

**Upwey Ferntree Gully
Baseball Club
50th Annual Report**



2012/2013

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Board of Management 2011/2012

<p style="text-align: center;">President Bob Ayres</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Vice President Fleur Farrington</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Secretary / Administration Denis Dalzotto</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Finance Glenn Archer</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Director – Player Management Roger Cheesman</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Director – Facilities Management Brendan Cheesman</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Director – Communications Sharon Findlay</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Life Members</p> <p style="text-align: right;">* deceased</p>		
<p>John Williams * Syd Waters * David Prentice Jenny Ratcliffe Gary Dillow Bill Bons Rohan Chapman Tony Hellenen</p>	<p>Fred Birnstihl * Alan Delzoppo Ron Hefferman Dale Lewis Gerard Whitty John O'Halloran Ian Chivers</p>	<p>Frank Stainer Mike Snoxell Fran Hefferman Geoff Ratcliffe Bob Simonton Ken Longmuir Ben Utting</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Club Coach Bradley Harman</p>	

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

President's Report

Well we are 50 and we celebrated such a momentous event with a great 50th Dinner Bash that was attended by about 140 members past and present. We were entertained and informed on the evening by 3 marvellous speakers, Frank Stainer, Jenny Ratcliffe and Matthew Sheldon-Collins. Each speaker gave us their insights into their eras in our illustrious history. If you missed the event for whatever reason, just have a chat with Denis who is still revelling in the knowledge he acquired on the night. Congratulations to Glenn Archer and his band of assistants for arranging such a fantastic event at such a fantastic venue. Well done.

Another significant event that came to be with a very short gestation period was the inaugural "*Tour de Tiger*" bike ride. Emerging from some "serious discussions" between Mitch Ayres and Luke Farrelly, the idea of a *little* bike ride from Albury in NSW to the Clubrooms (over 300km) was born. Raising approximately \$3,000 through donations and sponsorship, 4 cyclists and 3 support crew in 2 cars took 4 days to complete the journey. The riders were Mitch Ayres, Luke Farrelly, Brendan Cheesman and Anthony Bons, while the support crew consisted of Roger Cheesman, Jordan Elliott and yours truly. The rumour has it that the boys are venturing to Lakes Entrance next time and the number of riders has increased dramatically. Good luck guys. A great fundraising event and a heck of a lot of fun if you want to get involved.

Our membership over the past few years again has levelled out in terms of overall numbers. We seem to max out at around 160 members. We need to change our focus and concentrate our recruiting on the younger ones especially at Aussie T-Ball and Under 12's. The bigger the lower age group numbers are, the more chance of retaining them all the way through to the senior ranks.

This year we had 3 junior teams make finals, which in itself is a terrific effort and we look forward to improving that figure in the future. Keep up the good work guys and congratulations to all involved.

For the first time in 50 years we fielded 2 teams in the MWBL Winter competition. They competed in the D and D Reserve grade competitions. The Reserves team (primarily newcomers to baseball) went on to win the Premiership in their first year. What a fantastic achievement. Unfortunately for the D Grade boys who finished 1st on the ladder, they were eliminated from the finals in straight sets losing both the Semi and Preliminary finals. Both teams are all back for another go so good luck boys.

I need to again acknowledge the grateful assistance of our wonderful Secretary, Mr Denis Dalzotto. Without this man the Club would not function as well as it does. Those late night emails, the paperwork, the Newsletters, the

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President's Report

Board and P&S meetings, the uniform tops, etc, etc. Thanks Denis, not everyone sees what you do around the place but they would certainly notice if you didn't do it. Congratulations.

To the remaining Board & Committee Members, Brendan, Fleur, Sharon, Roger, Glenn, Greg, Michael R, Michael Y & Dillon, thanks for your time and the work you have done this year.

A very special mention has to go to our Junior Best Clubman recipient Richard Kiel for his continued support of the Club. He is a true role model for the rest of us. Congratulations.

Four other members also deserve special mention here as well and they are collectively the recipients of the Best Clubman award for this year. Rhonda Cheesman, Roger Cheesman, Brendan Cheesman and Jayde Aron ("The Cheesman Family") The time and effort given freely to the Club by this group was enormous, whether it was for canteen, grounds, supplies, organisation, committees or absolutely anything, they had it covered. All very worthy recipients, congratulations.

Congratulations to all of our award winners who received recognition for the efforts given throughout the season. Keep up the great work.

To our Club Coach, Brad Harman, thanks for your efforts again this season. I am confident in saying that the knowledge you were able to pass on to everyone at training and on game days from your wealth of experience and expertise was of benefit to all members.

To the rest of our coaches, managers, scorers and helpers at all levels, your commitment in giving of your valuable time in assisting your selected team is very much appreciated. I am certain the members of your respective team are very thankful as am I.

If you would like to assist the Club in any way, please contact any member of the Board.

Denis and I often chat about where the Club is going and who can we attract to make certain of the survival of the Club, both on and off the field. It is getting closer to the day when one or both of us will step down and pass the reins onto our successors, whoever that might be. If you think you can assist in any way, come and have a chat.

A couple of years back, the aura of a "family friendly" environment was rekindled around the Club. This environment is vital and is what will make the

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President's Report

Club flourish. The Club must be a place where everybody wants to come to play any and all forms of baseball and while enjoying that pastime also enjoys social activities, has fun and makes lasting friendships with other members.

To the next group of Board members, I wish you success in achieving your goals both on and off the field and I very much look forward to seeing you make the Club a better place for everyone to enjoy.

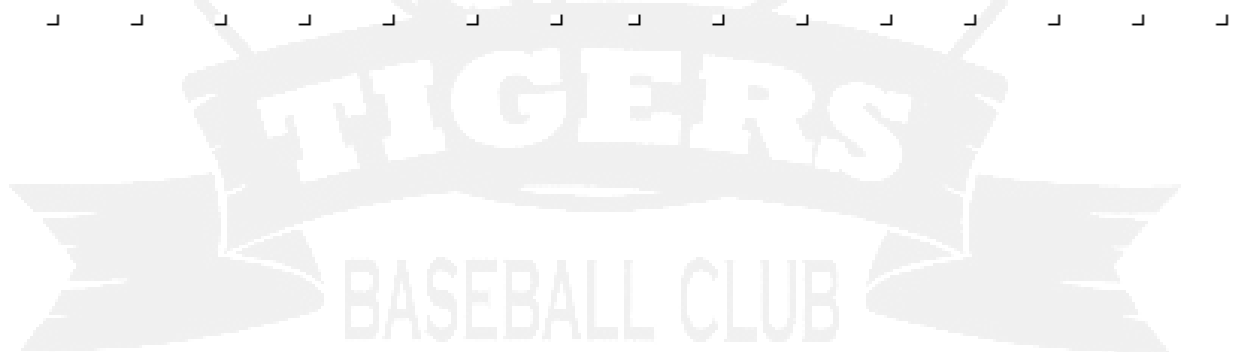
In continuing the great traditions that have been set over the past 50 years and that were reinforced to us by our 3 wonderful speakers at our 50th Dinner, we need to ensure that we continue to set the bar at such a level that will continue to challenge everyone to strive to better ourselves and in doing so, make this Club the best it can be. Without you, the Club does not exist. Why not set yourself a personal goal of assisting where you can. In the modified words of JFK, don't ask what the Club can do for you; ask what you can do for the Club.

So, that's 50 done, bring on 2013-2014.

Yours in baseball

Bob Ayres
President

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club – Go Tigers.



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Player Management Report

It was an interesting Season for my first year in the role of Chairman Player Management and gave me the opportunity to look at a number of processes and existing procedures within the Club.

The key responsibilities were:

Player Selection:

- Selection of teams had no real issues week to week, although we can improve our communication to players when they are dropped by having the appropriate coach discuss with them the reasons. This was a bit spasmodic during the season but overall was managed okay.
- The club also blooded some of the younger players into the Firsts late in the year. This should also be looked at for the entire season where players are consistently performing well, or conversely, other players are not performing to standard. A key focus for the 2013/2014 season will be the selection of players based on performance rather than injuries or unavailability.
- A number of players from the Thirds and Fourths could also have been looked at for higher grades. It is proposed for the upcoming season that selection in general becomes more “performance” based and will be discussed with the Coaching staff.
- Thanks to all of the coaches this year for their effort and assisting me in understanding my role.

Assistant / Specialist Coaches:

- A coaching framework is being composed to assist the club in selection of the appropriate Senior and Junior coaches in discussion with the appropriate club personnel. This will include expectancies, operating guidelines and desired club requirements. This is not to say we have got this wrong, simply we are looking to ensure everybody involved is in sync with the club expectations.
- We were very late in the appointment of Senior and Junior coaches for the season and will be ensuring this is not repeated in the upcoming season. We will be seeking to appoint coaches for Teams and specialist coaches prior to the 2013/2014 pre season commencing.
- More interaction will be required with the Junior Coaching staff next year. There is also consideration being given to a sub-committee to fulfil the role of Junior Development to support the Player Management and Coaches for the Junior sides. More information will be circulated shortly on this.

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Player Management Report

- An increased focus will be made in 2013/2014 on specialised coaching for Pitchers, Catchers and specialised positions to assist all players at the club. This occurred at various times throughout the season but needs a more rigid framework so that players are aware and can attend sessions. Thanks again to those people who conducted group and individual session for players.
- Next season will be interesting from a number of perspectives, including the requirements for appointed coaches to be certified (as stipulated by Baseball Victoria).
- It is planned to have regular meeting of all coaching staff during the next season to discuss and cover all appropriate coaching points. This did occur this season but was a little fragmented.

Uniforms, Player Numbers, Training Shirts, Caps, Supporter Caps etc:

- There were no real issues with any of these points.

Scorer Recruitment and Education:

- Whilst scorers were appointed for the Firsts, the other sides had a number of Scorers throughout the season. This is not uncommon within Baseball. Suffice to say on any given week somebody scored to assist the club. Thanks to all of the scorers for the season and also to those that filled in at the last minute to help the club out.
- A session was proposed to be conducted for scorers during the season but did not occur due to low numbers. A night will be set down for the 2013/2014 season and notified via Facebook and email to all club members.

Umpire Recruitment, education and appointment:

- This was a very interesting season from an Umpire rostering point of view. Whilst the roster for the early part of the season seemed to work, there were a number of games during the balance of the season where umpires were not available, and the responsibility regularly falling to other club members or parents.
- The Club has stipulated that Umpires for Junior games must be over the age of 18, hence this leaves a reduced number of players available for umpiring. As a result some players did 2 or 3 games, whilst some did none. It is proposed next year to enforce the rule of failure to umpire on nominated days will result in not being available for the following game.

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Player Management Report

- The Umpiring roster will be improved next year and will be more tightly managed and communicated, preferably on the Web page. There will be no valid reason for not knowing when you are rostered for Umpiring.
- It was also planned to perform an umpiring session for interested parties, and although this did not occur, it will be a prime focus for the 2013/2014 season along with appropriate certification. More details will be circulated prior to the commencement of the next season.
- A huge thanks to Denis, AJ, Cheesy and the parents that filled in to umpire for the Juniors. Thanks also to those that Umpired the Fourth's home games. John O'Halloran did most of the Third's games, so huge thanks John.

Other Duties that fell within the role of Player Management:

- Score Sheets being emailed to Baseball Victoria worked really well. There was only a few missing during the year and they were tracked down quickly. Thanks to all for providing these and it was pleasing to "not see" the UFTG on BV memos for missing score sheets too often.
- Stats sheets were a different matter. With the exception of a couple of coaches, very few stats sheets were received from coaches. This needs to improve next year along with Match reports which were pretty well non existent. To improve our communication and share our good news on ALL teams, we need to provide this info for all spectators and players and assist in selection when required.

Proposed Activities / Considerations for the upcoming 2013/2014 season are:

- A registration day for Juniors and Seniors with a BBQ to enable the club to gauge numbers and team nominations.
- A players meeting 3 or 4 weeks prior to the commencement of the Season, preferably during pre season training.
- A documented and approved selection process for the Club that all committee, coaches and players are aware of.
- Players to sign the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct as part of their registration.
- A sub committee to be formed to address Junior Development.

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Player Management Report

- A mentoring program to be considered for identified junior players for mentoring by a Senior player (matched by the club) to assist in all facets of Baseball.

Summary

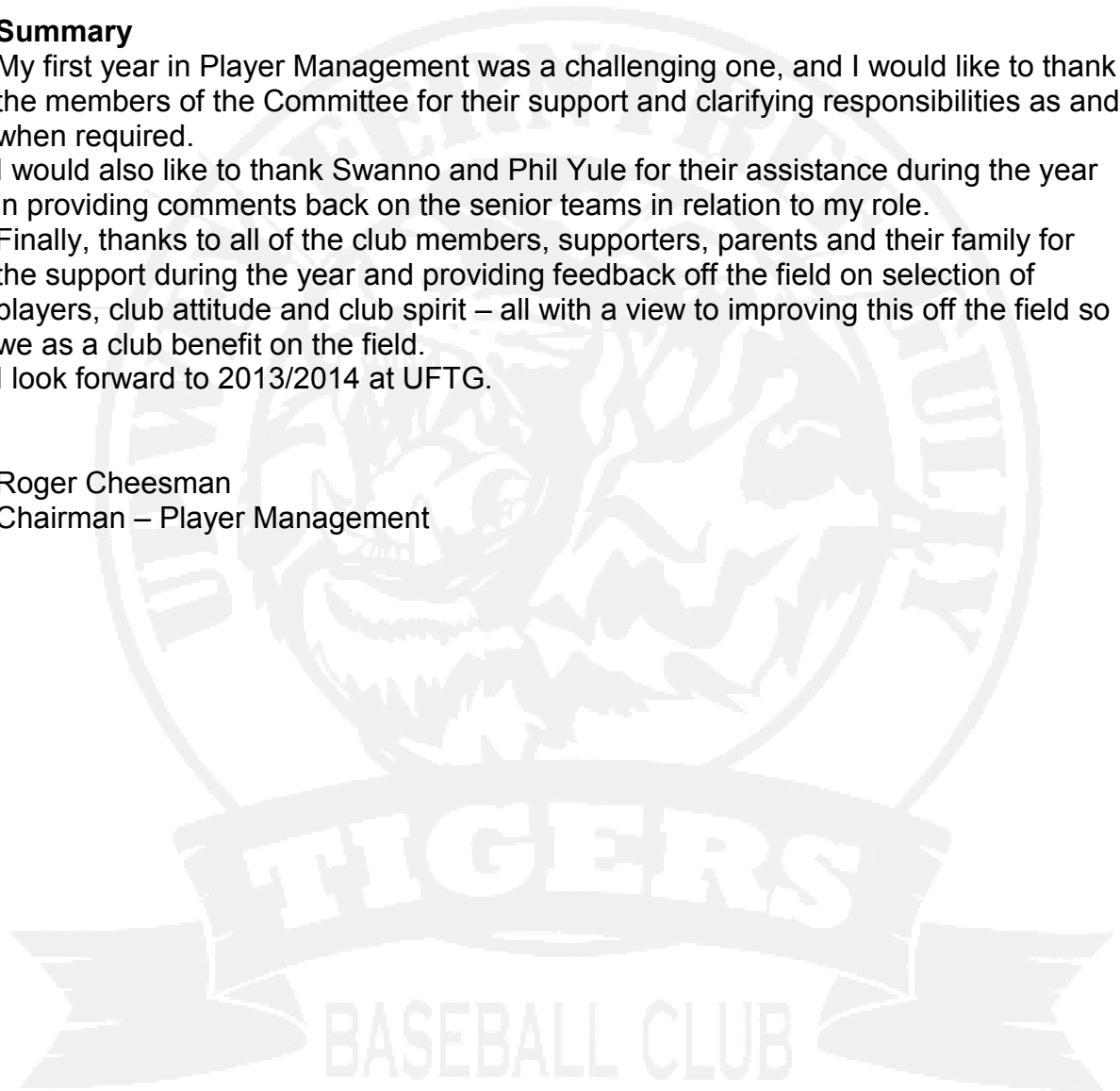
My first year in Player Management was a challenging one, and I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their support and clarifying responsibilities as and when required.

I would also like to thank Swanno and Phil Yule for their assistance during the year in providing comments back on the senior teams in relation to my role.

Finally, thanks to all of the club members, supporters, parents and their family for the support during the year and providing feedback off the field on selection of players, club attitude and club spirit – all with a view to improving this off the field so we as a club benefit on the field.

I look forward to 2013/2014 at UFTG.

Roger Cheesman
Chairman – Player Management



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Facilities Management Report

I would like to thank the following people, in no particular order. Bob Ayres, Denis Dalzotto, Jayde Aron, Roger Cheesman, Rhonda Cheesman, Marika Booth, Jordan Elliott, AJ, Bob & Richard Kiel, Heather Aron, Julian Aron, Justin Aron, Richard Mason and Sharon Findlay. At one point or another you have all done something to make my life at Upwey easier, whether it was helping in the canteen, or supplying 2 pallets of unfired clay bricks, or just being there on a Sunday morning to help mark the diamond for a team your grandson is not even playing in.

Works undertaken to the grounds included;

- Edging the infield grass and topping/leveling the running tracks on both Diamond 1 & Diamond 2
- Installing unfired clay bricks to the mound and batters boxes/catchers area on Diamond 1
- Aerating the infield on Diamond 1
- Installing new netting inside the batting cages, including bench seats at the back area
- Implementing new protective screens for front toss
- Renewing the surface on the mound on Diamond 2
- Renewing the surface of the Catchers area in the Bullpen
- Rebuilding the Mounds in the bullpen.

It was pleasing to see so many faces at the club working bees, many thanks.

This year I took over the club canteen, and with the help of a Coffee machine, a full touch screen register with stock inventory, Roger and Rhonda Cheesman and Jayde Aron, I believe we had a fairly successful year. We served over 700 meals at the club ranging from Thursday night meals to presentation night dinner, and that is very pleasing.

A big thanks to all of our club sponsors, many of whom make my job a lot easier.

Brendan Cheesman

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Communications Management Report

Great season

Fantastic turnout to ladies day and suggest to follow the same format for next year.

Bingo night was fun and those that attended had a blast.

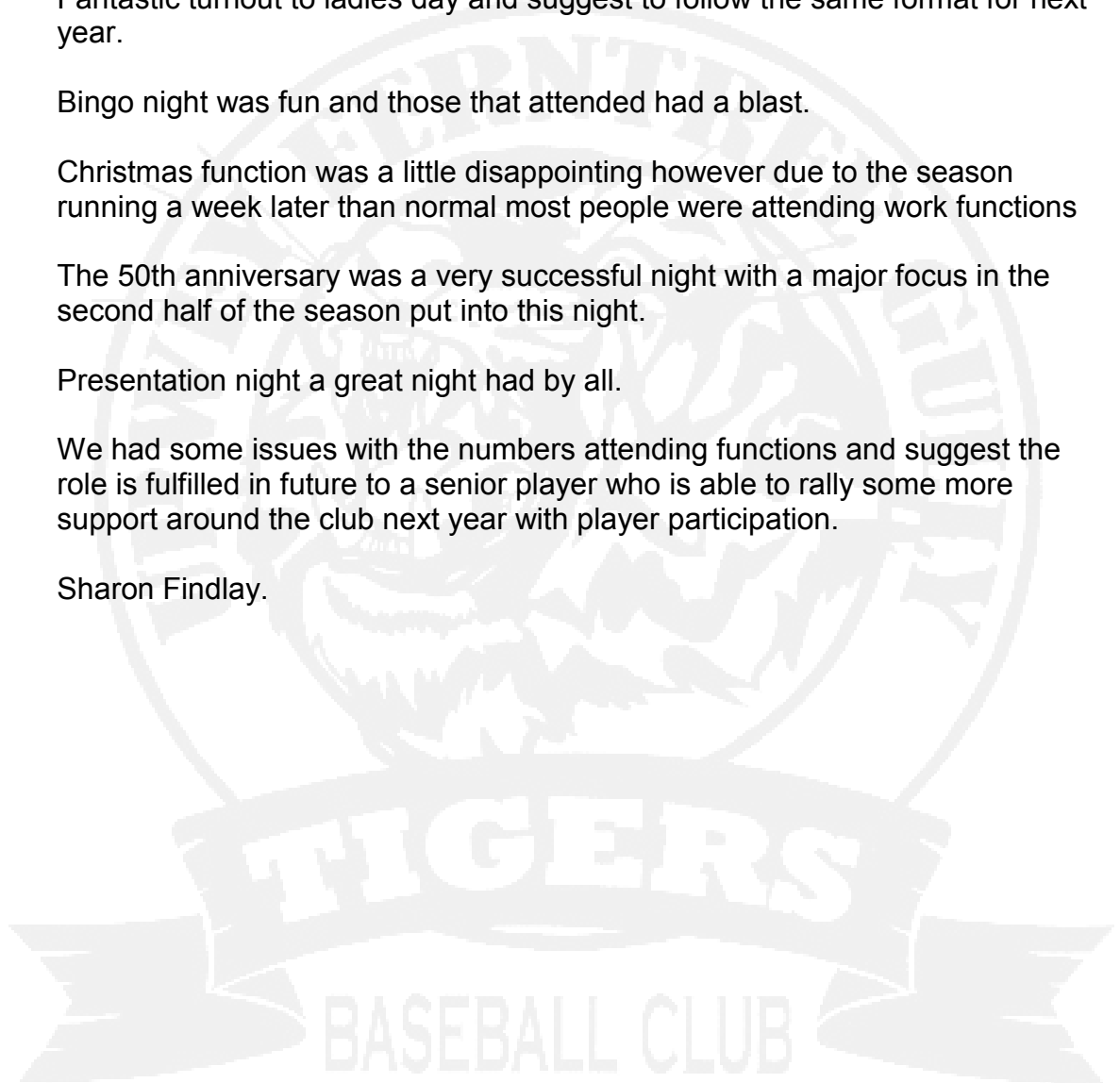
Christmas function was a little disappointing however due to the season running a week later than normal most people were attending work functions

The 50th anniversary was a very successful night with a major focus in the second half of the season put into this night.

Presentation night a great night had by all.

We had some issues with the numbers attending functions and suggest the role is fulfilled in future to a senior player who is able to rally some more support around the club next year with player participation.

Sharon Findlay.



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Club & 1st Nine Report

The past season saw a rollercoaster of highs and lows for the First's. We are good enough some weeks to beat the 2 teams that ended up playing in the grand final, yet other weeks struggle and lose to teams finishing in the bottom 3 on the ladder. As the club coach it is my responsibility to lay the foundations and set the standards for an on field culture within the playing group. This culture should be of a standard demanding the playing group respect their team mates, the club and most importantly the game. I set a few things in place at the start of the year in the hopes of building towards creating this necessary culture. I decide at the start of the year the 1's and 2's players would vote on a 4 man leadership group who would assist the coaching staff in ensuring the core values and ethics were being delivered to and by the playing group. As stated in the voting process these players would not necessarily be the best players but those who would lead by example week in week out and pull the rest of the group up to their level of standard.

This group of players were a big help throughout the year and as in introductory season performed well in what we stated their role would involve. However I believe with a little more structure including more Players Only meetings, this group can have a far larger impact on the on field success of the club going forward, which I do believe this process should be kept in place and gave up and coming players something to strive for. A large part of the groups focus was to be on training days where they are to set the tone through their work ethic, which is an area that has seen this club struggle in recent times.

My unique situation sees me miss some training and game days due to my other Baseball commitments. Some of the feedback I received when absent on these days is something that I struggled to deal with. It is the reason that the Upwey Baseball Club does not push to make a finals appearance but instead battles to stay above the relegation zone. I get reports of a 1's player sitting in the dugout for the entire training session as it is too hot and watches the rest of the club train, there are players getting ejected from games while I am absent due to language or behavioural issues obviously not showing the respect needed, a player choosing to coach a junior TRAINING session as opposed to represent the club in an A Grade team playing a game on the same night and lastly reports of multiple players attending to play a game in a state clearly not fit to play due to the previous nights social events. These continual ongoing incidents make it a very difficult proposition to believe the playing group are buying into a culture needed to be a successful Baseball club. This is definitely a key part of the club's makeup that needs to be addressed. I see this Club having 2 options with the current state of players and depth. The first option is the club continues to battle through the years until success may finally come with the inevitable fact that players get bigger, better, faster and stronger with each year and hopefully success is not too far away. Yet this does not fix the behavioural, culture and commitment issues we see around the club. With these current issues presenting themselves I was in a position this year to penalise players by form of a demotion giving opportunities to some younger players which is great for those guys, however to require an opportunity through another's punishment is not a great environment to create and sustain success. The issue

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Club & 1st Nine Report

with this process is at the current state our depth is not as great as many other club's at the present time, therefore by punishing players it seems to put a risk on the current ability we have to compete in Division 1 which is ultimately the only place this club desires to be. This club does have enough talent to compete at the Division 1 level yet there are issues holding it back which we are now looking at.

The second option is to create a no nonsense policy which will enable over time this club to get back to where it once was, sitting at the pointy end of the Division 1 ladder year in year out. The issue with this option is the club has no other option but to stare straight down the barrel of a birth in Division 2 before the process will start to see results and see the club climb back up and work its way to a successful position. When sitting down at the start of the season and asking for what type of commitment the playing group wanted to give, there is no question the group had the desire to play Finals Baseball and seemed to understand what it was going to take. Family and Work come before our sporting commitments and that is something that shall always remain and rightfully so, however I see a continual list of events that keep players off the training track and missing games, when I come to find out times did not necessarily conflict or the reason in the first place did not stack up against what I would call committing to your teammates. Music festivals with your mates or a golfing weekend away I find a struggle to deal with from players in the 1's and 2's as you left the club and your other MATES struggling to find a way to win a ballgame. I understand players pay to play and if they can not commit then I understand, if they can only play 75% of games as their social life is important to them that's fine, although it needs to be established that this is a social club so there is no confusion between The Board, The Coaching Staff and The Playing Group.

With all this being said there are some positives that came from this season including the ability to recruit some new players into the club, something that is important to be successful in this league as every year we see clubs continually look outside to add depth to their list of talent. We saw younger players start to move into the 2's and 1's showing positive signs that future talent is here at our club and with continual development these players are our future. Most importantly the behaviour seen over the last 3 weeks of the year saw our 1's battle, compete and succeed in cementing our spot in Division 1 for at least another year, although if that same 3 week effort is match for 90% of a season they will see the team playing off in a Division 1 Finals Series.

A final thank you to the Board Members, in particular Bob and Denis for the ongoing support and also to my Coaching Staff in Donny, Mitch and Chris for the assistance over the past season and to all at the club who have helped over the past 12 months.

CLUB COACH

BRAD HARMAN

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

1sts Batting Stats

Name	G	IP	PA	AB	R	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SAB	SAF	BB	HPB	SO	SB	CS	LOB	OBP	AVG
Aron, Justin	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.000	1.000
Smith, Ben	23	0	9	8	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	2	.444	.375
Findlay, Billy	15	0	40	39	1	12	11	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	11	0	0	11	.325	.308
Cheesman, Brendan	25	0	78	72	7	20	16	2	1	1	12	1	1	3	1	13	0	0	22	.308	.278
Harman, Bradley	17	0	69	54	10	15	12	2	0	1	8	0	1	13	1	8	6	2	23	.420	.278
Schroeders, Peter	27	0	119	95	19	26	22	3	0	1	8	0	1	19	4	17	8	2	24	.412	.274
McDermott, Michael	10	0	12	11	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	2	.250	.273
Rice, Nicholas	16	0	60	58	3	14	11	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	10	6	0	17	.267	.241
Lewis, Kieran	18	0	56	50	6	12	10	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	4	9	2	0	12	.321	.240
Hendricks, Donavon	24	0	74	61	7	14	12	2	0	0	11	1	1	9	2	7	4	0	19	.338	.230
Hendricks, Joshua	22	0	87	71	8	15	12	2	1	0	10	0	1	14	1	16	2	1	27	.345	.211
Barrett, Matthew	3	0	5	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	.200	.200
Swanton, Justin	27	0	106	81	11	16	12	3	0	1	7	2	0	19	4	20	5	2	24	.368	.198
Elliott, Jordan	32	0	116	84	14	16	11	4	0	1	10	1	0	16	15	21	2	1	28	.405	.190
Aron, Nathan	28	0	101	92	5	16	13	3	0	0	9	0	1	5	3	19	4	0	15	.238	.174
Farrelly, Luke	15	0	44	42	2	6	4	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	11	0	1	6	.159	.143
Fitton, Travis	12	0	32	22	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	2	8	2	0	3	.375	.136
Keys, William	29	0	98	83	3	10	10	0	0	0	7	1	0	13	1	22	1	1	16	.245	.120
Ayres, Mitchell	11	0	31	24	2	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	2	5	0	10	1	0	4	.194	.042
Bons, Anthony	7	0	10	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	.200	.000
Odlum, Toby	9	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	.333	.000
Summary	392	0	1151	963	110	204	166	29	3	6	95	9	8	133	38	216	44	11	257	.326	.212

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1sts Pitching Stats

Name	G	IP	H	SO	BB	WP	ER	RS	HPB	BF	Blk	B	S	Tot	%S	W	L	Save	ERA
Aron, Justin	3	11.7	9	8	1	0	0	0	2	46	0	64	112	176	64%	2	0	0	0.00
Bons, Anthony	7	3	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	14	0	26	31	57	54%	0	0	0	0.00
Schroeders, Peter	27	2	4	0	1	2	0	6	0	16	0	16	26	42	62%	0	0	0	0.00
Hendricks, Donavon	24	30.3	21	17	8	1	5	7	2	122	0	160	287	447	64%	1	2	0	1.49
Farrelly, Luke	15	6	1	4	4	1	1	1	1	21	0	29	36	65	55%	1	0	0	1.50
Smith, Ben	23	49.6	69	31	15	3	23	39	10	248	0	295	523	818	64%	3	3	2	4.17
Aron, Nathan	28	44.3	37	37	31	8	22	26	6	202	2	349	417	766	54%	0	2	0	4.47
Odlum, Toby	9	13.3	11	9	13	7	11	13	1	66	0	129	146	275	53%	0	1	0	7.44
Meldrum, Sean	18	93	139	46	45	15	77	97	11	481	0	627	950	1577	60%	4	7	0	7.45
Oldriks, Alex	1	2	2	1	4	0	2	2	0	12	0	23	23	46	50%	0	0	0	9.00
Harman, Bradley	17	2.3	6	3	1	1	4	5	0	17	0	18	48	66	73%	0	0	0	15.65
Summary	392	258	305	157	124	38	145	196	33	1245	2	1736	2599	4335	60%	11	15	2	5.07

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

2nds - Season Report

The Reserves had an up and down season finishing with 9 Wins, 8 Losses and 2 Draws, being knocked out of the Finals by Melbourne 2 seasons in a row was a poor way finish to the season.

The pleasing thing that came out of the season was the development of a number of our juniors, Justin, Dylan, Alex, Tod, Declan, Jackson and playing only 1 game Yarran, they all forced their way into the squad putting pressure on our senior group. We used 24 players throughout the season which is a large number but shows we have depth and is a window to our future, the only downside to the season was Commitment not only to the Reserves but to our First's who were struggling to remain in Division 1 after the Christmas break.

Players must learn you cant perform at your best when you have had a heavy and late night, I know we play Sunday's but there is no excuse and you only let your mates down as well as the club you are playing with Juniors so what are we teaching them it's time to wake up and commit to the Game, Club and your Team Mates.

Yes there are legitimate reason's to be unavailable but I don't believe player's in the main had good reasons not be available, it may sound harsh but if you cant commit to the whole season then why do we play especially when I get a message (always to late to do anything about it or not at all) to say someone can't play it's really unacceptable and along with player's not staying to be on the bench for the 1sts to help them out especially in the situation they were in this season was extremely disappointing.

I must thank Bob and the Committee for their dedication to the Club including the hard work of Cheesy, Roger and Rhonda with grounds and the canteen, most people on the Committee did a number of jobs around the Club including Glen's hard work to help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary thank you all. I must thank Catherine and Marika for scoring for us, so thank you both from everyone in the Reserves.

To all the award winner's both Senior and Junior congratulation's, with the Second's there was an interesting outcome with our Votes that saw Justin Aron winning our MVP a young man who has 1 more Junior Season to go I look forward to see how he goes next season.

Thanks.

Chris Harman.

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2nds Batting Stats

Name	PA	AB	Runs	Hits	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SAB	SAF	BB	HPB	K	GDP	SB	CS	OB	LOB	OB%	Sig	BA
Henricks, Donovan	4	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	.500	1.000	1.000
Curtis, Yarran	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1.000	1.000
Lewis, Kieran	13	8	6	5	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	4	1	1	0	4	0	11	2	.846	.625	.625
Rice, Nicholas	24	19	6	10	10	0	0	0	6	0	0	4	1	4	1	0	0	14	4	.583	.526	.526
Sadler, Todd	8	7	3	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	6	3	.750	.429	.429
Findlay, Billy	40	34	10	14	12	2	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	4	1	2	0	22	11	.550	.471	.412
Keys, Will	20	15	2	6	4	2	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	1	10	5	.500	.533	.400
Ayres, Mitchell	8	6	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	.500	.333	.333
Barrett, Matthew	14	13	3	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	5	1	.357	.308	.308
Aron, Justin	46	36	5	11	10	1	0	0	6	2	0	4	4	6	1	5	2	23	18	.500	.333	.306
Odlum, Toby	57	47	9	14	11	2	1	0	9	0	0	8	2	8	1	7	1	31	14	.544	.383	.298
Smith, Ben	27	24	6	7	6	0	1	0	5	0	1	2	0	2	1	2	1	9	2	.333	.375	.292
Philipsen, James	24	21	2	6	6	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	2	1		2	9	4	.375	.286	.286
High, Declan	37	29	8	8	8	0	0	0	5	2	1	2	4	5	0	7	1	19	8	.514	.276	.276
Fitton, Travis	40	30	6	8	6	2	0	0	3	0	0	7	3	11	0	6	2	18	8	.450	.333	.267
Oldriks, Alex	33	32	3	8	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	6	0	4	0	13	10	.394	.250	.250
Lewis, Ben	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	.250	.250	.250
Bons, Anthony	47	38	7	9	9	0	0	0	8	1	1	5	2	7	1	3	0	20	7	.426	.237	.237
Hunkin, Jackson	20	17	3	4	3	0	1	0	3	0	1	2	0	3	0	1	0	8	5	.400	.353	.235
McDermott, Michael	62	65	4	15	13	2	0	0	10	1	0	6	0	11	1	6	1	28	19	.452	.262	.231
Archer, Dylan	51	45	10	10	9	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	3	12	1	7	1	22	10	.431	.244	.222
Farrelly, Luke	11	10	4	2	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	5	1	.455	.500	.200
Archer, Jack	31	26	3	4	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	0	10	5	.323	.154	.154
Swanton, Justin	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Total	626	533	103	154	137	13	4	0	83	10	6	65	25	89	13	61	12	290	138	.463	.328	.289

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

2nds Fielding & Pitching Stats

Name	Inn	Hits	K	BB	HPB	RS	ER	WP	BFP	B	S	T/P	S%	W	L	S	N/R	WH/IP	ERA
Smith, Ben	1.3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	10	14	.714	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Odlum, Toby	3.0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	12	15	29	44	.659	0	0	1	0	1.00	0.00
Curtis, Yarran	0.6	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	4	11	6	17	.353	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Bons, Anthony	17.0	13	10	11	0	3	1	1	77	122	171	293	.584	1	1	3	0	1.41	0.53
Rice, Nicholas	3.0	5	1	1	0	1	1	0	15	27	37	64	.578	0	0	0	0	2.00	3.00
McDermott, Michael	3.6	4	0	7	2	4	2	0	23	51	38	89	.427	0	0	0	0	3.06	5.00
Aron, Justin	54.6	46	24	41	4	46	32	3	288	422	578	1000	.578	5	3	0	2	1.59	5.27
Archer, Jack	3.0	5	3	1	0	2	2	1	15	24	28	52	.538	0	0	0	0	2.00	6.00
Oldriks, Alex	26.0	24	21	33	3	29	26	8	141	306	347	653	.531	2	3	0	0	2.19	9.00
High, Declan	2.0	4	0	4	0	5	4	1	14	22	23	45	.511	0	0	0	0	4.00	18.00
Total	114	104	67	99	10	23	68	15	593	1004	1267	2271	.558	8	7	4	2	1.78	5.37

Name	PO	ASS	E	DP	INN	PB	SB	CCS	SB %	FA
Philipsen, James	23	7	0	0	22	2	8	0	1.000	1.000
Barrett, Matthew	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Swanton, Justin	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Keys, Will	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Smith, Ben	24	2	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Fitton, Travis	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Lewis, Kieran	6	0	0	0	16	0	2	0	1.000	1.000
Henricks, Donovan	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Sadler, Todd	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Ayres, Mitchell	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Lewis, Ben	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Curtis, Yarran	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1.000
Aron, Justin	44	11	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.982
Bons, Anthony	52	3	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	.965
Archer, Dylan	20	1	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.955
Archer, Jack	9	9	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.947
Odlum, Toby	24	30	4	0	0	0	0	-	-	.931
Oldriks, Alex	12	13	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	.926
High, Declan	8	3	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.917
McDermott, Michael	22	36	6	0	0	0	0	-	-	.906
Findlay, Billy	50	4	6	0	64	1	34	3	.919	.900
Hunkin, Jackson	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.900
Rice, Nicholas	8	10	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	.900
Farrelly, Luke	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	-	-	.889
Total	362	143	28	0	102	3	44	3	.936	.947

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

3rds - Season Report

The 2012-2013 summer baseball season for the threes was a relatively tough one when measured by success on the scoreboard. Fielding one of the youngest teams we have ever had we finished ninth on the ladder with a record of six wins, ten losses and three draws. Overall this was not a bad result as we were usually competitive against even the top teams but just lacked some of the experience our opposition possessed.

Playing right up until two days before Christmas the first part of the season saw us complete 13 games before the holiday break, leaving only 6 more to round out the season. While we had our fair share of one sided games, from both sides of the ledger, many of the contests were closely run matches. Each of our three drawn games ended with 7 – 7 score lines with both of our matches against Essendon ending in a tie. We did make an unfortunate habit however of letting games slip through our fingers late in the day. Against Doncaster we let go of a 6 – 2 lead in the bottom of the last innings for a loss and then against Blackburn we blew a 7 – 2 lead, with two out, in the bottom of the last to end up with a draw.

We did have our share of success as well though and it was terrific to see our batting continue to improve. It was particularly encouraging to see the junior players begin to make adjustments to some of the older pitchers who may not throw as hard as they used to but still have all manner of tricks up their sleeves. Our fielding though was not as sharp as it had been in previous years and we will have to work hard on this for next season.

Throughout the season the team structure was always evolving as we usually had just the bare nine players to take the field. Sometimes even this was only achieved through the help of re-entry players from the fourths. This meant that quite a few people had to play out of their regular positions but everyone acquitted themselves well when called on to do so.

This summer saw the introduction of a few new rules into the game regarding visits to the pitchers mound and batting more than nine players in the lineup. We managed to muddle through without these changes causing too many problems but since there were still debates during the last game of the season over their correct interpretation, we will have to study up in the off season to be ready for next summer.

The recipient of the Most Valuable Player award for this season is Yarran Curtis. Against some big hitting opposition teams Yarran did a great job for us on the mound and was also one of the leading hitters in our lineup.

My thanks go to everyone who helped out around the club, including all the coaches and officials whose hard work allow us to have a game each week. Thanks also to everyone who helps out in the many auxiliary duties including canteen and facility maintenance who keep our club going, particularly the Cheesmans. I would also like to thank on behalf of each player in the thirds everyone who scored and umpired our games, your efforts on game day are greatly appreciated.

Sean O'Halloran

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

3rds Batting Stats

Player	G	PA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	TB	RBI	BB	HP	SO	SF	SH	SB	CS	LOB	OBP	Sig	BA
Dylan Archer	4	14	14	2	3	1	0	0	4	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	.214	.286	.214
Jack Archer	10	39	30	14	10	1	2	0	15	7	6	3	6	0	0	7	0	6	.487	.500	.333
Yarran Curtis	13	41	35	13	15	3	1	0	20	9	5	2	5	0	0	1	0	10	.524	.571	.429
Mitch Dalzotto	18	64	50	14	13	2	0	0	14	10	7	5	15	0	0	2	0	10	.403	.280	.260
Scott Dean	5	17	13	3	3	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	5	0	0	2	0	3	.412	.231	.231
Declan High	6	18	13	7	6	2	0	0	8	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	.611	.615	.462
Col Hope	5	17	15	1	5	0	0	0	5	4	1	1	3	0	0	1	0	4	.412	.333	.333
Jackson Hunkin	11	39	30	12	10	2	1	0	14	10	8	1	5	0	0	2	0	12	.487	.467	.333
Lee Marcakis	3	7	6	0	2	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.429	.500	.333
Joel McIntosh	4	13	12	4	4	1	0	0	5	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	3	.385	.417	.333
Sean O'Halloran	19	58	42	16	10	3	0	0	13	6	16	0	8	1	0	5	0	10	.441	.310	.238
Alex Oldricks	5	20	18	2	6	0	1	0	8	3	2	0	3	0	0	2	0	4	.400	.444	.333
James Philippsen	11	31	26	7	7	1	1	0	10	10	4	1	5	0	0	1	0	9	.387	.385	.269
Michael Rice	17	56	53	13	16	3	1	0	21	8	6	0	16	0	0	1	0	16	.373	.396	.302
Thomas Rice	5	17	13	3	5	1	0	0	6	4	2	2	3	0	0	1	0	4	.529	.462	.385
Todd Sadler	13	43	37	16	15	5	0	0	20	6	4	2	3	0	0	2	0	6	.488	.541	.405
Damien Sharp	10	33	25	6	9	2	0	0	11	2	4	4	0	0	0	5	0	13	.515	.440	.360
Mitch Thomson	6	19	17	6	8	1	0	0	9	4	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	.526	.529	.471
Jayden Wearne	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	.500	.500	.500
Philip Yule	13	43	34	16	12	2	0	0	14	8	8	1	4	0	0	6	0	7	.488	.412	.353
	179	592	485	155	160	31	7	0	204	100	84	25	87	2	0	44	1	130	.451	.431	.344

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

3rds Pitching & Fielding Stats

Player	G	IP	R	ER	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	HB	WP	SO	B	S	SPct	TP	BFP	ERA
Jack Archer	8		15	6	15	0	0	0	4	1	2	8	68	108	.614	176	47	6.75
Yarran Curtis		24 1/3	44	38	29	0	0	0	33	5	10	18	289	314	.521	603	148	14.05
Declan High	2		9	8	6	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	32	34	.515	66	17	36.00
Joel McIntosh	2		7	6	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	2	34	33	.493	67	18	27.00
Alex Oldricks		13 2/3	14	10	10	0	0	0	12	0	5	15	117	157	.573	274	68	6.59
Michael Rice		43	66	34	75	0	0	0	19	0	3	27	248	497	.667	745	221	7.12
Mitch Thomson	3		14	11	3	0	0	0	12	0	4	3	72	50	.410	122	25	33.08
Philip Yule		7 2/3	7	2	6	0	0	0	9	0	0	2	81	80	.497	161	44	2.35

Player	G	C	PO	A	E	DP	PB	SB	CS	CSA	FA
Dylan Archer	4	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	.000	.750
Jack Archer	10	41	13	13	15	0	3	3	0	.000	.634
Yarran Curtis	13	46	39	6	1	0	0	0	0	.000	.978
Mitch Dalzotto	18	51	29	17	5	0	8	11	0	.000	.902
Scott Dean	5	7	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	.000	.571
Declan High	6	11	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1.000
Col Hope	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1.000
Jackson Hunkin	11	30	14	12	4	0	0	0	0	.000	.867
Lee Marcakis	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1.000
Joel McIntosh	4	14	2	10	2	0	0	0	0	.000	.857
Sean O'Halloran	19	45	22	20	3	0	0	0	0	.000	.933
Alex Oldricks	5	12	7	4	1	0	0	0	0	.000	.917
James Philippsen	11	43	38	4	1	0	0	17	1	.056	.977
Michael Rice	17	56	48	8	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1.000
Thomas Rice	5	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	.000	.500
Todd Sadler	13	39	24	9	6	0	4	14	0	.000	.846
Damien Sharp	10	22	19	0	3	0	0	0	0	.000	.864
Mitch Thomson	6	17	13	2	2	0	0	0	0	.000	.882
Jayden Wearne	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	.000	.667
Philip Yule	13	21	11	8	2	0	0	0	0	.000	.905

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

4ths - Season Report

The season started very strong with a narrow 5-6 loss to a strong Blackburn side and we had high hopes at this stage that we could carry first-game form into the coming rounds. Unfortunately that was not to be and it's fair to say that the season was not as successful as we should have made it. We had solid wins in both outings against Preston, but they proved to be our only wins for the season. Apart from these two games, the highlight was definitely our last game against eventual grand-finalists Melbourne where we held on through the first four innings to go down fighting 1-3. In fact it was this last game that really showed what we should have been doing all season.

Our work at the plate was fairly solid with a team batting average of .268, but critically we struggled to get the hits and convert when we had players on base. Our pitching was at times brilliant, and at times completely absent. Both Jayden Wearne (against Melbourne) and Mitch Thomson (against Preston) in particular showed that they have massive potential, and Thomas Rice is a proven performer on the mound. However an inability by all our pitchers to consistently find the strike zone meant that we put way too many opponents on base without a fight. It would be fair to say, particularly for some of the younger guys, that a few more sessions in the bullpen would have made the difference on the mound.

The 4's are a great squad to play in for transitional players moving up, particularly from juniors to seniors, but it is essential that they maximise the opportunity, regularly attend training and strive to put what they learn into practice on the field.

Congratulations to Thomas Rice on winning MVP for the year and thanks to all those that helped out through the season as fill-in players, scorers and umpires.

Michael Yung.



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

4ths Batting Stats

BATTING	G	PA	AB	R	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	BB	HBP	SF	SO	SB	CS	OB%	SLG%	AVG
Damien Sharpe	2	6	5	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	7	0	1	0	1	1	0	.667	1.400	.600
Sue Mercuri	1	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	.667	.500	.500
Ben Lewis	7	24	21	5	9	7	2	0	0	4	11	2	0	1	1	2	1	.458	.524	.429
Michael Yung	16	51	46	5	17	13	4	0	0	16	21	3	2	0	3	2	0	.431	.457	.370
Tom Rice	16	53	46	11	16	11	2	3	0	4	24	6	1	0	8	7	1	.434	.522	.348
J McIntosh	1	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	.333	.333	.333
Col Hope	14	42	35	10	11	10	1	0	0	6	12	4	3	0	4	2	1	.429	.343	.314
Glenn Archer	8	29	20	7	6	6	0	0	0	3	6	8	1	0	3	6	0	.517	.300	.300
Jayden Christie-Dossiter	16	50	42	9	12	9	2	1	0	6	16	7	0	1	14	4	0	.380	.381	.286
Bobby Simonton	11	33	28	6	7	7	0	0	0	0	7	5	0	0	2	1	0	.364	.250	.250
Adam Campi	15	48	41	9	10	9	1	0	0	2	11	7	0	0	7	2	0	.354	.268	.244
Matt Skinner	14	45	38	4	8	4	2	2	0	6	14	6	1	0	12	1	0	.333	.368	.211
Mitch Thomson	8	27	21	4	4	4	0	0	0	5	4	6	0	0	1	4	0	.370	.190	.190
Jayden Wearne	14	39	37	9	7	7	0	0	0	3	7	2	0	0	5	4	0	.231	.189	.189
Adam Hand	6	16	12	3	2	1	1	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	5	1	0	.375	.250	.167
Neil Hamilton	10	27	25	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	4	0	0	.185	.160	.120
Greg Rice	4	12	11	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	0	0	.167	.091	.091
Scott Deane	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Geoff Machirus	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Team Total	166	515	440	86	118	94	17	6	1	57	150	63	10	2	81	38	3	.371	.341	.268

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Masters 'Alzheimers' - Season Report

It's a good thing we play masters for fun!!! Although we did get as high as 4th spot on the ladder - in round 3 - we did finish in the only place that could be expected given our one win for the season (against Melbourne C)! Our greatest failure of course was our two losses to that other UFTG Masters mob the "Biopsies". Still, we did welcome a number of new players to the masters ranks and that is great for the Club. In fact it was this swelling of numbers that allowed us to field the two sides this year. Hopefully next year we can continue this trend of more "mature" players taking to the diamond.

Once again thanks to all who supported us and a particular vote of thanks to Chessy for the tremendous work he did for us on Monday nights.

Michael Yung.

Masters 'Biopsies' - Season Report

With the growing number of masters eligible players the introduction of a second team was a most welcome change this season, having to accommodate up to 18 players in one team was extremely challenging.

The Biopsies had an enjoyable season -finishing fifth on the ladder. We were not quite as competitive some weeks as we would have liked.

There were two games against Melbourne C that we should have won but they clawed their way back and we drew both times, the only drawn games in the division! The highlight for us was defeating the 'A' team on the two occasions we faced them.

The masters programme is gaining more interest every year, numbers are increasing as regular-season players become age eligible, past players return to make a grand come back or parents of younger regular-season players discovering there is an outlet for them to also participate.

Surprisingly, -because masters games are renowned for attracting zero spectators- UFTG Masters teams are building a loyal following of spectators from not only friends and families of players, but other club members as well who come to watch, have a bit of a laugh and join the social atmosphere and food. Here's an example; Dwain Richardson came to watch a game, saw how much fun it was, discovered he was eligible to play, started playing the following week, finished the season with the team's MVP award!

Finally, we appreciate and acknowledge the support from those who marked diamonds, prepared and cooked food and made the facilities available for us to play. Thank you.

Warrick Searle

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Junior Development - Season Report

Whilst making finals is not the main guide to how a Junior Squad has developed over a season it is however pleasing to see 3 out of 5 Team's making Final's in the Summer League Season and 1 out of 2 Team's making Final's in the Domestic Competition, a very pleasing conclusion to the Summer.

With our U12's and U14 Black both making it to Grand Final's only to come up short again this season and unfortunately the U16's lost their Semi Final in the summer league along with the U12's losing their Domestic Semi Final it has been another successful Season on field.

Each Season is an opportunity to learn and it is obvious to me that we must congratulate and thank our Coaches for the work they have done over the season, but it is important for our Junior Development we must get our Coaches up to date with current Coaching Principles through the NCAS because our juniors deserve an opportunity to play at a higher level.

It is glaringly obvious we must look at having the best possible Coaches working with our U12's then U14's up to U18's this is not to take away from the good work our Coaches did this season but we are not all talking the same thing and only producing confused player's so we must all be heading in the right direction.

I am disappointed with the lack of coaches who wanted to get up to date and do their Accreditation especially when it could be done at Upwey with no need to travel to another venue, in 2015 it is compulsory to have your Level 3 to coach junior's but at Upwey it should be a requirement to have the new Accreditation by next season (later this year) so it makes no sense not to have gotten it done.

Training session's for the most part were not to bad but could have been better with some age group's, some thing's I watched made me wonder how player's were expected to improve when we simply watched and made no comment to help the player and teaching things we can't do ourselves or fully understand it must be done better.

I believe that although I'm a State Coach I still have things to learn myself and I'm lucky that I am in a position where I'm involved in the Melbourne Aces Baseball Academy and State Program it allows me to continue learning, I've always said that if I get to a point that I know it all it's time to coach another sport so it is a fact that 1 or 2 coaches can't know it all and it's a huge mistake to teach something your not completely sure of especially now we have one approach to teaching the game in Australia from Club Ball to AA and AAA National Squad's so our coaches have to get up to date via the new Accreditation Program.

To our parent's some still must learn to simply watch the game and applaud good outcomes from our side and the other side and realise the players are doing the very best they can do so it doesn't help when parents say things like "run faster", "get a hit", "throw strikes" or sit there shaking their head when their child make an error, it's

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Junior Development - Season Report

important you support the players and weather you like it or not they are going to make error's, strike out and struggle throwing strikes so understand baseball is a game designed to make you fail.

Friday night Domestic Baseball must be taken more seriously by Parents and Players and I believe we need separate coaches not the guy's who coach on Sundays these Coaches could be Parents who get their Accreditation and other bits done, I believe it is time we made Domestic Baseball compulsory for all U12's, U14's and first year U16's and if we have to put 2 teams in the U15 Waverly Competition then so be it, understand the idea behind Domestic Baseball it is to give players the opportunity to Pitch, Catch and play other positions on the field they would not normally play on Sunday Mornings.

We know the other Clubs make Winning a priority but at Upwey with Domestic Baseball we are not interested in Winning our aim is Development and Fun, with players trying different positions because you simply never know what you will find.

There were people throughout the season who complained about the main field along with diamond 2 and there were other issues and naturally it was the same people who found it difficult to clean up the field after their team played for the senior games that afternoon or put things away, my blunt message to those people is get **Your** job done right and don't complain or simply **Do It Yourself** because your not helping the Club or teaching your players good habits.

I know I have mentioned the new Accreditation Scheme a number of times but it is something I am passionate about simply as I know the new approach works and will develop batter player's and there is now 1 way to teach the game in Australia that is the important thing to have us all doing things the same way, Upwey can be at the forefront of Victorian Baseball again because I can do the Accreditations at the Club any time you want to do it so how much easier can I make.

We need to find a way to increase numbers in Junior Baseball and it's up our players and parents to help by putting the word out to their kid's mates by letting them know how great baseball is to play, even putting notices in the school New's letter will help raise the Club's profile so please help build the Club.

It is also time we ran a come and try day for Junior Baseball not just T-ball we cant expect T-balers to move up to U12 Baseball, we must find a way to increase our numbers at the U12 and U14 levels so a strong advertising campaign is required and I believe we still need a Junior Co-Coordinator as Roger and Myself are **NOT IT** we have enough to do so someone needs to stand up and take on the role.

Chris Harman.

Junior Development.

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U18 Major League - Season Report

We had a pretty good start to the season with two wins, two losses and a draw seeing us going in to the U18's Major League.

We started the regular season by getting smashed by Waverley 16 nil. We all knew it was going to be hard being in the Major League but at the end of the season they showed that they deserved to be there.

The best game of the season was against Waverley, playing seven innings against the top side and holding them until the last. We out hit, out pitched them but just came up short at the end 6 – 1.

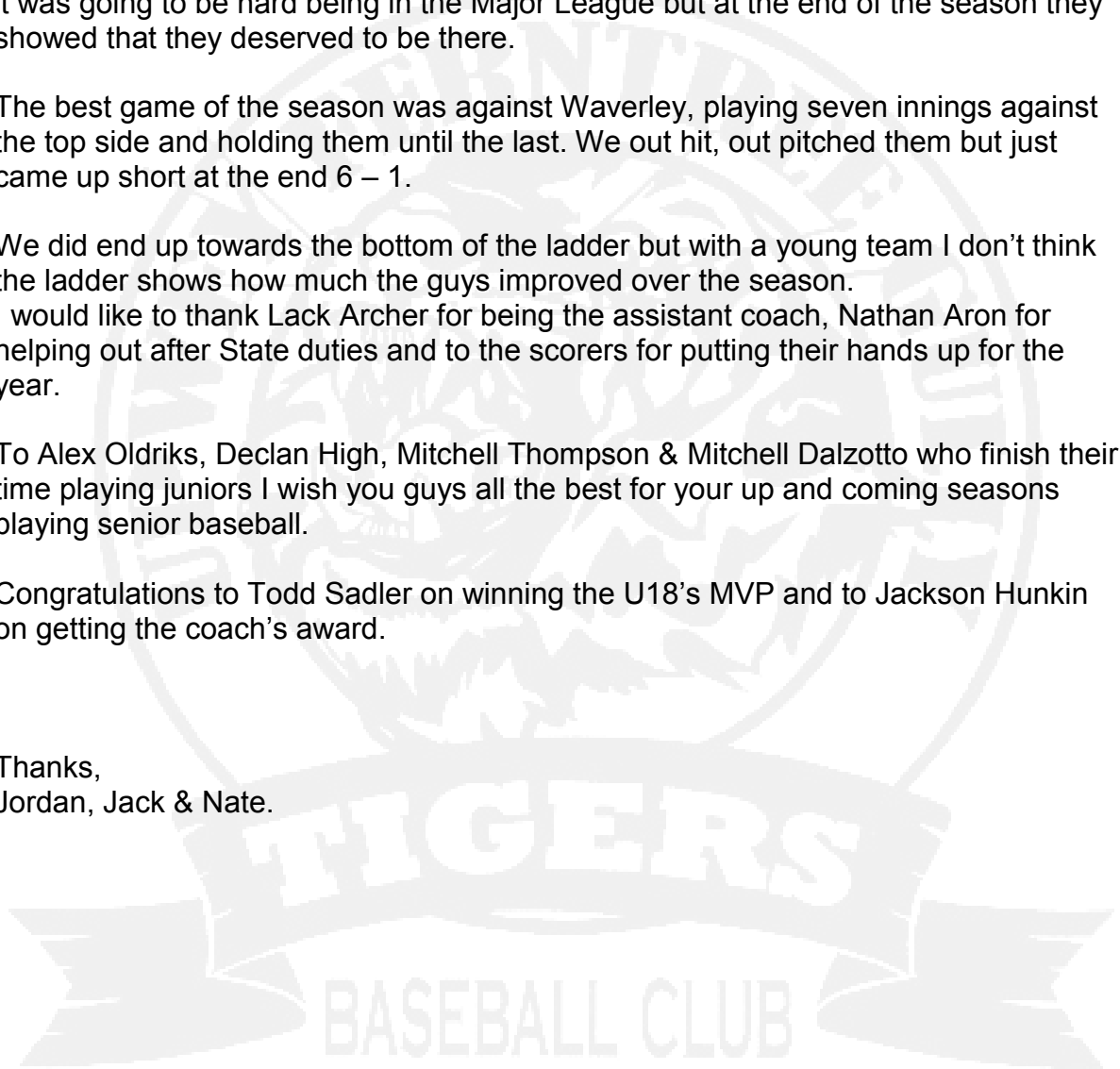
We did end up towards the bottom of the ladder but with a young team I don't think the ladder shows how much the guys improved over the season.

I would like to thank Lack Archer for being the assistant coach, Nathan Aron for helping out after State duties and to the scorers for putting their hands up for the year.

To Alex Oldriks, Declan High, Mitchell Thompson & Mitchell Dalzotto who finish their time playing juniors I wish you guys all the best for your up and coming seasons playing senior baseball.

Congratulations to Todd Sadler on winning the U18's MVP and to Jackson Hunkin on getting the coach's award.

Thanks,
Jordan, Jack & Nate.



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U16 AA - Season Report

Beginning the season with only a couple of top age under 16 players, the grading games came as a handy tool to see where each player was capable of playing. Even though the first few grading games saw us come off second best against the opposition, we were able to take some positives out of these losses and turn them into one of our strengths towards the end of the season. Persistence each week to get a win on the board eventually came to us at the end of the grading games. This helped build some confidence in the young players assisting the team to make it to the finals in the main season.

Defensively the start of the season was very untidy, missing groundballs, dropping fly balls and also throwing very little strikes to batters, which gave away many runs to the opposition. Through the hard work the players put in at training each week, they finally started seeing results in keeping the opposition teams to low scores most weeks. This definitely turned into one of our strengths as the season went on. Offensively the team struggled a bit with having to manage with the quicker pitching and also the addition of multiple off speed pitches. Having the players learning whether or not to swing at a curveball and also where the strike zone was, allowed us to gain a lot of free bases from walks and also passed balls. Some of our players really stood up when batting with runners on base, enabling multiple runs to be scored in an innings. This in turn assisted us in winning some of our games comfortably.

With majority of players being bottom age this year and their skills and knowledge of the game improving significantly over the duration of the season. With only just missing out on the grand final this year, we can hope as a club, too see this team in a higher grade and challenge for the grand final next year. It would be encouraging to see the playing group continue to improve and grow as players in the years to come.

Finally we would like to thank Linda for scoring throughout the year and everyone that assisted in setting up the ground, umpiring, help with training and keeping the players focused during the game. Our job was made easier with this generous support.

Nicholas & Michael Rice

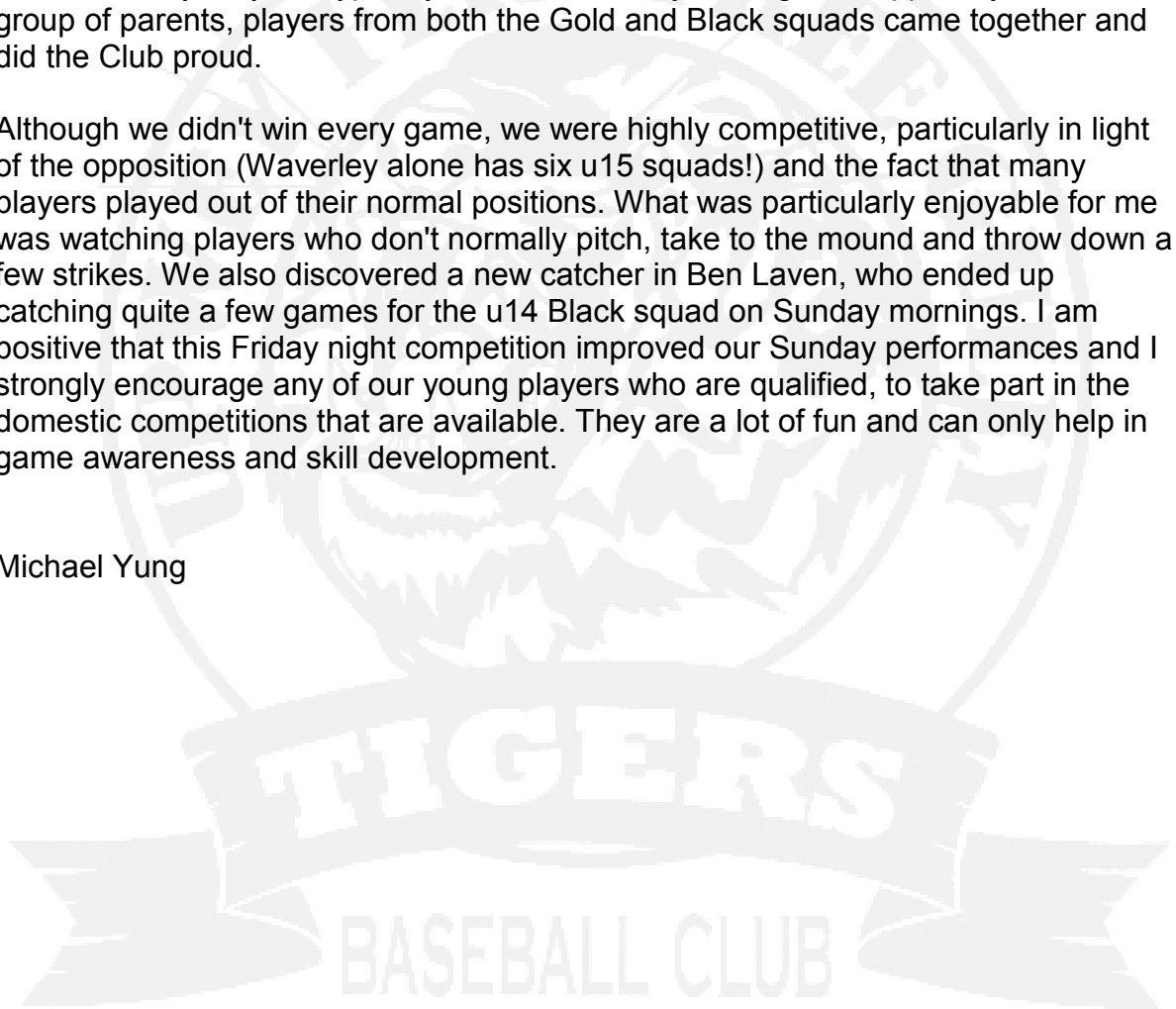
Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U15 Domestic - Season Report

Although we were down a few this year due to players moving on to older age groups, the Friday night domestic competition once again proved to be an important and valuable aspect to our program. This extra game against quality opposition allows us to try different things and to give players exposure to positions and situations they may not typically see on a Sunday. With great support by a fantastic group of parents, players from both the Gold and Black squads came together and did the Club proud.

Although we didn't win every game, we were highly competitive, particularly in light of the opposition (Waverley alone has six u15 squads!) and the fact that many players played out of their normal positions. What was particularly enjoyable for me was watching players who don't normally pitch, take to the mound and throw down a few strikes. We also discovered a new catcher in Ben Laven, who ended up catching quite a few games for the u14 Black squad on Sunday mornings. I am positive that this Friday night competition improved our Sunday performances and I strongly encourage any of our young players who are qualified, to take part in the domestic competitions that are available. They are a lot of fun and can only help in game awareness and skill development.

Michael Yung



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U14 Gold - Season Report

I took over the team a couple of weeks after the grading games and immediately I realised they really should be in the AA Division after one of the boy's couldn't get out of the way of a pitch leaving a gash on a finger, unfortunately he didn't come back (his Mum and Dad couldn't get him to some games) and with a buy in U14 AA I was disappointed Baseball Victoria couldn't see we should go down.

The boy's worked hard at training and improved to a point that they started playing very good baseball even though we finished last we pushed some clubs, to the boy's credit they never gave up and went at it for the full 2 hour's even with less than 9 players at times which was fantastic to see.

Defensively we got better with each game and at the Plate we were aggressive and we ran the bases really well, one thing the boy's need to work on is signals but they did get better each game and after our last game I told them it's up to them to keep doing what they had learnt to come back next season bigger, better and stronger (not to go backwards over the winter so we have to start again) so we can see how far they can go next season.

We had a number of candidates for MVP and the votes were close with Richard winning, he was up and down on the mound but very reliable in the field and at the plate and a deserving winner along with Bailey winning the Coaches Award for his hard work over the season.

I must thank Tanya and Peter for scoring for us along with Andrew's help coaching 1st base and a big thanks' to Bob for his work marking out the field on Friday or Saturday and then putting out the bases and cone's every home game along with our parents who supported the boy's every game, I must also thank the senior players who umpired our home games.

The last game of the season summed up our entire season, with 7 players it was unfortunate the Bailey hurt his thumb so we had to forfeit and using 2 of Sandy's players in the outfield (no plays to the outfield) we went on to win the game so there is no doubt we would have been very competitive in AA.

I must thank Cheesy, Ronda and Roger for their hard work and everyone who helped out over the season, I look forward to having all the boy's back next season so we can see how fare they can go.

Cheers.

Chris Harman.

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U14 Black - Season Report

What a great season and a well deserved spot in the grand final for this great group of players! Coming up against very strong teams (each with multiple State representatives) and battling nerves during the qualifying rounds, the squad hit the regular season with a vengeance. Showing constant improvement from the start, and dropping only two games along the way, we finished second on the ladder (behind Malvern) with an 8-2 record.

We had some great highlights along the way and every single player contributed every single week. Gemma Hamilton was a powerhouse both on the mound and with the bat. Her two mammoth home runs (one each against Essendon and Malvern) even had opposition coaches talking. Maddie Yung shared the bulk of pitching and catching duties and was definitely our biggest contributor during our finals run. Will Yon was one of the big improvers through the season and his work at 3rd base against Berwick in particular was a stand-out. The irrepressible Jordan Wearne anchored 1st base for us throughout the season and did a good job closing for us. Nick Clifford was one of our new players and with his size and strength will be a force in years to come. He listens well and puts what he learns into practice. His in the park homerun down at Springvale at the end of the season was a highlight. Jack Virgona proved to be the most passionate player on the squad and used that passion to great effect. He may have been the smallest player on the diamond each week, but the way he swings the bat I think we may have another Dustin Pedroia on our hands. Ben Laven was another of our smaller players and at first stepping up from u12 proved to be a bit daunting. However his dedication was rewarded with a simply massive improvement with the bat and when asked, he fearlessly and effectively stepped in to take on some of the catching responsibilities for the team. Cameron Fry approached each game with a smile on his face a singular determination that led to him being our most effective contact hitter by the end of the season and through the finals. Finally, the coolest short-stop to ever walk onto a diamond rounds out the squad - Emmerson Daniels has an enormous amount of unrealised potential and potentially can play anywhere on the park. Although he has real designs on being a pitcher, he showed absolute class at the end of the season when thrown into catching duties. We could not have asked him to play better in that role.

Whilst we ultimately went down to Malvern in the grand final, it's fair to say that our season was a great success and I hope I'm fortunate enough to work with this great group again next season. Congratulations to Gemma Hamilton for her MVP award, Maddie Yung for Player of the Finals and Cameron Fry for taking out the coaches award.

Our thanks to the other players who filled in for us through the season - Richard, John, Riley and Bailey. Thanks also to a fantastic group of very supportive parents who supported both me and the squad brilliantly throughout the whole season. And finally to our scorers - Lucy, Neil and Col - and to the guys who came down and umpired for us for home games.

Michael Yung.

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Little League AA - Season Report

One of the pleasures of coaching is to be involved in a team with enthusiastic players, helpful parents and positive supporters, which are core ingredients for a fun and at times, though not always guaranteed, successful season. Unfortunately I was not in this team.... What??

Only kidding J Taking the reins of the U12AA and with great assistance from Dwain Richardson we went about coaching the players with the emphasis on enjoyment, development, good sportsmanship and hopefully a successful season. The skill level of the players in the team at the commencement of the season was significantly wide. However as the games and training seasons came and went we saw a narrowing of this gap, mindful that the more senior players were also continuing their development. It is a vital part of player development for these more senior players to take the leadership role in the group and mentor the more junior participants. I am pleased to say that this was the case and to those more senior guys who will step up next year to 14's well done.

Together with Dwain running the Friday competition we were in a position to vary greatly the playing positions of the participants and provide opportunities for aspiring pitchers, catcher, short stop, first base etc, why is it no one wants to play outfield?

Completing the home and away undefeated is no mean feat and all should be very proud of achieving that as we did. The Grand Final, despite the result, was an excellent tight game of baseball fitting the criteria of a pressure cooker. Where the pitchers from both sides of the diamond ruled the bats until eventually something had to give. I can say that the players gave it their all and this was reflected in the emotions after the game. Well done guys.

I would like to thank Dwain for his assistance during the season, Chris Harmon for the training sessions, the parents for being a positive influence on the players and of course transportation etc, etc. Thanks also to The Cheesman's for the canteen facilities during training and on game days. Thanks also to Sally and Fleur for doing the bulk of the scoring, and dads for helping out when needed. Special thanks to Bob for setting out the diamond prior to the games.

Lastly, and very importantly, I hope the players enjoyed the season, as I did, and as can be seen most, if not all have continued to play this great game during the milder months!!

Glenn

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

U12 Domestic - Season Report

After almost 10 seasons away from playing summer baseball at Upwey FTG I returned this year. And can I say what a fantastic time I had. Sure I started hesitantly telling Bob, Denis and Harmo that I was happy to observe from the side lines for this season and see how things go. 1 week in I found myself coaching the U12 domestic team on a Friday night.

Our team was made up of 12 boys ranging from top age, state representation level under 12 to first year out of Aussie T Ball. To the credit of every player there was only ever encouragement for each other no matter where you fell on that playing skill spectrum. Early on there was some learning for us all about the rookie ball rules with coach pitch no stealing home etc. and within a couple of weeks we were all over it and having a great time.

For me junior baseball and junior sport for that matter is firstly about fun and friendship and hopefully learning and developing some skills along the way. Put these three things together and I believe the winning takes care of itself. I think our boys experienced this first hand this season and as such we found ourselves playing in the finals. Unfortunately it wasn't meant to be and we were knocked out by Ormond in the first final.

I'd like to thank all the parents for bringing the boys along to training and the games every week (thanks for the heckling on the hill during coach pitch too). Thanks also to Sally and Fiona for scoring throughout the season also.

Lastly I'd like to reiterate what I said on presentation day, to all the boys, baseball is a fun game, we train hard and play hard but first and foremost we do it because its fun and we love it. The success and rewards of winning will only come if you are having FUN.

Thanks for a great season and teaching me a lot too!

Dwain (Richo) Richardson

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Tee Ball - Season Report

We have had another successful T-ball Season even with numbers down slightly the kid's developed really well, we played Coach Pitch after the Christmas break and the kid's handled the moving ball extremely well.

Dylan Archer and Jackson Hunkin helped running warm up's and the games with both boy's doing a fantastic job, so thank you both for your time and effort over the season.

Thanks' to Steve Thompson for looking after our Coach Pitch Team at the Gala Day held at Cheltenham, we were only able to put 1 team in the Gala Day but from all reports the kids and parents had a great day so thanks to all.

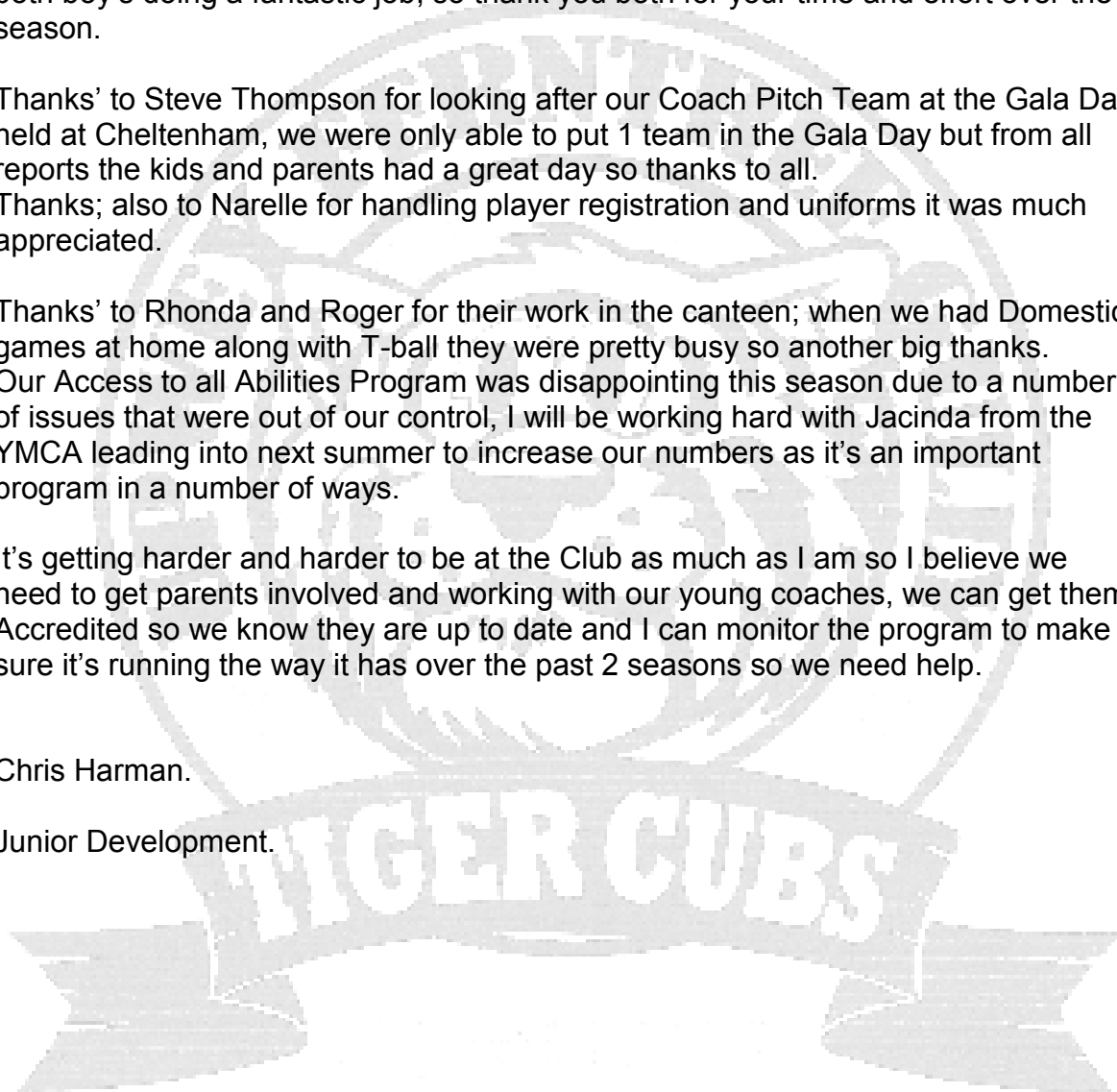
Thanks; also to Narelle for handling player registration and uniforms it was much appreciated.

Thanks' to Rhonda and Roger for their work in the canteen; when we had Domestic games at home along with T-ball they were pretty busy so another big thanks. Our Access to all Abilities Program was disappointing this season due to a number of issues that were out of our control, I will be working hard with Jacinda from the YMCA leading into next summer to increase our numbers as it's an important program in a number of ways.

It's getting harder and harder to be at the Club as much as I am so I believe we need to get parents involved and working with our young coaches, we can get them Accredited so we know they are up to date and I can monitor the program to make sure it's running the way it has over the past 2 seasons so we need help.

Chris Harman.

Junior Development.



Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club

Season 2012-2013 Award Winners

U12 Domestic	MVP	Casey Prater
	Coaches Award	Felix Brown
U15 Domestic	MVP	Ben Laven
	Coaches Award	Richard Kiel
Little League AA	MVP	River Stevens-Doby
	Coaches Award	Riley Light
	Player of the Finals	River Stevens-Doby
Under 14 AA	MVP	Gemma Hamilton
	Coaches Award	Cameron Fry
	Player of the Finals	Maddie Yung
Under 14 AAA	MVP	Richard Kiel
	Coaches Award	Bailey Brock
Under 16 AA	MVP	Thomas Rice
	Coaches Award	Will Hunkin
Under 18 Major League	MVP	Todd Sadler
	Coaches Award	Jackson Hunkin
Mike Snoxell Trophy		Justin Aron
Syd Waters Award		Justin Aron
John Williams Award		Dylan Archer & Jackson Hunkin
Best Junior Club Person		Richard Kiel
Masters A	MVP	Michael Yung
Masters B	MVP	Dwain Richardson
Fourths	MVP	Thomas Rice
Thirds	MVP	Yarran Curtis
Seconds	MVP	Justin Aron
Firsts	MVP	Peter Schroeders
Best Club Person		Roger Cheesman, Rhonda Cheesman, Brendan Cheesman, Jayde Aron