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**La Trobe Uni Baseball** 14 Mar  
 @LaTrobeUniBC  
 Pre-season training is on tomorrow - 11am on the main diamond.


**Fitzroy Baseball Club** 21 Sep  
 @fitzroybaseball  
 The crowd at the game. #fbclions  
[pic.twitter.com/QBsWI7HRZv](http://pic.twitter.com/QBsWI7HRZv)  
 Retweeted by LaTrobe Uni Baseball  
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**Fitzroy Baseball Club** 21 Sep  
 @fitzroybaseball  
 All set to go at the Mossy Leake memorial game #fbclions  
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**La Trobe Uni** 31 Aug  
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**Match Reports 2013**

**Round 12**

**Firsts (6) defeated Diamond Creek (1)**

Round 12 and we were away at Diamond Creek who got the better of us, winning 5-3 in the first game of the season. We came out of the gate strong, scoring two runs in the first inning and another two in the second inning. We fell asleep a bit in the third and fourth innings but woke up and scored another two runs in the fifth inning. Mostly everyone hit the ball hard all day and it paid off by putting pressure on their defence who ended up giving us four unearned runs. Despite hitting the ball hard, we left eight runners on base, which will cost us when we play tougher competition.

Jack pitched very well again, giving up one run on three hits as he had a perfect game going up until the fifth inning. Other highlights were Jimmy Fuhrmann, Ian "Spike" Taylor and Brad Sharples each collection 2 hits apiece and Riley Hill getting his first hit in the ones.

We are currently sitting 7th on the ladder only a few games out from the top 4. To put things in perspective, in our first 5 games we scored 10 runs and gave up 35 runs with a 0-5 record. In our last 7 games we scored 54 runs and have given up 23 runs with a 5-2 record. Minus our big blunder against Monash University, we have scored 53 runs and given up only 13 runs in 6 games with a 5-1 record. Given the fact that the top four sides all play each other over the next few weeks, if we continue with our current form, I believe we have a shot at the finals.

Hitters were: Jimmy Fuhrmann 2 (Double, Single, 1 RBI), Brad Sharples 2 (Double, Single), Ian Taylor 2 (2 Singles), Dean Sharples (Single, 1 SB), Alex Turlea (Single), Brendan McDonald (Single), Tom Wilson (Single, BB), Riley Hill (Single).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

**Seconds (12) defeated Diamond Creek (4)**

An overcast day, boasts a ray of rewards for the 2nd IX.

A display of hitting and pitch exploitation, adds a handy La Trobe win, continuing their journey on the road to finals.

Bouncing back from a nightmare loss last week, the team never looked in doubt from "play ball" to "time in game".

No surprises with Daniel Bennett to Michael Perkins, the old 1 to 2 combination that always comes through with the goods. Did I mention Daniel batted 1000% with two BBs and the same in hits. We welcomed back Jordan Hill from his time over in the States, a strong return with two hits and a bag of stolen bases. Truly another gun, in our growing La Trobe artillery.

Quality baseball, bunts, stealing, hit and runs becoming an expectation and regular occurrence. The staple of any professional ballers diet and absolute minimum if this team is to take it to the top of the table Melbourne University next weekend.

Special mention goes to Christian Kallis for legging out a certain innings killer and hamstringing injury. It didn't seem to stop him doing pirouettes later that night.

Hits: M Heenan, (1 single). M Perkins, (1 single). J Hill, (1 single, 1double). D Turner, (1 single). D Bennett, (1 single, 1 double). A Baillargeon, (1 double). A Kirkland, (1 single). C Kallis, (1 single).

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager

**Round 11**

**Firsts (3) defeated by Essendon (5)**

Round 11 and we were at home to Essendon, facing a quality Melbourne Aces pitcher, the likes of which we have not yet seen in B-Grade.

Essendon scored one run in the 1st inning off of two hits and good situational hitting. We came back to tie the game at 1-1 in the 4th inning when Ian Taylor was hit by a pitch, stole second base and scored on an Alex Turlea single. We then took a 2-1 lead in the 5th inning when Brendan McDonald led off with a double. He then stole 3rd base and scored on an error by the second baseman.

We lost our focus for a bit in the 6th inning as Essendon scored two runs on a walk, a double and three singles, to take a 3-2 lead. Two wild throws and a hit batter gifted them another run in the 7th inning and two hits in the 8th inning gave them a 5-2 lead.

The bottom of the eight was our last chance as the 2 hour mark was drawing close. Ian Taylor lead off the inning with a line drive hit to left field. He then stole second base and scored on a double by Damian Preston, giving us another run back. However it was too little too late as time was called with a 5-3 final score.

Great job on the mound by Linden Goodman who went 5 strong innings before giving up the ball to Jack Freeth in the 6th. Jack again pitched well, even with a sore arm, but our defence was the difference again as we made 3 errors for the game. Even though we came up short, we hit very well against a pitcher who up until this winter has been pitching professionally in the US.

Hitters were: Damian Preston 3 (2 Doubles, Single, 1 RBI), Alex Turlea (Single, 1 RBI), Brendan McDonald (Double, SB), Ian Taylor (Single, HPB, 2 SB), Jack Freeth (Single).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

## **Round 10**

### **Firsts (9) defeated Ringwood (3)**

Round 10 and we were away to Ringwood. We started out the game with three hits in the first inning but do to some base running mistakes we were unable to score. Ringwood jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first on two doubles. We came back to tie the game at 1-1 in the second inning on three hits. In the third inning we scored another run on three hits taking a 2-1 lead.

We scored another three runs in the fifth inning on a homerun, a double, a wild throw and two singles. Another wild throw in the sixth inning gifted us another run as we now held a 6-1 lead. We gave up another two runs in the seventh inning when we gave up two bases loaded walks, cutting our lead to 6-3. We scored another 3 runs in the eighth inning on two hits, a stolen base and three walks, leading to the final score of 9-3.

Jack Freeth had another good outing, giving up 3 runs on 6 hits over five innings. We had another good game with the bats scoring 9 runs on 17 hits and 3 walks, with everyone in the line-up getting at least one hit. We have been picking up some momentum with three wins in a row; hopefully we can keep this going forward.

Hitters were: Brendan McDonald 3 (Double, 2 Singles, 2 RBI), Tom Wilson 3 (3 Singles, 1 SB), Alex Turlea 2 (Homerun, Single, 2 RBI), Adrian Kirkland 2 (2 Singles, 2 RBI), Ian Taylor 2 (2 Singles), Jack Freeth 2 (Double, Single, 1 RBI), James Fuhrmann (Single), Linden Goodman (Double), Damian Preston (Single).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

### **Seconds (17) defeated Ringwood (6)**

### **Thirds (3) defeated by North Balwyn (17)**

### **Womens defeated by Melbourne Uni**

## **Round 9**

### **Firsts (4) defeated GMBC (3)**

Round 9 and we were away to GMBC on a great day for baseball. After a great win last week we were looking to get back to back wins for the first time this year. With a man dropping out at the last minute however, we had our work cut out for us, as we started the game with a blank in the 9 spot.

Two walks and two hits gave them an early first inning 3-0 lead which they held for the first few innings. We tied the game up in the 4th inning on two walks and four hits. We managed to get runners in scoring position in the 5th and 6th innings but were unable to score them. Jimmy Fuhrmann lead off the 7th inning with a hit, was moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Jack Freeth, went to third on a passed ball and scored on a Tom Wilson single to give us a 4-3 lead going into the bottom of the last inning.

Another good pitching performance by Jack, as he settled down after the first inning scattering only five hits and no runs for the remaining 6 innings. Although we managed to get runners on base every inning we had quite a bit of trouble scoring them, as we stranded twelve runners on base for the game, making it a closer contest than it should have been.

Hitters were: Tom Wilson 2 (2 Singles, 1 RBI, 1 SB), Jack Freeth 2 (2 Singles, 1 RUN), Jimmy Fuhrmann 2 (2 Singles, 2 RUNS, 2 BB, 2 SB), Adrian Kirkland (Single, 1 RBI), Dean Sharples (Single, 1 RBI, 1 BB), Ian Taylor (Single, 1 HPB).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

### **Seconds (4) defeated GMBC (1)**

### **Thirds (2) defeated by Waverley (18)**

The 3rds played Waverley this week and we were well beaten by a very good side.

Col took the mound and things were looking good when we got the first three batters out without them scoring. After that a combination of good batting and some sloppy fielding saw them score 18 runs. The manager threw an innings in relief and only gave up 1 hit.

The batting wasn't a lot better, some good young pitchers made it hard on the team as a whole.

We only managed to scatter 6 hits over 6 innings. The failure to score Andy after he led off with a nice triple summed up our day.

We were rusty after not playing for a few weeks and it showed, if we want to compete with the top 2 sides we need to be playing our best baseball. Next week we come up against Nth Balwyn who are one of the teams we are competing with for a finals berth. So guys bring your best next Saturday.

Highlights: Not many this week, but there was a nice triple hit by Andy, a pretty good double play up the middle, and nice to see James getting 2 hits and the only RBI.

Hits (RBI) :- Stan 1 double, Brett 1 single, Andy 1 triple, Eamon 1 single, James 2 singles (1)

Third Nine Manager  
Brett Bennell

### **Fourths (3) defeated by Doncaster (21)**

### **Womens (7) defeated by Monash Uni (12)**

Another game that was very winnable that we let slip away. Only one bad innings was all it took to take the game away from us. With only two people showing up on time and only 8 in total, we deserved to lose and, with some very shoddy defense, we did our best to do just that. It's not a good feeling to lose a game because you played terrible baseball but I hope we can think of how well he had been playing and try and regain some of our pride.

A big thank you to Shereen. Without her helping out two weeks in a row we would have been in far worse shape.

With numbers down in the women's and men's teams we need to get the word out that we are looking for new players. Ask around! We need new faces to fill out the teams and we need existing players to step up. If we don't fill spots soon then we may not have teams and people may miss out.

Todd Robinson  
Womens Team Manager

## **Round 8**

### **Firsts (14) defeated Doncaster (1)**

Round 8 and after a week off we hosted Doncaster at home. We jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the second inning off of a lead-off single, a stolen base, a walk and two more singles. We scored another in the 4th inning as Ian "Spike" Taylor was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning. He then stole second base, was moved to third by Damian Preston and scored on a sacrifice fly.

We put the game way out of reach in the 5th inning when a hit batter and 7 hits in the inning gave us another 7 runs and increased our lead to 11-0. Four walks and two hits in the 6th inning lead to another 3 runs and a 14-1 final score.

Jack pitched another good game, giving up 4 hits and 1 run in 6 innings while collecting 8 strikeouts for the day. Offensively we stepped up our game, collecting 14 runs on 12 hits and 7 walks. We came back in great form after a much needed break and hopefully we can carry this form forward for the rest of the season.

Hitters were: Alex Turlea 3 (2 Doubles, Single, 3 RBI, 1 SB), Jimmy Fuhrmann 2 (2 Singles, 1BB, 1 SB), Tom Wilson 2 (2 Singles, 1BB, 1 SB), Jack Freeth (Triple, 2 RBI), Brad Sharples (Double, 2 RBI), Dean Sharples (Triple, 1 RBI), Brendan McDonald (Double, 1 RBI) and Ian Taylor (Single, 1 SB).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



Brad's Double

### **Seconds (9) defeated Doncaster (1)**

A big win over a close rival.

The 2nds take an early lead against the equal 3rd place Doncaster and never look back. The 2nds now sit clearly in 3rd place.

Once again the dynamic 1 to 2 duo of Daniel (The Arm/ Found My Curl Ball) Bennett and Michael (The wall) Perkins kept Doncaster scoreless for the first six innings.

Jordan Hill closed the game out with plenty of promise and room for improvement.

A great team effort with the bats, that's what makes us a team tough to beat. It's our ability to score runs in the right situations, our top order doing their jobs time and time again, getting hits and scoring runs.

You can't really ask for much more.

Our defence looked a little one sided if you read the scorebook, with 6 plays that read 1 – 3, just a testament to a quality defence but its not to say the rest of the field didn't have an impact.

Craig Farquharson entered the game in the late stage and pushed the ball to the right side in what can only be described as clutch hitting after facing some inaccurate pitching.

Not that we can hear the cry of finals baseball yet, but hopefully this is a sign of things to come. Getting in contention never felt so good.

Hits:

Marc Heenan	2 singles 1 RBI
Michael Perkins	2 singles 1 RBI
Jordan Hill	2 singles 1 RBI
Daniel Bennett	1 single 2 RBIs
Craig Farquharson	1 single
David Turner	1 single

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager



Daniel

### **Thirds and Fourths - Washed Out**

### **Womens defeated by Berwick**

### **Round 7**

#### **Firsts (1) defeated by Monash Uni (10)**

Round 7 and we were away to Monash University in wet and wintery conditions. Monash jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the first inning and never looked back. It was just one of those days for us as there were a few mishandled balls in the wet conditions and their hits just seemed to find the holes.

Monash scored another five runs in the fifth inning and then two more in the seventh inning to get out to a convincing 10-1 win. We only had 7 hits for the game with 3 players having 2 hits each, meaning the rest of our team struggled with the bat.

I think a combination of bad weather and a little over confidence from the previous week contributed to a bit of a relaxed approach to the game. Hopefully we can learn from that and regroup moving forward.

Hitters were: Dean Sharples 2 (Single, Triple, 1 RBI), Brad Sharples 2 (2 Singles), Damian Preston (2 Singles), Jimmy Fuhrmann (Single, 1 BB).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



Dean smashing a triple

### **Seconds (16) defeated Monash Uni (4)**

### **Thirds and Fourths - Washed Out**

### **Womens defeated by Footscray**

### **Round 6**

#### **Firsts (15) defeated Bundoora (0)**

Round 6 and La Trobe University hosted Bundoora on a beautiful day for baseball. La Trobe took an early 1-0 lead in the first inning after Ian "Spike" Taylor singled, stole second base and later scored on an Alex Turlea double. La Trobe then extended its lead in the 3rd inning on a hit by Damian Preston, a walk and a double by Brad Sharples that plated 2 runs.

La Trobe went on to plate another 5 runs in the 4th inning on 4 hits, 2 errors and a sacrifice fly. Dean Sharples led the inning, reached on a wild throw and scored on a single by Ian Taylor. Another stolen base by Ian Taylor and an error by the shortstop put runners at the corners. Alex Turlea then doubled off the left field fence to score another run and put runners on 2nd and 3rd. Singles to Brad Sharples and Jordan Hill scored a further 2 runs and Jack Freeth plated the final run of the inning on a sacrifice fly to left field that gave La Trobe an 8-0 lead.

La Trobe scored another 7 runs in the 5th inning courtesy of 5 hits, 2 walks and a wild pitch, extending the lead to 15-0 after 5 innings of play. Jack Freeth pitched a great game going 6 innings while giving up no runs, 2 hits, 1 strikeout and only 2 walks for the game. Our defence was solid once again with our outfield putting away 10 of the 18 outs for the game while taking away at least half a dozen hits from the opposition.

Hitters were: Alex Turlea 2 (2 Doubles, 3 RBI, 1 BB), Brad Sharples 2 (Double, Single, 3 RBI, 2 BB), Damian Preston 2 (2 Singles, 2 RBI), Jordan Hill 2 (2 Singles, 2 RBI, 1 BB), Ian Taylor 2 (2 Singles, 2 SB, 1 BB), Jack Freeth (Double, 3 RBI), Jimmy Fuhrmann (Single, 1 RBI, 2 BB) and Dean Sharples (Single, 1 RBI).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

#### **Seconds (11) defeated Bundoora (5)**

What a stunning day for some B Reserves baseball.

A boisterous Bundoora toppled by bustling bats and stolen bases. Trying not to sound like a broken record but, Daniel Bennett continues to spear head the team on the hill, a very consistent starter and solid mid line-up hitter. Second game rookie The Big Mac and all round Happy Meal B. McDonald starts his highlight reel with an unlikely 3 RBI triple.

AK47 Kirkland fires up his gun at third base in his infield debut, coming up with a huge play and is slowly but surely circling the pitcher's mound.

A slow second half let Bundoora back in a little, but the damage had already been done early on, still trying to find a consistent closer. Hopeful a few Bullpens over the coming weeks will reveal a star.

Hitting results:

Heenan - Single, 1 RBI; Perkins - Single, 1 RBI; Farquharson - 2 Singles, 2RBI; Flannery - Single; Bennett - 1 RBI; Goodman - 1 Run; Hill, Riley - Single, Run; McDonald - 3 RBI Triple, 2 RBI Single; Kirkland - 1 RBI; Kallis - Donuts!!!

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager

#### **Thirds(14) defeated Heathmont (1)**

The Thirds were at home this week against Heathmont. The sky was up and the Sun was definitely out on a pleasant Saturday afternoon.

Simon took to the mound for our lot and threw quite game; not allowing a runner or a hit until the fourth inning and only one run to score. We played good defence behind Simon however, he became really selfish and struck out eight of the sixteen batters that he faced.

Offensively, this game was not too dissimilar to our game last week. We took advantage of some early pitching struggles, got ahead early and kept the pressure on with aggressive base running.

**BULLETPPOINTS!!!**

- We continued to show patience at the plate with ten walks – compared to only seven hits.
- AJ pegged a runner in the shoulder trying to turn two. This amused me.
- Dutch didn't get plunked. Shame.
- Rhys stopped a runner from gaining an extra base with a nice diving stop out in left.

Hits (RBI) Rhys – 1 single, Stan - 1 single 1 double (3), Simon – 1 single (1), Eamon – 1 sac fly (1), Joe – 2 singles, Dutch – 1 double 1 sac fly (2), Henry (1)

It was a good day at the office. With our exalted leader Brett taking the reins of this ragged bunch; the next game will be at North Coburg.

Henry Formosa-Doyle  
Acting Manager



Stan

**Fourths (11) defeated Monash Uni (7)**

The fourths took on a 4th placed Monash Uni. We started the game with two quick outs with great catching by Lindsey at left field and Jason in foul territory. At the bottom of the 1<sup>st</sup> we were down by 1 run. But some great patience from our batters in the box soon saw us in front with Justin and Mitchell being walked and Jason bringing two runners home with a great hit to centre field which forced a pitching change from Monash. Another two runners came home to put us 3 runs up at the close of the 1<sup>st</sup> innings.

It was much the same in the 2<sup>nd</sup> inning with two quick outs with some fantastic pitching by Darren getting two k's. Monash scored another run until Andy and Shelley combined for the 3<sup>rd</sup> out. We stretched our lead in the 2<sup>nd</sup> with Jason and Lindsey getting hits.

Monash put on 3 more runs to nudge a little closer, but some great catching at short by Anna and Lindsey at left saw our 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> outs and Darren getting his 3<sup>rd</sup> k for the game with the 2<sup>nd</sup> out. So over all great fielding all round. We were held to only 2 runs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> but still held the lead with Jason bringing home 2 more runners.

But the best was still to come. Darren once again took the mound to start the 4<sup>th</sup> inning which was to be over before it began with only 4 pitches being thrown for the inning leaving Monash scoreless. Another solid effort from Lindsey in right and our infield.

We also had great support from our bench which included Chuck and Rebecca. So another great win over a team sitting in the top 4 with a score line of 11-7.

Over all a lot of positives came out of the game and I think if we carry on this form for the rest of the season then we can only get better. Thanks to Mitchell and Daniel who were subbed by Chuck and Rebecca.

Hits: Jason 2 x doubles & 2 x singles, and singles to Chuck, Lindsey, Anna and Darren.

Justin Miles  
Fourths Team Manager



Darren pitching the Fourths to a win

### **Womens (15) defeated Sandringham (2)**

The Women's team broke through for their first win this week, beating Sandringham 15-2. The late night experienced by a few of the team at the social function was more than offset by the energy that the whole team was pumping out. Our side made all of the noise and it showed as we hit as a team and fielded as a team.

11 hits, 9 walks and one very meaty HPB, had us running the bases, stealing bases and capitalizing on fly balls, errors and even ground balls that always seemed to move the runners around. Even with the 11 hits we were unlucky. Players smashed the ball, only to pick out fielders for easy outs. One metre either way would have netted us another 4 or 5 hits. Lea hit two of the hardest hit balls so far this year, picking out SS and LF without them taking a step.

Highlights:

- Caitlin with a stand up triple, 4-4, 3 RBI and a catch in centre
- Michelle 4 Inn, 71 pitches, 35 strikes, 4 Ks, 3 BB, 1-2 with two walks of her own
- Anna taking advantage of some lazy play and continuing to 2nd without stopping after drawing a walk.

Big pat on the back to Michelle who ran out a ball everyone else thought was heading foul and then getting out of the box on a dropped third strike and down the line before the catcher even knew she'd dropped it. Basic plays, executed perfectly by someone who worked all day for the team.

Todd Robinson  
Womens Team Manager



Womens Team - First Win

### **Round 5**

### **Firsts (2) defeated by Forest Hill (8)**

Round 5 and we were away at Forest Hill, the toughest team in the competition. Forest Hill jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the third inning as a seeing-eye single, with infield in, scored two runs. They went on to have three more two run innings taking an 8-0 lead in the top of the 8th inning. Ian Taylor was hit by the pitch to lead of the 8th inning and moved to third on a double by Damian Preston. A single by Alex Turlea scored our first run of the game and moved Damian to third base. A sacrifice fly by Jimmy Fuhrmann scored Damian from third giving us our second run of the game.

The 8-2 final score is not really indicative of how well we played. We hit the ball hard all day long but unfortunately Forest Hill is a very good defensive team and took away a few hits. We had our second error-less game in a row, against the two top teams in the league, so we are starting to make good progress. An 8-2 score against a team that won 25-0 last week is a good result and I think we are starting to hit our stride.

Hitters were: Dean Sharples 2 (2 Singles), Damian Preston 2 (Single, Double), Jordan Hill 2 (2 Singles), Alex Turlea (Single, 1 RBI), Jimmy Fuhrmann (Single, SACF, 1 RBI), Brad Sharples (Single).

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



Damian

### **Thirds (13) defeated Footscray (9)**

On an almost pleasant Saturday afternoon; the La Trobe Thirds meet to play a game of competitive low-level baseball against Footscray team of a not too dissimilar skill level.

Footscray's young pitcher was a tad wild. We showed good patience, worked the count and scored runs early. With a little pitch count magic, we knocked him out in the second.

Colin was on the mound for us (admittedly, would've been weird if he was on the mound for them) and was throwing them in there. After Footscray scored three runs with no outs in the first, it looked like it had the potential to be one of those games; but, after a comebacker to Col and a smart doubling off at first, all of a sudden; double play and a little relaxation. Baseball is weird.

We did have the opportunity to tack on more runs if it weren't for some untimely outs. We do seem to enjoy leaving runners on the bases. I mean they had just gotten on base, so why not let them stay on a little longer till the end of the inning. Courteous batting... It'd be rude otherwise.

In our last innings, already with the lead, we scored seven. However, as we were already running over time, Blue called time and game there. He may have been hoping for a shorter dig from us. And the scores reverted. Oh well. We played a good game.

**BULLETPPOINTS!!!**

- Although we hit, Joe and James had four hit games with Stan and Eamon following closely behind with three hit efforts.
- Col showed his wheels as he hustled out an infield single.
- Dutch got plunked twice...I found this quite amusing.

Hits (RBI): Jeremy - 1 double (1), Stan - 2 singles 1 double (2), Joe - 1 double 3 singles (2), Eamon - 1 double 2 singles (3), Dutch - 1 single (1), Mitch - 2 singles (2), Colin -1 single, James - 4 singles (3), Henry - 4 singles (3)

Henry Formosa-Doyle  
Acting Manager

## **Round 4**

### **Firsts (2) defeated by North Coburg (3)**

Round 4 and we played hosts to North Coburg which is one of only two undefeated teams in the competition thus far. It was a beautiful day for baseball and that may have inspired us as we played the best game of baseball to date.

Coburg took an early 2-0 lead on a little blooper, a walk and a double in the gap that scored both runners. We got one back on a single by Dean Sharples, followed by a walk to Ian Taylor and a single to Brad Sharples which scored Dean. We then tied the game at 2 all on a walk to Dean Sharples who advanced to second on a wild pitch, followed by a beautiful sacrifice bunt by Ian Taylor which put Dean at third base with only one out. Brad Sharples then came through with another clutch hit scoring Dean from third base. Coburg didn't quit and scored another run on a hit, a wild pitch and another hit to give them the late lead and the win.

Linden Goodman started for us on the hill and was outstanding. Linden pitched 4 innings giving up just 2 earned runs on 3

hits while collecting 7 strikeouts. We played our first errorless game of baseball this year and it payed off as we almost beat a top of the ladder team. Our hitting also came to life as we scored 2 runs on 7 hits, which was more than we had in our last 2 games. David Turner got to play his first game in the ones team due to a last minute injury, but he showed that he is capable of holding his own, and I have full confidence on calling on him in the future.

Hitters were: Brad Sharples (2 singles, 2 RBI), Jimmy Furhmann (2 singles), Ian Taylor (1 double), Dean Sharples (1 single, 2 RUNS), Tom Wilson.

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)

### **Seconds (9) drew with North Coburg (9)**

### **Thirds (5) defeated by GMBC (19)**

Well this week there were no excuses we got outplayed in all aspects of the game by a better team.

Although we didn't help ourselves out, errors in the field and way to many strike outs only making the oppositions job easier.

GMBC will be one of the top teams and we need to improve if we want to challenge them next time we meet.

Highlights:

- Eamon blasted 2 home runs driving in 3 runs against a pretty good pitcher.
- Joe again batted well picking up a single and a double and scoring 2 runs.
- Always good to welcome new players to the club. AJ had a good day getting his first hit and making some plays at 2nd base.

The manager will be away for the next two weeks so my trusty assistant Henry will be in charge.

Good luck guys hope we can get some wins on the board.

Next game is Footscray away.

Hits (RBIs): Stan 1 single, Simon 1 double, Eamon 2 home runs (3), Joe 1 single 1 double, Brett 1 single (1), AJ 1 single.

Brett Bennell  
Third Nine Manager



AJ

### **Fourths (10) defeated GMBC (8)**

### **Womens Team (7) defeated by Monash Uni (11)**

This week was a game of two halves. We started strongly, scoring three in the first, including a in the park home run by Lindsey (scored as a triple with a throwing error). Our first 5 batters reached and the game looked like ours for the taking. Michelle was gunning them down on the mound, 36 pitches after 2 with 3 Ks. By the end of the game we had out hit them 8 to 4!

The second half was another story entirely. Poor decisions and poor fielding allowed Monash to rack up 4 runs in the third to tie the game at 5-5. More of the same in the fourth allowed them to score 6 and put the game beyond reach.

Highlights were:

- Lindsey's towering hit.
- Saira and Shelly hitting over the outfielders.
- Michelle being denied a triple by a hole under the left field fence.

- Caitlin running one down in centre field for a great catch.
- Anna following her nine pitch walk in the first with an eleven pitch at bat in the fourth.

More work on fielding needed so we can capitalize on the excellent work our pitchers are putting in.

Todd Robinson  
Womens Team Manager

### Round 3

#### Firsts (1) defeated by Waverley (13)

We were away to Waverley this week, who is always a tough opponent. They are a good, young side who never give up.

Waverley jumped out to an early 5 – 0 lead on some timely hitting. We got one back on some quality baseball, as Jordan Hill walked and advanced to second on a passed ball. Jack Freeth moved Jordan to third on a sacrifice bunt and a ground ball by Michael Perkins pushed him home. With only two hits for the day we never looked like threatening a confident Waverley side. Jack again pitched well giving up 12 runs of which only 6 were earned.

On a positive note, Ian (Spike) Taylor played his first game in the 1sts and showed the rest of us how it is done. Not only did he have one of our only two hits, he made good contact all day at the plate and made a great diving catch in the field. I only hope his work ethic and hustle can inspire some of the younger guys.

Hitters were: Ian (Spike) Taylor and Jordan Hill

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



Ian (Spike) Taylor



Mick getting Jordy home

#### Seconds (9) defeated Waverley (5)

Imagine heading out to the end of the world, then going a little bit further, well that's Waverley.

Daniel Bennett led the charge on the hill with Super Coach at the dish.

Three, 2nd Nine rookies were added to the list to bolster dwindling numbers. Fresh faces certainly provide a fresh approach to a chilly 3rd round. Jeremy, Stan and the salubrious Dutchy, took some screamers in the outfield and had some quality at bats. Our patient aggressive style was no match for some ruthless calls, at least that's what the crowd was saying. We persevered and piled on 9 runs by the end.

Then a very classy finish by the Weapon Flannery, ensuring our second win for the season.

The only way to stop an umpire making presumably bad calls against you, or for the most part calls you don't like, make a change, hit the ball. You'll never change an umpires mind, only your own.

See you at selection.

Hits: Marc (1s) Craig (1s) Riley (1s) Jeremy (1 dbl) Daniel (1s, 1dbl) Christian (1s)

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager

### **Thirds (8) defeated by Knox (18)**

Tough day at the office for the 3rds this week, after such a good game last week it was disappointing that only 7 of the 12 players listed turned up. (Thanks to the 2 players who actually contacted me). With only 7 players it was always going to be tough, thanks to Todd and Shelly for coming to the rescue and at least giving us a team.

We started okay with the bat, but we were always playing catch up on the scoreboard. The young pitcher we faced was not too bad and made some good pitches.

Chuck started on the mound and tried his best, unfortunately couldn't throw enough strikes to put pressure on their batters. Col came in and did a great job in the final 2 innings.

Fielding wasn't as good as the previous 2 weeks and a few too many errors were made.

Not too many highlights this week:

- Colin "Bear" Richardson had a great game pitching 2 innings, only giving up 2 earned runs and striking out a couple, he also batted well reaching base on each of his 3 turns at bat, for a hit, (which drove in 2 runs), a walk and beating out a throw after an error.
- Although he struggled on the mound Chuck had a good day with the bat going 3 for 3 with 2 singles and a double. Scoring 3 runs and 1 RBI.
- Mitch Hill was unlucky not to score a home run after a bomb to centerfield - must have been only inches short.

Although we struggled a bit, credit to the players that were there for not giving up and having a red hot go.

Hopefully we'll have a full team next time we meet them and show them how we can really play.

So next week were at home to GMBC which will be our biggest test yet, so we need everyone there on time with their game faces on ready to play.

Hits (RBIs) :- Henry 1 single, Chuck 2 singles 1 double (1), Eamon 1 single (1), Mitch 1 double (1), Colin 1 single (2)

Third Nine Manager  
Brett Bennell

### **Fourths**

Forfeit.

### **Womens defeated by Berwick**

## **Round 2**

### **Firsts (2) defeated by Melbourne Uni (5)**

Game 2 and we were away to Melbourne University, who recently have dropped down from A grade. They were by far the better team talent wise, however their pitcher was average and we should have had no problem hitting him.

Things started off well as we scored in the top of the first inning with Melbourne levelling the score in the bottom of the first. That was when our defence started to let us down again and with a few mental mistakes, and some very lazy play, we again gifted our opponent enough runs for us to have no chance at coming back. Our hitting again was very poor with only 3 hits for the game, with 9 strike outs and 5 runners left on base. A good example of this was when Jack Freeth led off an inning with a triple and we were unable to score him, which is unacceptable at this level.

On a positive note, we played much better than last week and against a tougher opponent. We had better approaches at the plate and made far less mistakes in the field. A lot of the guys are playing together for the first time and it will take a while for us to click as a unit. As long as we keep improving from game to game, the wins will come. Keep up the good work guys and let's keep moving forward.

Hitters were: Brad Sharples (1 Double, 1 RBI), Jack Freeth (1 Triple) and Damian Preston.

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



Brad Sharples

### **Seconds (4) defeated by Melbourne Uni (15)**

La Trobe had a great start to the second round, scoring 2 in the first against and a shaky Melbourne. Patient, aggressive batting and some heads up base running really got us off the starting line. After that there wasn't too much to write home about. Michael Perkins called a good game behind the dish and Daniel Bennett showed us his base running skills- trying to lift the team. It was a tough day at the office and a big loss after a good first round victory.

Let's get those bats going.

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager

### **Thirds (22) defeated Watsonia (2)**

The thirds played the early game this week after watsonia forfeited the late game, and came away with a big win. Playing against a weaker team can sometimes be difficult but the team continued from where we left off last week and maintained a great standard throughout the whole game.

The batting this week was a lot better as we amassed 20 hits of which 9 went for extra bases. Still need to make sure were actually swinging at balls in the strike zone.

The defence was very solid behind some great pitching, our outfielders had very little work to do and the infield only recorded 1 error (yes it was the manager , although I'm blaming the ground in front of 1st base).

Highlights:

- Darren Hill played his 1st game for the season and had a great day on the mound and with the bat, He pitched 4 innings , 1 er , 3 Ks, 3 hits, no walks. He also went 4 from 5 with 3 singles and a 2 run homer, 4 RBIs and scored 3 times himself.
- Great also to see Stan getting amongst the hits after going 0 from 4 last week. This week he went 5 from 5 with 3 singles and 2 hard hit doubles, 1 RBI and a caught a nice fly ball at 3rd.
- The manager also had a good day going 4 from 5 with 3 singles and a double, 5 RBIs and apart from the error 4 good outs at shortstop.

Overall a very good day for the whole team, Shelly and Chuck from the 4s played and did well - great to see Bear there too.

Thanks to Chuck and Mitch for helping out with the scorebook, looking forward to the next game away at Knox.

Hits (RBIs) Brett 3 singles 1 double (5) , Cailen (1), Chuck 1 single 1 double (3), Darren 3 singles 1 HR (3), Eamon 1 double, Henry 1 double, James FD 1 double (2), Joe 2 doubles (2), Mitch 1 single (1), Stan 3 singles 2 doubles (1).

Third Nine Manager  
Brett Bennell

### **Fourths**

No game as Watsonia forfeited.

### **Womens Team defeated by Footscray**

Second round and a home game. Michelle took the mound and pitched a complete game. More strikes than balls which meant that a lot of balls were put into play.

Unfortunately, with a few shining exceptions, our fielding let us down somewhat in the early innings. A few muffed flyballs and a poor throw here and there let them jump out to a big lead we were never going to run down.

After that we settled down and recorded 13 outs for the five innings, a big improvement. Footscray's 3 batter inning in the 4th marking the first hitless/scoreless innings so far. Lindsey catching a fly and then making the throw to Shelly at one - before Shelly caught a fly to end it - really shows the depth and versatility of our team. With three injured players leaving

the game, the team really pulled together and played their positions well.

This week at training we need to really look at our flyball catching, our hitting and our base running. Throwing away opportunities to score cost us at least three runs, runs which we will need when we play the bottom placed teams.

Todd Robinson  
Womens Team Manager



Lesley getting a safe hit to Right Field

## Round 1

### Firsts (3) defeated by Diamond Creek (5)

First game of the season and things did not really go according to plan. We had some bad luck early as Dean Sharples re-injured his leg and had to come out of the game, which left us without one of our faster outfielders and our lead-off hitter. Diamond Creek jumped out to an early 5 to 0 lead after some very average defense, something we need to work on if we expect to be competitive this year. Offensively we only collected 6 hits for the game, with half of them coming from one player. With 9 runners left on base and 14 strikeouts against some pretty average pitching, our offensive performance left a lot to be desired.

Even though things didn't go our way, there were some positive notes for the day. Firstly, we did not give up and got back 3 runs on the back of a triple by Damian Preston which scored two followed by a single which scored Damian from third base. Tom Wilson showed good patience at the plate leading to two walks and also displayed some very smart base running. Jack Freeth settled into his work after some early trouble, and finished the game strong. Damian Preston, besides driving in 2 of our 3 runs also flashed some leather, as he made a great play at first base saving a run from scoring.

Though we are a very young side, we have a lot of potential. Now that the first game and the first game jitters are behind us, I think we will learn from our mistakes and come back strong next week against Melbourne Uni.

Hitters were: Alex Turlea 3 (2 singles, 1 double, 1 RBI), Damian Preston 1 (1 Triple, 2 RBI), Dean Sharples 1, Brad Sharples 1

Alex Turlea  
Club Coach (First Nine Manager)



### Seconds (20) defeated Diamond Creek (5)

La Trobe University defeats Diamond Creek 20-5 in a convincing season opener.

Lead by Daniel Bennett on the hill and newcomer Ian (Spike) Taylor behind the dish, they blew away the cobwebs after the 1st dig and looked unbeatable for the rest of the game. Except for the last dig where Craig Farquharson relived and threw a hitless close.

Our key to success was our patience in the batter's box and then aggression on the bases. There is still room for improvement but we displayed a promising start to the season.

Thanks David leaver for scoring and Col and Alex for umpiring.

Hits: Marc Heenan (2 singles 3 RBI), Spike (2 singles 1 RBI), David Turner (1 single 1 RBI), Josh Flannery (1 Dbl 3 RBI), Riley Hill (1 Dbl 1 Single 2 RBI), Daniel Bennett (1 Single 1 RBI), Adrian Kirkland (1 Single 1 RBI), Christian Kallis

(1 Single 1 RBI), Craig Farquharson (1 Single 1 Dbl 2 RBI) Andrew Wembridge (1 RBI)

Marc Heenan  
Second Nine Manager

### **Thirds (10) defeated by North Balwyn (11)**

What a great way to start the new season with a beautiful day, the ground in fantastic condition and a close hard fought game played in good spirits by both teams. The only down side was that we went down by 1 run.

A new look team took to the diamond for the 3rds, a few old faces, a couple of new ones and some really young faces.

In what was a really good game of baseball I was very happy how the team performed. It took us a few innings to get the bats going but once we did we matched North Balwyn hit for hit. We fielded quite well behind a stellar pitching effort by Simon.

Team spirit was great with lots of encouragement and talk, and it was great to see Toddy there helping out the new guys, thanks mate. Also, a big Thank-You to Andy Vo for scoring our whole game.

Highlights:

- Great to see Eamon and his son Cailen play their first game together. Eamon hit a nice 3 run HR and Cailen got his first hit in senior baseball.
- Joe Filardo playing his first game ever went 3 from 4 with a single, double and a huge HR over left field. He also stole a base, took a fly ball and threw a runner out at home from right field.
- A great effort from Simon pitching his first game since September last year and going a full 7 innings. With a bit of luck could have got the win.

So the final score was North Balwyn 11 Latrobe 10. There are a few things to work on at training but overall a great effort by the team. The most pleasing aspect though was that everyone got involved and did something positive - looking forward to next week's game away vs Watsonia.

Hits (RBIs): Henry 1 single; Brett 2 singles; Simon (1); Eamon 1 double, 1 HR (4); James 1 double (1); Mitch 1 double (1); Joe 1 single, 1 double 1, HR (2); Cailen 1 single.

Third Nine Manager  
Brett Bennell



Eamon & Cailen

### **Fourths (8) defeated by North Balwyn (14)**

We started off a little rusty in the 4s, but it only got better as the game went on. Our fielding will still benefit from more practice, but some good outs were made by Justin and Jason, with runners caught stealing to third and a spectacular catch by Jennifer covering the outfield. Despite going down 8-14 it was a good game, and I look forward to seeing what happens next week!

Hits came from: Jason (1HR, 1 double), Andy (2 doubles), Chuck (1 double, 1 single), Justin (2 singles), Lindsey (1 double), Bao (1 single)

Michelle Graham

### **Womens Team defeated by Sandringham**



The end score was the least important thing about La Trobe's first game in the Women's Division, so here are the highlights:

- First pitch: Lindsay Greatrix
- First hit: Anna O'Donnell liner to short centre left
- First out: Anna to Michelle Graham, 6-3
- First run: Anna on a passed ball
- First RBI: Lindsay with a shot to centre that scored Jennifer Elphingston
- First DOUBLE PLAY: Lindsay with a keeper then on to Michelle 6-3

These are the moments that make a new team and can never be taken away from this side.

Great pitching from Lindsay for the first time ever off a mound, great hitting and fielding from Anna. Aggressive running from the whole team. Three separate spectators came up to me at the end of the game with glowing praise for a first game effort and a twinkle of jealousy at some of the first game talent on show from the likes of Jen, Caitlin, Shelly and Lesley.

Next we play at home so there is no reason we can't pull a big crowd and work towards our first ever win!

Todd Robinson  
Womens Team Manager



First Double Play - Part 1



Part 2



Part 3

[More photos here.](#)



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