

Senior Match Reports 2011/12

Firsts - Round 28 - 14th February 2012

Fitzroy (2) defeated Preston (1)

The firsts won tonight 2-1 over Preston at the beloved Melbourne Park at Altona.

On a great night for baseball Jamie Lethborg pitched extremely well and gave us all the opportunities to win the game. Great adjustments and timely hitting from Joel Arnott and Danny King along with a great 2 strike sacrifice by Gavin Juchnevicius led to the go ahead run in the bottom of the eighth.

Come watch the Roy Boys take on Waverley in the friendly confines of Greensborough baseball club at 3:30 this Sunday!

Matt Kemp
Club Coach

Round 17

Fitzroy 6ths (7) defeated by Cheltenham MG (14)

Once again Fitzroy B faced a game of two halves. Whereas last week we waited out the wind and then piled on the runs (and witness two of the best fielding plays of the year), this week was an unhappy tale of woe.

Chipper and cheerful, looking two string two wins together and finally break past .500, the game swung heavily in our favour from the outset. James gunned down their top 3 and then we unleashed 4 hits to score 5 runs. They came back out and scored 2 runs but we hit back with 2 of our own on an error and a couple of walks. Unfortunately that was all from the Fitzroy offense.

Top of the 3rd and Cheltenham put together a few hits and, helped by some lax fielding, crossed over for 3 runs. With the score now 7-5 Fitzroy now went meekly without score.

Top of the 4th and Cam's word were echoing in my ears. James G had pitched well, allowing only 4 hits in the first 3 innings but as he tired, and with our back up pitcher nursing a smashed up thumb, Cheltenham seized the opportunity. A few walks and a couple of hits were all they needed to put enough pressure on the Fitzroy defence for it to crack. Some misguided throws, combined with the usual aggressive base running from Cheltenham, saw them pile on 9 runs to leave us with a mountain of work to do in the last. Tris came on with some controlled pitching but the damage was far too great.

Without a hit since the first innings, the task was always beyond us. We once again failed to make any impression on the Cheltenham lead, leaving us to lose 14-7.

4 hits in a game is never enough. Although we did steal 15 bases on the back of 6 BBs and 2 ROE, it was largely Cheltenham's incompetence that had kept us in it for so long.

James G pitched a ripper, 3.2 innings, 29 batters, 7 hits 5 ks, 115 pitches. Tris not quite as flashy, 4 batters 1 hit but zero runs

Batting not worth mentioning.

Last round is out at Cheltenham. On the back of the biggest crowd for the year (3 people) we hope to see you all cheering on Fitzroy to win and finish with 5 wins and 5 losses! A good result from where we started!

Todd Robinson
6s Manager

Fitzroy 4ths (2) drew with Blackburn (2)

We started out the game in the field and although they got runners on in the early innings none of their hits were convincing. Phillip Benedetti was throwing a lot of strikes and forcing them to play.

At the other end of the first few innings we were being held down by their pitcher who was throwing lots of loopy strikes. We went 3 up and 3 down from the 2nd until the 6th innings.

We let a runner on via an error and he was the 1st of theirs to cross the plate. They scored another in the top of the 7th on a sac fly, but only after James Hope (playing 3rd base) injured his ankle making a great play to tag a runner at the plate.

Was it that we woke up in the bottom of the 7th, or we finally realised that you need to hold your hands back when facing slow pitching. Whatever the reason we strung 3 hits together and with time closing in on us we tied the game.

The outfielders played well, Josh Loveridge making a great throw to the cut off to hose a runner at the plate (important in a 2 run game). Jay Cleeve came up with an opposite field hit late to score the tie.

Blackburn are one of the top scoring teams in Div 1- 4s and we kept them scoreless in 5 of 7 innings. Phillip Benedetti's pitching was flawless as he faced 32 batters without giving up a walk. Dean Sharples also did well catching, calling a great game, getting 2 plays tagged at the plate and leading the batting with 2 hits.

I don't know if anyone else felt it, but the fact that this was a low scoring game late in the season that went for a full 7 digs made it very intense experience. This was the kind of game you train for and only comes along every now and then. All credit to Blackburn, they were a great opposition, who played a hard and fair game all the way to the end.

The pitchers from both teams threw complete games, there were no walks thrown in this game by either man on the hill.

This was a draw and (we thought) we needed a win to keep our finals hopes alive, alas there have been some developments in this area of study. Cheltenham also needed to win to keep us and Doncaster from threatening their finals place, but as it stands they drew with Essendon on Sunday.

I still don't know if we are a chance for finals as we are now even 5th with Doncaster on "win/loss %". Cheltenham is still in the 4 but they are playing Doncaster this Sunday (who have won 4 in a row). If anyone can explain the scenarios given that Chelt and us have 2 draws each (1 of each against each other) and what that means if they lose or draw with Doncaster. Can we still make it if we win against Waverley who are 3rd?

	Team	P	W	L	D	Bye	Win pct
1	Blackburn	16	13	2	1		84.4
2	Melbourne	17	13	4			76.5
3	Waverley	16	11	5			68.8
4	Cheltenham	17	10	5	2		64.7
5	Doncaster	16	9	7			56.3
5	Fitzroy	16	8	6	2		56.3

Hits Us 8, Them 7

Pitches us 86, them 86.

5	Fitzroy	16	8	6	2	56.3
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Hits Us 8, Them 7

Pitches us 86, them 86.

Hits - Dean Sharples 2, Jason Cleeve 1, Cam Gleeson 1, Billy Trovato 1, James Hope 1, James Glover 1, Josh Loveridge 1.

Pitching - Phillip Benedetti, Pitches 86, Strikes 65, balls 21, Batters Faced 32, 5K, 7 Hits,

Thanks To Lil for scoring.

Next week we are playing Waverley @ Waverley Sunday at 1pm.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Round 15

Fitzroy 6ths (6) defeated by Fitzroy 5ths (7)

Fitzroy derby day was played in the sweltering heat at La Trobe Uni's back diamond. Both teams came out hitting in the first with Fitzroy B's aggressive running giving them a one run lead after the first. An injury to Leigh Little put him out of the game early and forced the first change with Phil taking over. From there it settled into a pitching duel, Phil versus Grando.

Both sides continued to be positive with the bat and in the field. It was only a few errors creeping into Fitzroy B's game that handed the lead back to Fitzroy A. However, due to the calibre of pitching, neither side could break away and at the end of the two hours it was 7-6 with bases loaded and two outs. As it was all day the pitching won out handing the latest derby to Fitzroy A.

Hits: Ron 3, Phil 2, Adam 2, Gary 2, James G 2, Siri, Gian, Leigh, Flipper, James A, Tris, Steph, Lea

Pitching: Phil 4.1 Innings, 88 pitches, 55 strikes, 9Ks; James G 5 innings, 106 pitches, 64 strikes, 5Ks

James and Phil clearly the best players in each team. Todd managed to pinch hit his way into a HBP and has now lost all of the last three Fitzroy derbies.

Todd Robinson
6s Manager

Firsts - Round 23 - 29th January 2012

Fitzroy (6) defeated Doncaster (2)

Great win 6-2 over the Doncaster Dragons on Sunday for the Roy Boys.

Jamie Lethborg was not only brilliant on the mound, but at the plate going 3-4 HR, 2B, 1B... with 2 RBIs! Joel Arnott belted one out for 2 RBIs, while Gavin Juchnevicius also collected a couple of hits.

From top to bottom everyone put together great at bats and once again Fitzroy played great defence behind Jamie and Carl Wilson, who came in to close out the game in the 8th and 9th.

If you can manage to drive through traffic, or if you own a helicopter to fly over it... come down to Werribee on Tuesday at 6:15. This will be a great game and one that we need to win. We welcome all the support our fans can give us

Matt Kemp
Club Coach

Round 14

Fitzroy 4ths (9) defeated Essendon (8)

They started out the game with 3 x two out hits and a walk putting 3 runs on the board. Henry was well in control on the mound though as he got all 3, 1st inning outs with Ks.

We got 3 hits and 3 walks in the 1st 2 innings but couldn't score a run. We managed to have some good at bats though and going into the 3rd their pitcher was well into his pitch count.

We kept them scoreless in the 2nd 3rd and 4th innings. Henry was in command of his off speed pitches, keeping the batters off balance, he threw 4 strike outs during this critical stage of the game.

Keeping our eyes up and with Jordy firing in the dish, we tagged out 2 runners at 3rd base, which would prove to be critical defence in the end. Meanwhile our batters synced up with some base runners to score 4, 3 and 1 in the 3rd 4th and 5th. With 2 innings to go we were 8 and they were 3.

They scored 4 in the 5th to let us know they were still in it, we were holding on by 1. We then scored an additional run, on a pass ball, in the 6th after Jordy laid a sculpted 1 out bunt.

Phillip Benedetti then took the mound, to close, and threw well, finding good spots to miss. Although they scored a run after a walk Phillip was in command and got the final out with an authoritative strike out, giving us the win.

A good effort, it is the first time this season that we have made more pitches than the other team and still got the win, in every other victory we have left them in the field for longer.

Special mention to Dean Sharples who got 4 hits, and pitched an innings, Dean, Dave Andrews and Henry Peterson all scored hard hit triples.

Hits Us 15, Them 10

Hits- Dean Sharples 4, Marc Heenan 1, Jason Cleeve 2, Henry Peterson 2 hits 2 walks, David Jones 2 1 walk, Phillip Benedetti 1 walk, Cam Gleeson 2- 1 walk, Jordy Hill 1 walk 1 sac bunt, Dave Andrews 1 hit 1 walk.

Pitches us 125, Them 112.

Pitching

- Henry Peterson, Pitches 67, Strikes 49, balls 18, Batters Faced 18, 7 K, 1 bb, 6 hits.
- Dean Sharples, Pitches 44, Strikes 25, balls 19, Batters Faced 7, 1 K, 2 bb, 3 hits.
- Phillip Benedetti, Pitches 14, Strikes 10, balls 4, Batters Faced 4, 1K, 1 Hit,

Thanks To Lil for scoring.

Next week we are playing Doncaster @ Greensborough Sunday at 1pm.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Fitzroy 6ths (9) defeated Footscray C (5)

4th Manager

Fitzroy 6ths (9) defeated Footscray C (5)

Fitzroy B lead this one from go-to-whoa, a surprising feat against the 5th placed Footscray team. The Aslanis boys lead the way with the bat. Some aggressive base running and solid hitting putting us in the driver's seat and their 5 runs kept us there. Gary, James G and Jason also hit well with James G going 4 from 4 with 3 RBIs. Stuart also chipped in with a great strike up the guts to bat in another.

On the other side of the scoresheet things were looking glum. James G threw strikes all day and whilst he only clocked up 3 Ks his pitching caused most of their at bats to end with a disappointing grounder or a pop-up. They left 10 runners on base as we held the catches we needed to and made the unglamorous plays to get the outs we needed. Fitzroy B are now just one game under .500 (damn you round 8 forfeit!)

Final score: 9 Us 5 Them

Hits: James G 4 (2b, 3RBI), James A 3(3RBI), Gary 2 (2b), Jason (2b, RBI), Flipper, Stuart (RBI)

Pitching: James G, 122 pitches, 72 strikes, 5 hits!

Gary didn't hit a HR this week so he's dropped.

Todd Robinson
6s Manager

Round 13

Fitzroy 4ths (17) defeated Werribee (4)

We started out the game by putting 2 runs on the board. Jordy Hill then started on the mound and was throwing hard but struggled for control, after walking 4 batters he managed to get the 1st three outs without Werribee scoring a hit.

In our second innings a couple of calls went our way at 1st base. This then opened the way for us to score 9 runs off 8 hits. They scored a run in the 2nd after putting 3 hits together, but Henry Peterson was in command on the hill striking out 4 batters over his 2 innings of pitching.

We scored 3 runs in each of the next 2 innings to have a big lead. We then started our 3rd pitcher for the game and in his first game for the 4s Phillip Benedetti took the mound. Although he gave up 3 hits Phillip threw very well and was very close when he missed. The game ended when Henry, Jason and Eamon combined for our only double play of the day leaving them with no addition to their score.

We also welcomed back James Grandison for his 1st game of 4s baseball for the season.

Hits Us 17, Them 7. Pitches us 96, Them 111.

Hits- Blake Lombardi 1, Marc Heenan 1 (triple), Eamon Clancy 1 (double), Jason Cleeve 1- 2 walks, Henry Peterson 3 hits 1 hbp, James Grandison 1, David Jones 3 (1 double), Phillip Benedetti 2, Cam Gleeson 2, Jordy Hill 1.

Pitching

- Jordy Hill, Pitches 39, Strikes 17, balls 22, Batters Faced 9, 2 K, 4 bb, 0 hits, 2 HBP
- Henry Peterson, Pitches 40, Strikes 31, balls 9, Batters Faced 10, 4 K, 0 bb, 4 hits
- Phillip Benedetti, Pitches 17, Strikes 9, balls 8, Batters Faced 5, 3 Hit, and 1 HBP

Thanks To Lil for scoring.

Next week we are playing Essendon @ Essendon another Saturday game at 1pm. Can all 3s and 4s players contact their manager to state their availability for this game asap.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Round 12

Fitzroy 6ths defeated Cheltenham MC

The day got off to an ominous start with the opposing pitcher, batting in the 3 slot, popping a ball over the fence for a 2 run homer. Faced with only 8 men, however, Fitzroy B still held all of the cards. Unfortunately the cards were all crap and our top three hitters all went meekly in the first without troubling the scorers and, in the most part, the fielders.

If it was to be a pitching duel we were up against it as the Cheltenham pitcher was pitching rockets and was finding all of the corners. Grando kept us in it, however, first with some excellent pitching to allow only 2 hits in the first 3 innings and then to cross the plate to bring us back to 2-1 down.

It was then that Gary "Masher" McKeown decided it was enough. A 2 run blast sneaking inside the foul pole put us in front but we were unable to stay there as Todd fumed on the sidelines and Aaron was just pipped at home plate with a perfect slide that deserved more than it got.

Into the last and things began to look grim. A couple of free passes and then some run scoring infield ground outs caused a pitching change. Flipper Aslanis came on and brought the power with him, getting the last out with ease and leaving us all to do to erase a 3 run deficit.

With the game on the line, things started to turn for the Fitzroy B team. The dominant Cheltenham pitcher had to give way due to his pitch limit and we fell upon his replacement with fat kids on cake. First Stevo walked and then Steph beat out a poor throw from 3b. Henry popped one to right field scoring a run and Lea showed great patience to draw a walk from a 1-2 count. Aaron went down swinging but Flipper pushed a nice ball into centre to score the equalling run. James then had his eyes get a little big and topped one to ground out, setting the scene for an immediate result, one way or another.

Gary "Don't Hurt 'Em" McKeown is made for times like these. Sitting at home at night, swinging the bat, visualising the ball soaring in a graceful arc out of the park, hearing the voices in his head cry out his name in triumph; these are the moments upon which he bases his life. The first three pitches just served to pique our thirst for when the fourth pitch came, chin height, Gary had had enough and promptly smashed the crap out of it.

Some say it went 600 metres. Some say 700. Well, it didn't, but it did go out of the park. The game was won and, although Gary was the hero, the production from our bottom 5 was fantastic and the base-running very aggressive.

Hits: Gary 2 (2 HR), Flipper 2 (2B), James, Grando, Henry. Lea also had two walks and scored 2 runs.

Pitching: Grando 4.2 innings, 93 pitches, 42 strikes, 5 Ks, 5 BB
Flipper 0.1 Innings 7 lightening quick pitches, 5 strikes, 1K

Todd Robinson
6s Manager

Fitzroy 4ths (11) defeated Geelong (7)

The pitch count for each team told the story, we threw 87 while they had to throw 143 pitches. Their fielders laboured through 57 pitches in the last innings including a pitching change while we scored 8 runs to take out the match.

Before the final dig, the game was even and they went ahead in the top of the last, with half an hour to play the score was 2-2.

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Before the final dig, the game was even and they went ahead in the top of the last, with half an hour to play the score was 7-3 to them.

We began the game scoring a run after a hard hit error ball from Adrian Kirkland.

We evened the score in the 4th with a long hit double from Billy Trovato, a RBI single from Marc Heenan and Blake Lombardi hit with power over left fields' head.

Jordy Hill came in late and threw with great power to 1 batter, unfortunately he didn't get to throw again as that was what turned out to be the top of the last innings.

We batted in the last with all the work to do, as they were ahead by 3 runs but to the teams' credit we found a way to hit and scored 8 runs to make the innings go for over 30 minutes and to time.

The score of 11-7, though did not really reflect the contest as it was tight all day and the Geelong 4s were very good opponents. We forced the pitching change earlier than them and that was what made the difference. We got 10 hits and they got 9.

Great performances from Marc Heenan 4 hits from 4 at bats, Billy Trovato with a very long double, Blake with a timely long piece, Henry did very well throwing 53 strikes from 80 pitches. James Hope called a great game playing a silent hand in 6 strike outs from the dish and then got a timely hit in the last.

Adrian Kirkland didn't get and official hit but made good hard contact with the bat all day and was himself, in the field, commanding centre with his usual upbeat style.

Hits- Marc Heenan 4, 2 RBI, Henry Peterson 1, Billy Trovato 1, 1RBI, Cam Gleeson 1 2RBI, Blake Lombardi 1, James Hope 1, Jordan Hill 1.

Pitching- Henry Peterson

Batters faced- 23

Balls 27

Strikes 53

Pitches 80- Hits 9, Inns 4.2, Ks 6, BB 1, HPB 0, RS 7

Jordan Hill 7 Pitches, 3 balls, 4 strikes. Batters Faced 1, Hits 0, Ks 0.

Cam Gleeson
4s Manager

Firsts - Round 18 - 11th December 2011

Fitzroy (3) defeated Preston (1)

The First Nine won 3-1 against Preston today. Another great crowd enjoyed a fantastic day of baseball with Matt Kemp going off for the Royals while former Roy Boy Heath Pendlebury started for Preston.

Preston capitalized on shaky pitching at the start to take a 1-0 lead. But the Lions roared back with two two-out hits by Alex Turlea and Ben Lethborg that drove in 3 runs. Kemp settled down after the third and the defence played great giving a solid effort the whole day. Fitzroy welcomed back Josh Bride who had 1 AB and 2 BBs.

Next Sunday we play at Geelong and look forward to having another great effort out of the crew. Come down to Geelong to support the club with the 2's starting at 1pm and 1's at 3:30pm.

Matt Kemp

Round 8

Fitzroy 2nds (1) defeated Melbourne (0)

After a slow start the seconds have found another gear and finding ourselves in 6th spot which I am pleased with. There have been some stand out players so far this year and many guys from the threes stepping up to play in the seconds now. Guys like Josh, Luke and Clint. And I would like to say how good Patt Wyatt and Darcy Mills have been. Both having great a year so far and getting better each game.

So Melbourne vs Fitzroy: We held them off to a 1 -0 win it was a pitcher's game where Errol started throwing three great innings and Darcy Mills finishing off the rest of the game.

Great game guys! Let's go for another win next week.

Ryan Mitchell
2nds Coach

Fitzroy 3rds (11) defeated Melbourne (4)

This week we headed to Melbourne who last week defeated the previously undefeated Geelong. So we knew we were in for a tough game.

Unlike last week our bats woke early to plate 10 runs after 2 completed innings. In a great display by James Little on the hill and ably backed by good defence we ran out 11-4 winners.

We did let ourselves down in the field a couple of times but it didn't hurt us as much as previous games. John Peterson in a rare game with us, closed out the game with 3 ks. He also played great defence and his experience was greatly appreciated. Also a great game by Brad Sharples going 4 - 4, (say that 3 times fast), combined with his great defence kept us in the contest.

Hits & rbi () are: Brad Sharples 4 singles (3), James Little single (1), Damien Preston 2 singles (2), Steve Harty triple (1), John Peterson single, dbl (2), Ryan McIvor (1), Marcin Niepostyn single.

Next week we at La Trobe against Preston.

Don't forget the FBC Xmas party on the 17th @ Merri Park. Please let myself or Gaelle know if you are attending.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 7

Fitzroy 3rds (6) defeated by Melbourne (0)

Round 7

Fitzroy 3rds (6) defeated by Malvern (9)

After being washout the week before we began our 'home games' at Greensborough as Merri Park is being redeveloped. We ran into a team who I have not seen hit like Malvern did and they ran out 9-6 winners although they didn't have it all their own way.

We were 8-1 down and managed to put up a 5 spot in the 4th inning but we will rue some of our decisions. Matt Jones threw 4 really good innings but for 1 where they got away from us. Jimmy Little threw the final 2 giving up 1 run.

One glaring stat was that we gave them 8 bb compared to the 3 they issued to us. We had our chances with the bat and made good contact but unlike Malvern we hit it to where they were!!!

Hits & rbi () are: Jimmy Furhmann single (1), Brad Sharples 2 singles (1), James Little dbl (2), Paul Brown dbl & single , Ryan McIvor 2 singles , Doug Buckle single (2).

See you at Melbourne next week.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Firsts - Round 15 - 27th November 2011

Fitzroy (5) defeated by Malvern (6)

Report by **Kingsley Collins**

It was another gutsy effort by the Lions - led from the front by skipper Matt Kemp - but the Braves proved too strong at the death to post another important win for the club.

While its offence has not been overly productive this season, Fitzroy was out of the blocks early, chasing Malvern starter Kile Rogers from the hill after four hits and a string of passes yielded four runs – a tally, in the final analysis, that could well have been somewhat greater.

With a home run among his three hits – for three of his side's RBIs – Alex Turlea was an offensive beacon for Fitzroy, which could manage just five knocks in total.

Malvern hit back with one in the bottom of the third and a three-spot in the fourth to tie it up, as Fitzroy pitcher Matt Kemp also had momentary control issues before settling into his work and holding the Braves scoreless through to the eighth – along the way racking up nine strikeouts.

Although the Lions forged ahead with one in the fifth, Malvern reliever Stephen Hunter did a superb job though the middle innings before handing the ball to Simon Pole to finish out the game.

Carrying a one-run lead into the bottom of the last, Fitzroy went to Danny King, who was on the end of a desperate Braves assault generated by two of the club's evergreens.

Already having a great day with the bat, Andrew McKenzie singled to drive in the tying run and was caught in a rundown play between first and second. Not passing up the opportunity, Manager Adam Burton – who was already on base – scooted home from third to ice a thrilling victory for the Braves and deliver another heart-wrenching loss to a valiant Lions outfit that has been so close so often.

"It was an exciting game alright," Braves Reserves Coach Adam Marshall told Baseball Victoria. "Fitzroy was in it all of the way and Steve Hunter's outing made a real difference for us after Kile (Rogers) struggled early on."

Formerly playing in Waverley's lower grades and a Marshall recruit from the Westgarth winter club, Hunter has been an impressive addition to the Braves roster and may find himself in the ones for quite some time.

"He's been throwing well for us," Marshall said. "He's just so honest – and throws a high percentage of strikes."

While the Lions will need to regroup after another tough loss, the win was potentially very important to Malvern in the context of the season.

"We're going along OK and I guess we're out of immediate danger (of relegation) for the time being at least," said Marshall. "A couple have gotten away from us, but the club is doing a pretty good job – even though there is a long way to go."

Malvern is at home to Werribee on Tuesday and away to Essendon on Saturday (3.30 start). Fitzroy has a rendezvous with Cheltenham on Tuesday (Altona, late) before its home game to Melbourne on Sunday (at Greensborough).

FITZROY	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	(5)
MALVERN	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	(6)

Hits.

Fitzroy: A.Turlea 3 (inc home run), G.Juchnevicius, J.Arnott

Malvern: A.McKenzie 2, S.Ashton, M.May, A.Burton, J.Hudson

RBIs.

Fitzroy: A.Turlea 3, G.Juchnevicius, D.Huryn

Malvern: A.McKenzie 2, G.Woolger, C.Godfrey

Pitching.

Fitzroy: M.Kemp 8 inn, 4 H, 9 Ks, 6 BB, 1 HPB, 3 ER

D.King 0.2 inn, 2 H, 0 K, 1 BB, 2 ER

Malvern: K.Rogers 2 inn, 4 H, 1 K, 3 BB, 3 HPB, 4 ER

S.Hunter 5.1 inn, 1 H, 3 Ks, 2 BB, 2 HPB, 1 ER

S.Pole 1.2 inn, 0 H, 0 K, 0 BB, 1 HPB, 0 ER

Round 7

Fitzroy 3rds (10) defeated Waverley (2)

This week we had a Saturday game at home against Waverley. It was played in good spirits as all games should be. We got 1 in the 1st but they replied with 2 in the 2nd for their only runs for the game as we scored another 9 in the next 4 innings to win 10-2.

Matt Jones again was outstanding with Jordan Hill behind the dish who along with Billy Trovato earned a call up from the 4ths. Both players held their own at this level. As I said Matt was outstanding again going the distance along with 7 k's, although he was wild early conceding 5 bb, he only allowed 1 earned run to score.

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Matt Jones again was outstanding with Jordan Hill behind the dish who along with Billy Trovato earned a call up from the 4ths. Both players held their own at this level. As I said Matt was outstanding again going the distance along with 7 k's, although he was wild early conceding 5 bb, he only allowed 1 earned run to score.

We probably had our best day in the field committing only 1 error.

Hits & rbi () are: Jimmy Fuhrmann dbl, triple (1), Marcin Niepostyn single, Jordan Hill (1), Matt Jones single (1), Ryan McIvor 2 singles (2), Adrian Kirkland dbl (1), Tony Bullen single, Billy Trovato dbl (1), Henry Peterson 2 singles (2).

A special thanks to Henry Peterson for hanging around & subbing, knowing her couldn't bat until the 4th inning, thanks again Henry. Thanks to Marc Heenan for umpiring and Gaelle for scoring.

Next week we have another SATURDAY game, away at Upwey Ferntree Gully. Please let me know your availability ASAP.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Fitzroy 4ths (12) defeated Waverley (7)

We started out the game in control. Henry Peterson was throwing very well and Marc Heenan sent a message early catching the 1st runner of the game stealing 2nd. Our batters then gave us something to cheer about with 3 hits and a walk scoring 3 runs.

The game continued this way for the first 3 innings with the scoring getting out to 11-0. We were well in control with plenty of hitting and batters taking the walks when they were there. You might think that 11-0 with half an hour to go would be lights out but Waverley had other ideas. They came back at us in the 4th scoring 4 of their 6 hits for the day. The innings ended after they added 3 runs.

We still looked comfortable in the 5th with time closing out but the pressure got to us and we made 2 errors, letting them back into the game. James Hope held true on the mound though, steadying us through the last two innings for a 5 run win.

James Glover got 3 infield hits and beat out another forcing an error at 3rd base, proving that he is hard to catch. Marc Heenan got 2 hits and caught well all day. Henry got 2 hits (1 dble) and threw 6 strike outs.

We are playing better each week as we come together as a team. Both pitchers showed great control and maturity in pressure situations. We were shown again that Div 1- 4ths is a comp where batters come at you for a full 2 hours.

Hits Us 11, Them 6.

Pitching- Henry Peterson, Pitches 81, Strikes 50, balls 31, Batters Faced 19, 6 K, 3 bb, 4 hits

James Hope, Pitches 37, Strikes 22, balls 15, Batters Faced 12, 1 K, 1bb, 2 Hits

Thanks To Adrian for umpiring, Lil for scoring, Toby and Eamon for base coaching.

Next week we are playing Upwey @ Upwey another Saturday game at 1pm. Can all 3s and 4s players contact their manager to state their availability for this game asap.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Round 6

Fitzroy 3rds (13) defeated Blackburn (5)

This week we went out to Blackburn to face a team that was evenly matched against us by our positions on the ladder.

We jumped out to an early 7 -1 lead after 2 innings and never looked back. A great effort from Matt Jones on the hill pitching a complete game with 7 k's 2 bb and only 2 earned runs. Damien Preston behind the dish, throwing out 3 would be base stealers and tagging another at the plate.

We had our usual 'bad inning' in the field when we allowed 2 unearned runs to score along with 2 earned, but we bounced back to score another 4 runs ourselves to run out winners 13-5.

Hits & rbi () are: Jimmy Fuhrmann single, Brad sharples 2 singles, 1 x home run (our 1st for the year) (3), Ryan McIvor single (1), Damien Preston dbl (2), Matt Jones single (1), Paul Brown single, Clint Xuereb 2 singles & Marcin Niepostyn (2).

Next week we are at home to Waverley on SATURDAY.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Fitzroy 4ths (16) defeated Blackburn (11)

Blackburn 4s were undefeated before the game with 5 wins. As we had only recorded 1 win and 1 draw they probably didn't expect much of a contest, however the 2nd innings proved that we had come to play.

We managed to score 1 run in the 1st leaving 2 runners on. That left us thinking we missed out but still happy with a result, until they came out and banged on 7 runs. Henry Peterson was pitching very well it was just that the umpire was calling a consistent but tight zone.

In the 2nd innings our lead-off hitters all took a strike (adjusting to the tight zone) letting the calls go our way and giving us bases loaded before we suffered an out. Three hits in a row from Glover Peterson & Trovato help put the moneyball in the cash register. Additional patient batting also got us 3 more walks, we forced a pitching change from them and we were in front by 4 when they got the 3rd out in the top of the 2nd. Enter the 3rd innings with us leading 11-7.

The thing you notice about Div 1 - 4ths is that the hitters keep coming at you, we went ahead by 8 runs at one stage and looked like breaking the game open at several other times, but Blackburn to their credit fought back and went down after time with two runners on base and the equalising run in the dugout. This showed us that we need to outthit our opponents to win and pitch strikes right to the end of each game. There is very little junk time in this competition.

James Hope came in to close the game and did a great job to get the out and take us past the 2 hours.

A great day out for Henry Peterson, throwing 93 pitches, 3 hits and an RBI. James (on base) Glover was himself again with 1 walk 2 hits and 5 RBI.

Ja Cleeve layed down a nice bunt to move Billy over to 2nd who then eventually scored when the game was tighter than the score would suggest in the 3rd innings. It was great to have a win in a game where we threw more pitches than them (123 to 112) and the hits were even at 9 apiece. We gave up 8 walks while they issued 10 and 2 HPB.

Hits James Glover 2 1w- 5Rbi, Billy Trovato 2 1w- 3Rbi, David Jones 1 crucial hit 2 walks- 3Rbi, Jordan Hill 1 1w- 2Rbi.

Pitching- Henry Peterson, 93 pitches, 41 strikes, 52 balls, batters faced 25

James Hope, 30 Pitches, 14 strikes, 16 balls, batters faced 6.

Thanks to our supporters (2), Lil for scoring and Eamon who travelled out to base coach.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Thanks to our supporters (2), Lil for scoring and Eamon who travelled out to base coach.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Round 5

Fitzroy 3rds (1) defeated by Cheltenham (3)

After last week's game, we came home to play Cheltenham on a cool cloudy day. Jimmy Little took the mound and did a great job for us throwing 5 innings giving up 2 earned runs, striking out 4 and issuing 3bb. Unfortunately they strung together 3 of their 5 hits in 1 inning to score 2 of their 3 runs. Matt Jones came in and threw 2 shutout innings, (6 up, 6 down). We had our chances but when you only get 3 hits for the match it is really hard to score, which resulted in us losing 3-1 in a highly competitive game over 7 innings. We also received 7 walks which we didn't use to our advantage.

Hits & rbi (): Jimmy Furhmann single & dbl (1), Brad Sharples single.

Next week we are at Blackburn and hopefully we bring our A game to their ground.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Fitzroy 4ths (5) drew with Cheltenham (5)

We outhit them 7 to 4 but that wasn't enough to win the game.

They began the game scoring a run after the first batter of the game was hit by a pitch. Doug Buckle then broke it open with a 2 RBI double in the alley at right centre to give us the lead 2-1 in the 2nd.

They looked out of it as Henry Peterson was throwing a lot of strikes, but to the Rustlers credit they found a way to hit and scored the equalising run in the 5th, with time almost up.

Jordy Hill came in late to get the last out, which he did with a great curve ball.

Billy Trovato lead off in the bottom of the last and was hit by a pitch, Ja Cleeve layed down a great bunt to advance Billy to 2nd but unfortunately that is where we left Billy standing, as the winning run in theory only.

We showed a lot of improvement today after a couple of average performances in the starting weeks of the year, but we still have some improvements to make, our base running needs a bit of work.

Hits- Marc Heenan 2, Henry Peterson 2, Billy Trovato 1, Doug Buckle 1, Jay Cleeve 1, Eamon Clancy 1.

Pitching- Henry Peterson: Batters faced- 24, Balls 39, Strikes 45, Pitches 84- Hits 4, Inns 4.2, Ks 1, BB 4, HPB 1, RS 5

Jordan Hill: 13 Pitches, 6 balls, 7 strikes. Batters Faced 3, Hits 1, Ks 1.

Cam Gleeson
4ths Manager

Round 4

Fitzroy 3rds (7) defeated by Doncaster (10)

This week we travelled out to Doncaster, where last year was a nightmare for us. I believe we committed the most errors in history and we were outplayed convincingly. This time we sent James Little to the mound and unfortunately we again let him down with sloppy fielding and costly mistakes. In a game we lost 10-7, the result could have been in our favour if everything went the way it should have. As I said earlier, James Little started for us and gave us 4 great innings and it wasn't his fault with the end result. We hit the ball well achieving 10 hits along with rbis () are as follows: Dean Sharples single, Brad Sharples 2 dbls, James Little single & a dbl (1), Matt Jones single, Damien Preston single (2), Ryan McIvor single, Paul Brown dbl (1), Jason O'Toole single, dbl (1), Marcin Niepostyn single (2). Next week we are home to Cheltenham.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 3

Fitzroy 3rds (11) defeated Essendon (2)

With a 2nd week at home in a row we took on last year's premiers in this grade and after scoring 3 in the first inning we never looked back winning 11-3. Matt Jones pitched a complete game and recorded his 1st win for the club. We also welcomed Paul Brown back this year, obviously he read the sides on the net. Again he hit the ball we and ran the bases better, putting Essendon under fielding pressure. Hits & rbis (): Brad Sharples dbl (2), Josh Loveridge 2 singles (1), Paul Brown single (1), Ryan McIvor single, Luke Bride single & Marcin Niepostyn single. The other pleasing factor was out patience at the plate, receiving a total of 10 walks. Next week we are at Doncaster.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 2

Fitzroy 3rds (9) defeated Werribee (3)

After a tough battle against Geelong in Round 1 we finally play at home against Werribee for our 1st home game of the year. We sent Jimmy Little out to the mound and he gave us 4 great inning allowing only 1 unearnt run. Matt Jones then threw 2 innings of relief for 2 earnt runs in a game we won 9-3. We had a good day with the bat and our fielding was excellent. Hits & rbi's (): James Furhmann triple, Brad Sharples single (1), James Little dbl (1), Matt Jones single (1), Damien Preston single (1), Ryan McIvor 2 singles & Luke Bride a single. It was a good 1st up win against a valiant opponent.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 1

Fitzroy 3rds (5) defeated by Geelong (12)

Welcome to another year of 'LIONS' baseball with us being in division 1 again. In what seems to be our regular start to our seasons we were off too Geelong again to open our season, (picked a good weekend for it, didn't we), and performed rather well considering a few of us hadn't played together or had not played for a while. It was encouraging from my point of view as most things we tried payed off, except for leaving base runners in scoring positions with 1 or 2 outs and that was about the difference between the 2 teams and the final score as we were beaten 12 -5 by the home side. Hits & RBIs () are Jimmy Furhmann single, triple, (1), James Little single, dbl, Matt Jones 2 singles, Damien Preston dbl (1), Ryan Mc Ivor single (1),

seasons we were off too Geelong again to open our season, (picked a good weekend for it, didn't we), and performed rather well considering a few of us hadn't played together or had not played for a while. It was encouraging from my point of view as most things we tried payed off, except for leaving base runners in scoring positions with 1 or 2 outs and that was about the difference between the 2 teams and the final score as we were beaten 12 -5 by the home side. Hits & RBIs () are Jimmy Furhmann single, triple, (1), James Little single, dbl, Matt Jones 2 singles, Damien Preston dbl (1), Ryan Mc Ivor single (1). Our pitching which was used sparingly performed well enough given that most of us hadn't played for a few weeks and the rust was still there. Good jobs done by Matt Jones in his 1st appearance for the Lions, James Little in his first serious game since March & Brad Sharples called in late to help out, a good job done by all 3. Anyway this week we are at home against Werribee, again the late game, so let's get a win on the board.

Cheers
Tony Bullen