little League Player)
for generously printing the Presentation Books

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
12 April 2008

