

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT 2014/2015



Junior League Charter Premiers 2014/2015



Presidents Report

To all Members, Players, Families & Friends,

As I look back on the season there is much to be celebrated. Our great club has undergone somewhat of a change and I am confident that we will continue to go from strength to strength.

Our new major sponsor, FTG MOTOR GROUP incorporating FTG Nissan, FTG Holden, Burwin Volkswagen and FTG Suzuki has been a massive boost and goes to prove that we are an entity that is worth both investing in and supporting. Along with our other sponsors, Corporate Challenge, Spruce Building Services, Marposs, Camlex, Helloworld and Minuteman Printing our club has been heavily backed. These companies have invested and supported us in our endeavours so please continue to support them.

It has been a great year for the kids in our TBall and Junior program which are well on track to being the best in the league. Training continued to produce the results in the kids that we were after and the improvement in their skill set was obvious. The experience gained by the kids this season will provide them with a solid base that will set them up for the years ahead. Be assured we will not be resting on our laurels and are continually looking for ways to improve the program as at the end of the day, the kids are our future.

A tumultuous year for the senior program saw a number of heart breaking results however I was extremely proud of the playing group and the way in which they carried themselves. What was very pleasing to see was that we have a number of young players stepping up and producing the goods. Our Senior program has some very exciting years ahead and I'm extremely positive and certain that we will continue to improve.

On a social aspect, although we started off slow, the Christmas Party, the major fundraiser 'Bogan Bingo' and both the Junior and Senior Presentation functions were unbelievable. The feedback received was extremely positive and apart from the -2 dg temperature of the dunking machine water at the Junior Presentation Day, a great time was had by all. These functions not only provide us all with the opportunity to let our hair down, spend time together as a club and have fun, they also raise much needed funds that go directly towards improving our club so we, the members can continue to enjoy this great game of ours at one of the best facilities in the league. I encourage all of you to continue to support the club by attending these functions.

To touch on some changes undertaken at our club. We have had a massive overhaul of our clubrooms and the main diamond infield has just undergone a revamp with a brand new drainage system. Our batting cages are on the councils radar and have been listed on the 2016/17 projects system and quotes have been obtained for the main diamond back fence. The canteen had a makeover and both the K2 Friendship Series and the Japan IBA Tournament were raging success. These are just a few of the improvements and there are many projects earmarked for upgrade and/or improvement in the not too distant future.



I would like to make special mention of all of our volunteers. To our Senior & Junior Coaches, Senior & Junior Team Managers & assistant Team Managers, Scorers, Umpires, Ground staff, Canteen staff I say a heartfelt 'thank you'. Your time, your effort and your enthusiasm has been outstanding. Without your input we could not exist....thank you.

To all of the mums, dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents and everyone associated with the club I say thank you. Thank you for travelling, thank you for washing uniforms, thank you for supporting the players and thank you for supporting your club. Every little bit makes a difference, whether it be getting a foul ball or picking up a piece of rubbish. If we all participate, even in some small way, it will make a difference.

Our great club, with the absolute solid commitment of the Board will continue to improve on all levels. We are constantly looking for ways and means to make our club the best it can be. We continue to self-assess, look back, learn from our mistakes whilst continually looking forward to improving the club and its future. Much has been learnt this year and with your help we will move forward.

To the Board, I've said it before but this year marked a turning point and your commitment to our great club has been remarkable. It has been my absolute pleasure to be a part of it and I am very much looking forward to next season.

Thank you and GO TIGES!!

Warmest Regards,

Chris Lind
President



Player Management Report

This was my first year as Director of Player Management and instead of making changes to the processes and tasks that were already in place, I used this as time to view how these are currently working and determine if changes are required or if they are satisfactory the way they are currently implemented.

There was an increase in playing numbers across the whole Club gained from new players, players returning and more juniors playing in senior teams. We did however lose some players from the senior playing group. Overall the Clubs senior list is fairly young but given this, they are gaining experience at a young age and this will benefit the Club in the long term. Also with an increase in numbers at the Little League (U12) age group we have a greater base to develop the playing group for the future.

The selection process for senior teams at the start of the year was quite good with discussions held regarding how players fitted into teams, their roles within the teams and how best to develop the younger players. This did fall away fairly quickly as team coaches were not always available to attend selection meetings. The communication to players moving between teams, whether it is up or down, does need to improve, so they have a clear understanding of the reasons.

Instead of approaching players and people to coach various teams this year we implemented the advertising of positions for both senior and junior team coaches in the hope we would get people that were interested in coaching a team. Although we did not have much success with only a couple of people applying I still have the opinion this is a good idea and we may persist down this line in the future. The Club appointed a junior development coach this season but unfortunately it was identified that both were not headed in the same direction and we parted ways early in the year. The coaching of the Little League and Junior League age group was then undertaken by the team coaches with the help of senior players and specialist coaching in a group session which worked well. A big thank you to all who took on the role of coaching this season it is much appreciated.

During the season a scorers and umpires clinic was run for parents and others which were both well attended. Running the clinics gives more people the basic knowledge of scoring and umpiring and in turn we have more people able to perform each. As there was an increased numbers of games held at the Club on Friday nights we introduced having the U18s umpiring the games on those nights, which was reasonably successful as most games had an umpire from this age group. It gave the players in the U18s an introduction to umpiring without having any real pressure put on them to not make mistakes. A roster for umpiring junior games on Sunday mornings was again used. The roster was displayed in the change rooms, on the selections board, in team app and a text message was sent out to players as a reminder. Even though all these options were given, to indicate who was rostered to umpire, we were short at least 1 umpire each week with the exception of 2 or 3 times.



This year we had 4 junior teams playing in finals, these being:

Junior League (U14) Rays Charter – Premiers

Junior League Metro East – Grand Finalists

Little League Minor Rays Charter – Semi Finalists

U18 Metro League – Semi Finalists

Congratulations and well done to the players and coaches of these teams.

Finally I would like to thank the other committee members for their assistance and all the players, members, parents, families and sponsors for supporting the Club throughout the season.

Greg Rice
Director of Player Management



Facilities Report

This year has seen some major changes take place at Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club, the main one being the overhaul & refurbishment of the club rooms

I would like to thank the winter teams for purchasing the carpet tiles and the removal of the old carpet.

The came the tiling and re-painting of the feature walls and our gratitude and thanks is to be extended to the following people:

Paul Light – for all the work and maintenance he has done this year

Mick Goyne – for laying the carpet tiles

Paul (Camlex) for the new fans, dimmer lights and new power points in the kitchen (all donated)

Lawrie Hurley – for the tiger log in the main entrance.

We as a club have also purchased new L Screens and new screens for training, so guys please make sure you look after them.

The main diamond has finally had the drainage installed and hopefully this will help our winter teams with fewer or no washouts.

Finally I would like to thank bob Ayres for the mowing of the main diamond each week, Bob Dick and Richard Kiel for the marking of the grounds weekly, weeding the diamonds, repairing fencing and any other ad-hoc duties required. Without their efforts and time it would mean more work for us all.

To the Board, thank you for the opportunity to serve this club as facilities manager as it has been a very productive year. With many things achieved, lets hope next year we can obtain the new batting cage and new fencing around the main diamond.

A.J.



Division 1 Firsts

Wins: 4

Losses: 22

Draws: 1

Starting pre-season we had a lot of ambition and hope for this young yet vibrant group. Having lost some key pieces in the off season we had some openings for some younger players and some existing players to try new roles.

Our division one season started on a high with a great win against Blackburn which also retained the 'Hoppy Cup' at Upwey. The following week we would have our first home game against Cheltenham taking the win 7-4.

The energy and excitement around the group was fantastic.

The next two games would I believe define our season even though it was still very early on in the season.

We would endure 2 walk off losses in concessive weeks against Melbourne and Waverley.

Although we there was nothing we could of changed or done differently in these losses, having a young group they were really dejected by these losses. As a group we tried to maintain a positive outlook for the following games but the after effects of these loses were felt, as the group was very flat moving forward.

As a whole the group fought relentlessly in very game we played, never giving in and refusing to quit. This was evident as we lost 8 games by 1 run and a further 5 games by 3 runs or less.

A lot of our losses can be attributed to our lack of pitching depth. This year Luke Howell was again our Ace and work horse. Again in the top 3 in innings pitched for the league. We also found a gem in Nick Rice who stood up taking on a lot of innings behind Luke while also playing short stop and contributing well with the bat. Nick has proven himself to be an all- round player. Ewan John back to the club showed he can pitch in Division 1 with some valuable starts through the year. But outside of these guys we lacked pitchers to give us quality innings against quality opponents. This was our Achilles heel especially due to the length of this season.

We would have a great come from behind win against Williamstown in round 13 which again would show the fight and resilience this group had. Being 5 runs down in the 6th inning, coming back to win 8-7.

We probable played better at the second half of the season showing that we could compete with the best of the competition. From our last 5 games would draw 4-4 to Waverley, lose 2-1 to Melbourne, 3-2 to Melbourne, 2-1 to Doncaster (in 13 innings) and 9-7 to Geelong.



This group had some hard luck loses along the way, and didn't deserve to lose a lot of those games, but baseball is baseball and sometimes you do very little wrong and lose or do very little right and win. That's the game.

I believe this year although difficult at times will bode this group of players well for their future development. They learnt a lot about themselves and their team mates as they stuck together through a challenging season.

Through the course of the year we were able to develop a lot of our future stars. Jackson Hunkin would have his first full season in Division 1; tie the team in home runs culminating in being awarded the Coaches award. Nick Rice would prove to be capable of being a legitimate Division pitcher along with a great short stop, young players like Dylan Archer, Jack Archer and Jordan Elliott would showcase they are Division 1 calibre players.

As a whole the club has progressed incredibly in a 2 year span. Working tirelessly to grow the junior program not only in numbers but in quality which was priority and is now being fulfilled.

The Club has improved the premises and equipment making life at the club both at training and post training a place now players love being and opponents from other clubs now marvel at.

This group will learn from the difficult year we had in 2014 as players, it will make us better ball players for the learning experience for experience is not something you can teach. We will tackle 2015 in Division 2 head on as a resilient hard fighting group we are. We will train harder and better and planning for our future success has already begun.

Donny Hendricks



UFTG Div 1 Firsts 14/15

Batting Stats

Name		Games Played	PA	AB	BA	Runs	Hits	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SAB	SAF	BB	HPB	K	GDP	SB	CS	OB	LOB	OB%	Slg	SB %
Dylan	Archer	8	19	16	0.313	3	5	5				1		1	1	1	5	1	1		8	6	0.421	0.313	100.00%
Jack	Archer	5	10	7	0.286	2	2	2							3		2				6	4	0.600	0.286	#DIV/0!
Darryn	Cassidy	21	76	62	0.242	9	15	12	3			4	2	1	9	2	10	1			31	18	0.408	0.290	#DIV/0!
Yarran	Curtis	5	1	1	0.000												1						0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!
Jordan	Elliott	21	68	55	0.218	5	12	10	1		1	7		1	10	2	9	1			26	18	0.382	0.291	#DIV/0!
Ian	Geduld	17	67	53	0.189	4	10	7	3			4	5	1	8		6	1	3		24	11	0.358	0.245	100.00%
Donavan	Hendricks	26	106	90	0.233	11	21	18	3			10	4	1	9		12		2	1	35	17	0.330	0.267	66.67%
Josh	Hendricks	19	82	71	0.310	12	22	11	8	1	2	15			11		15	1	1		34	20	0.415	0.535	100.00%
Luke	Howell	20	54	45	0.222	7	10	8	1			1	3		2	3	6				19	8	0.352	0.222	#DIV/0!
Jackson	Hunkin	20	77	67	0.209	8	14	9	2	1	2	8		1	8		19	1		3	29	11	0.377	0.358	0.00%
Ewan	John	18	37	35	0.143	1	5	5				1			1	1	8		2	1	8	6	8.000	0.143	66.67%
Mark	Jones	7	11	10	0.300	1	3	3				1			1		2				5	3	0.455	0.300	#DIV/0!
Kieran	Lewis	24	82	64	0.172	6	11	11				5	4		10	3	11	2			27	12	0.329	0.172	#DIV/0!
Sean	O'Halloran	1	1	1	0.000												1						0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!
Alex	Oldriks	6	3	3	0.000												2				1	1	0.333	0.000	#DIV/0!
Evan	Phillips	18	75	69	0.275	9	19	13	11		2	12		1	5		10		3		28	17	0.373	0.623	100.00%
Nicholas	Rice	26	113	107	0.262	15	28	24	4			12	1	1	3	3	23	2	3	1	43	21	0.381	0.299	75.00%
Todd	Sadler	4	13	10	0.300		3	2	1			2			3		1				6	4	0.462	0.400	#DIV/0!
Peter	Schroeders	23	101	81	0.210	14	17	13	4			11		1	18	1	14		4		42	23	0.416	0.259	100.00%
Total		289	996	847	0.233	107	197	153	41	2	7	94	19	9	102	16	157	10	19	6	372	200	0.373	0.318	76.00%



UFTG Div 1 Firsts 2014/15

Fielding Stats

Name		PO	ASS	E	DP	INN	PB	SB	CCS	FA	SB %
Dylan	Archer	7		2						0.778	#DIV/0!
Jack	Archer	10	4	2		7.1	1	2		0.875	100.00%
Darryn	Cassidy	46	39	5						0.944	#DIV/0!
Brendan	Cheesman									#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Yarran	Curtis									#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Jordan	Elliott	59	15	1		44	1	1	4	0.987	20.00%
Ian	Geduld	35	3	2						0.950	#DIV/0!
Donavan	Hendricks	76	5	3						0.964	#DIV/0!
Josh	Hendricks	43	19	5						0.925	#DIV/0!
Chadwin	Hendrickse	3		1						0.750	#DIV/0!
Luke	Howell	13	33	3						0.939	#DIV/0!
Jackson	Hunkin	32	2	10						0.773	#DIV/0!
Ewan	John	28	4	2						0.941	#DIV/0!
Mark	Jones	4	2	3						0.667	#DIV/0!
Kieran	Lewis	76	23	5		134.2	3	31	7	0.952	81.58%
Sean	O'Halloran		1							1.000	#DIV/0!
Alex	Oldricks	1	1	1						0.667	#DIV/0!
Evan	Phillips	97	12	3						0.973	#DIV/0!
Nicholas	Rice	38	59	17						0.851	#DIV/0!
Todd	Sadler	5	1	1		9		2		0.857	100.00%
Peter	Schroeders	62	45	10		28	1	12	1	0.915	92.31%
Phillip	Yule	1								1.000	#DIV/0!
Total		636	268	76	0	222.3	6	48	12	0.922	80.00%



UFTG Div 1 First 14/15 Pitching Stats

Name		Inn	ERA	Hits	K	BB	HPB	RS	ER	WP	BLK	PCS	BFP	B	S	T/P	S%	W	L	S	N/R	WH/IP
Yarran	Curtis	6.1	20.66	10	2	21		16	14	3	1		49	123	83	206	40%		3			5.08
Donovan	Hendricks	19.1	3.30	23	7	6		9	7	1		2	87	100	188	288	65%		1			1.52
Josh	Hendricks	5	1.80	3	4	2		3	1	2	1		21	25	43	68	63%					1.00
Luke	Howell	93	5.03	124	48	34	4	72	52	8			1433	601	965	1566	62%	3	6			1.70
Ewan	John	28	3.21	24	14	24	2	22	10	2			135	236	288	524	55%		3			1.71
Mark	Jones	8.1	5.56	8	3	7	2	6	5	1			43	82	76	158	48%					1.85
Alex	Oldriks	12.2	8.85	15	7	16	2	16	12	8			72	149	136	285	48%		1			2.54
Evan	Phillips	11.2	9.64	24	8	7	1	13	12	1	1	3	63	92	147	239	62%		3	1		2.77
Nicholas	Rice	39.1	3.45	50	18	13	1	27	15	2		2	188	199	423	622	68%	1	5			1.61
Total		223.2	5.16	281	111	130	12	184	128	28	1	5	2091	1607	2349	3956	59%	4	22	1	0	1.84

1 draw against Waverley 27/1/15 so no W/L/S allocation



Division 1 Reserves

What more can I say but what a roller coaster of a ride this season was. From the highs of knocking of some of the more respected division 1 clubs to the lows of losing the un losable game. The movement of players in and out of this team on a weekly basis certainly didn't help our cause although this is the reality of Div 1 and 2 baseball and something all players need to get used to. We need to learn to play as a club not as a team, as a result it won't matter who we play with on a weekly basis as we will always be playing for our mates at the Upwey Baseball Club.

It was very exciting to see some of the boys getting their opportunity to play in our firsts and I had the pleasure of enjoying the experience of a couple of our young up and comers playing their first game in the 2s. The future for Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball club is looking bright with these boys on the rise.

To Donny thank you for your support and guidance throughout the season and having the faith to put these boys under my direction, I really appreciate it. Jonesy you are a legend and your on and off field guidance and support is invaluable, the club are lucky to have you back, thankyou. And Jordy your knowledge of the game, your passion and desire are real assets to any club and team. I look forward to seeing you rise as a future leader of our great club.

Thanks again to all the boys regardless of win loss I think we all had FUN!

GO TIGES!

Dwain Richardson



UFTG Div 1 Reserves 2014/15

Batting Stats

Name		Games Played	PA	AB	BA	Runs	Hits	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SAB	SAF	BB	HPB	K	GDP	SB	CS	OB	LOB	OB%	Slg	SB %	
Dylan	Archer	9	36	32	0.219	3	7	7				1	1		1	2	7		1	1	14	8	0.389	0.219	50.00%	
Jack	Archer	12	42	35	0.343	11	12	10	2			10			5	2	6		2		21	10	0.500	0.400	100.00%	
Graham	Ashburn	6	18	14	0.357	3	5	3	2			4		1	3					1	9	4	0.500	0.500	0.00%	
Daryn	Cassidy	1	4	2	0.500	3	1	1							2		1				3		0.750	0.500	#DIV/0!	
Brendan	Cheesman	8	28	24	0.333	9	8	8				5			4		5				14	5	0.500	0.333	#DIV/0!	
Jayden	Christie-Dossiter	11	32	26	0.308	10	8	7	1			4			6		4		3	1	17	4	0.531	0.346	75.00%	
Yarran	Curtis	7	18	17	0.176	3	3	2		1		2			2		7				7	3	0.389	0.294	#DIV/0!	
Jordan	Elliott	9	31	24	0.625	9	15	11	3		1	7		1	2	4	2				19	8	0.613	0.875	#DIV/0!	
Ian	Geduld	3	10	7	0.571	3	4	4				3			2	1			2		7	3	0.700	0.571	100.00%	
Andrew	Graham	3	9	9	0.333	2	3	3				1							1		4	1	0.444	0.333	100.00%	
Chadwin	Hendrickse	7	23	21	0.143	3	3	2		1		3			2		6		1		7	4	0.304	0.238	100.00%	
Jackson	Hunkin	6	21	18	0.222	7	4	3		1		4			2	1	2		2		8	1	0.381	0.333	100.00%	
Jeff	Hunkin	1	1	1	0.000																		0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	
Will	Hunkin	2	6	6	0.333	1	2	2				1					2				2	1	0.333	0.333	#DIV/0!	
Ewan	John	6	22	20	0.250	5	5		4	1		5			2		2		3		10	5	0.455	0.550	100.00%	
Mark	Jones	16	55	46	0.283	8	13	11	2			11		1	7	1	1		1		25	12	0.455	0.326	100.00%	
Kieran	Lewis	1	4	3	0.000										1				1		2	1	0.500	0.000	100.00%	
Sean	O'Halloran	8	26	19	0.368	4	7	6	1			4		1	6		2				15	9	0.577	0.421	#DIV/0!	
Alex	Oldricks	5	15	12	0.333	6	4	4				2			3		3		1		7	1	0.467	0.333	100.00%	
James	Philipsen	5	13	12	0.083	4	1	1				1				1	2				4		0.308	0.083	#DIV/0!	
Thomas	Rice	6	19	12	0.250	5	3	3				2			5	2	7				10	4	0.526	0.250	#DIV/0!	
Dwain	Richardson	1	3	3	0.000												1						0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	
Todd	Sadler	10	38	34	0.118	6	4	4				5		1	3		3		2		10	4	0.263	0.118	100.00%	
Ben	Smith	1	1	1	1.000		1		1												1	1	1.000	2.000	#DIV/0!	
Jayden	Wearne	1	2	1	0.000																					
Lachlan	Williams-Dyson	5	7	6	0.000	1									1		4				1		0.143	0.000	#DIV/0!	
Phillip	Yule	4	9	8	0.125	1	1	1				1	1				4				2	1	0.222	0.125	#DIV/0!	
Total			493	413	0.276	107	114	93	16	4	1	76	2	5	59	14	71	0	20	3	219	90	0.444	0.341	86.96%	



UFTG Div 1 Reserves 2014/15

Fielding Stats

Name		PO	ASS	E	DP	INN	PB	SB	CCS	FA	SB %
Dylan	Archer	20		2						0.909	#DIV/0!
Jack	Archer	44	12	4		45.2	2	11	1	0.933	91.67%
Graham	Ashburn	8	4	1						0.923	#DIV/0!
Daryn	Cassidy	3								1.000	#DIV/0!
Brendan	Cheesman	17		1						0.944	#DIV/0!
Jayden	Christie-Dossiter	15	24	4						0.907	#DIV/0!
Yarran	Curtis	10		2						0.833	#DIV/0!
Jordan	Elliott	29	2	1		6				0.969	#DIV/0!
Andrew	Graham	2								1.000	#DIV/0!
Chadwin	Hendrickse	41	2							1.000	#DIV/0!
Jackson	Hunkin	11	3	5						0.737	#DIV/0!
Will	Hunkin	4	1							1.000	#DIV/0!
Ewan	John	12		1						0.923	#DIV/0!
Mark	Jones	20	20	2						0.952	#DIV/0!
Kieran	Lewis	1	3							1.000	#DIV/0!
Sean	O'Halloran	8	9							1.000	#DIV/0!
Alex	Oldricks	3	2	1						0.833	#DIV/0!
James	Philipsen	9	2			17	2	7	1	1.000	87.50%
Thomas	Rice	5	7	2						0.857	#DIV/0!
Dwain	Richardson			1						0.000	#DIV/0!
Todd	Sadler	30	5	2		31	0	23	0	0.946	100.00%
Mitch	Thompson		2	1						0.667	#DIV/0!
Jayden	Wearne			1						0.000	#DIV/0!
Lachlan	Williams-Dyson	2	3							1.000	#DIV/0!
Phillip	Yule	2	1							1.000	#DIV/0!
Total		296	102	31	0	99.2	4	41	2	0.928	95.35%



UFTG Div 1 Reserves 2014/15

Pitching

Name		Inn	ERA	Hits	K	BB	HPB	RS	ER	WP	BLK	PCS	BFP	B	S	T/P	S%	W	L	S	N/R	WH/IP
Brendan	Cheesman	8.2	4.39	12	2	10		10	4	4			48	88	92	180	51%	1				2.68
Jayden	Christie-Dossiter	5	10.80	9	2	5	3	12	6	1			36	60	60	120	50%	1				2.80
Yarran	Curtis	7.2	17.50	8	8	17	3	17	14	3			53	119	98	217	45%		1			3.47
Jackson	Hunkin	3.2	2.81	4	2	4		2	1	3			18	35	34	69	49%					2.50
Will	Hunkin	0.2	135.00		1	2		3	3	3			5	15	15	30	50%					10.00
Ewan	John	2.1	4.29	2	2	4		1	1				13	28	27	55	49%					2.86
Mark	Jones	23.1	5.84	26	14	14		21	15	1			113	176	236	412	57%	1	2	1		1.73
Alex	Oldricks	20	6.30	20	23	17		14	14	1			97	179	222	401	55%	1	1			1.85
Thomas	Rice	2.1	12.86	5	3	2	2	6	3	3			18	27	37	64	58%	1				3.33
Ben	Smith	2.2	12.27	3	2	1	3	4	3	2			11	18	20	38	53%					1.82
Mitch	Thompson	8.1	4.44	10	1	6		5	4	2	1	2	44	85	80	165	48%	1	1			1.98
Jayden	Wearne	9	7.00	10	3	6		7	7				43	75	89	164	54%	1	1			1.78
Lachlan	Williams-Dyson	7	18.00	4	3	27	5	21	14	10			62	158	93	251	37%		2			4.43
Total		98.1	8.17	113	66	115	16	123	89	33	1	2	561	1063	1103	2166	51%	7	8	1	0	2.32

1 drawn game against Preston so no W or L pitcher

1 washout against Newport





Division 1 Thirds

Coming across from the winter season I was very eager to play my first bit of summer ball for a long long time.

I have to say compared to my winter team these boys pretty much looked after themselves and have made my life very easy. So a big thank you goes out to Sean O'Halloran, James Philipsen, Phil Yule and Ash Graham.

We started off a bit slow but some good signs appeared early. After the first couple of rounds we had not won a game, but it was hard not to get excited about what lay ahead and it was easy to stay positive with alot of young talent on the diamond.

I think our first big win was against Melbourne. A club who has a history of being very competitive within our division. The pleasing thing was that two of our juniors in Lachlan and Will both had big days with the bat and really stood up when needed.

Another mentionable win was against Waverley the second time we met them in the season. The first game against Waverley we were on the receiving end of 30+ drubbing....wasn't great. However this time round we beat them 5-4 which is a remarkable turn around and reinforced my faith in what we could do if we all pulled together.

Unfortunately we were plagued with these types of inconsistencies at times. While we could be really competitive and even beat the top teams, we could just as easy have a poor day and be very competitive against the lesser teams.

All in all there is alot of upside and we proved we could match it with the best. More hard work and confidence in our abilities we could really give the competition a shake next year.

A fantastic bunch of guys to look after and I had lots of fun. Thanks very much!

Michael Litterbach



Division 1 Fourth

We had a cracker season, not only on the diamond but off as well. A great crew comprising a good mix of youth and experience. Finishing the season with a 7-9-1 record we were in the hunt at the resumption after the long break. Knocking off second placed Cheltenham set the tone for the next two games that would determine our fate. The make or break game against Melbourne saw us 6-2 up and in control. Though unable to capitalise on this and maintain the defensive pressure for the complete game we went down effectively ending our finals aspirations.

I personally had an enjoyable season; the games were fun and the enthusiasm and camaraderie excellent. Well done to Adam Campli and James Mc Fadden who performed the bulk of the 1-2 roles. Great work at 2nd by Dean with unlimited vocals and enthusiasm and Lachlan at 3rd had us wondering why he even bothered to take his glove onto the field. Thanks to Brad (and Deano) for coming on board, as mentioned the mix of experience worked really well and was not lost on the junior players.

Well done and thanks to the junior players, some of whom played their first senior game during the season. I hope that you have learned some things and will continue to learn (as I do) from playing with people that love the sport and have a genuine interest in the future development and enjoyment of the game by all players at all skill levels.

Congratulations to Adam Campli the deserved MVP for his huge efforts week after week on the hill, Lachlan Anderson on receiving the coach's award for his outstanding defensive work at the hot corner and peer award recipient Dean Hibbert for enthusiasm, encouragement and guidance all season long.

Thanks also to the committee, canteen staff, groundskeepers and all who volunteer to make this a great and enjoyable cub to play at.

Glenn Archer



Masters

Word of the wise – don't put your hand up to manage the team as you just may end up as coach instead.

This is what happened to me at the start of the season and I reluctantly took it on board however when we are dealing with adults who all know how to play the game, look after themselves and enjoy baseball for what it is, great fun, coaching was a breeze!

With a cast of thousands (well 18 to be exact) with varying ages, skills and talent trying to get a team together every week could sometimes be a difficult task depending upon availabilities and injuries (that's life as a masters baseballer!) However we always managed to come together each Monday night with a full team and played passionately and sometimes spectacularly but unfortunately we did not actually win a game! But hey, we had fun!

Congratulations to Theo Rutgers our MVP for 2014-2015 season, 2nd year in a row. Super talented player with over 40 years of baseball experience under his belt and it shows! Hey, Theo, maybe let another player win it next year! 😊

A great big thank you to all my team mates who made the season so much fun, to our scorer Warrick Searle and to AJ for feeding us at homes games.

See you all next season.

Go Tigers!

Marika Booth

P.S. For those of you who maybe reading this report, if you want to try baseball or feel the urge to rekindle the playing passion, Master's baseball maybe just right up your alley, all you have to do to be eligible is be over 38 years of age so give it a go in season 2015-2016



UFTG Winter

Since 2012 Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club have been participating in the MWBL competition with two senior men's teams.

Below is an outline of the past few years.

2012 D Grade 11 Wins, 4 Losses, 4 Draws Finalists

Players

Rowan Snoxell	Matt Richardson	Leigh Boek
Peter Lind	Chris Lind	Dwain Richardson
Rohan Chapman	Scott Embrey	Brad Snoxell
Lachlan Heffernan		

2012 D Grade Res 10 Wins, 4 Losses, 6 Draws Premiers

Players

Simon Hill	Michael Litterbach	Ian Birchwood
Tony Whitman	David Ayre	Sean Connelly
Aaron Walter	Simon Feeny	Andrew Heard
David Clowes	Jason Conduit	Michael Reid

2013 D Grade 13 Wins, 6 losses, 1 Draw Grand Finalist

Rowan Snoxell	Matt Richardson	Nathan Richardson
Peter Lind	Chris Lind	Dwain Richardson
Aaron Lind	Scott Embrey	Brad Snoxell
Lachlan Heffernan		



2013 D Grade Res 16 Wins, 2 losses, 1 Draw Grand Finalist

Simon Hill	Michael Litterbach	Ian Birchwood
Tony Whitman	David Ayre	Sean Connelly
Aaron Walter	Simon Feeny	Andrew Heard
David Clowes	Jason Conduit	Michael Reid
Leigh Conduit	Thyler Agoon	Ian Litterbach
Lee Marcakis	Doug Oaten	

2014 C Grade 2 Wins, 13 Losses, 2 Draws

Rowan Snoxell	Matt Richardson	Nathan Richardson
Peter Lind	Chris Lind	Dwain Richardson
Aaron Lind	Scott Embrey	Brad Snoxell

2014 C Grade Res 7 Wins, 10 Losses, 1 Draw Semi Finalist

Simon Hill	Michael Litterbach	Ian Birchwood
Tony Whitman	David Ayre	Sean Connelly
Simon Feeny	David Clowes	Jason Conduit
Leigh Conduit	Thyler Agoon	Ian Litterbach
William Zoethout	Doug Oaten	Matt Bodon
Nick Feeny	John Levell	





Under 18's

The Under 18's finished 3rd after a good year, that could/should have been better.

Missing 6 games throughout the season, due to 2 byes, 2 forfeits and 2 wash outs, it was hard to build and retain a good momentum. The last 2 home and away games summed up our season. After easily beating the undefeated top team in the second last game, we capitulated to the lowly placed Newport (who played very well.), the effort just wasn't there. That is how Graeme and I saw the final as well, everyone waiting for someone else to start something.

Week in, week out throughout the season, we would give the opposition a half game start (whilst chatting on the bench), then bam, they'd wake up and put them away. You can't do this in finals Lads!!

There is some great talent in this team, however, the application, in general, needs work. A great opportunity lost and they don't come around all that much.

Thanks to the club for allowing me to coach the team, Graeme Hunkin for being Assistant Coach and Greg Rice for scoring.

Regards,

Jeff Hunkin



UNDER 18's STATS 2014-2015

#	Roster	GP	PA	AB	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R	HBP	ROE	FC	CI	BB	K	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS
	Angus Cooke	9	27	23	8	8	0	0	0	1	5	0	1	0	0	4	3	.348	.444	.348	.792
	Ben Rigby	10	22	18	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	1	0	3	10	.056	.227	.056	.283
	Forrest Stevens-Dobby	9	23	21	3	2	0	1	0	7	4	0	3	1	0	2	11	.143	.217	.238	.455
	James McFadden	10	23	15	2	2	0	0	0	1	8	1	2	2	0	7	2	.133	.435	.133	.568
	Jayden Christie-Dossetter	9	26	18	5	4	1	0	0	4	9	0	2	0	0	8	4	.278	.500	.333	.833
	Kenny Burchett	10	24	15	1	1	0	0	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	8	10	.067	.417	.067	.483
	Lachlan Williams-Dyson	10	29	22	8	4	3	1	0	9	8	0	1	0	0	7	7	.364	.517	.591	1.108
	Leo Mai	10	25	11	2	2	0	0	0	3	8	0	2	0	0	14	4	.182	.640	.182	.822
	Nick Hunkin	10	28	22	4	2	2	0	0	6	4	0	0	1	0	6	10	.182	.357	.273	.630
	Rohan Higgs	6	15	8	2	1	1	0	0	6	4	1	1	0	0	6	3	.250	.600	.375	.975
	Thomas Rice	10	30	21	7	5	1	1	0	7	11	0	1	0	0	8	4	.333	.500	.476	.976
	Will Hunkin	10	27	14	3	2	1	0	0	3	9	0	2	0	0	13	3	.214	.593	.286	.878
	Totals	10	299	208	46	34	9	3	0	51	78	4	15	5	0	86	71	.221	.455	.293	.748



U16 State

Firstly thanks to the club for allowing me to coach the U16 State side for the 2014/15 Summer season. From the onset we knew it was going to be a tough season and from this regard there were no surprises.

Whilst finishing the season with only a single win to our name, we did have some good games against Essendon, Blackburn and Cheltenham. The most pleasing aspect by far was the continued enthusiasm shown by the team and the improvement over the season. Significantly evident in the final couple of games where the bats were solid. This backed up by good on field defence lifted the team confidence.

Training attendance was excellent with a constant high turnout for mid-week training and the resolute attitude on game day, even when things were not going our way is a credit to the team. It is noteworthy that the majority of the team who participated were bottom age and with this in mind they will be more prepared and for sure more competitive in the same section next year.

New players to the club, Nathan Godden and William Morrison were welcome additions and fitted in with the club and their team excellently.

Congratulations to MVP, Richard Kiel, well played all round effort with both the bat and the ball. Also to William Morrison the recipient of the coach's award, who in his first season showed potential that we as a club can look forward to build on in the seasons to come. Well done guys and be proud of our effort, bring it on next year!!

Thanks also to the committee, canteen & ground staff and all who assisted during the season.

A special mention and appreciation to Andrew Sadler for looking after the U16 Metro side.

Glenn Archer



Junior League Sunday

This team had a very successful season winning 10 and losing 3 games, unfortunately going down to Blackburn 6-2 in the Grand Final.

The team was basically the same as our Charter Team without our big guns, Jai Bardsley and David Hurley who played with the U16's on Sunday

River Stevens-dobby did the best in our pitching line-up winning 6 and losing 2 games. He was backed up by Reilly Griffiths with 3 wins, 1 loss and 1 save. Riley Light also chipped in with 1 win and 1 save.

Riley Light who had an outstanding year with an .843 avg, 24 RBI's and 7 Home runs was backed up by River Stevens-Dobby with an .588 avg, 19 RBI's and 3 Home Runs and Reilly Griffiths with an .550 avg and with 5 others with over .300 led our attack.

The team matured a lot throughout the season with help from David Rice who trained with our less experienced pitchers and catchers, while a special thanks to Club Coach Donny who helped during the final series. A special thank you to Paul Light, my assistant coach who took charge while I was away in Adelaide.

Our Parents vs players game during the season when we had a bye was a great success with everyone having a go.

Many thanks to Scorers, Sally Light & Roger Grant. Umpires – Forrest Stevens-Dobby, Richard Kiel and other senior players.

To all parents a special thanks for all your help in getting your boys to the grounds on time which helps me to prepare them for the game.

Norm Winfield



Junior League – Friday

How do you describe a team of lads that come from second during the home and away season to winning the Grand final, simple: A Champion Team!!

After a poor start and without a coach, I was asked to take over the team. After 15 years I dusted off my old manuals and got to work.

To play at a top level in baseball you have to work hard which is what these lads did. Training with these lads was a joy and they listened (with varying degrees of success) and rarely missed a session.

Our record for the season was 10 wins and 2 losses. While the finals saw us winning 3-2 in the grand final, who will forget River's courageous comeback after being knocked down, David magnificent catching and the teams fielding without one error.

Our defence was led in the pitching by River Stevens-dobby with 10 wins & 0 losses ably backed up by Reilly Griffiths with saves and Riley Light with 2 saves.

Our attack was led by Reilly Griffiths .579, Riley Light .565, David Hurley .524 and River Stevens-dobby .500. they were a formidable hitting team with 10 players over .300 and a team total of 9 home runs.

A champion team does not with by itself it has to have infrastructure.

My thanks to Scorers, Sally Light & Roger Grant. Umpires – Forrest Stevens-Dobby, Richard Kiel and other senior players. Assistant Coach Paul Light.

To all parents, special thanks for all your help to make this season so memorable. Also, to their past coaches who with their patience with these lads, have seen them obtain the rewards of your efforts.

Norm Winfield





Little League Gold Sunday

This season although not overly successful from a win/loss perspective was a real turning point in development for some of these boys. This game we play has so many rules, exceptions and idiosyncrasies that as an under 12 it can be a bit overwhelming with parents and coaches yelling all sorts of different things at you. My goal this season was for the boys to start to understand the game more. Most of these boys had all played previously and as much as we work on skills every week I really tried to stress to them the importance of “knowing your job”.

For me the reward is seeing the boys instinctively try for double plays, take their first fly balls, make a ground ball out attempt or get their first base hit. Personally the out is not as important as the fact that the knowledge and attempt was there. Half the battle in baseball is won if you can learn what is required of you at any given time and this season the boys made some big steps towards achieving that.

I would like to also thank all the parents for getting the boys to the games. Also a big thankyou to Anne, Melinda and Fiona for scoring. I know some of you are still learning how to score but this job is such an important part of baseball in older age groups so again I thank you.

To all the boys I’m very proud of you all! You are all developing into fantastic baseball players and I look forward to watching your baseball careers grow over the years to come.

Finally, remember the number 1 most important aspect of our game is to have FUN! This is the best sport in the world, and you are the best club in the world.

ENJOY IT!

Dwain Richardson



Little League Metro Sunday - Grey

Well what a season it was, way back in September I was asked to Manage a side, my first thought was “no not me I’ve been out of the game for the past 16 years it’s our first year at the club, then I thought about it (I think Chris gave me a few seconds) and I said why not the players need a Manager so I’ll give it a go.

We started the season with a “group of players” and from my perspective we finished the season with a “team”.

All the team improved as baseballers and really come together well, with a couple even making the 2015 Eastern Rays Development Squad at seasons end.

On a results side, they didn’t run our way but when you consider the makeup of the team being, first year players (never played baseball before), fresh out of Tee Ball (so first experience at facing an actual Pitcher) or had 1 Winter season under their belts they all performed extremely well.

As mentioned previously the individual development of all the players throughout the season was exceptional and the difference between the first game and the last was miles apart. If you all remember back our first game against Berwick City where we went down 16 -7 and didn’t record a hit to our last game which was also against Berwick City, and I’m sure you will all remember the nail biting finish, unfortunately we went down fighting 15-17 however we recorded 7 hits in the game.

I hope that we see all the team back for the 2015/16 Season as I firmly believe that this team could go along way next year.

To those players going onto Junior League next year all the best.

In closing, I would like to thank Daryn Thompson for stepping up and being my game day assistant throughout the season, your help with the team on game day was much appreciated and needed. To those parents who scored during the season thankyou (a task I know nobody really wanted to do) and to all the parents of the players thank you for getting them to training on a Thursday and game day on a Sunday (you can have your Sunday sleeps in back until next Summer).

Finally, to Chris Lind and the rest of the Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Committee without your many, many hours of hard work and dedication to the club there would be no club, so thank you.

Yours in Baseball,

Brad Gawith



Little League Major Friday - Black

I have not coached a junior team for several years and I really enjoyed coaching the team this season.

The objective was not to win as many games as we could it was to give every player a chance to play all positions and /or positions they had not played before. At this age they should be learning all facets of the game so they can improve their knowledge and more importantly enjoy themselves.

Playing on Friday nights can be very hard after a week at school but it was great to see everyone excited (sometimes very excited) and looking forward to playing each week. Although we struggled against some teams there was improvement in the team from the start of the season to the end and they often showed what ability they had. It is now just a matter of continuing to practice and becoming consistent with their play.

I would like to thank Melinda (also team manager), Anne, Alex & Sue for scoring throughout the season and Graham, Brad, Dwain & Lawrie for their assistance before and during games. In addition it was great to see all the parents at the games showing support and encouragement to the team.

Finally, I hope all the boys enjoyed themselves, learnt something and will be back to play again next season.

Greg Rice



Little League Minor - Friday

I had a fantastic time coaching this team throughout the season.

With many of the kids new to the sport, let alone ever playing a real game before, it made me extremely proud of their achievements. Throughout the season, they showed clear improvements in each of them.

In our league we have coach pitch, but to point out in particular, towards the end of the season against Malvern, all the boys came to play, hitting Malvern pitchers off the hill all game, resulting in me staying on the side. This really showed how far each of the players had come, resulting with a run in the finals but unfortunately falling short in the semis.

I would like to personally thank all the parents for your ongoing support throughout the season, not to mention all the scoring and umpiring in the background - which you all did really well in.

Also a thank you to Bob Dick (Pa) for setting up the diamonds and taking me to each game as well as the committee with your tireless work you have all put in to the club, as well as the juniors through the season ending up with a phenomenal change of the club and its family atmosphere.

I'd also like to thank Dwain Richardson for having a training program ready week in and week out showing the commitment and time you put in.

Also in particular, a huge Thank You to Daryn Thompson for managing the team and keeping all the kids 'in order' and under control throughout the season.

Finally I would like to encourage all the boys to keep at it, as you will just keep improving with practice and effort. All of you have tremendous talent so one day I hope to see you all play in the Firsts!

See you next season

Richard Kiel



Season 2014-2015 Award Winners

Junior Awards

Tball		All participants received a medal
Little League Minor	MVP	Matthew Hamilton
	Coaches Award	Tully Marotti
Little League Major Black	MVP	Will Richardson
	Coaches Award	Ethan Jenkins
Little League Major Gold	MVP	Ethan Gee
	Coaches Award	Kobi Lyon
Little League Sunday Gold	MVP	Keeley Ronalds-Greatbatch
	Coaches Award	Ben Zinnow
Little League Sunday Grey	MVP	Patrick Gawith
	Coaches Award	Kyle Balej
Junior League Rays	MVP	David Hurley
	Coaches Award	Reilly Griffiths
Junior League Sunday	MVP	River Stevesn-Dobby
	Coaches Award	Riley Light
Under 16 Metro	MVP	Jack Sadler
	Coaches Award	Callan Minter
Under 16 State	MVP	Richard Kiel
	Coaches Award	Will Morrison
Under 18	MVP	Jayden Christie-Dossetter
	Coaches Award	Leo Mai



Senior Awards

Masters	MVP	Theo Rutgers
Fourths	MVP	Adam Campli
	Coaches Award	Laughlan Anderson
	Peer Award	Dean Hibbert
Thirds	MVP	Lachlan Williams-Dyson
	Coaches Award	Will Hunkin
	Peer Award	Richard Kiel
Seconds	MVP	Mark Jones
	Coaches Award	Jordan Elliott
	Peer Award	Mark Jones
Firsts	MVP	Luke Howell
	Coaches Award	Jackson Hunkin
	Peer Award	Daryn Cassidy
King of the Diamond		Thomas Rice
		Nicholas Rice
		Luke Howell

Club Awards

Senior Clubman	Paul Light
Junior Clubman	Dwain Richardson
Syd Waters Award	Riley Light
John Williams Award	Richard Kiel
Mike Snoxell Award	Jayden Christie-Dossetter



Upwey FTG Baseball Club Song

Cheer cheer for Upwey baseball
Shake down the rafters
all through the hall
Send a rally cheer on high
Echo like thunder through the sky
Although the odds be great or small
Upwey will triumph, win over all
Whilst our hardy teams are marching
Onward to victory.
(Repeat)



2015 IBA-Boys International Australia/Japan Friendship Series