

Match Reports 2010/11

Sunday 13th March 2011**Division 3, Grand Final @ Essendon****Fitzroy 5th IX- 7 Defeated Essendon -5**

We were the away team, so batted first. Their pitcher aimed well and threw hard to sit our batters down 1, 2, 3- not to dismay though as all 3 outs were contact casualties.

Our resolve, in the field, was really tested when they came out and hit 3 runs in the first innings with some powerful swings. The hits were 1 double which was close to going out and a home run hit by their catcher (John Pate-Chopper). The score at the end of 1 was 3-0 Essendon's way.

This is when Darren Hill came to town with the ball. Daz put the 1st innings under his belt and decided to cut his fast ball a bit in the lower part of the zone. With control and a cool head Daz held them scoreless for 3 innings.

In answer to their 1st innings we came out in the 3rd and plated 6 runs with hits from James Glover, a monster double from Jordy Hill (a metre short of a home run), a single by Darren Hill and 2 errors from them.

Then the clouds rolled in and the rain pelted us sideways stopping the game for what seemed like a long time (probably about 1.5 hours). 4 innings were complete at the delay and we lead 6-3. Daz was in control on the mound and supported by some slick infielding from Jordy, Billy, Gary & Eamon as well as outfield catches run down hard by Dean Malcolm & James Glover.

The game got underway at the top of the 5th, in similar conditions with it still raining and the weather deteriorating. Darren was going well into the 5th innings keeping the score down when he copped a hard hit sharp comebacker in the knee. Daz threw 1 more out after that. The pitching change was made and Cam came in.

Their bats were finding the ball and hitting hard, but our fielders were up for it. In the 6th Jordy made an out at 2nd, James Grandison (our catcher) chased a runner back to 3rd (on a 1st and 3rd occupied play) and tagged him out, snuffing a run. Outrunning someone in leggings is no mean feat and even better when it snuffs out a run in a 2 run game.

The out at 3rd was really good play, but the highlight of the 6th innings was when Philippe Aslanis ran back to his left to snag a fly ball and end the dig, leaving 2 runs (which would have tied the game) on base. Phillipe covered a lot of ground to get that catch and saved the day for us.

The 7th batting innings passed uneventfully for us and we went into the field again, looking to close with the score at 7-5. In the 1st play Gary McKeown made a spectacular dive to save a hard hit ball at 2nd base and Eamon did just as well pulling Gary's throw out of the dirt to get the runner by the barest margin.

With 1 out and the score unchanged their 3rd baseman came to bat. After 5 pitches he laced one back at the pitcher who gloved it for the Put Out 1. There have been many comments about this catch made to me in the last few days, I would personally like to thank our club president who said I looked like a scarecrow during and after the play. Scarecrow or not it was 2 out with everything to play for.

The next Essendon batter got on after being hit by a pitch. Still 2 out with the winning run on deck. The following batter saw 6 pitches then popped up and Jordy (one of our stars of the final series) took the catch at short stop to leave the score at 7-5 and the title in our hands.

Hits James Glover 1-1rbi, James Grandison 2, Gary 1 hit- 2rbi, Billy 1 hit, Jordy 1 double 1rbi, Darren Hill 2 hits.

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Hits us 8, them 8.

Pitches them (single pitcher)- 112- He only threw 1 walk. 79 strikes 39 balls. 4Ks.

Darren Hill 76 pitches, 41 strikes, 35 balls, 3 walks, 1K, 7 hits, 25 batters, 2 HBP

Cam Gleeson, 39 pitches, 21 strikes, 18 balls, 11 batters, 1 hit 2 walks, 2 HBP

Great performance by Darren Hill with bat and ball.

We plated 50 runs during this final series but in the grand final it was our defence that stood tall, with some great outfielding, a game saving fly at leftfield, picks out of the dirt at 1st by Eamon, a critical run down tag play at 3rd and no errors.

Nominations for player of the final series are- Gary Mc Keown, Darren Hill, Jordy Hill and Billy Trovato- the winner will be announced on Friday night at the presentation.

Our Premiership team for Div 3 2011 are;

James Glover
Eamon Clancy
Billy Trovato
James Grandison
Cam Gleeson
Jordy Hill
Gary McKeown
Darren Hill
Dean Malcolm
Todd Robinson
Philippe Aslanis
Jamie Catt
Lil Gleeson- Scorer
Samuel Clancy- Batboy

Thanks to everyone else who helped with the season. Stayed tuned for a full list of Thankyous in the next few days.

This win is dedicated to Karl Leake, our team mate, who is currently receiving treatment for cancer. May he make a speedy recovery.

Cam Gleeson

Fitzroy 5ths 30 defeated Cheltenham KK 22, Division 3 Preliminary (elimination Final) Sunday 6th March 2011.

This was a game that had to be seen to be believed. We went out and hit 12 runs before they even got a sniff. It was 12-0 still in the top of the 2nd, they changed pitchers and it looked like we were running to 5 innings and an early finish with the 10 run rule in our favour.

We didn't quite believe this would happen, at this stage of the game, as we have seen how teams hit and score quickly in this grade before. We didn't feel all that secure, but it was Cheltenham's belief that showed in the middle innings, they hit back at us and in the fourth got in front 15-16. After 5 we were behind again 19-21, but pushed in the last two innings to 25 and then the final score of 30 in our 7th innings while they added just one more run in the final 2 innings. As you can tell this was not a pitcher's game. All batters came out to hit and refused to be put off balance by any bluff or trick pitches, fast slow and curve all got hit.

The big difference was that they went 3 up and 3 done in strike outs to Darren Hill's pitching in the 1st, only put one run on in the 5th and suffered a shut out in the last to fall short of us by 8 (Gary McKeown the secret weapon came out of centrefield to pitch 12 great throws).

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We won because we forced the pitching change in the 2nd innings and we just did not give up, their starting pitcher came on for a 2nd trip to the mound in the last. The pitch count was 180 from them while we threw less at around 160.

Special mention goes to Billy Trovato, who hit the ball hard all day, 2 doubles and 3 singles (one double hit the long fence on the full) 7RBI.

Hits

James Glover 2 hits, 2 walks and 1 HBP- 4RBI

Eamon Clancy 3 hits (1 Double) 1 walk, 2 HBP, 4 RBI

Gary McKeown 3 hits (1 double) 4 RBI, Pitched 12, 8 strikes 4 balls, Ks 2.

Philippe Aslanis 3 hits (1 double) 1 RBI

Todd Robinson 1 Hit, 2 Walks 1 RBI

Jordan Hill, 1 hit, 3 walks, 1 HBP, 1 RBI

Darren 1 hit, 1 walk- 2 RBI- pitched 82, 50 strikes 32 balls, Ks 4.

Dean Malcolm 1 hit, 1 Walk, 2 RBI

Cam Gleeson, 2 hits 3 RBI, pitched 67, 31 balls, 36 strikes

Thanks to Jamie Catt and Dean Malcolm for travelling all the way to Cheltenham and doing such a great job coaching base.

Thanks to Lil for scoring and to all the other supporters who made the trip, we heard every word out there.

Cam Gleeson

Saturday 26th Feb 2011

FITZROY 1st IX 4 defeated BLACKBURN 3

The Lions added a huge scalp to their successes this season by downing the league-leader and premiership favourite at Billabong Park.

This was the second win that the Lions have enjoyed over Blackburn from three meetings in 2010/11.

Matt Kemp went the distance for the Roys after tossing thirty-nine pitches in a first innings, while Matt Gerraty threw six (for four runs) before Adrian Berka finished out for the Orioles.

Brock Pawley led off the first with a single to leftfield and Fitzroy was promptly on the board – with two - when Joel Arnott drove a moonshot over the centrefield wall.

Blackburn replied with one – on two hits and two walks – before Kemp and third-sacker Alex Turlea combined for a rare pick-off at the hot corner.

The sides traded zeroes through the middle innings until a string of passes yielded two more for the Lions and Gerraty was sent packing in favour of Berka.

Although Kemp continued to hold the dangerous Blackburn offence at bay, the Orioles hit back with a couple in the seventh, with the tying run gunned down at the plate courtesy of a bullet from centrefielder Arnott. The throw arrived just in time to nail Tom Dicker at the plate, with the resultant collision clearing the benches before a heated situation defused by commonsense, judicious umpiring.

The Orioles had another chance in the eighth when David Dicker smashed an apparent double – and potential triple – into the right-centre alley, only to see man of the moment Arnott take an amazing catch to rob the Burners, who lost a further runner on an attempted steal.

Despite allowing a runner on in the ninth, Kemp was able to finish out the game and deliver the Lions their twelfth win of the season – a mighty performance by the club and one that had Head Coach John Edwards searching for superlatives.

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“It was a great win for us,” Edwards said. “It is a real accomplishment that we have been able to beat a team of Blackburn’s quality twice this season. They have only lost four games for the season – and two have been to us.”

“Matt Kemp was amazing today. Truly amazing! He threw 39 pitches in the first inning, but was able to settle down and finish the game,” he said.

“We would have been in a lot of trouble if he hadn’t gone the distance. Pawley is done for the year, Jamie was still sore from Tuesday, so it only really left me throwing off one leg. Thankfully Matty is a real work horse and he beat the best team in the league today.”

“It was the Joel Arnott show,” said Edwards, in deference to one of many home-grown Roy Boys standing up at this level. “He hit a home run to start the game, he hosed a guy at the plate and took the greatest catch I have ever seen. It was an incredible catch. I was sure it was a triple off the bat but he came out of nowhere and flew through the air. He was completely horizontal to the ground when he caught it.”

“Words don’t do it justice,” Edwards said. “But he needed to have a good day after two girls turned up - one with JO on her shirt and the other with EL.”

“The game got a bit fiery there at one stage. Both teams stood up for their guys, but the umpires got everyone under control. Once the game was done it was all left on the field and everyone chatted and hung out after the game. I think that’s a sign of professional teams and real baseball players when they can go all out on the field, leave it there and kick it afterwards in the club house. I don’t blame Tommy Dicker for the fracas - I blame his simpleton mate Dave Mooseballs White for getting him into watching UFC.”

“I think he was trying to imitate Randy Coteur’s Double Dragon gangster elbow throw.”

The league-leading Orioles are at home to the Baycats on Saturday, while Fitzroy is away to Sandringham, who have had a disappointing season after showing so much in 2009/10.

“Next week could be a tough one,” Edwards said. “I’m sure Sandy will have something to prove before they head back down to Divvy Two, but we plan on ending a very successful season with another victory.”

FITZROY 2 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 (4)
BLACKBURN 1 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 (3)

Hits.

Fitzroy: B.Pawley, J.Arnott, T.Pinkster, A.Turlea, S.Linehan

Blackburn: 11

RBI's.

Fitzroy: J.Arnott 3, B.Pawley

Blackburn:

Pitching.

Fitzroy: M.Kemp 9 inn, 11 H, 8 Ks, 3 BB, 3 ER

3rd Nine Elimination Final

Sunday 27th Feb 2011

At the beginning of the week we still didn’t know whether we would get to play in the first semi final due to a protest being lodged by Newport, when J.K. rang with the good news, phone calls were made and our finals campaign was under way, on an overcast day that saw a bit of rain fall in the morning we were hoping that it cleared in time for the 2pm start otherwise we could have lost the game without a pitch being thrown.

We began the game and went 3 up 3 down in the top of the first. With Darcy on the mound and looking to continue his good form of recent weeks Essendon came out swinging and quickly went about scoring 2 runs in their ½ of the innings.

Robbie led off the 2nd with a base hit and was pushed to second by Dave, Henry drew a walk and we capitalised on some scrappy fielding by Essendon to tie it up at 2 all.

With Darcy starting to find his range Essendon didn’t score, after 2 digs it was 2 all.

Liam led off with a double to centre followed by walks to Robbie, Dave and Henry and a base hit to Brownly gave us 2 more for the dig.

A HPB to their lead off and a base hit gave them 1st and 2nd with none out, a fly ball to Ryan at left field for the first out and a full stretch pick up by Liam on a ball that was going to right field got the 2nd out at first and Robbie got the runner going home to finish the dig with a double play. After 3 it is Fitzroy 4 Essendon 2.

Top of 4 and with some good hitting and a couple of HPB’s we skipped away to a sizable lead, not to be out done though Essendon kept at us and got 3 runs back to finish the dig with the score at us 9 them 5.

In the 5th we manufactured 3 more by putting pressure on Essendon and without getting a hit.

With Darcy starting to tire and both pitchers not getting a lot of help from the umpire we made the change and brought in Robbie, they pegged back another 3 runs to end the dig at Fitzroy 12 Essendon 8.

That was the end of the scoring for us but to Essendons credit they kept at us and over the next 2 digs took the lead from us in the bottom of the 7th inning to win the game.

Unfortunately we didn’t hit the ball well enough and only managed 7 hits for the game and left far too many runners on base which proved to be our downfall.

Hits Liam 2 doubles, Robbie 1 single, Dave 1 single, Paul 1 single, Ryan 1 single, Darcy 1 single

Last but certainly not least I would like to thank Gael for scoring and Janine for being the “money bitch” all season and for the supporters that turned up to watch our final game of the season.

Steve Brooke

Division 3, 1st Semi Final @ Merri Park

Fitzroy 5th IX- 13 Defeated Doncaster A -3

We went in with a strategy to maximise the opposition’s pitch count. Many of our batters took strikes and made the Doncaster pitcher throw them at least two before putting the ball in play. Our approach paid off as after 5 innings they threw 115 and we only showed them 84.

The real difference was that they didn’t throw a strike out and James Little dominated for us on the hill, by throwing 9.

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This was unfamiliar territory for us as it was a seven innings game, not a 2 hour timed game that we are used to. The contest was even and intense until the end of the 3rd innings with the score at 3 all. Up until this stage of the game all the line calls and bloop shots seemed to be going their way whilst we were working hard and leaving quite a few runners on base. Credit to Doncaster as they played with emotion and intensity scoring 5 hits up until the 3rd innings.

We battled the pressure and made the outs until the 4th when we opened up and strung 3 hits together on some walks and scored 6 runs (score us 9 them 3). We then forced them into a pitching change (after 90 pitches) in the bottom of the 5th after James Little's aim had left their batters unable to score again in the top of the innings.

James Glover and Darren Hill were hastily brought into the game as it looked like the contest may likely come to an early finish on the 10 run rule. Darren drew a walk and James hit well into right field advancing the runners and setting the table for the middle order to bring home the bacon. Darren did a great dummy play at 3rd with 2 out, causing the 3rd baseman to throw home and then making it back to the base and safe all round. James Little made a similar play earlier in the game.

In the end it was left to Billy Trovato, who laced his third hit (a double) for the day and brought home the winning run to make it 13-3 time and game.

Defensively we were good all day with only one error. Jordy was solid as catcher, he took many third strikes out of the dirt to send the runners to their chairs.

Eamon made a great clean up play at first to shut down the 3rd innings and snuff out two runners who would have scored if the ball got past him, this was a turning point in the game for they lead by 2 runs at that point and didn't score after that.

We had 5, 6 and 7 pitch at bats, put the ball in play all day and took the walks when they were there. When we hit we hit well, doubles and a triple.

Hits James Glover 1, James Grandison 1 sac bunt, Eamon 1 hit 2rbi, James Little 2 hits 1 double- 1 triple 1rbi, Gary 2 hits 1double 2rbi, Billy 3 hits 1 double 5rbi, Philippe 1 hit 1 walk, Todd 1 hit 1 sac bunt.

Great performance by James Little with bat and ball- Pitching 5 innings- 26 balls, 58 strikes, 9Ks, 5 hits, 2 walks, 1HBP and 9 strike outs.

Special mention to Billy Trovato, with 2 go ahead RBIs early in the game and then the winning RBIs to make it 10 runs.

Cam Gleeson

February 19th and 20th.

Saturday February 19th, Fitzroy 1st IX, 2runs Defeated Upwey Ferntree Gully 1run.

With both clubs having fantastic seasons, this game lived up to all expectations as the pitchers held sway in Merri Park conditions not favourable to the hitters, who had to cope with gale-force winds confronting them directly in the face.

"It was a fun game to be involved with today," said Fitzroy Head Coach John Edwards. "We have a good rivalry with Upwey that pre-dates my arrival at the club. We both went all out today because both of us want to finish in that seventh spot."

The Lions plated two in the first - enough in run production, as it turned out, with starter Matt Kemp (pictured) scattering four hits and fanning seven over eight innings of work and Jamie Lethborg collecting the save with a three-up three-down ninth.

Brock Pawley led off the first with a hit and Joel Arnott was hit by a pitch. A swinging bunt by Tristan Pinkster moved the runners to second and third for clean-up hitter Alex Turlea - who obliged by crushing a double over leftfield to score both.

Upwey starter Michael van der Meer settled into his work and was quite superb in scattering six hits over the complete game. Fitzroy challenged on a number of occasions but failed to capitalise - once with bags loaded and none out and another time with runners at the corners and none out.

The Tigers' solitary run came in the fifth, compliments of a lead-off walk, an interference call on a run-down play and a ground ball up the middle.

The visitors threatened in the seventh, with runners at first and second and none out. Danger man Mitch Ayres smashed a ball into left-centre, only to be robbed on a spectacular play by leftfielder Turlea. Tagging up, the runner headed for third but was hosed comfortably as Turlea uncorked a centimeter-perfect throw.

Turlea collected two hits for Fitzroy, while the Tigers' four all came in singles.

Delighted with his club's eleventh win for the season, Edwards took a number of positives out of what was a quality game against a tough opponent.

"We have a lot of respect for Upwey and particularly their coach Mitch Ayres," Edwards said. "Anyone who coaches his club, plays and then also gets up Sunday mornings to coach Under 16s should be admired and applauded."

"The conditions were very tough today. We spoke before the game about getting ahead early and forcing them to chase us. We knew with a couple on the board early that a chase was going to be difficult with that wind cutting everything down."

"Kemp did the job again," he said. "Another eight digs, one run, another win. He just keeps getting better and better. Lethborg was 2/10." 2/10/2013 7:49 PM

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"Kemp did the job again," he said. "Another eight digs, one run, another win. He just keeps getting better and better. Lethborg was lights out – as usual – and made it look easy picking up the save in a tight situation."

Both sides played tight defence, with Turlea and King making some big-league plays for the Roys.

"Linehan, well he provided some entertainment value," Edwards said. "Fielding a tracer-bullet line drive with his ankle and then pulling some matrix moves as he tried to get out of the way in a rundown play. Problem was, he was the only person working in matrix time when everyone else was going at real speed."

The win sends Fitzroy to seventh, just marginally ahead of the Tigers - with both favoured to improve on their winning records over the last three games.

"We have three games left and we are going to play out the season all the way," said Edwards.

"The boys really don't want the season to finish. We have Waverley Tuesday night - which is obviously a tough one. I'd like to start Lethborg, providing he can get out of work. If not I might go with Gavin Juchnevicius."

Fitzroy is away club to Waverley on Tuesday (Altona, early) before travelling to Blackburn on Saturday (2.00 pm start). Upwey meets Geelong on Tuesday (Altona, late) before its home clash with Newport on Saturday (2.00 pm start)

UPWEY 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 (1)

FITZROY 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 X (2)

Hits.

Upwey: 4

Fitzroy: A.Turlea 2, B.Pawley, T.Pinkster, S.Linehan, G.Juchnevicius

RBIs.

Upwey:

Fitzroy: A.Turlea 2

Pitching.

Upwey: M.van der Meer

Fitzroy: M.Kemp 8 inn, 4 H, 4 Ks, 5 BB, 1 HPB 1 ER

J.Lethborg 1 inn, 0 H, 1 K, 0 ER

Fitzroy 3rd 1X 5 runs, defeated Upwey 3, 20th Feb 2011

This was a must win game that took us out to Upwey to give us the chance to play finals this season. We brought our best defensive game with us with everybody contributing in some way during the game with double plays, ground balls, fly balls taken and Darcy and Robbie doing the job on the mound, and with UFTG playing outstanding defence it made for a very entertaining game that the players and spectators all seemed to enjoy if the level of good old fashioned cheering and jeering was anything to go by.

It took a little while for our bats to wake up due to some handy off speed pitching from their guy which we didn't adjust to until half way through the game.

After 4 scoreless innings with only 3 hits to them and 2 for us they got on the scoreboard first wit 2 in the bottom of the 5th dig.

In the 6th Steve Harty led off with a double and went to 3rd on a wild pitch he then scored on a sac fly by Darcy to make it them 2 us 1 in the middle of the 6th dig, the old master then took to the hill and after few warm up pitches was back to his old form and closed the dig out.

In the 7th we began to hit our straps and with 3 back to back hits we tied it up at 2 all, 3 up 3 down for UFTG and it was time for us to get the lead for the first time in the game.

Darcy led off with a shot to left field and with Robbie also singling to left we looked to be getting on top but with a fly ball and a ground out it seemed that it wasn't going to happen that easily for us, with a man on 3rd and 1st and 2 out it was time for Brownny to do what we know he can do get us the lead which he did and was followed up by Liam with a double and scored our second for the dig to give us a 4 – 2 lead.

Not to be outdone UFTG came back with 1 in the bottom half of the inning to have the score at 4 – 3 going into the top of the 9th

Steve draws a walk and then steals second, Darcy hits a ground ball up the first base line and forces an error and Steve takes full advantage and scores from second to give us a 5 – 3 lead going into the bottom ½ of the last and with Robbie deciding he had had enough it was time to finish the game off by himself with a hand in all 3 outs to seal the win for the Roys.

It was a nervous couple of hours wait to hear the result of the Malvern/Newport game but it was to our benefit and as a result we get to play again next week.

Hits, Steve Harty 1 double, Simon Peterson 1 single, Darcy Mills 1 single (2 sacs) Robbie 2 singles, Dave Andrews 1 single 1 double, Ryan McIvor 1 single, Paul Brown 2 singles, Liam Brooke 1 single 1 double.

Well done guys

Steve Brooke

There is currently a protest pending at Baseball Victoria from the Malvern/Newport game played Sunday 20th Feburary. If the result of this game is reversed the 3rds place in the finals will go with it. All players will be notified of the outcome if it is going to affect us playing on Sunday.

February-13

Fitzroy 3rd IX 3 defeated by Cheltenham 6

It was a game where we didn't do too much wrong except come away with the win, now we must win this week and rely on Malvern doing a job on Newport to allow us to play finals.

We had Darcy on the mound who threw his heart out for another complete game and the field backed him up all the way, Ryan McIvor was sensational at left field snagging 3 fly balls that were going for extra base hits, Dave Andrews let 1 rip from right field to home plate and was literally millimetres from hosing the runner and the infield was very solid, defensively a great game.

Offensively we bunted, ran bases hard when asked and challenged Cheltenham to play their best ball, our hitting against a very talented u18 state pitcher was sporadic to say the least with us only getting 5 safe hits, good solid contact forced them to make a couple of errors which we capitalised on.

Hits, Luke Bride 1 single, Robbie Keane 1 single, Dave Andrews 1 single, Liam Brooke 1 double, Adrian Kirkland 1 single.

We are off to Upwey next Sunday for a must win game.

Steve Brooke

Fitzroy 5th IX 5, Defeated Essendon 3.

We hosted Essendon today for the penultimate game of the summer. We knew it was going to be a good contest as they had only lost one game for the season so far, although they had survived some close calls as well, drawing with Doncaster B a few weeks ago. We had been looking forward to the opportunity of meeting them to see how much we had improved since our one run loss to them earlier in the year.

Additionally a win could give us a chance to sneak into second position below them and to clinch a double chance in the finals.

We went out well geared with Cam on the mound, warming the perch for James Little to step up later on. The Bombers went 3 up and 3 down thanks to a well functioning infield.

Gary started us off with a nice piece to continue his fine form with the bat. Unfortunately their starting pitcher had a well-hidden release point and threw three chairs to our middle order, leaving us with bases loaded.

In the second innings we started making contact but still couldn't get one on the board, they strung two hits together and put one across, leaving us to play catch up in the bottom. Eamon hit a long triple into the wind (which would have been a home run at any other part of the park); Phillippe did his job and batted in the big hitter. Phillippe stole 2nd and then came in on two ground balls. Billy and James Little both made contact to move Phillippe around and put us ahead 2-1.

Cam left the mound after 2 with the score 2-1 our way, and was replaced by the inimitable James Little who showed skill, diligence and experience for the remaining four innings of the game.

In the fifth innings we again had two runners on after Phillippe hit a double to start it off and Billy then got hit by a pitch. Phillippe scored off a James Little double, then both Billy and James off a Todd Robinson chinker hit to 3rd base. So after leaving many runners on base we finally pushed it hard enough to score three in one innings, Them 3 Us 5.

There wasn't a whole of batting to speak about after that. This game was about pitching. They started a sidearm thrower who was very hard to read and threw great off-speed to keep our batters off balance (he threw 4 ks in two innings). They also had two other pitchers who threw a lot of strikes in their five innings of play. There were only four walks thrown for the entire game, they threw three to us. James let one go late in the game but he didn't miss by much.

Their three pitchers threw 127 pitches while our two were much more economical letting them see only 91. On that stat we should have probably won by a bit more but this was a very competitive game against a team who have proven that they know how to win. We had seven team at bats that went for seven pitches or more. This is an important stat in this contest as long "at bats" are what forces pitching changes and pitching changes are critical in Div 3, usually where a team can give up many runs.

This was simply a great game to be involved in, we made some good plays as did they. The changes we made also proved pivotal along with theirs. It looks like we have missed out on second spot by 1.3% but that is the way it goes.

Hits GaryMc Kewon 1, Eamon Clancy 2 (1 triple), Phillippe Aslanis 2 (1 double 1 RBI), James Little 2 (1 double 2RBI), Todd Robinson 1 (2RBI), Tristan Joss 2 walks.

Pitch- Cam Gleeson- 2 innings, 24 pitches, 17s, 7b, 1k, 1 run
James Little- 4 innings, 67 pitches, 49s, 18b, 7k, 1walk- 2 runs.

A Good win at this time of year.

Cam Gleeson

February-6

3rd Nine Report 06-02-2011

We came up against a very solid Malvern this week, even though we failed to get the 2 points it was a game that was played in complete contrast from the game against Doncaster 2 weeks ago.

They started with a pair in the first dig from what can only be described as a couple of questionable decisions. We could, n't answer back so after the first it is 2 – 0.

Malvern didn't score in the top ½ of the dig, Dave Andrews beats out an infield hit and Brad Sharples laces the ball to right field but Dave can't get back in time to avoid the double play, Henry Peterson flies out to right and ends the dig.

With Darcy starting to take control on the bump we get a double and another grounder to end the dig without Malvern scoring, Ryan grounds out, Adrian smashes a double, Luke grounds out, and 5 hits and a BB plate 4 for us, Ryan has the dubious honor of being 1st & 3rd out in the dig which, needless to say a few of the guys said they would remind him after the game of the penalty.

End of the third and its us 4 them 2.

3 up 3 down for Malvern and after our previous good dig Malvern took their ace out. Adrian starts the dig with a ground out, Luke and Jimmy both walk and Darcy lines one back to the pitcher who looks to 3rd for the lead runner and lets it rip a bit wide of the bag and allows a run across, Keaney flies out to centre which ends the dig.

After 4, us 5 them 2.

A walk, a K an error and a couple of infield hits plate 1 for Malvern, middle of 5 and its 5 – 3 us.

Dave Andrews leads off with his 3rd hit of the game steals 2nd and then scores on Henry Petersons double down the left field line. End of 5 and its 6 – 3 us.

With Darcy in complete control I decided that he had done his job and had earn't a rest, WRONG move coach, Brad had trouble finding the zone and Robbie came in and closed out the dig but the damage was done with Malvern getting 8, we were unable to worry the scorers in the bottom of the last dig and went down 11 – 6.

Aside from the coach outsmarting himself it was a very good game of baseball with us knocking their best of the hill early in the game and some great defensive plays being made.

Hits, Jimmy 1 single, Darcy 1 single, Liam 1 single, Robbie 1 single, Dave 3 singles, Simon 1 single 1 double, Adrian 1 double.

Down to Cheltenham next SATURDAY gentlemen, see you there.

Steve Brook

4th nine report 06-02-2011

Winter baseball returned to Merri Park today with a cold southerly and the temp down, the boys took to the field against arch enemy Malvern.

Not even a rain shower before the game could curb their enthusiasm for the contest.

The game started in fine fashion with Tyler Bowman sending down thunderbolts and lighting to hold Malvern to one hit in five innings.

Ably backed up in the field by great defence by all.

Outstanding hitting from one of our young prodigies Josh Loveridge going four from four with 3 singles and a double, batting in the lead of position backed up by Shane Robinson collecting 3 singles, Steve Harty batting in four earned runs in the clean up spot, Tyler 1 single, Marcin 2 singles, Jason single, James Hope single.

15 hits for the team against 1 hit for the opposition a resounding defeat of the Malvern 4th nine

Thank you to our scorer Gaelle for her barracking of the umpires and to the dedicated efforts of the ground crew

Canteen manager once again a sterling job feeding the masses on the day and our bar manager for the livations he provided

Pip Pip and Tally ho

John King

5th IX Report, 6th Feb 2011, Fitzroy 20 Upwey FTG 3.

After last weeks lackluster performance against a driven St Kilda, Fitzroy now had every motivation to pick up a win against cellar-dwellers Upwey. Fitzroy's finals chances had taken a beating, Cheltenham having robbed us of the double chance already and Doncaster looking to take our spot in the final four.

Help was at hand, however, with Cam, rested from his summer sojourn, to open the pitching and James Little coming back from a few weeks away to replace the injured Darren Hill in relief.

The game started with a bang as Cam hosed the first hitter in three pitches and closed out holding them to only three runs in the first three innings that featured a return to the solid fielding performances that was so lacking last week. A highlight was Jordan gunning down a baserunner at 2nd to close out the inning.

What Upwey couldn't do to Cam was visited upon then by the Fitzroy hitters. When the opposing pitcher bothered to throw it over the plate, the Fitzroy balls clobbered it. Only some unlucky breaks in the first two innings held the game close.

It was in the third that the game changed. Gary McKewon's three run bomb forced a pitching change and from then on the Fitzroy bats were struggling to find something to hit. 9 free passes were delivered, including one that went for Philippe's neck like a teenager in the back row of the cinema. 9 runs in the 3rd and 7 more in the fourth and Fitzroy was home.

All that was left was to sit back and enjoy the James Little fireworks show. 30 pitches, 19 of them strikes and eight of the most lost batters I have seen this year. James was a class above with his power and movement. The only contact made all went "behind square", a single walk the only blemish on the day (other than Jordan's red hand from catching all that heat).

Hits: Gary 3 (2b, hr), Cam 3, Eamon 2, Tristan 2, Todd, James Little (2b)

12 walks and Philippe's two HBP the only thing stopping us from more hitting.

January 29-30

Fitzroy 4ths 6 Lost To Newport 9

We travelled to Newport on a very hot Sunday afternoon in 2nd place and with everything to play for. But alas we didn't bring our game and a very switched on Newport did. We started well with 2 in the 1st, but they responded with 3 unearned in the bottom. We regained the lead by scoring 4 in the 2nd but they again scored 3 to tie it up after 2 @ 6 all. We didn't score again and they did with 3 in the bottom of the 3rd and then the umpires ruled it was too hot, (38.9). It was checked again but with it still hovering around the max the game was called. Hits & rbi's(). Josh Loveridge 2 singles, 1 triple (2) < Marcin Niepostyn 2 singles (1), Shane Robinson single (1), David Jones dbl (1), Adrian Kirkland 2 singles & Clinton Xuereb single. Thanks to Gaelle for scoring in very trying conditions.

Cheers
TB

January 22 - 23

Fitzroy 3rds Defeated by Doncaster 19 - 5

As the score line shows 19 – 5 we got touched up pretty well today by a team that is certainly NOT 14 runs better than us, it will give me great pleasure to face them in the finals because we will not play that poorly again and I am very confident we can and will beat them. Enough said, we can now look forward to playing Newport next weekend and getting back on the winners list.

Hits Luke Bride 1 double, James Furchmann 1 single 1 double, Darcy Mills 1 single, Paul Brown 2 singles, Ryan McIvor 1 double, Simon Peterson 1 double, Adrian Kirkland 1 single

Steve Brooke

Fitzroy 4ths Defeated Doncaster 20 - 5

We played Doncaster @ home on Sunday with the Dragons looking to break into the 4 with a victory, but alas we prevailed 20 - 5 in a game that was really decided by 1 inning.

We scored 3 in the 1st and kept them scoreless until they scored 4 in the 3rd before we scored 3 in the bottom of the 3rd to regain the lead. The Dragons scored 1 more in the 4th before we scored 14 in the bottom of the 4th to close it out. It was a good game with Doncaster handing us a few unearned runs.

Hits & rbi's (): Steve Harty, 2 singles & 1 dbl, Marcin Niepostyn single, Shane Robinson 2 dbls, (2), Damien Preston single (4), Tyler Bowman single, 2 dbls, (3), Liam Brooke triple & (3), Clint Xuereb single & (1). It was a good all round effort.

I would like to thank James Hope & Pete Wilson for line umpiring during our game. Every little bit helps.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

January 15 - 16

Fitzroy 1sts Defeated Werribee 6 - 1

The mighty Lions continued their dominance against our rivals from the west Werribee. , The win today was our 4th in t, he last 5 against the "bees". The day started well with Kemp in complete control on the mound. Dominating the Werribee hits with a hard fastball they found difficult to catch up with. Matty threw 5 innings for 1 run, 1 hit and struck out 9. Jamie and Brock relived Matty and both gave nothing to the opposition.

Our hitters had a day out collecting 13 hits 4 to Arnott and 3 to Pinkster in what was a return to form for two of our best hitters. The King boys, Ben Lethborg, Alex Turlea and Carl Wilson off the bench all contributed to what was a great team effort.

The win now places us in 7th position on the ladder and will provide a good spring board for the 2nd half. A big weekend coming up with a double header and games against Essendon then Doncaster.

Fitzroy 4ths Defeated Werribee 15 - 1

We'll we are back from our Xmas break and back with another victory against a gallant Werribee. Although the score line was 15 -1 it wasn't as easy as it seemed. We hit the ball and fielded well in both aspects of the game. It was great to see everyone again after a little break, but it is now the business end of the season.

Hits & rbi () are as follows: Tyler Bowman single (1), Liam Brooke, (yes, Liam released from his father's grip), dbl & (2), Steve Harty dbl (1), David Jones 2 singles (2), Marcin Niepostyn single, dbl (2), Damien Preston dbl, (& he owes a slab), Shane Robinson, single (1), and Clint Xuereb 2 singles & (2).

Thanks to Dean & Chook for umpiring.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Fitzroy 5ths Defeated Blackburn 26 - 0

The 5ths travelled out to Blackburn to face a under strength side sitting 5th on the ladder. The previous meeting had been a fairly easy trot for the Fitzroy boys and this time around we were focused on getting the basics right to ready ourselves for the tough games ahead.

The game started with an explosion from the Fitzroy bats. 5 hits and four walks in the 1st scoring 5 runs. 2 more runs in the second and another in the fourth killed off the game. Base-running, previously our weak suit, was the best it had been all year with smart running ensuring that those that got on had a chance to score.

Josh Loveridge graced us with his presence and proceeded to show Blackburn his class by allowing only one hit from 3 innings topped off with 6 ks. Blackburn saw the coming of James Little to the mound as a sign their luck may change but were dissuaded of that idea as James proceeded to overpower the batters with some power pitching. 3 ks in two innings (not including the batter he called back to the box after a rank third strike had sat him down). A total of 67 pitches for the day, 49 of them strikes in the best pitching I have seen in years.

The worst was yet to come for Blackburn, however, as, with their young firebrand off the mound, Fitzroy's hitters went on a hitting orgy. 19 hits, 7 of them doubles and with a James Little triple as well, scored 18 runs in the 5th. Everyone got a hit with James Grandison bouncing one a foot in front of the home run fence.

A hot day, made hotter by making some fatter members of the team run around the bases more than they are used to, ended

The worst was yet to come for Blackburn, however, as, with their young firebrand off the mound, Fitzroy's hitters went on a hitting orgy. 19 hits, 7 of them doubles and with a James Little triple as well, scored 18 runs in the 5th. Everyone got a hit with James Grandison bouncing one a foot in front of the home run fence.

A hot day, made hotter by making some fatter members of the team run around the bases more than they are used to, ended with a great catch by Josh. Good work all around and a good way to prepare for the big games ahead.

Todd

Weekend 18th and 19th Dec

Down to Geelong on a so so day weatherise, all 4 teams playing on their great fields. Wins to the 4th,s and 3rd,s and a loss to the 2,s all playing at the same time then on to the 1st,s at 4.30 pm on the main diamond.

The game started with both pitchers getting it done early although both teams bats were playing long ball.

The game broke open with Geelong scoring 4 runs in one innings due to some wayward pitching and a couple of errors then the game then settled down again until we scored 2 late runs to run out losers 4/2,

this game could have set us up going into the break but they needed a win as much as us and did enough to come away with the points.

Welcome back Josh Bride for his one game before heading back to the states enjoy your xmas at home

Some highlights,

Joel Arnott starting with a hit and taking some good flys in the out field,

Ben Lethborg at 3rd fielding some hot shots and good at bats,

Matt pitching the entire game giving up scattered hits,

Gavin Juchnevicus having some tough at bats and good play at 1st base,

Brock Pawley patrolling the out field like a cat and good at bats,

good defensive work from Danny King and Jamie Lethborg.

Stay healthy over the break as the season is well and truly still on.

John King

3rd Nine Report 18/12/10

Down the highway we went to Waurn Ponds to what has to be the premier baseball facility in the state if not the country on a day that was to reap a huge reward for the 3rd nine.

The day started with a bit of confusion and we ended up being the home team and taking the field first.

With Darcy on the bump for another dip they began the day with a walk, a hit and a sac fly to score their first, another hit gets them a second before a strike out retires the side.

Our turn at bat provided Brad Sharples with his first hit for the day but that was the only joy for the dig.

Jimmy to Rob gets the first out of the dig, catcher's interference puts another on but Darcy snuffs out the dig by pulling in a line shot and going to Rob at first for the double play.

Henry grounds out and Brownny gets his first hit for the day (a blistering shot to 2nd) followed up by Adrian with a hit to 8 and Ryan with a line drive to right that scores 2 for the Lions.

Its game on at 2 all after 2 digs.

A HPB and 2 Wp's puts a runner on 3rd, another hit and WP and sac fly gives them a 2 spot for the dig.

A strike out starts our innings, Brad gets his second hit and the evergreen Robbie Keane gets himself another round tripper to give us 2 more, another strike out a walk and stolen base to Brownny and a long ball double to Adrian gives us a 3rd.

End of 3 and its 5 - 4 us.

All credit to the Geelong boys as they came back at us to rest the lead away again with a couple of hits, WP's and another HPB.

Hits to Luke and Jimmy plus a sac bunt to Brad and Ho Hum another double to Robbie gives us back the lead again.

End of 4 and its 7 - 6 us.

With Darcy starting to tire he heads to the hill again and puts the first runner on with a walk but he goes no further and gets put out with a fielder's choice at second, another wild pitch and g, round out sees Darcy relieved on the hill by Luke Bride who closes out the dig with a K.

Brad leads off the dig with his 3rd for the day followed by a walk, a sac fly and a nifty bit of opposite field hitting by Marc gets us 2 more runs.

Bridey closes out the game for a 10 - 6 win to the Lions.

In a game that was a credit to both sides with not a single error being made, it was won by good team hitting and sharp defensive work in the field.

Hits - Brad 2 singles 1 double 1 sac bunt, Robbie 1 double 1 home run, Paul 1 (soft)single 1 double 1 sac fly, Adrian 1 single 1 double, Ryan 1 single 1 sac bunt, Luke 1 single, Jimmy 1 double.

Gentlemen it has been a pleasure so far this season, and may we continue our success after the break .

To all the members and their families of the Fitzroy Baseball Club I wish you all a Merry Xmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Steve Brooke

4th Nine 12 defeated Geelong 5

We travelled to Geelong for a 2pm Saturday game, our last before Xmas.

Started off well with Josh Loveridge beating out an inside the park home run. At the end of our bat we had scored 5 runs. Geelong hit back with 1 in the next 2 innings. We score another 5 runs while Geelong scored 1, however, they came out swinging in the 4th with 3 runs to make it 10-5.

We scored 2 in the 6th and kept them scoreless in the 5th & 6th.

It was a great effort by everyone with us only making one error. Our outfield was fantastic with Josh Loveridge throwing out a runner at 3rd to end an inning, while Marchin had 2 D/Plays from right field.

In the end it was a good win to end the 1st half of the season. Hits & (RBI) are:

Josh Loverdige HR (1), Marcin Neopostyn triple (1), Shane Robinson DBL and a great sac bunt, James Hope single & sac fly (2), Damien Preston 3 singles, 1 Dbl (1), David Jones 2 x singles, Jason Stephenson 2 singles (1) James Glover single (1)

Merry Xmas to you all and a safe new year. Thank you to everyone who has helped us so far this season.

See you next year

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Tony Bullen

Weekend 11th and 12 Dec

Fitzroy 1sts Defeated Sandringham 4-3

On a blustery day out at Merri Park Fitzroy took on Sandringham in a crucial game in the context of the Lions' season. In a game that would separate the boys from the men the Lions looked to their tried and true in Juchnevicius, Arnott and Kemp to be the hero's of the day in a 4-3 victory over 11 innings.

Matthew Kemp went 10 innings scattering 3 runs before handing the ball over to Pawley for the close. With the Roys trailing by 3 late in the game the men stood up as a 2 run inning was produced through a Linehan sac fly and a Turlea hit to leave the Lions trailing by 1 going into the 9th.

After getting the lead off on the Lions were able to move him around to third and with 2 out an unyielding shot to left field from Juchnevicius tied the game up.

With the middle of the order providing the Lions run support for the day it was no shock that the 10th innings would present no game winner from the Lions top order leaving the work for the real men down the tail end.

After Arnott collected his third hit for the day Juchnevicius moved him to third leaving the match in Tony Kings' hands. King got his pitch and didn't hold back hitting the ball a good 20 ftup, but that was all it took. The shot did enough in the air to produce the winning hit and get Fitzroy back on the winners' list.

3rd IX vs Sandringham

3rd Nine report 12/12/10

I know it's a clique, but it's amazing how much difference a week makes in baseball, from playing our worst game of the season to probably our best game today.

Heading down to Tulip street to face a hot Sandy side that hasn't lost a game since mid-October we were challenged right from the start by their young right hander who struck out our leadoff bat, ter, Jimmy Fuhrmann stepped up and put the ball thru the cones but to no avail as the next two batters strike out.

3 hits to Sandy plates a couple for them to give them a 2-0 lead after the first.

3 up 3 down and still no success for the Roy boys.

First batter on for Sandy by a HPB and then picked off at 1st and 2 strike outs finishes their inning.

Marc the hammer Heenan gets on with an infield hit but a pop up to the pitcher and throw to first gets the double, Bridey nails 1 to right field and goes to second and is called out on the tag (stiff call) end of the dig for us.

With Darcy starting to hit the spots he is taking control of the situation and gets his 5th K for the game, next batter gets on with a wild throw but there dig is shut down by a line shot to 1st and tag on the runner for the double play.

Still 2-0 after 3 digs

With all batters facing their pitcher once we started to make good solid contact, Jimmy getting his second hit for the game

allowed Darcy to push him forward to 2nd base, Robbie despatches the ball thru the cones and gets on the scoreboard , Simon walks but a ground out and a K end our dig.

A hit and an error gets 2 on for Sandy but our defence holds solid once more and no runs are scored.

2-1 Sandy after 4

3 up 3 down for us again.

Come backer to Darcy gets the first out, a hit to right field gets Sandy aboard but Ryan catches the next fly ball and laces the ball to Robbie for the double.

2-1 after 5

Jimmy wears 1 to the helmet , Darcy lines 1 to right for a perfect hit and run and Robbie sends 1 to left field who drops the fly and scores 1, Adrian puts the ball thru the cones to score Rob and Ryan hits safely to centre to score Adrian giving us 4 runs for the dig.

Hit, strike out, hit and 2 fly balls closes it out for Sandy.

Bridey gets his 2nd hit, Jimmy walks and Darc hits into a double but the evergreen Robbie scores us another with an infield hit.

Lead off pops up to 1st, Darcy gets his 7th K, a double to left field and a ground out 6-3 ends the ball game.

Fitzroy 6 Sandy 2

A wonderful complete game by Darcy who didn't give up a run after the 1st dig and a very disciplined display in the batter's box by everybody today.

Hits Luke Bride 2 singles, Jimmy Fuhrmann 1 single 1double, Darcy 1 single, Robbie 1 single 1 double, Adrian 1 double, Ryan 1 single Marc 1 single.

Well done guys, down to Geelong next week on Saturday at 2pm

Steve Brooke

Fitzroy 5ths defeated Cheltenham TK- Forfeit

The 5ths travelled to Cheltenham. We played one full innings only to discover that the other team had re-entered and started a player at shortstop, in the 1st innings, who had already played in the early game in the same grade. Due to them fielding an ineligible player the match was halted and awarded to us after 1 innings and just 15 minutes of play. It would be easy to say that baseball was the loser in this, but I think our Div 3 competition would have been a bigger loser if we had of sat by and let it pass.

Cam

Week 9 Sunday 28th November

3rds Defeated by Blackburn 19-4

On what was undoubtedly the best day of the season so far to play ball we trekked out to Blackburn, with the rain affecting the season the way it has. All in all we seem to play 1 then miss 1 which leaves everybody a little rusty when we do get on the park. The rustiness certainly showed with many errors costing us dearly, all credit to Blackburn because they kept hitting the ball and forcing us to make those errors.

For his first outing of the year Luke Bride took to the hill with Jimmy Fuhrmann relieving, also Robbie Keane had his first throw for a month with mixed results.

In a nutshell, we got touched up by Blackburn who outit and fielded far better than we did, we will take heart in knowing that we can and will play better next week at Sandy.

Hits Brad Sharples 1 single, Jimmy Fuhrmann 1 single 1 double, Robbie Keane 1 single 1 double, David Andrews 2 singles, Marcin Neprosyn 1 single, Adrian Kirkland 1 single, Marc Heenan 1 single

The 3rds would especially like to thank Darcy Mills for coming down and coaching 1st base even though he played on Saturday, it would be a good thing if some of the other players in the firsts and seconds put themselves out and supported the lower teams, because gentleman without those lower teams you don't play Div 1.

Thanks Steve Brooke

5ths Report. [Click Here](#)

the lower teams, because gentleman without those lower teams you don't play Div 1.

Thanks Steve Brooke

5ths Report, [Click Here](#)

Week 9 Sunday 28th November

All teams were washed out except the 5ths who travelled to Montmorency to play against Doncaster B.

Doncaster B

Some games are just better left unplayed. This was one.

We travelled out to Blair Reserve, which, according to my Melways, is located somewhere just south of Brisbane. Doncaster met us there with a team that had an average age of 15 and thus were too young to realize the ground was a bog and shouldn't be played upon.

However, play we did and right from the start it was going to be a strange game. A quick bat each with neither team really able to come to grips with the pitchers and then the real madness started. The Doncaster pitcher, spooked when Cam asked him to stop blowing bubbles with his gum whist in the pitching action, proceeded to walk six of the next eight batters, being blasted for 2 doubles by the others. A pitcher change for the "enfant terrible" down for a visit from the Doncaster 2nds, came in an awed us all with his power. We promptly bashed him around for 3 hits and three runs before we finally fell silent. Fitzroy 11-1.

Doncaster tried to stay in the game, capitalizing on a dropped third strike to score a run and using their leg speed on the bases to turn a walk into another but the life had gone out of the party and, by the time Sam Burns-Warr had his first ever at bat for Fitzroy, the game was over for all intents.

, The story really was about the pitching. T, he threw 10 walks, but also threw 6 ks and only allowed 5 hits. However, Marc and James Little were as cheap as Todd half way through an election night party, allowing only 9 batters to reach 1st in a game where a slick ball (and tigh, t umpiring) made strikes a rare commodity.

, Hits: Gary 2, James Glover, Eamon, Phillippe

Week 8, Sunday 21st November

3rd Nine vs Waverley

In what was a horror week for the senior sides of the club the third 9 gave us something to smile about with a hard fought win over a very talented young Waverly side which was made up of no less than seven of the ten players taking the field being juniors.

Ok to the game, Bridey was our lead off and if only he was as tall as the umpire thought he was it would certainly make the 3rd strike more understandable, Jimmy Fuhrmann with solid contact to centre field put us at 2 down which brought Darcy to the plate, with a big shot to right centre he gave us a 1 run lead (lose the strut Darc) Keaney goes down swinging.

Darcy takes the ball for us and gets immediate results with a ground ball to SS, the out being made by Liam in his first game for the season, a walk, a K and another ground ball ended the dig.

Us 1 them 0

Dave Andrews continues to swing a hot bat and gets us on base with a single to right field, 2 more well hit balls forces the errors to score us another and a sac gets us a second for the dig.

Waverly manage an infield hit but that is as much as they could do.

Us 3 them 0

Jimmy nails another to centre with no luck again, Darcy grounds out which brings up boom boom Keane with his trusty 8 iron who promptly despatches the first pitch over the left field fence, another ground ball ends the dig for us.

3 hits in a row gets them on the board.

Us 4 them 1

3 Up 3 down to the lions

3 Up 3 down to them after a fly ball to centre and a tracer bullet from Brad to Liam to get the double.

Us 4 them 1

Bridey goes down swinging, Jimmy gets on with a single to right and takes advantage of an error in the field and takes second unfortunately tho he is called out in a pick off move, Darcy comes to the plate and puts the ball out to right centre thru the cones, now I've played a little golf in my life and it is well known that the lower the number on the club the flatter and further the ball goes as proven by evergreen Keane who approached with a 7 iron this time, yep you guessed it flatter and further for his second trip around the bases, poor Dave Andrews doesn't get much of an opportunity to knock any runs in with another double down the 3rd baseline and Henry goes down swinging to end the dig.

Darcy comes out blazing again and knocks a ball down and allows the lead off on, the next batter line drives the ball to Darcy who doesn't let this one get away from him and spins around and gets the double thru 1st, 2 hits and 2 errors gives them 2 runs.

Us 6 them 3

Into the last dig and Brad pulls one down 3rd base and forces the error Liam pushes the ball to right field putting Brad on 3rd, Bridey hits a sac fly, a WP and WT allows another over giving us 2 for the dig.

3 hits a walk and a baulk gave them 2 before we had an out on the board, a quick walk and chat to Darcy and he pulls in the reins to get the next outs for the game.

Time and game, us 8 them 6

Every player contributed to todays win in one way or another, Darcy with a complete game win and 2 hits, Simon with his first game behind the dish and of course Robby with his 2 big shots into the wind at left field.

Hits Jimmy 1 single, Darcy 1 home run 1 double, Robby 2 home runs, Dave 1 double 1 single, Liam 1 single.

Thanks Steve Brooke

5th Nine Vs Essendon

Essendon

The 5ths trip to Essendon was a rare weekend of good weather and, with Essendon on top of the ladder, we were expecting to feel some heat.

They jumped out to an early lead with some solid hitting and some strong pitching. Fitzroy hit back with some nice batting of our own but were still behind 4-2 after two.

For the next two innings it was all Essendon. They hit and they pitched like a team on top of the ladder and it was only some good fielding from us and a total lack of a bottom order from them that left us in the hunt: 6-2 down after 4.

However, it was then that Essendon showed they were a one-trick pony. With their starting pitcher wearied and their relief pitcher on, Fitzroy did what we have done all year and followed up some good hitting with more good hitting. Eight hits in a row, six runs and only three outs between us and an upset. Us up 8-6 with half an inning to play.

It was not to be. Essendon found their stride again. The top order that had produced all game rocked Jordy as he came in to try and close it out. Half of the hits for the game came from their top 3 and it was the same three who hammered the nails into the coffin.

Essendon 9-8 winners.

Hits: Karl 3, Cam 3, Billy 2, Jamie Catt 1 (2b), Phillippe, Eamon, Todd, Jordan, James Glover.

into the count.

Essendon 9-8 winners.

Hits: Karl 3, Cam 3, Billy 2, Jamie Catt 1 (2b), Phillippe, Eamon, Todd, Jordan, James Glover.

Great pitching from Cam and Jordy to stand strong against the gale of hitting from the Essendon top order.

Week 7 - Sat 13th & Sun 14th Nov

Fourth IX Defeated Cheltenham 5-3

We were the 'away team' on Saturday with Cheltenham visiting us for this round. We began play on the outer diamond and scored 3 runs to 1 in the 1st with some good hitting and running. The Rustlers scored 1 on the bottom half and with the skies threatening we didn't know how much play we would get in. After [Marcin](#) hit a 2-run bomb in the top of the 2nd they replied with their own 2-run bomb. This gave us a 5-3 lead and although we scored 1 in top of the 3rd, we didn't get to play after that as the umpires called the game. We were lucky we got to play 75 mins and have a win. Hits & rbis are: [Marc Heenan](#) 1 single, [Marcin Niepostyn](#) 2 singles, 1 hr 3 rbis, [James Hope](#), 1 single, 1 rbi, Tyler Bowman 2 singles, [Tony Bullen](#) 1 single, 1 rbi, [Jason Stephenson](#) 1 g, great sac bunt and last but not least [Humphrey](#) 1 big walk and score on Marcin's hr. It was a good job done in such a short time. 1 more thing before I go, a happy birthday to Tyler Bowman who is heading home for Xmas next Saturday, have a great time with yr family Tyler and we will

[Click Here](#) To See Results From The Round
see you in the new year.

Cheers

TB

Fitzroy 5ths,14 Defeated Upwey9 Div 3

Fitzroy 5ths showed the depth of the club and some gritty determination to scratch out a 14-9 win against Upwey.

Coming into the game without a recognised pitcher, young Billy Travato was given the ball and, with the help of a terrific assist by Jordan to, gun down a runner at the plate and a solid double play through Jordy and Cam to end the second, limited a potent Upwey attack to 1 run after two innings.

In response, a combination of patient batting, excellent work on the base-paths and some contact hitting allowed Fitzroy to skip out to a three run lead.

However, in the bottom of the third, the Upwey bats found their marks and a two out rally scored four and put them back on top.

From there things went ballistic. Fitzroy lashed out with five runs, including a lovely double by James Glover (who was involved in everything all day) and some fine base running by Billy and Mitch Fox. To answer, Upwey latched on to Billy's pitching and started to string together some hits. Billy pitched well to keep us in the game but even, tually had to give way to Cam. Cam managed to settle things down and Upwey finished having scored four and leaving the game tied.

As the Fitzroy bats giggled their way through the pitcher's warm-up, the umpire informed us that this would be the last inning. Win or lose, Fitzroy's bats would now decide the outcome.

Two hits, one dropped fly right on the fence, two walks and a HPB scored five runs. Cam's six fouls from an 0-2 count during a 10 pitch at bat that resulted in a walk, followed by a crazy attempt to catch him stealing 2nd scored the fifth run. Upwey were broken men and went quietly in the last. An exciting game in which the scoreline does not convey the tension of the last inning nor the friendly way in which it was played.

Hits: James Glover 2 (2B), Eamon 2, Billy 2, Karl, Gary. [Billy Trovato](#) [Todd](#) [James Glover](#)

[Eamon](#)
[Cam](#)

[Click here to see fixture](#) [Click here to see Ladder](#).

Report by Todd Robinson

[The Fitzroy Baseball Club 5ths Appreciation Society](#)

[Click Here](#) To see Results The Weekend's matches

Week 6 - November 7

First IX

Fitzroy 4 [Malvern](#) 2

A great win by our guys to keep us well and truly alive in the hunt for the Division 1 firsts finals. [Jamie Lethborg](#) started on the mound and did a fantastic job going 7 innings for 2 runs on just 4 hits.

We scored 1st when [Brock Pawley](#) crossed the plate on a [Joel Arnott](#) double to centre. Joel would then score on a single to [John Edwards](#). Malvern replied leveling the scores when they plated 2 runs with two out in the 5th.

Scores remained tied until the 8th when [Ben Lethborg](#) led off with a 2 strike clutch single to right. [David Ayres](#) was the designated bunter and did the job exactly asked of him moving Ben to 2nd. Ben then advanced to third on a ground ball by [Turlea](#) and scored the go ahead run when he rushed home on a passed ball.

[Kemp](#) relived Lethborg on the mound throwing the last 2 innings for 2 hits and no runs.

We added an insurance run in the 9th, and Kemp closed the door collecting his 3rd save for the year.

Standouts for the day were Jamie Lethborg on the hill, Brock Pawley everywhere, and Matt Kemp closing the game. The win now puts us at 3 wins and 4 losses. With a big game this Tuesday against Upwey.

[Click Here For Fixture](#)

[Click Here For Competition Results](#)

[Click Here For Competition Ladder](#)

John Edwards Fitzroy Club Coach, 1s Manager.

First IX - Mid-Week

First IX - Mid-Week

Fitzroy 8 Upwey 5

[Here is the match report from Baseball Victoria.](#)

[Click Here](#) to listen to John Edwards post match interview

Second IX

Fitzroy 11 Malvern 6

Without our head coach **Sean** this week it was another great win by the 2nds against a team that has led most games all season until being run over in the end. However, the Roys jumped to a great lead early with aggressive hitting and base running by everyone that saw the game never in doubt.

Errol Whinnen had a brilliant outing holding Malvern to only 1 run, then **Tony King** got back on the hill after a long absence and gave up a quick 4 runs before taking control again to help win the game comfortably. All players contributed to the hits tally, well done and let's keep that aggression in the box and on the bases all season.

[Click Here](#) To See Results From This Round, [Click here](#) To See Ladder.

Tony King

Third IX

Fitzroy 10 defeated by Malvern 16, Sunday 7/11/10 @ Merri Park.

Tough conditions at home today with a strong wind blowing out, hence the high score line.

Malvern came to play serious baseball and jumped us right from the first batter of the game, a high fly ball to left field found Bridey sitting on his butt and set the tone for the first innings, 4 errors and 4 hits plated 7 runs for Malvern.

Lead off **Joshua** put the pressure back on them and forced the error to get on base, **Brown** draws a walk but we are unable to capitalise. End of the 1st and it is 7 - 0

Again their bats did the talking with 4 hits and 2 BB's, if not for Adrian tracking 1 down at centre field they would have certainly scored more than the 4 runs that they did.

Our quickest runner (not) "**Henry**" **Peterson** beat one out and registered our first hit for the game but that was all for the dig. Bot 2nd and its 11 - 0

Pitching change for the Roys see's **Darchole** taking the hill and with immediate results with the only runner reaching on a HPB.

Time to show a bit of the Fitzroy spirit gents, lead off grounds out then someone flicked the switch on in the dugout with 6 hits 2 BB's and we plate 6. Bot 3rd and its 11 - 6

3 Hits and 1 BB gives Malvern another run, we answered with 1 hit 1 BB 1 stolen base and a perfectly placed right side ground ball by **Dave Andrews** gets us a run. Bot 4th and its 12 - 7

No letting up by Malvern with 2 hits scoring another, 3 up 3 down for the Lions. Bot 5th 13 - 7

1 HPB and 2 bombs gives them 3 more, 2 Hits 1 sac fly 1 error see's us get 3 back, final score M 16 - F 10

In summary, take out the first innings and we have a very different scoreline, Malvern came to play and they did just that amassing 15 hits to Fitzroy's 10, we were flat in the first couple of digs but then took it up to them, well done Darcy coming in to relieve.

Hits Dave Andrews 2, 1 single 1 double, **Jimmy Fuhrmann** 2 singles, **Robbie Keane** 2, 1 single 1 double, Simon "Henry" Peterson 2 singles, Adrian Kirkland 1 double, Darchole Mills 1 single

[Click Here](#) To see Results from the round & the ladder.

4ths

Fourths 11 defeated Malvern 10 ,: Sunday 7th Nov @ Merri Park

We began the game giving up 4 runs in the 1st with Malvern swinging hard and finding gaps. They also found the gaps in the 2nd with 3 more whilst our lone run came on Steve Harty's home run. We were getting on base but not scoring and it wasn't until the last when we were 10-5 down did lady luck shine as we were able to scratch out 6 runs, (along with a lot of help from Malvern) to PINCH the game.

We were completely outplayed for an hour & 45 minutes only to see Malvern make some crucial errors for us to win. Great job by Tyler who threw 2 innings in relief to record his 1st win.

Hits & rbi's are as follows: Tristian Joss 1 single & 1 rbi, Brad Sharples 1 single & 1 rbi, Shane Robinson 1 rbi, Steve Harty hr & 1 rbi, Tyler Bowman 1 single, Ryan McIvor 1 single 1 rbi, Tony Bullen 1 single 2 rbi, Gary McKewn 2 dbls 1 rbi & Jason Stephenson 2 singles 1 rbi.

We are at home this SATURDAY on the outer for a 1pm start. See you there at 11.45

Cheers

TB

5ths

Fitzroy 9 St. Kilda A 9

We got 14 hits and **St.Kilda** got 15 and that is the stat that tells the story of the day. **Billy Trovato** hit his first home run in seniors, **Todd** hit a double and the rest were singles. St.Kilda also hit a home run (Grant Howarth) and 4 doubles.

This was a hitters game but saying that we can't take anything away from the pitching. The 4 pitchers all threw a lot of strikes, challenging the batters to swing and make a game of it, which they did.

We had 9 left on base while they stranded 12, most of their runs came in with 2 out.

Again we showed our ability to bat through the order when we scored in 5 of the 6 innings. **James Glover** got a hit in the 5th innings when we didn't score giving us a chance but was left on base.

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Again we showed our ability to bat through the order when we scored in 5 of the 6 innings. [James Glover](#) got a hit in the 5th innings when we didn't score giving us a chance but was left on base.

[Marc Heenan](#) joined us in the Paris end of Merri Park and took the mound. Marc threw 3.5 innings, 75 pitches 46s and 29b, facing 23 batters. Marc's accuracy was typical of the whole game because he threw just 1 walk. Marc also worked hard with the bat getting 2 hits and 2 walks.

[Darren](#) followed Marc on the mound in the middle of the 4th with none out and the Saints bats swinging. Darren took care of that innings and the following 2 to stop them scoring any further.

With a mixture of loop and sizzle Daz had the batters rocking out of beat with his music. He pitched 50, 24b, 26s, 3 Ks, 2 hits, 4bb and 10 batters.

Overall we threw 124 to them and they threw 99 pitches to us. On that number it looks like we spent 25% more time in the field and were lucky enough to get away with a draw. It may look like that but we also applied pressure in the field and forced them to score most of their runs with 2 outs. This took away a lot of bunting and stealing options for them.

Our team stealing helped us put runners in scoring position all day long with no-one getting caught.

We hit the ball all day and were backed up by some accurate pitching and that is how we stayed in it. We had the chance to bunt in the last but (I) chose to hit and run instead, who knows if the bunt would have got the winning run in, but it is worth considering next time the situation arises.

Next week we play [Upwey](#) at Upwey at 2pm. [Click here to see fixture](#)

Hits, [Billy](#) 1 (2run HR), [James Glover](#) 1 (1walk), [Eamon](#) 2, [Phillippe](#) 2, Marc 2 (2w), Darren 2 (1w), Todd 2, [Cam](#) 3.

It was a pleasure to play in a game like this with such a great level of sportsmanship. This comp is very even as we and St.Kilda have now played 2 draws each from 6 rounds, whilst there was another draw today between Chelt TK and Upwey.

[Click here to see results.](#)

[Click here to see Ladder.](#)

Congratulations to Billy Trovato who hit his 1st home run (opposite field, off the handle) in seniors to put us in front in the 2nd. Who knows how far it would have gone if he had have got all of it?

Cam

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Week 5 - October 31

The 5ths were the only team in the club to play on this , weekend, all others were **washed out** on a very rainy Cup Weekend.

5ths

[Fitzroy 10 @ Preston 5 @ Preston](#)

Preston was a bog but the Pirates were looking for their first win, so did a sterling job getting the diamond ready just in time. They sacrificed most of their warm up, instead they were all mopping up. They had some pitching brought down for the occasion. We also had some help on the mound in the form of [Jason Stephenson](#).

The game started evenly with Stevo struggling to find the edges of the plate and only a shoulder launched rocket by [Jordan](#) behind the plate, catching a runner short at 3rd, kept us in it. A few tight decisions went against us but the team kept it together to be tied at 2-2 at the end of the second.

We got a new "blue" in the 3rd. Stevo's corners suddenly looked pretty big and the Ks and mishits started to flow. Changes of pace and good use of the whole zone left a number of pop-ups and soft grounders all the opposition could muster for the rest of the game. Stevo's display of pitching (especially after things did not go his way early), was , a great display for our juniors to watch.

Still tied at 2-2 at the top of the 4th, and facing a new pitcher, Fitzroy's bats lit up. 6 hits, 2 walks and a HPB scored 7 runs and the confidence went out of the Preston side. Only a slather of fielding errors in the 5th allowed Preston to escape with a respectable score, 10-5 in the end, leaving Preston winless and Fitzroy smiling in second place.

Hits: Jason Cleeve 3 (4 RBIs!) [Cam](#) 2, [Eamon](#) 2, [Phillippe](#), [Todd](#), [Mitch](#)

5 innings, 7 hits, 57 strikes from 85 pitches and 5 ks for Jason

Thanks to Ja Cleeve and Stevo for their help.

Todd Robinson, 5ths Stats Man.

Week 4 - October 24

First IX

[Fitzroy 2 @ Essendon 7](#)

A tough game against one of the leagues powerhouse clubs. Matt Kemp started on the mound and pitched a quick 1st inning. In the 2nd Essendon got 2 runs on the back of a bloop and blast. Our boys kept on fighting against far more experienced and credentialed team. We scored 1 in the 4th on a hit by Alex Turlea. Essendon plated 4 in the 6th thanks to an error and well placed hit and run and the score blew out to 7 to 1. A long double by Linehan and another hit by Turlea scored our 2nd run and that's where the game would end at 7-2. We collected 8 hits for the game the same amount as our opponent. The difference in the game was we had 3 guys picked off on first base and hit into 3 inning ending double plays. Overall a good effort from our boys and we continue to show that we are a force to be reckoned with in Division 1.

5ths

[Fitzroy 15 @ Defeated Blackburn 9](#)

After a great showing at training from the 5ths on Thursday, we returned to play at home on Sunday. We welcomed Back John Kategaris for his first outing of the season. Facing a Blackburn team who had won 2 of their 3 games, prior to visiting us (in the Paris end of Merri Park) there was no telling what we were up against.

All of our games this season have been tight and this one was no exception, we scored in every innings finishing with 18 hits. They scored in 5 of the 6 innings excluding the last, walking away with 7 hits; these are the stats that tell the story best.

We came to play, swinging the bats well. Brad Sharples started for us throwing 3 innings for 4 runs. Phillippe Aslanis backed up, throwing in 2 innings but was let down by the field. Then Darren Hill followed throwing 6 outs two of which were

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We came to play, swinging the bats well. Brad Sharples started for us throwing 3 innings for 4 runs. Philippe Aslanis backed up, throwing in 2 innings but was let down by the field. Then Darren Hill followed throwing 6 outs two of which were a double play ably made by Jordy and Philippe. We batted out the time in the end but it was the quick outs in the last defensive innings that sealed it for us.

Batting was a bit of a smorgasbord with many players hitting the ball hard. We had 3 players get 3 hits apiece, all justifying their place low in the order and getting that extra turn at bat for the game. James Glover was outstanding with 3 hits and 2 walks. James was robbed of a home run in CF again on the outer diamond, when the ball held up in the wind and just fell short. James made solid contact all day and ran the bases like he had stolen something (other than a base). Karl showed that getting your cuts in at training pays off with 3 hits. James Grandison adjusted after 2 early put outs and came back with patience to go 3 for his last 3. Philippe, Eamon and Brad all got 2 hits each. Last but not least, Brad got 2 hits and named the game when he hit a 2 run bomb in the 1st, welcome back to Fitzroy Brad!!

Todd hit a roll out double, Darren got a hit and Jordy got on once, Jordy also layed down an excellent bunt late in the game to place two runners in scoring position, which they went on to do.

We stole, bunted, defended, backed up and rolled a double play as a team. We still have more work to do coming together but it is great to see everyone looking to take it up a notch. Next week we play Preston away (La Trobe Uni, outer), see you there.

Cam

[The Fitzroy Baseball Club 5ths Appreciation Society](#)

Week 3 - October 16 & 17

First IX

Merri Park on a cold and wet Saturday in October should have been an unwelcoming environment for Doncaster but it was the complete opposite as Doncaster went on a run- scoring spree from the first innings to lead early in the game 5-0. With their import pitcher commanding the hill with the aid of the Merri Park doctor we struggled to make any inroads to the score and they just kept on piling up runs to run out comfortable winners 13-1.

Not any highlights for us, missed John Edwards big time hopefully back for Blackburn mid week. Matt Kemp will be better for the outing. We were shown that we have a long way to go, so need to keep doing the little things and we will be OK.

Special mention to the ground crew Freethie and his boys. If anyone had seen the ground at 10am you would not have thought it possible that we would play one game let alone both. Credit to all involved.

Footnote to all senior players: The juniors have started and you need to start to look at the roster for your turn- speak to Joel Arnott. Do not think this is not part of your commitment to the club as these boys and girls are just as important as you

John King

Fifth IX

Sunday saw us driving out to Cheltenham to face their Korean Kings team. Having seen off their weaker sister team the week before, high hopes were held that we would be able to gut out an away win. Conditions improved throughout the day and, despite one brief shower, the game was unaffected.

Both sides hit well in the first, Fitzroy gaining a slight edge, leading 3-2.

However, it was to be a pitchers game as some quick work in the field by Eamon Clancy rolled a double play in the first and equally quick play by Brad Sharples caused another in the second to stymie some threatening base running in the second. However, it was not all one way with the Fitzroy boys falling foul of some rather unlucky play that resulted in two double plays to even the score.

First Brad Sharples and the James Little found it tough going pitching to an ever diminishing strike zone but finished strongly with 5 ks and only 7 hits between them.

It was in offense that we really failed. A paltry 8 hits, spread out through the game, left us with no drive. When Cheltenham scored 2 runs to go up 4-3 in the 3rd, we had no answers.

The middle of the order really struggled to find the ball and, in the end, despite strong defense and a chance at the end to steal the game, the Fitzroy bats were just too cold to save what was a very impressive outing by the pitchers.

Hits: Eamon Clancy 2, James Grandison 1 (2b), Cam Gleeson, Brad Sharples, James Glover, Philippe Aslanis, Mitch Fox (5 runners left on base)

report By Todd Robinson (5ths Statistician)

Week 2 - October 9 & 10

Out to Werribee with all 4 teams on a nice day (yes a nice day).

2nds was a great game with both teams having chances to blow the game out but it ended up an arm wre, stle in the last with our boys coming out on top 6-5.

Errol started and after a tough first dig where he threw quite a few pitches he settled into the game and looked in control.

Welcome back Gavin back to back hits (still on a high after the pies) to slot straight into the game. Great relief pitching from David Nolten who will take on more responsibility as Errol starts pitching in the juniors.

Ryan got us going with a smash down the right field line to get us going and all the bats followed suit.

Good to get on the board with a win played with a bit more spirit this week keep it going.

Tony Bullens 4ths had a pretty easy win 21 or 17 nil depending on who you talk to.

Good hitting all round - big challenge next week against Doncaster.

Paul Brown is leading the 3rds this year (hiding to nothing with the team not losing a game last season) but off to a good start winning both games. Hard fought contest against a strong thirds unit from Werribee running out 11-7 winners. Good hitting from all will make sure we get better reports from now on.

Thanks Gaele for scoring both games on the outer.

Thanks Gaele for scoring both games on the outer.

First nine and another extra innings game seems this is normal for these 2 teams that went 11 digs. Both teams could have put this game away but such is the nature of our recent contests that we were always going into extra digs. Jamie was on song from the get go and brother Ben was catching up a storm backed up with solid fielding kept the game close. Jamie hit well all day, Joel solid as always, Alex hitting hard for little reward, the bash brothers King led from the front both with bat and fielding (biased reporting here). Pitching staff were first rate Jamie, Brock and Matt were on song. Fitzroy 3 to Werribee 2.

4 from 4 get down Sunday and watch the 5's 2pm start - President's shout.

Good luck to all the juniors who start up tomorrow.

John King

Fifth IX

Fitzroy 5ths 11 Defeated Cheltenham TK (Team Korea) 5. Sunday 10th October 2010

The 5ths notched up our first win and were the main attraction in the afternoon as we played our first home game on the main diamond in almost 2 years. It was great to have some supporters at the game, who aren't directly related to us. We welcomed Eamon Clancy & Blake Lombardi for their 1st games of the season. We took on a team called Cheltenham TK which I think stands for Team Korea, as they actually wore uniforms that said "Team Korea" on them and nothing about Cheltenham at all. Even the scorers were in uniform.

James Little started the game with a shut out innings. This allowed us to reply in the first with 4 runs, we took walks and then progressed from pass balls. Our innings was only ended when Phillippe flew out on a hard hit ball to left. James L's pitching held them well and kept them to 3 hits over 3.5 innings. Darren came in to finish the defence and claimed the last out to run us close to the 5 minute rule.

The game was a bit tighter than the final score suggests. We outhit them 7 to 4 but it was the walks and the pass balls that really let us into the game. Our runners put pressure on their field all day, causing them to make several throwing errors. Karl Leake showed (money ball) patience in the box by drawing 3 walks (1 hit), scoring twice and LOB twice. TK issued us with 14 free passes for the match, credit must go to our batters for this though as many showed patience with the slow pitching and took strikes, early in the count, in order to challenge their pitchers to throw straight.

We really didn't seal the deal until the last of four innings when Jordy hit a bases loaded- clearing double. Mitch Fox was on first and seemed to teleport himself to the plate, he ran so fast. Credit to TK for putting pressure on us with their batting, but I really think that we were a much better defensive unit and that was the difference. Darren Hill finished off the pitching, he wasn't missing by much but struggled to find the strike zone. Their batters struggled to adjust to his speed of pitching though and we eventually found the last out. That left us with 15 or so minutes to kill before time was up. We got six batters through and scored four runs to beat the clock and deny Team Korea another chance to wave the stick. During this game we scored in all four innings, showing that we stayed on it for the full two hours. Special mention to Jordy who caught well all day making 8 outs, had 1 hit, 2 walks, scored 2 runs with 3 RBIs. He really let us know that he has arrived in the seniors.

Hits- Karl 1 3w, James Grandison 2 1w 2RBI, Darren Hill 2, Cam Gleeson 1 2RBI, James Glover 1, Jordan Hill 1h 2w 3RBI

James Little, 76 pitches, 32B/44S, 14 batters, 1 walk, 6K2, 3 hits. This can only be described as excellent pitching by James, to a standard that we don't normally see in our grade. A great display of skill and a fantastic example set for the young players in our team.

We played today with 4 on the bench, this meant that 8 people had to play half a game. No-one really deserved to sit out of this game but we needed to give everyone a go. As the season wears on we usually find that the 5ths are reduced to 9 and 10 players as our best players get promoted when the higher grade teams are short. These promotions usually go to the players who train on a regular basis. To the bench players who kept the place in order during today's match- keep showing up and before you know it, you'll get more game time.

Thanks to the many people who helped set up and take down the diamond, to James Hope for umpiring and to Lil for scoring.

Next week we play Cheltenham KK (who knows where they are from) away on Sunday at 1pm.

Join us on Facebook, at

[The Fitzroy Baseball Club 5ths Appreciation Society](#)

Cam Gleeson

Week 1 - October 2nd & 3rd

Third IX

Fitzroy 3rds 12 Geelong 4

Welcome to Fitzroy Shane Thompson, welcome back L.Bride and welcome to the thirds for J.Loveridge and J. Furhmann. Our youngest player - Josh - started the game with a hard hit liner to centre and we were underway. The whole day the team put Geelong under pressure and scored 5 in the 4th to break it, open after leading 2-1 until that point.

A scoreline of 12-4 is a result of many contributors. R.Keane in his first up was great and established his fast ball early and pounded the strike zone (rule 1 & 2 for the thirds). Damien was serviceable behind the dish and saved runs early, he hasn't struck out since 2008 which is amazing and took 2 bases as well. Mills took over in the 5th frame, and whilst he never looked comfortable, he manufactured the necessary outs. Amazing base running all day, Shane 2 hits, 2 or maybe 3 stolen bases, two line drive catches made in right field.....great debut. A.Kirkland who was a late call up took a certain triple away late in the game and took another great catch in centre field.

Paul Brown

Fourth IX

Fourths Bring Home the Bacon Fitzroy 17 Geelong 10

What started out looking like a one sided affair (their way) turned into a close struggle. Geelong lead out in the first with 2 runs and were pretty confident until our boys hit the batting box and we jumped to a couple of runs lead. I had not seen hitting like that since the bottom of the 9th GF last year. A credit to all who swung the bat with a couple of new lions joining in the fun.

Only 2 runs in it after the first hour with a couple of errors from both sides adding to the score. But true to the Fitzroy name

What started out looking like a one sided affair (then they) turned into a close struggle. Scoring runs out in the first with 4 runs and were pretty confident until our boys hit the batting box and we jumped to a couple of runs lead. I had not seen hitting like that since the bottom of the 9th GF last year. A credit to all who swung the bat with a couple of new lions joining in the fun.

Only 2 runs in it after the first hour with a couple of errors from both sides adding to the score. But true to the Fitzroy name the boys just kept hitting and with a couple more errors from Geelong we managed to skip away for a comfortable win. Great effort on the mound from James (I think I can go 1 more) Hope and a good job behind the dish from Shane (I got a sore arm) Robinson.

Well done all for a first up division 1 win.

Next week is a Saturday game at Werribee.

Sacked Coach
Jones

Fifth IX

Fitzroy 5ths 12 Drew with Doncaster A 12, Sunday 3rd October 2010

The fifths had an enthusiastic start to the season with many new players joining the side. We welcomed to the team, James Glover, Billy Travato, Philippe Aslanis and Mitch Fox.

We played in Div 3, a new division to us against Doncaster A. The Dragons really set out to play hard as they hit the ball from the word go. Their first innings yielded 4 runs from 6 hits, their good hard hitting kept our outfielders on their toes. An excellent display of fly ball catching, ground balls and throwing, deep in the left field by Jordan Hill kept them to 4 runs.

Jordy fielded very well all day throwing out a runner from what looked like the next suburb (the fence) in the 2nd innings. He was ably assisted in that play by Philippe Aslanis who cut off to the catcher with another excellent throw. Philippe had an excellent debut at 3rd base with 3 assists and came home with one hit.

In the bottom of the first our boys came out and put 6 runs on the board, making the first innings last for about 45 minutes.

Their pitcher handed out a couple of free passes to set the table for James Grandison, who put one out over centre field, his first home run in maroon and blue, really setting the tone for the day (lucky for us he missed the signal to bunt on the previous pitch).

After the 1st innings it shaped up as a hitters day out, they collected 15 and we got 16 for the match.

The team was lead in the field by the pitching of Darren Hill. With 41 strikes and 25 balls, 2ks, 4 IP. Daz went 4 innings without throwing a walk. Our big daddy also got 1 hit for himself.

The other team got away with 13 hits off Daz and 2 off James Little our pitcher in relief.

Karl Leake showed the results of his commitment to training by collecting 3 hits. Billy Travato showed a lot of confidence at shortstop and also collected 3 hits.

Special mention to James Glover who worked the bench in the first half of his 5ths debut. James came out in the second hour and hit the ball hard going 2 from 2. In his second at bat, our recruit hit the ball over the centre fielders' head, with two out in the last innings. He missed out on a home run by a small margin, settling for a ground, d rule doubl, e. James then showed his pace and scored off Todds' hit to become the equalising run. A great start to his season.

Hits, James Glover 2, Billy Travato 3, Todd Robinson 2, James Little 2, James Grandison 2 (HR), Karl Leake 3, Philippe Aslanis 1, Darren Hill 1.

Thanks to the many people who helped set up and take down the rear diamond, to Damion Juleff for umpiring and to Lil for scoring.

Next week we play Cheltenham at home on the main diamond Sunday at 2pm, come down and join the party.

Join us on Facebook, at [The Fitzroy Baseball Club 5ths Appreciation Society](#).

Cam Gleeson