



Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc

PO Box 3727, Marsfield NSW 2122

Newsletter No.3 February 2004

President's Report

Welcome back to all players from school holidays. Happy New Year to you all and I hope that Santa was generous with his gifts. As we enter the 'business-end' of the season, many teams will be playing in finals series. Good luck to you all and I trust that you will do yourselves and Macquarie Saints proud.

ABBA / Seventies Dinner & Dance

Parents, as you may be aware, the club will be holding its end of season function at the North Ryde Community Centre, 201 Cox Rd, North Ryde on **Saturday the 21st of February**. Dressing up is optional, but if you can find those flairs and platform shoes at the bottom of the wardrobe, then wear them.

This is the club's major fundraiser for the year so please get into the spirit, support it and bring along as many of your friends as you can. Our registration fees are amongst the most affordable in the association and the only way to keep them low, is for everyone to rally behind this event. The club has two options at its disposal to raise extra funds:

1. It could take the easy way out and place a fundraising levy on each registration or:
2. It can organize an event such as this, so people can socialize, have a great time and grow the spirit within the club. **The ball is in your court(sorry, mitt).**

Further details are contained in this newsletter.


By now, everyone should have received some **raffle tickets** to sell. A reminder that the tickets for this competition will be drawn on the 21st of February. Please ensure that all tickets and monies are returned to the canteen's **BIG RED BOX** no later than that Saturday morning.

Presentation Day and AGM

The club's Annual General Meeting and Trophy Presentation Day will be held at Pioneer Park on Saturday the 27th of March at 3.00pm.

This will be followed by a club Bar-B-Q, so bring along your drinks and picnic hamper as we farewell the baseball season of 2003/04. Official advice of the AGM and nomination forms for office bearers are at the end of this newsletter.

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Saints Web-site www.saints.asn.au

Thank you to Bruce Piper and **KEEP IN TOUCH** for maintaining our web-site. Photos of the fabulous prints available for auction on the Abba night can be seen on our home page, together with the espresso/cappuccino machine(1st prize in the guessing competition).

Reps

Congratulations to Ashleigh Ross, from our 16A team, on being selected into the train-on squad of 18 players with the NSW Women's Baseball Team. Well done, Ashleigh.

Good luck to the following Macquarie Saints players that have been chosen to represent Ryde-Hornsby in the U12 International Friendship Series in Victoria at the end of this month:

Ollie Bromley, Ryan Falconer, Daniel Holten, Jonathan Nicoll, Beau Sorbello and Jake Wilkins.

Player Awards

Thank you again to **Greater Union Macquarie Megaplex** for their continued support and sponsorship of the weekly player awards.

Canteen

I was hoping that this year would be the first year that there would not have to be a reminder put out in a newsletter about the enormous role that the canteen plays in our club. It is our only source of revenue until registration time, while there are ongoing expenses for the club, such as ground hire and equipment purchases. Unlike many sporting clubs, where a small marquee is what parents have to sell food and drinks from, we have a very comfortable facility that overlooks a picturesque ground such as Pioneer Park. It puzzles me as to why some people are reluctant to go in there. I can understand that nobody wants to miss any of their son's or daughter's game, but we are only asking for 15-20 minute shifts per parent during the time that their team is rostered on. Jacqui Forbes together with Sue Nicoll, spend hours on canteen rosters so that they are as fair and equitable as possible.

Please be punctual when it's your turn to go in there. Remember, the person inside the canteen shouldn't be the only one that regularly looks at their watch.

See you around the canteen,

Tony Sorbello
President

Kids say the funniest things

TEACHER: John, how do you spell "crocodile"?

JOHN: K-R-O-K-O-D-A-I-L"

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

JOHN: Maybe it s wrong, but you ask me how I spell it!

TEACHER: What is the chemical formula for water?

SARAH: H I J K L M N O !!

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

SARAH: Yesterday you said it is H to O!

TEACHER: Willy, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WILLY: Me!

TEACHER: Tommy, why do you always get so dirty?
TOMMY: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.



TEACHER: Ellen, give me a sentence starting with "I".
ELLEN: I is...
TEACHER: No, Ellen. Always say, "I am."
ELLEN: All right... "I am the ninth letter of the alphabet."

TEACHER: Now, Sam, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?
SAM: No sir, I don't have to, my mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: What do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?
STUDENT: A teacher.

U16B/C's 18.10.03

An early morning at Greenway saw us off to a bit of a slow start. Good batting and hits from Tim Wilson and Nick Harris put players on base but unfortunately didn't equate to any runs scored. Ashley Clark had a good opening innings pitching 26 for 3 outs with strong support from Scott Osborne at catcher. Sarah Collins on first based gloved a wide throw at a stretch to hold the opposition to 2 runs.

The hi-light of the second innings was a pitch that went through to the net. A quick scramble and pickup from Scott saw Ashley standing on home plate to tag the runner who thought he could sneak in. This brought the crowd alive and the second out. The 3rd out also involved these 2 "Cool Hand Lukes".

Nick took the mound for the 3rd innings. As usual calm and controlled pitching caught Greenway off guard. Our next batting innings saw the hit of the game from newcomer Laura Procroft. A hard flat slam racing across the ground to centre out bought Scott and Nick home. Luck was our way when a dropped 3rd strike and a check and determined run from Elinor Taylor put her on 1st base. Again the crowd cheered and clapped.

Well done to Ashley, Nick, Scott, Laura, Nellie and Bridie Ingleton for crossing home plate in a competitive and exciting 4th innings. Unfortunately we left our run a bit late and time was against us. We went down 7-13 but every team member can be proud of a top effort.

Maquarie Saints U/9's (McCrohan)

Its been a great year so far. The kids are 1 win away from clinching the minor premierships at this, the first of February.

I really don't want to go into the naming of particular players because the kids have played as a unit all year without depending on any one player to carry them. I gave them a saying to hang onto "a great playing team will beat a team of great players", and they've stuck to it. Its great to see all the parents from different teams helping out and thats exactly what the kids need. We'll be at home for the finals and the kids would really appreciate your support. GO SAINTS!!



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Great recipe for roast chicken

When I found this recipe, I thought it was perfect for those who aren't sure how to tell when a chook is thoroughly cooked, but not dried out. ED.

Give this a try.

ROAST STUFFED CHICKEN No. 20 chicken

1 cup melted butter

1 cup stuffing (White Wings is good.)

1 cup uncooked popcorn

salt/pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 190 degrees. Brush chicken well with melted butter, salt and pepper. Fill cavity with stuffing and popcorn. Place in baking pan with the neck end toward the back of the oven. Listen for the popping sounds.

When the chicken's bum blows the oven door open and the chicken flies across the room, it's done.

Under 11C (Hollings)

Macquarie Saints vs Stealers

Round 10 29th November, 2003

Win by forfeit 9:0

The team played a great game today even though the Stealers did not have enough players so they had to declare the game to us. Unaware that they had already won on a forfeit, our team showed excellent sportsmanship by agreeing to take turns playing for the other team to make up their numbers. We saw fantastic fielding from Hugo, Andrew, Stuart, Kara and Jack, excellent batting from Geoffery, Jos, and Martin and reliable catching from Sarah. Taylor was hit by the ball and was hurt but managed to soldier on after a break. Player of the Match was awarded to Rhiannon for persistence and determination as pitcher.

Under 11C (Hollings)

Macquarie Saints vs Thornleigh

Round 14 31st January, 2004

Win 11:1

The sun was shining at Ruddoch Park and the holidays seemed to have revived the energy of all in the team. Everyone played a great game today. What is very impressive is the way the whole team seem to think more carefully about their game. Unfortunately, we will miss Sarah now for the rest of the season due to a broken arm. We hope she gets better quickly. It won't be the same without her! We saw some excellent pitching and fielding as well as some great batting. The player of the match went to Rhiannon for two fantastic catches.

Under 11C (Hollings)

Macquarie Saints vs Stealers

Round 15 7th February, 2004

Win 13:5

The team are improving more and more every week. Jack, Jake and Hugo did a fantastic job of fielding to prevent a home run. Stuart's pitching is terrific. Hugo made a sensational hit and managed a home run as well as getting Kara and Taylor home. Andrew was sick this week but we look forward to having him back next week. Jos helped two of his team mates to get home. Rhiannon Geoffery and Martin played a good match both with their fielding, batting and team work. Thanks to Win and Matt for patient and clever coaching. Player of the match went to Hugo.

Keep this philosophy in mind the next time you either hear or are about to repeat a rumor.

In ancient Greece (469 - 399 BC), Socrates was widely lauded for his wisdom. One day the great philosopher came upon an acquaintance who ran up to him excitedly and said, "Socrates, do you know what I just heard about one of your students?"

"Wait a moment," Socrates replied. "Before you tell me I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the Triple Filter Test."

"Triple filter?"

"That's right," Socrates continued. "Before you talk to me about my student let's take a moment to filter what you're going to say. The first filter is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?"

"No," the man said, "actually I just heard about it and ..."

"All right," said Socrates. "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now let's try the second filter, the filter of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my student something good?"

"No, on the contrary ..."

"So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about him, even though you're not certain it's true?"

The man shrugged, a little embarrassed. Socrates continued. "You may still pass the test though, because there is a third filter - the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my student going to be useful to me?"

"No, not really ..."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither True nor Good nor even Useful, why tell it to me at all?"

The man was defeated and ashamed. This is the reason Socrates was a great philosopher and held in such high esteem. It also explains why he never found out that Plato was bonking his wife.

U/9's South v's Concord

Round ? Date 16 November

Result Score: Loss, 11-2

Great hits by Liam, Lauren, Karina & our 2 Kates with Kate Y & Liam managing to get home. Great fielding at short stop by Natassia, great outfielding & huge throws by Karina. Excellent work on 1st & 2nd bases by Lauren & Michael. Good fun had by all!

U/9's South v's Five Dock

Round ? Date 29 November

Result Score: Loss, 6-0

Excellent team work with Karina (pitcher) & Kate Y (1st base) getting Five Dock out. These stars also managed to get Five Dock out on 2nd & 3rd base also! Great fielding & calling by Sophie at short stop. Improved batting by all the team, especially Jeremy. Great team work!

U/9's South v's Concord

Round ? Date 13 December

Result Score: Loss

Very hot conditions but we soldiered on! This weeks star had to be Kate S catching Concord out on the full while playing pitcher, well done Kate! Karina had fun as catcher this week & Michael played well on 3rd. Great fielding by Natassia & Kate Y. Liam managed a great hit & got home. Well done!

U/9's South v's Balmain Boomers

Round ? Date 31 January

Result Score: Loss, 10-0

What a great game! Excellent fielding & team work. Natassia hit well to get to 3rd base. Great fielding by Sophie & Kate. Karina managed a great stop, threw to Kate on 1st base to get the Boomers out. Excellent team work by Natassia & Lauren at pitcher & 1st base. Very impressive fielding!!!



U/9's South v's Concord
Round ? Date 7 February
Result Score: Loss,

What a great start to the game with 3 great hits by Natassia, Karina & Liam getting us a place on each base! Fantastic fielding/stops this week by Sophie at right out. Thanks to Bianca for playing 2 games today, your help was appreciated. The improvement in batting this week was amazing! Well done team!

Under 10 South (Braiding)
Saints vs Five Dock
Round 14 - 31st January
Loss 8 – 10

A very close game with both teams evenly matched. Some spectacular fielding by Saints with outstanding catches and pick-ups by Erol, Joshua and Nicola. Also great glove work by Craig as catcher.



Saints vs North Ryde
Round 15 – 7th February
Win 16 – 4

A good mix of strong fielding, base running and batting gave us this game. Great hits by Jake, Tom and Joshua brought in lots of runs. Michael and Sam fielded tightly on the infield and some excellent relay

work was shown by Nicholas and Tyrone on the outfield. A caught fly by Brian and a double play was a beautiful ending to the game.



U8's Peck

Macquarie Saints vs. Greenway Lynx

Round 10 Date (29 November)

Result Score Loss 17:22

A very competitive game this week with all players giving their best. James S, Josh, Bianca were the outstanding hitters and runners, whilst James O excelled in the field with great ball stopping, including a catch and thinking where to throw the ball. This earned him the Player of the Week. Alex won the game ball with great play at first base, getting 2 tags. Jarrod, Josh and Zoe performed well in the field, which helped to minimise the opponent's runs.

Macquarie Saints vs. Stealers Cheetahs

Round 11 Date (6 December)

Result Score: Draw 25:25

Another exciting game, with a draw reflecting how competitive the game was. Nathan excelled with 4 runs off 4 great hits. He also fielded very well with a catch and strong throwing. Nathan received the Player of the Week award. Bianca earned the game ball with excellent fielding and tagging. Our speedy runners this week were Damien, James O, James S and Nathan all with 4 runs each, whilst Zoe and Bianca scored 3 runs each. Jarrod and Alex ran well between bases scoring 2 runs each and fielded well, making good decisions where to field the ball.

Macquarie Saints vs. Greenway Tides

Round 13 Date (20 December)

Result Score: Loss 13:23



A very hot day today, the last game before Christmas and a tough opponent all combined to create a challenging match. Our opponents were big hitters and very good fielders. Nathan rose to the occasion with strong throwing in the field and thinking about the plays. He also batted very well and was the Player of the Week. Zoe earned the game ball with her fielding and running between bases. Damien fielded well with big throws and also a tag. Alex also got a tag and ran well between bases. Bianca both batted and fielded well. Josh, James S, Jarrod and James O all ran well between bases and scoring runs.

Macquarie Saints vs. Thornleigh 2 Dodgers

Round 14 Date (31 January)

Result Score: Draw 29:29

An exciting game this week, with Bianca's grand slam in the first innings and another home run in the 2nd innings being the highlight. Her superb batting and running performance earned her Player of the Week. Everyone scored at least 2 runs, with James O, Josh and Nathan scoring 4 runs. Jarrod had a big hit in the 2nd innings. James S and Zoe fielded well, with both preventing runners progressing more than one base at a time. James S won the game ball for his fielding. Damien had some great throws in the field as well as fast running between the bases. Brianna also batted and ran well scoring 3 runs for the team.

Macquarie Saints vs. Kissing Point Red

Round 15 Date (7 February)

Result Score: Loss 25:26

A very close game this week with runs coming thick and fast. In the first two innings everyone scored a run. Bianca backed up from last week with another home run. Jarrod batting in 9th position also scored a home run, combined with great throws was awarded Player of the Week. Our outstanding runners this week were James S, James O, Nathan, Zoe and Bianca, all scoring 3 or more runs each. Zoe also fielded well, getting this week's game ball. Alex had a great hit with lots of power but ended in a great catch by Kissing Point. It was a great example of the skills of both teams. Damien, Josh and Bianca were our taggers.

ACTUAL AIRLINE ANNOUNCEMENTS

On a lengthy evening Air Canada Flight with a somewhat "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."

From Westjet: "There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane. So pay attention!"

"Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Memphis, a flight attendant on a Northwest flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, everything has sure as hell shifted."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are traveling with more than one small child, pick your favorite."

Should the cabin lose pressure, oxygen masks are in the overhead area. Please place the bag over your own mouth and nose before assisting children or other adults acting like children."

"As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed equally amongst the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."

A Canadian airline pilot wrote in his journal a few years ago that on one particular flight due to strong crosswinds, he had unfortunately hammered his ship onto the runway with a very hard greeting. The airline had a policy which required the first officer on the flight to stand at the exit door while the passengers disembarked, to smile and repeat "Thanks for flying our airline." His comments indicated that, in light of the poor landing, he avoided eye contact with the passengers in an attempt to avoid any smart comments that might result. Finally there was only one little

old lady left to exit the plane. Walking slowly up the aisle with a cane, she approached the awaiting first officer and said,

"Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?"

"Why, no, Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?"

"Did we land, or were we shot down?"

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport. After reaching a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom,

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax. . . . OH, MY GOD!!!"

Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant brought me a cup of very hot coffee which ended up spilling in my lap. You should see the front of my pants! A passenger in Coach yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

Macquarie U12C v's Balmain Boomers

Round 10 – 29 November

Loss 10-11

This was the most enjoyable game we played this year, even better than our first meeting in Round 5. And it was also the best that we have ever played as a team. There were so many highlights that all can't be listed. Andrew Walkerden had an outstanding overall game fielding at 1st base, pitching, and with perfectly placed hitting which got several players home at crucial times. Anthony Rossi at catcher was always under extreme pressure from the Balmain runners, but handled it well – tagging one out at home, and even throwing to 3rd for a tag-out. Tana Rattananikom made two great throws to 1st base for outs, and made a huge hit which took an age to return to earth, to get 2 home. Andrew Luczynski stole bases at will. Good judgement from Michael Bullock, Damien La Rocca, Kate Nightingale and Nick White managed to get 'walks' on more than one occasion, to support our bigger hitters. At 5-9 down into the final innings, the team made a great comeback scoring 5 runs to 2. The Balmain coach said that they always liked playing Saints because of the good spirit in which we play the game, and especially because we always "have a go and remember to have fun" (our Coach's philosophy).

Ken Bullock
Manager

Macquarie U12C v's Rangers

Round 12 – 13 December

Loss 2-5

In a game where pitching dominated the bat, we got off to a bad start with our first 3 batters not making 1st base. But, with Andrew Luczynski opening the pitching, we responded in stunning fashion with a double-play followed by a strike-out. The double-play saw Andrew Walkerden take a catch at 1st, then immediately throw to Jacquelyn Osborne at 2nd for a tag-out. Great stuff! [0-0]. Our 2nd innings was a repeat of our 1st, under pressure of some strong pitching. But in Rangers innings, Andrew Walkerden took a running, low catch at 1st base, and later, a great take at 1st for a tag-out. [0-1]. At last, our batting fired with great hits from Jacquelyn and Andrew again, and we eventually got 2 home. In the final innings, Jacquelyn took a sensational catch at 2nd base. With 2 Rangers players out and the score 2-2 (due to accurate pitching from Andrew Harris) we came so close to closing down Rangers' innings until a big hit got 3 home to win the game. To his credit, Nick White was one of only four Saints players to manage to hit the ball all day.

Ken Bullock
Manager

Macquarie U12C v's Kissing Point Angels
Round 13 – 20 December
Loss 6-7

For the second time in 3 games, we fell just 1 short of a draw. Andrew Luczynski opened the pitching again to great effect, striking out 3 batters (the last on loaded bases!). However, our first two batters didn't make 1st. So, some innovative thinking was required, and Damien La Rocca responded by 'bunting' and making it safely to 1st. Good thinking Damien! But ultimately, the innings ended 0-1. The 2nd innings was a complete contrast to the 1st. Angels managed maximum 6 so at 0-7, a big effort was required, and our players responded. Andrew Luczynski hit well, to get a player home. Then Tana Rattananikom managed the hugest/longest/highest hit of the day which got 3 home. Eventually, we also managed maximum 6. Special mention also goes to Andrew Harris (pitching) and Anthony Rossi (catching).

Ken Bullock
Manager

Macquarie U12C v's North Ryde
Round 14 – 31 January
Loss 0-12

Back from the holiday break, we met a team who were absolutely 'red hot'. In the 1st innings, only Andrew Luczynski and Andrew Harris managed to get beyond 1st base. In contrast, North Ryde hit well and stole bases easily, while our fielding was a little 'scratchy'. Our only highlight was that we did manage to get 3 out, but they still made maximum 6. In our 2nd innings, our first 3 batters didn't make 1st base due to some pressure pitching. North Ryde's 2nd innings was a repeat of their 1st and they quickly raced to maximum 6. The major highlight here was a great throw from Andrew Harris to Anthony Rossi which tagged the player out at home plate by centimetres – well done guys! It was only in the 3rd (unfinished) innings when the pressure was off, that we got some players 'home' and had some real fun.

Ken Bullock
Manager

MacquarieU12c v's Balmain Boomers
Round 15 – 7 February
Loss 2-15

Our last meeting with Balmain was our most enjoyable game to date, and this one at least started with the same promise. Our 1st innings highlight was Andrew Harris' 2 strike-outs and Andrew Walkerden's accurate throw from 3rd base, to Andrew Luczynski at 1st, for an out, and nullifying a run at home base. But when we batted, only Andrew Luczynski (the 'master' of stealing bases) managed to make it home. [1-3]. Then, in the 2nd innings, Balmain really hit their stride, hitting the ball to all parts of the field. Kate Nightingale kept a cool head to do a difficult in-field pick-up and hand-off to 3rd base for a tag-out. But overall, it was not one of our best performances in the field, with two easy catches dropped, and Balmain making maximum 6. Our batting again struggled due to some tight Balmain pitching and precision in-fielding work. [1-9]. Balmain continued on in the same manner in the 3rd innings. Our highlight was a sensational catch by Jacquelyn Osborne at 2nd base, leaping high and almost managing a double play. Almost immediately after, she just missed what would have been a miraculous ankle-high catch. Only when the Balmain pitcher was changed, did we really start to put bat to ball, with Anthony Rossi managing to get home before we were all out.

Ken Bullock
Manager

U/8 Latham – Go Girls

We have shown many improvements in play and understanding the rules. The girls have plenty of team spirit and though these have been tough games they always finish with a mighty cheer and smiles, ready for the next game.

Thank you to all parents for cheering on the girls and always being happy to help when required.

A special thank you to our fantastic coach, Chris Latham. His patience, knowledge of the game, humour and incessantly positive attitude has made a significant impression on the girls.

Macquarie vs. Gladesville

Round 4 - 18 October

Loss 20-18

A narrow loss this week with excellent all round play from Elizabeth and great tags by Rhiannon.

Macquarie vs. Concord

Round 5 - 25 October

Loss 29-13

Big hits by Concord put our fielding to the test and excellent fielding on their part raised the question from our players “Why didn’t I get to bat?” The Girls have learnt a new rule – 3 out and side away. Rhiannon was busy in the right field, Anna L great throwing to catcher and Anna M consistent batting on a hard day.

Macquarie vs. Five Dock

Round 6 – 1 November

Loss 25-8

We are certainly improving our fielding against another opposition team of big hitters who kept running home. Sophia had a busy morning excelling in fielding and throwing.

Macquarie vs. Epping/Eastwood

Round 7 – 8 November

Loss 22-10

The highlights today were Anna M’s quick thinking in tagging 3 players on 2nd base, Kirsten’s big hits and Georgia’s running between bases.

Macquarie vs. Concord

Round 8 – 15 November

Loss 31-12

Nell showed today how the ball should be hit and her running was outstanding. Sarah demonstrated her skill as catcher and Eryn produced consistent all round play.

Macquarie vs. Five Dock

Round 10 – 29 November

Loss 27-23

A close game with improved fielding by all the girls particularly Eryn’s dynamic stop at pitcher. The ball was hit very hard directly at her it was nearly a brilliant catch. Sarah showed her strength with some huge hits.

Macquarie vs. Concord

Round 12 – 13 December

Loss 31-13



Another tough game against Concord, the team of big hitters, the girls were run all over the field. Our throwing is improving and we are beginning to back each other up. Anna L was kept busy in the outfield and Anna M's great pick up at pitcher and an accurate throw to third base which Kirsten caught – the runner was safe by a nose.

Macquarie vs. Concord
Round 13 – 20 December
Loss 27 – 13

Today saw batting improvements with big hits by Sarah and Nell. Our fielding highlights were Sophia's strong throwing from the outfield, Elizabeth's quick thinking at 1st base and Georgia's all round play.

Macquarie vs. Epping Eastwood
Round 14 – 31 January
Loss 21-15

A very close game that was won in the last innings by Epping Eastwood with some great fielding to get 3 of our girls out with loaded bases. A hard hit by Rhiannon to get 3 runners home, Sophia's reliable fielding and Nell's all round play were features of the day.

Macquarie vs. Concord
Round 15 – 7 February
Loss 29-19

A hot day didn't deter the team and they improved on their previous performance. Again fielding dominated for the girls with lots of running in the outfield. Elizabeth was busy in the left field, Anna M thought quickly to tag a runner who didn't have his foot on 2nd base, Kirsten stopped a ball as pitcher nearly catching it and Sarah worked well as catcher.

Under 11A Report

11A's V Stealers
Round 10 - 29th November
7-4 Win.

After a slow start to the game, and down 4-0 after the first innings, the team began the fight-back, to be down 3-4 after the 2nd innings. Jake Wilkins led the way with some great pitching, while Ben Cambourn's 3 base hit brought us back in the game. Lizzy Symons' 1 base hit brought Ben home and Jordan's hit scored Ryan McLachlan home, who incidentally had a great catcher's game. Some loose pitching from the Stealers and smart batting from the Saints, eventually proved the difference in securing another win.

11A's V Rangers
Round 12- 13th December
11-3 Win

Another great game from the Saints. Ryan McLachlan had a strong game with the bat, as did James Vlazny with a great hit to centre field. Chris Nicoll fielded the first Rangers hit at 2nd base and threw to Louisa at 1st base for the first of many outs. A memorable out was made when Ryan McLachlan(catcher) combined with Chris Nicoll(short-stop) for a tag-out at home to limit Rangers to 1-1 after 2 innings. Jake Wilkins had great game, earning the Players' Player award, with 6 strike-outs and a 3 base hit that scored Jack Young home. Chris Nicoll took over the pitching duties in the last innings, striking out a batter and putting one out with a throw to Jack Forbes, ever so safe, at first base.

11A's V Thornleigh
Round 13- 20th December(Thomas's Last Game)
7-6 Win

We hosted Thornleigh at ELS Hall, in what was to be Thomas Gough's last game for the Saints. The players had promised to fairwell Thomas with a win and after a nail-biting game, they finally achieved it. It was probably the most gutsiest performance ever by this team. Ben Cambourn played with a strapped ankle, after injuring it at school, and Jack Forbes played after being up most of the previous night with a fever. Down 0-2 after the first innings, a batting spree saw us turn the game to be 6-4 up after the 2nd innings. Lizzy Symons' strong performance with the bat earned her the batting award, while a trade-mark centre-field boomer from James Vlazny, brought Hobbling-Ben home. Jack Forbes was heading for the bucket before he was called upon to pitch, and threw 23 strikes from 36 pitches, including taking a bullet line drive from one of the batters. 3 up, 3 down and still we led 6-4 after the 3rd dig. Top of the 4th and Thornleigh leveled the score 6-6. Jack Young arrived at the pitcher's plate with a runner on 3rd and 1 batter out. Under pressure, he struck the next 2 batters out, to hold the score at 6 all. At the bottom of the 4th, Jordan Sorbello's hit to right-field, allowed him to get to first base, and with some excellent batting from Louisa Scott, Jordan stole his way to 3rd to be in a scoring position. Louisa hit a screamer to score Jordan home, sealing victory for the Saints, 7-6. Tears flowed freely after the game, as we said good-bye to Thomas and his family.

11A's V Concord
Round 14- 31st January
18-4 Win

'6 runs side-away' was the order of the day, as the Saints belted the Concord attack, all over the field. After 2 out in the first innings, Ben Cambourn got the bats swinging with a 2-bag hit to centre-field. Louisa Scott batted well, as did Jack Forbes with a ripper to centre-field. James' hit to right-field scored Ben home, while Jack Young, Jordan Sorbello, Lizzy Symons and Ryan McLachlan all batted superbly. Our fielding was also rock-solid, with Jake Wilkins' accurate pitching helping to keep Concord from scoring in the first 3 innings. Jake topped off a great game with a home-run that brought Chris Nicoll and Jack Forbes home for 3 RBI's.

11A's V Stealers
Round 15-7th February
10-2 Win

It took a while to hit our straps, but after 0-1 behind after the first, we managed to draw level 1-1 by the end of the 2nd innings. Player of the match, Jack Young, led the way with a 2-base hit to left-field. He also pitched well, helping the team 'claw' their way back to be ahead 7-1 after 3 digs. Ryan McLachlan topped off a solid performance as catcher with a huge 2-base hit to centre-field. Chris Nicoll batted well, bringing Jack Forbes home and also took a superb reflex catch, diving to his right, inches off the ground, while he was pitching in the 4th innings. Jordan Sorbello also took a brilliant catch, leaping into the air at right field and falling to the ground, with the ball still firmly in his mit. Louisa Scott's fielding at 1st base, putting a couple of runners out, was great. Jack Forbes and Jake Wilkins each smashed a 3-base hit to left-field, while James Vlazny belted one through centre-field for his 2-bagger.

U12A (1) Minard
Minard v's Greenway (8)
Round 8 15 November
Win 14 - 4



With our Coach Jim and myself away on Annual Leave & Assistant Coach Matt rushing off at the start of the game to bid on a new home it was left to Wayne Falconer to be both Coach & Manager. Not easy doing both jobs but he was ably assisted by our very good band of parent helpers. This day also saw players Nathan (holidays) and Sravan (ill) away which left the team with the bare 9 players.

When I rang Wayne mid Saturday afternoon for the result a very excited & happy Lyn Falconer (our Scorer) answered the phone. We won ! We won she exclaimed ! Lyn further described the game as exciting and all the players performed well.

Wayne later told me that each player had indeed played well and particularly our batting was impressive in which we scored innings of 6, 6 & 2. Eric in particular played well with batting his feature earning him the Coaches Award.

Wayne promptly finished by saying he was retiring from Coaching with his undefeated record intact. Well done team & to Wayne.

Minard v's Stealers
Round 10 29 November
Win 11 - 7

We took to the field, after last week's wash out, keen to play. A good 2 bagger from Dan (2nd batter) saw Dean home. A good start to the game. Poor pitching from the opposition saw a few walks in the 1st Innings & this coupled with good hits from Ollie, Ryan, Chris (RBI), Adam (RBI) saw us with a lead of 6 – 0 going in to the 2nd. More good hits by Dan (RBI) & Svravan (RBI) put us ahead 8 – 0 at the bottom of the 2nd. Good pitching in the 3rd by Chris again kept the Stealers scoreless & more good batting by Alex & Chris gave us a lead of 9 – 0. Again good batting in the 4th by Svravan (RBI) & Nathan (RBI) & 1 run to Stealers put our lead at 11 – 1 heading in to the 5th & final innings. The Stealers came alive & we went to sleep a little allowing them to score 6 runs. A good win but we need to remember to play the entire game. It is not over until after the final pitch. Our Coaches Award, Great Fielding, today went to Chris for some very fine pitching

Minard v's Five Dock
Round 13 20 December
Loss 6 – 10

We were keen to face Five Dock again today as they are the form team & we were eager to try & avenge our 1st Round loss. No games for the past 2 weeks meant we were a little light on in match play but never the less ready to go.

What an incredibly tight game this started out to be. Neither team giving an inch with good pitching & fielding from both sides. Ryan's pitching was great. He struck out the first 8 batters, was assisted well by Alex at catcher, and coupled with a good tag out by Nathan at 3rd from a great throw from Alex, the score was 0 – 0 at the bottom of the 3rd.

The 4th was another very tight affair with Ollie at pitcher & Nathan now at catcher. Again no runs scored. Two good hits by Five Dock in the 5th innings saw them lead 4 – 0 going in to the 6th. We couldn't score again this innings & great fielding by us, highlighted by a great catch & tag double by Ryan limited them to 2 runs. 7th innings came up & both Teams went for it. They scored 4 runs & good hits by Chris, Lockie with a homer (3 x RBI) gave us 6 runs to finish the game 6 – 10 down. A very fine effort from all our players. Alex was rewarded for his great work at catcher with the Coaches Award. Well done players !

Chris Lumb
Manager

U12A Sims

It's great to back! The team has returned from the Christmas holidays refocussed and ready for some great baseball. Our first two games back have seen us record wins of 13 – 2 and 9 – 2, just what we needed as we approach the Round Robin and Final Series. It's great to hear the higher noise level from the dugout and the field as the team supports each other on every play. We are heading in the right direction and if we could get those runners that are left stranded on base home we would record some sensational results.

Alex had a great game at pitcher last week going 3 innings in about 24 pitches and had a great 3 base hit to the outfield. **Pecky** toiled away behind the plate, 6 innings – the entire game in the heat, with that level of endurance and determination he may take up marathons! **Mira** continues to work well with the infield, making those outs at 1st look so easy; and has been landing a few bombs in the outfield. **Elise** has experienced a return to form at the plate with a great drive to the outfield last week. **Harvey's** back to his best in the infield swooping on balls hit anywhere near shortstop, combining well on a difficult half volley last week for a great out at 1st with Mira. **Johnny Tay** must be having jet fuel for breakfast as he's now flying around the bases putting pressure on the opposition. **Daniel** has got the bat going with some great hits to the outfield and his throwing has improved significantly during the season. **Beau** took a great catch at centre field and managed the double play to 2nd even with his injured arm – where there's a will there's a way! **Lewy** is scooting around the bases and has been tracking the ball very well in right field and has managed to pull off some sensational 9 – 3 plays that most of us would only dream of. The **Duck** has found himself on the mound and has proved that catchers can pitch (not in the same game of course) with some great efforts that have had the scouts scrambling for the speed guns and has continued to belt the ball when at bat.

Our piece is not complete without a big thank you to **John Collins**, our umpire, for his efforts behind the plate.

The oil change

Oil Change instructions for Women:

- 1) Pull up to Ultra Tune after driving 10,000klms since the last oil change.
- 2) Drink a cup of coffee.
- 3) 15 minutes later write a cheque and leave with a properly maintained vehicle.

Money Spent: Oil Change \$55.00 Coffee \$2.50 Total \$57.50

Oil Change instructions for Men:

- 1) Wait until Saturday, drive to auto parts store and buy a case of oil, filter, kitty litter, hand cleaner and a scented tree, write a cheque > for \$95.00.
- 2) Stop by Liquorland and buy a case of beer, write a cheque for \$30.00, > drive home.
- 3) Open a beer and drink it.
- 4) Jack car up. Spend 30 minutes looking for jack stands.
- 5) Find jack stands under kid's pedal car.
- 6) In frustration, open another beer and drink it.
- 7) Place drain pan under engine.
- 8) Look for 9/16 box end spanner.
- 9) Give up and use pliers.
- 10) Unscrew drain plug.
- 11) Drop drain plug in pan of hot oil: ! splash hot oil on face and arms in process. Swear.
- 12) Crawl out from under car to wipe hot oil off face and arms. Throw kitty litter on spilled oil.
- 13) Have another beer while watching oil drain.
- 14) Spend 30 minutes looking for oil filter wrench.
- 15) Give up, crawl under car and hammer a screwdriver through oil filter and twist off.
- 16) Crawl out from under car with dripping oil filter splashing oil everywhere from holes. Cleverly hide old oil filter among trash in trash can to avoid environmental penalties. Drink a beer.
- 17) A mate shows up, finish case of beer with him. Decide to finish oil change tomorrow so you can go see his new garage door opener work.
- 18) Sunday: Skip church because "I gotta finish the oil change." Drag pan full of old oil out from underneath car. Cleverly dump oil in hole in back yard instead of taking it to recycle.
- 19) Throw kitty litter on oil spilled during step 18.
- 20) Beer. No, drank it all yesterday.
- 21) Walk to Liquorland buy beer.

- 22) Install new oil filter making sure to apply a thin coat of oil to gasket surface.
- 23) Dump first Litre of fresh oil into engine.
- 24) Remember drain plug from step 11.
- 25) Hurry to find drain plug in drain pan.
- 26) Remember that the used oil is buried in a hole in the back yard along with drain plug.
- 27) Drink beer.
- 28) Shovel out hole and sift oily mud for drain plug. Re-shovel oily patch of ground and avoid environmental penalties. Wash drain plug in lawn mower fuel.
- 29) Discover that first Litre of fresh oil is now on the floor. Throw kitty litter on oil spill.
- 30) Drink beer.
- 31) Crawl under car getting kitty litter into eyes. Wipe eyes with oily rag used to clean drain plug. Slip with stupid pliers tightening drain plug and bang knuckles on frame.
- 32) Bang head on floorpan in reaction to step 31.
- 33) Begin swearing fit.
- 34) Throw stupid pliers.
- 35) Swear for additional 10 minutes because pliers hit Miss August (2002)
- 36) Beer.
- 37) Clean up hands and forehead and bandage as required to stop blood flow.
- 38) Beer.
- 39) Beer.
- 40) Dump in five fresh litres of oil.
- 41) Beer.
- 42) Lower car from jack stands.
- 43) Accidentally crush remaining case of new motor oil.
- 44) Move car back to apply more kitty litter to fresh oil spilled during steps 23-43.
- 45) Beer.
- 46) Test drive car.
- 47) Get pulled over: arrested for driving under the influence.
- 48) Car gets impounded.
- 49) Call loving wife, make bail.
- 50) 12 hours later, get car from impound yard.

Money spent:

Parts \$95.00

DUI \$2500.00

Impound fee \$75.00

Bail \$1500.00

Beer \$60.00

Total-- \$4230.00 --You know the job was done and you know the job was done right.

Notice of AGM and nomination forms below



Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc
PO Box 3727, Marsfield NSW 2122

Dear Member,

Please note that the Annual General Meeting of Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc will be held:-

Date:- 27 March 2004
At:- Pioneer Park, Balaclava Road, Marsfield (in the event of rain, the venue will be the Scout Hall, Agincourt Road Marsfield)
Time:- 3.00pm

As an Incorporated association, the Club is required to hold an Annual Meeting to report on its activities during the preceding year and to elect office bearers for the forthcoming year. If you or someone you know would like to nominate for a position on the Executive, please use the attached nomination form. The nomination form must be completed and returned to:-

The Secretary
Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc.
PO Box 3727
Marsfield NSW 2122

Completed nomination forms must be received no later than **13 March 2004**.

I look forward to seeing as many 'Saints' as possible at the AGM.

Regards,

Tony Sorbello
President



Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc

PO Box 3727, Marsfield NSW 2122

NOMINATION FOR ELECTION AS OFFICE-BEARER

If a person is being proposed for election to more than one office, then a separate form must be completed for each office.

Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Incorporated (incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984*.)

PROPOSER:

I,(print full name)

of(address)

hereby nominate(print name of nominee)

for election at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to the office of:

[Please tick relevant box. If a person is being proposed for election to more than one office, then a separate form must be completed for each office and be duly seconded and accepted.]

- President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary Ordinary member

.....Signature of proposer Date.....

SECONDER

I, a member for the association, (full name)

second the nomination of(print name of nominee)

for election at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

.....Signature of seconder Date.....

ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION

I, a member for the association,(full name)

accept nomination for election at the Annual General Meeting to the office of:.....

.....Signature of nominee Date.....