

Senior Match Reports 2012/13

Fourths Grand Final

Congratulations to the Fourths for winning the Division 4 Grand Final.



Team Photos

Fifths



Sixths





Round 13

Thirds (7) defeated by Bonbeach (9)

With this being the last game before Xmas we headed to Bonbeach on a stinking hot & humid day with the bare 9 players. It was going to be tough from the start with heat getting to us during a shortened warm up. Unfortunately with low numbers the old man had to start and threw 3 inning before leaving with us down by 4, trailing 6-2. Our batting wasn't what it had been lately with their pitcher throwing a really good game hitting spots and making us chase his pitchers. In the top of the 5th our bats came alive and we scored 5 runs to lead by 1 going into the last. The story ends there as Brad gave up a moon shot, (3 run bomb) and it is a long drive home from Bonbeach losing like that 9-7. It was a courageous effort from the guys as we head into the Xmas break in 2nd spot.

Hits & rbi:

Clint Xuereb:		1 run	1 rbi
Brad Sharples:	1 single	1 run	
Marcin Niepostyn:	1 single		1 rbi
Ron Von Feldon:	2 singles	1 run	
Ryan McIver:			1 rbi
Adrian Kirkland:	1 single	1 run	1 rbi
Tristan Joss:		2 runs	
Tony Bullen:	1 single, 1 dbl	1 run	2 rbi

As this was our last game before Xmas, I hope you all have a Merri Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you at Mulgrave, (Dandenong's ground) on 20th January.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Round 12

Thirds (13) defeated Berwick (1)

This week we welcomed Berwick to Merri Park in what was going to be the battle for 2nd spot on the ladder. Having to find 6 players from last week's side I didn't know how we would fare, but alas with some great pitching from Daniel Bennett & Tyler Bowman and hitting from everyone, we won 13-1. As I said before Daniel was great on the hill throwing 40 pitches in only 4 innings work, giving up only 3 hits along with 3 strikeouts. Tyler then enter the fray and threw 2 inning, 35 pitches, 1 hit, 2 strikeouts, 2 hpb & there only run. Our hitting was great with contributions from everyone. Hits & rbi:

Clint Xuereb:	2 singles	2 runs	1 rbi	1 walk
Brad Sharples:	1 single	2 runs	1 rbi	
Ryan Bartlett:	1 single	2 runs	1 rbi	3 walks
Jimmy Furhmann:	1 single	2 runs	2 rbi	1 walk
Tyler Bowman:	2 singles	1 run	2 rbi	
Ryan McIver:	1 single, 1 dbl		1 rbi	2 walks
Marcin Niepostyn:	1 single	1 run	1 rbi	
Daniel Bennett:		1 run		1 walk
Tristan Joss:		1 run		
Ron Van Feldon:		1 run		

Next week we head off to sunny Bonbeach for last game before Xmas, see you there.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Round 11

Thirds (7) defeated Berwick (5)

With the 4ths playing away we were the only game @ Merri Park this weekend. On a hot & windy day the boys from St. Kilda brought their game to the park with an eye to winning. It was a close game with the Saints leading for most of the day until 1 error cost them 6 unearnt runs. As per usual they kept fighting until we preserved a 7-5 victory with the tying run on base. It was a hard game to analyse with the conditions but they settled better than we did. A good job on the mound 1st by Dave Nolten, 4 innings, 6 hits, 2 k's 3 earnt runs, followed by Brendan Stevens, 3 innings, 1 hit, 2 ks. The only disappointing side from the pitching was that we allowed 10 walks. Hard to get outs when we walk batters. Hits & rbis:

Christian De Petro	1 single	dbl	1 run	
Brad Sharples	2 singles		2 runs	
Doug Buckle	1 single		1 run	
Ryan Mc Ivor	2 singles		1 run	
Luke Bride	1 single	dbl	1 run	
Jimmy Furhmann			1 run	1 bb
Rob McLeod				1 bb

Next week we are home against Berwick, playing for 2nd place on the ladder

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Next week we are home against Berwick, playing for 2nd place on the ladder

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 10

Thirds (14) defeated Chelsea (0)

This week we hosted Chelsea, who even beat us there for warm up, in a match that was going to be interesting. In the end it wasn't as we ran out 14-0 winners. The boys from Chelsea tried hard but came up against a red hot Luke Bride who conceded only 1 hit, which was an infield dribbler. All in all it was an ok game for us as we hit, ran & fielded well but we were under no real pressure. Hits & rbis:

Christian De Petro	2 singles	1dbl	3 runs	walk	sb		
Brad Sharples	1 single		2 runs	walk		1 rbi	
Rob McLeod	1 single		2 runs			1 rbi	1
sac fly							
Jimmy Furchmann	2 singles	2 dbls	3 runs		sb	3 rbi	
Doug Buckle		dbl	2 runs	walk		3 rbi	
Ryan McIvor	1 single	dbl			sb		
Philippe Aslanis		1 run		3 walks	2sb		
Luke Bride	1 single		1 run				

Again congratulations to Luke on his performance on the mound as he only allowed the 1 hit along with 3 walks and no runner getting past 2nd base. Next week we are again at home to St. Kilda.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 9

Firsts (4) defeated Werribee (0)

A superb effort by Adam Rowe hoisted Fitzroy to a 4-0 win over Werribee on Sunday at Werribee.

Rowe pitched lights out for Fitzroy. Werribee managed just one hit off of the Fitzroy's pitcher, who allowed no earned runs, walked none and struck out 10 during his eight innings of work.

Fitzroy was led by Rowe's hitting. Rowe went 3-4, drove in one and scored one run. He singled in the second, fifth, and seventh innings.

The lead stayed with Fitzroy after the third, when it scored three runs on a two-run double by Ross Drinkwater and a hit by pitch.

John Peterson
Club Coach

Thirds (10) defeated Werribee (3)

This week we entertained Werribee and had a tight hard tussel. The end score of 10-3 was the result of 1 error made by the Bees in which we scored 7 unearned runs with 2 out. It was good to see Daniel Bennett make a fleeting return to the mound with 2 strong innings, before making way to Brendan Stevens who threw 4 innings of 2 run ball. It was a good all round effort against an up and coming side. I would like to thank Riley Hill who sat in the bench and came in late to play 1st base and dean Malcolm for scoring, thanks again. Hits & rbis:

Christian D Petro	dbl	2 runs	walk			
Brad Sharples	2 singles	run	rbi			
Rob McLeod	single	run	walk	rbi		
Jimmy Furchmann	2 singles,	dbl	rbi			
Philippe Aslanis	single,	dbl	2 runs	walk	sb	
Marcin Niepostyn	rbi					
Riley Hill	run	walk				

See you at home next week for a clash with Chelsea, see you at 2.15pm for warm up

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Fifths (8) tied with Melbourne (8)

Fitzroy A faced off against the draw-prone Melbourne team in a battle for 3rd spot. With no Todd to get in the way, Fitzroy was building a run of wins based on strong batting performances to back up the pitching.

The game started as so many have this year with both pitchers taking a while to settle down. Blake was on the mound for us and was dealt with a little harshly by the power at the head of the Melbourne lineup. They came to hit, and did so, but were held to 3 runs by some nice work by Spike, Grando and Gianni.

The middle inning of the game was all Fitzroy as Blake settled into a rhythm and their pitcher fell out of his. In a game where 23 visits to the plate resulted in walks or HBP and only 14 resulted in hits the Fitzroy batters didn't know what to hit. This led to some uncharacteristic swings from our strong hitting lineup and a dip in productivity. However, Melbourne's dip saw them score only one run whilst Fitzroy's pushed across 4. With the scores 7-4, the last innings was set for drama.

Luck turned against us with Gianni lining out to short and Rooksy out on the immediate throw to 2nd after we were 2 on and 0 out took the wind from our sails. Even Stuart's nice hit to left couldn't raise us up and we went meekly when we needed runs the most. In reply Melbourne hit 2 singles and a double, reached on error and received a little charity from our pitching. The last single, cut off by a diving Gianni but not in time to save the run, finished the game. Melbourne win 8-7.

It was now time for our Best Off Ground winner to rise to the occasion. Lea, here to watch her team play, had dragged her damaged knee up the stairs and into the scorers' box. It was now she made the best play of the day. Lea can count. It may not seem like much but it saved the game. It turns out that the other scorer had made a mistake and it was him, red-faced, who informed the umpire that the game was not over. With only two out, we were asked if we would resume the game. We were up for some redemption and so put the ill-won draw on the line for one that we had earned.

Grando took the catch and we held our heads as high as we could after blowing a 3 run lead in the last.

Pitching: Blake 63 pitches, 32 strikes, 4 hits, 4 runs; Darren 48 pitches, 27 strikes, 5 hits, 4 runs

Hitting: Grando 2, Spike, Blake, James A, Adrian, Stuart. Todd didn't swing his bat all day!

Todd Robinson

Round 8

Todd Robinson

Round 8

Firsts (2) defeated Springvale (5)

Adam Rowe both hit and pitched well for Fitzroy, but it wasn't enough as Fitzroy fell to Springvale 5-2 at Springvale on Sunday.

Fitzroy was led by a flawless day at the dish by Rowe, who went 3-3 against Springvale's pitching. He singled in the second, sixth, and eighth innings.

Rowe handled Springvale's lineup with ease, racking up six strikeouts. Rowe allowed one earned run, four hits and one walk over four innings.

S Blevins got the win for Springvale. He allowed two runs over nine innings. He struck out 12, walked two and surrendered eight hits.

The top of the first saw Fitzroy take an early lead, 1-0. A triple by Alex Turlea, scoring Gavin Juchnevicus started the inning off.

It didn't take long for Springvale to answer as it scored one run of its own in the first. Springvale scored on an RBI single by R Hogan.

The lead stayed with Springvale after the third, when it scored one run on a wild pitch.

Springvale built upon its lead with two runs in the fourth. The inning got off to a hot start when N Cavanagh singled, bringing home L Price. That was followed up by B Rosewell's single, scoring Cavanagh.

After pushing across one run in the top of the seventh, Fitzroy faced just a 4-2 deficit. An RBI single by Heath Pendlebury gave Fitzroy life. David Ayres struck out to end the Fitzroy threat.

Springvale scored one run of its own in the seventh. Springvale scored on an RBI double by Blevins.

John Peterson
Club Coach

Thirds (17) defeated Springvale (2)

This week we finally get to play at home and have Springvale as our opponent. They are currently equal with us having a 5-2 win loss record. We welcomed Luke Bride back and he was fantastic, allowing 2 runs over 5 completed innings in a 17-2 victory, striking out 10. The game was played in great spirit and the score did not reflect the competitiveness of our opposition. It was very pleasing to play a game that was completely different from the game we played against Newport. Hits & rbis are:

Christian De Petro	single, 2bb, 3 runs, 1sb
Brad Sharples	dbl, triple, 4 runs, 3 rbi, hpb
Rob McLeod	single, 2 dbls, 3 runs, 5 rbi, 1sb
Jimmy Furhmann	2 singles, 2 runs, 1sb
Doug Buckle	dbl, 2 rbi
Ryan Mclvor	dbl, 2 runs, 2 rbi
Brendan Stevens	single, rbi, hpb
Marcin Niepostyn	single
Clint Xuereb	single, run, 1 rbi, 1 sb, hpb
Gab Turlea	dbl, run, 1 rbi
Phillipe Aslanis	1bb, run

It was a good all round performance. Also welcome Gab Turlea, who on someone's advice to swap places with Ryan Mclvor who had just hit a double, so he did. The 1st pitch he saw he smacked it for an rbi dbl, we done Gab. Next week we are again at home, this time to Werribee, see you all at 2.15.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 7

Firsts (5) defeated Newport (4)

An impressive two-way performance from Alex Turlea led Fitzroy to a 5-4 win Sunday over Newport, as Turlea came up huge at the dish and on the mound.

Turlea racked up three RBIs on two hits for Fitzroy. He homered in the first inning and singled in the second inning.

Turlea worked out of 16 tough spots for Fitzroy. He pitched one inning and allowed no earned runs on no hits. Turlea faced his toughest situation in the ninth inning.

Fitzroy scored three runs in the first inning to build an early lead.

Adam Rowe recorded the win for Fitzroy. He allowed four runs over eight innings. He struck out eight, walked three and surrendered 11 hits.

One run in the top of the second helped Newport close its deficit to 3-1. A fielder's choice sparked Newport's rally. But, Rowe got Weir to ground out to end the inning.

It didn't take long for Fitzroy to answer as it scored two runs of its own in the second. Fitzroy scored on an RBI single by Joel Arnott and an RBI single by Turlea.

One run in the top of the third helped Newport close its deficit to 5-2. An RBI double by Troy Malthouse triggered Newport's comeback.

After pushing across two runs in the top of the seventh, Newport faced just a 5-4 deficit. A fielder's choice and an RBI single by Scott Malthouse gave Newport life. Rowe ended the inning by getting Jordan Young to ground out.

John Peterson
Club Coach

Thirds (3) defeated by Newport (9)

This week we travelled to Newport to face the unbeaten Rams. They are still unbeaten with us losing 9-3, in a game marred by poor base running and bad pitch selection. It was 3 all until the 5th when they scored 6 runs to kill off any chance we had. The 1 positive was 4 strong innings from new boy Brendan Stevens, he left the game @ 3 all. Their pitches only gave up 3 hits, but also 12 bb. We didn't execute well enough leaving 12 men on base, including bases loaded 3 times. Hits & rbi are:

• Christian De Petro	3 BB
• Brad Sharples	1 dbl 1BB
• Clint Xuereb	1 single
• Jimmy Furhmann	3 BB

• Christian De Petro	3 BB	
• Brad Sharples	1 dbl	1BB
• Clint Xerueb	1 single	
• Jimmy Furhmann	3 BB	
• Marcin Niepostyn	1 BB 1 rbi	
• Brendan Stevens	1 BB	
• Philippe Aslanis	1 single 2 rbi	1BB
• Tristan Joss	1 BB	
• Rob McLeod	1 BB	

This week we begin a 5 game homestand, (sounds like MLB), be there @ 2.15 for 2,30 warm-up.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Fifths (22) defeated Sixths (10)

With the overbearing shadow of one

"Meaty-Bits" Robinson lifted, albeit briefly, the Fitzroy Fifths gathered on a sunny quasi-summertime Sunday to play the Fitzroy Sixths.

As the aforementioned "Meaty-Bits" was unavailable to manage and subsequently write the match report, it fell upon my shoulders to take over the reigns and do the managing myself and now, I feel it is my responsibility, nay, my civic duty to write the match report on behalf of the Fifths, so I shall.

Balls were hit. Balls were caught and some of them were even thrown: all within the grand spectacle that is baseball. Which, honestly, is to be expected. This isn't lacrosse...thank god...silly sport...why would you even bother?

Even though this was a competitive interclub game where scores were kept, the real winner was baseball. It's prize: staying in the collective conscience for a little bit longer. For if it were to be forgotten at Division 4 North West, then it would take its place besides lacrosse, hidden, in the attic, covered in cobwebs and dust.

At the end of the day, a level of baseball was played and fun was had by all. Relatively speaking of course. I really can only speak for half of the competing teams; and even then; I'm just assuming that everybody on the team actually did have fun. So, at the end of the day, fun was had by me.

Henry "Two Dads" Formosa-Doyle

Poorly acting like the Fifths Manager

Round 6

Firsts (4) defeated Port Melbourne (0)

An outstanding effort by Adam Rowe carried Fitzroy to a 4-0 win over Port Melbourne on Sunday at Merri Park.

Port Melbourne had no answer for Rowe, who kept runners off the basepaths in his appearance. Rowe gave up just one hit, allowed no earned runs, walked one and struck out nine during his eight innings of work.

A single by Warwick Poole in the seventh inning cost Rowe his no-hit bid.

Joel Arnott led Fitzroy's offensive threat, as he got on base three times in the game. He singled in the fourth inning and doubled in the eighth inning.

The game was never in doubt after the first, as Fitzroy scored two runs.

John Peterson

Club Coach

Thirds (23) defeated Port Melbourne (0)

With an early start at Port Melbourne this week, we tried a few things and after scoring 9 in the 1st, I think it took pressure off our new starting pitcher Jimmy Furhmann. Funny how an early lead helps with Jimmy throwing a no-hitter in a game we won 23 - 0. It was a great performance by everyone against an undermanned side who battled manfully. We hit the ball the best all year and fielded a lot better than the week before. Apart from Jimmy's pitching, the other highlight was the hitting of Doug Buckle. He went 5 -5 with 3 singles, 1 double and a home run that landed in a neighbouring suburb. Along with his 5 hits he also contributed 7 rbis, a great game by Doug. Hits & rbi are as:

- Christian De Petro: 2 doubles, 2 runs, 3 rbi and a 9-3 to keep Jimmy's no hitter going. (Jimmy owes him a beer)
- Brad Sharples: single, 1 rbi (would like to thank Laurie for bringing Brad to the game)
- Clint Xerueb: single, 2 runs, rbi
- Jimmy Furhmann: 2 singles, 4 runs
- Marcin Niepostyn: single, 3 doubles, 5 runs, 3 rbis
- Doug Buckle : 3 singles, dbl, hr, 3 runs, 7 rbi (it was worth mentioning it again)
- Philippe Aslanis 3singles, 3 runs, 3 rbi (played a great game in leftfield also)
- Rob McLeod: 2 single, 3 runs, rbi (a great double play in his 1st game @ 3rd)
- Luke 'Josh' Bride:2 singles, 2 rbi, 1 sac fly (yeah I know you look nothing like him)

Also I want to thank everyone who helped score for both sides, (lucky you weren't asked to umpire also), it isn't easy to concentrate when this is asked of you. This week we are off to Newport to face the top team. Be there by 2.15 to prepare for warm up @ 2.30.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

Round 5

Firsts Fitzroy (11) best Moorabbin (10) in shootout

The bats were busy at Merri Park on Sunday, and when the dust cleared Fitzroy had an 11-10 win over Moorabbin.

Hitters on both sides were strong at the plate as the teams combined for 22 hits, including seven extra base hits.

The game was back-and-forth heading into the seventh, with seven lead changes.

Fitzroy took the lead in the seventh inning and held on for the victory. A passed ball scored Joel Arnott to give Fitzroy the lead for good.

Fitzroy would not relinquish the lead as Moorabbin was unable to weather a four-run eighth inning deficit.

Moorabbin scored three runs in the ninth on a two-run double by Adrian Fielden and an error. Unfortunately, Moorabbin wasn't able to take the lead back.

Ross Drinkwater got the win for Fitzroy. He allowed three runs over 4 1/3 innings. Drinkwater struck out three, walked none and gave up four hits.

Gavin Juchnevicus, Alex Turlea and Danny King helped lead Fitzroy. They combined for eight hits and three RBIs.

Ross Drinkwater got the win for Fitzroy. He allowed three runs over 4 1/3 innings. Drinkwater struck out three, walked none and gave up four hits.

Gavin Juchnevics, Alex Turlea and Danny King helped lead Fitzroy. They combined for eight hits and three RBIs.

The top of the first saw Moorabbin take an early lead, 1-0. Andrew Katz kicked things off for Moorabbin with a single.

Fitzroy scored two runs in each of the second, fourth and sixth. In the second, Fitzroy scored on an error, bringing home Carl Wilson.

Fitzroy scored one run of its own in the fifth. Fitzroy scored on an error.

After a quick strike from Moorabbin, Fitzroy responded with two runs in the sixth. Fitzroy scored on an RBI single by Turlea and a groundout by Heath Pendlebury.

John Peterson
Club Coach

Thirds (11) defeated Moorabbin (7)

In round 5 we travelled to Moorabbin, an old sparring partner. It was an interesting game in which we prevailed 11 – 7. In a tight tussle it wasn't until the 4th & 5th innings that we got a match winning lead and held on. The game was played in good spirits except for the wasps. We hit the ball well, ran bases well although some of our fielding was not up to our usual standard. Luke Bride threw 3 innings for us before making way to Jimmy Furhmann to throw the last 3 and earn a save.

- Christian de Petro: single, run
- Clint Xuereb: single, 2 runs
- Marcin Niepostyn: single, run, 2 rbi
- Jimmy Furhmann: 2 rbi (2 x hpb)
- Ryan McIvor: single, double, run, 3 rbi
- Doug Buckle: 1 run
- Tristian Joss: 2 singles, 2 runs
- Luke Bride: 2 singles, 2 runs, 1 rbi
- Rob McLeod: 1 run

This week we are at Port Melbourne early on Sunday.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Sixths (1) defeated by Melbourne (20)

The game started out with good defence from both teams. Marcus was performing well on the hill for us and their pitcher was doing the same for them.

We kept the score low for the first half but it blew out later in the game as we made many errors and let fly balls drop.

The score aside it was good to see some new players in the 6s. Connor Whitfield played very well as catcher in his first senior game, Connor also registered our only hit for the day, with an RBI. We welcomed Rebekah Isaacs who played her first game for Fitzroy.

I'm sure if everyone can make it to training we can build on this result and put in an improved performance next week.

Sunday the 4th November we are off to North East to play their A team at 3.30pm.

Cam Gleeson

Round 4

Thirds (23) defeated Mulgrave (1)

This week we took on Mulgrave on a warm day @ Merri Park. In what could & should have been an entertaining game but with the re-entry rule not allowed in our grade, Mulgrave were left with only 7 players for the game. The game was played under protest (which I understood why and agreed with) by their manager hoping to make sense of something that was just changed. Anyway Mulgrave gave a good account of themselves for the 1st 2 innings before we came alight with the bat. Up until the 2nd inning we were behind but we then scored 12 in the 3rd and 9 in the 4th to run out 23-1 winners in a game that Mulgrave can hold their heads high. A good pitching performance from Luke Bride, another solid game behind the mask by Tristan Joss. I don't think we made an error which was pleasing also.

Hits, runs, rbi are as follows:

- Clint Xuereb 1 single 2 runs 1 rbi
- Brad Sharples 3 runs 1 rbi
- Marcin Niepostyn 2 singles 3 runs 3 rbi
- James Furhmann 2 singles, 1 dbl 3 runs 6 rbi
- Ryan McIvor 1 single, 2 dbls 4 runs 3 rbi
- Doug Buckle 2 singles, 1 dbl 2 runs 3 rbi
- Tristan Joss 1 single, 1 dbl 1 run 1 rbi
- Luke Bride 2 singles 2 runs 2 rbi
- Rob McLeod 2 dbls 2 runs 3 rbi
- Christian De Petro 1 run

This week we are @ Moorabbin for a 3.30pm start, please be there no later than 2.15 for 2.30 warm up. I would like to thank Christian & Clint who share the scoring duties and Mark Heenan for line umpiring.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Round 3

Reserves (4) defeated Williamstown (2)

A fantastic summer day saw the Reserves play a great game of baseball, creating opportunities for themselves against a solid Wolverine defence. David Ayres threw a 1-hit complete game for the win and he was well backed by some timely hitting in a game where hits came at a premium.

The first innings put Williamstown up by a run with some smart offensive play on their part and the top of the Lions order wasn't able to answer back but in the second inning we stopped a potential scoring opportunity with a great Ayres-to-Hope pick off at 2nd then started offensive work. We put runners on, moved them over and then opened our scoring account on a wild pitch and then a scorched line-drive sac fly by Damian Preston. Dean slashed a triple and it was clear we came to play.

The Wolverines evened the score up in the top of the 4th inning but it didn't last long as we put the same 2-run lead back in place in the bottom of that inning (all with 2 outs), including some hard Lion base running and just a little assistance from a tiring Wolverine defence.

Stand out performers on the day were David Ayres on the mound, Patty Wyatt as backstop, and the hot bats of Dave-ballibelly-Andrews and Dean-canthitrelay-Sharples.

tiring Wolverine defence.

Stand out performers on the day were David Ayres on the mound, Patty Wyatt as backstop, and the hot bats of Dave-ballibelly-Andrews and Dean-canthitarelay-Sharples.

Innings	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Williamstown	1	0	0	1	0	2
Fitzroy	0	2	0	2	0	4

Pitching: D Ayres: 5IP 6K 4BB 1H

Hits:

- Huyrn – 1 single
- Andrews – 1 single, 1 double
- Sharples – 1 single, 1 triple
- Mills – sac bunt
- Preston – sac fly

James Hope
Reserves Manager

Thirds (14) defeated Williamstown (5)

This week we travelled to Williamstown to meet there previously undefeated 3rd 9. We got off to a great start scoring 10 runs in the 1st 2 innings to all but shut the gate. Williamstown came back at us with a grand slam and a solo bomb in the 3rd & 5th inning, but we had a big enough lead to hold on and run out 14-5 winners. It was a good all round effort with the bat and our pitching was sound. Dave Nolten made the start for us and he only allowed 4 hits, (1 a grand slam), he also walked 6, which allows other teams the chance to score. Brad Sharples came in for 2 innings of relief and gave up 2 hits, (also a home run). Tristian Joss behind the mask did a great job, catching 2 guys he has never caught before. Hits and rbis are below:

- Clint Xuereb 3 singles, 2 runs, 1 rbi
- Brad Sharples 1 single, 3 runs, 3 BB
- James Furhmann 1 single, 2 runs 1 rbi
- Ryan Mc Ivor 1 single, 1 run, 3 rbi
- Doug Buckle 1 dbl, 2 singles, 3 runs, 4 rbi
- Tristian Joss 1 single, 1 run, 1 BB
- Luke Bride 2 singles, 1 run, 2 rbi, 1 BB
- Rob Mc Leod 2 rbi & 1 near decapitation (of me)

This week we are at home to Mulgrave, see you there early to support the 4ths and warm up begins at 2.30.

Cheers
Tony Bullen

Fifths (5) defeated by Preston (6)

On a perfect day for baseball, the 5ths made their way to Preston for the second game of the season. Last week's effort was a patchy affair and the Fitzroy boys were looking to post a more consistent effort.

Our first innings started well with Spike cracking a lead-off hit. Another hit and a couple of walks later and it was 1 run to Fitzroy with Preston to bat. Gianni took the ball for his second ever start and threw the strikes Fitzroy wanted. Preston were happy to hit and pushed out a few singles. However, great work in the infield from Eamon and another great catch by Ron "Land-shark" Van Helden, kept them to only one run. In the second, despite a hit and a walk, from Fitzroy and a walk for Preston, the scores remained tied.

In the third the scoring resumed with Fitzroy getting a cheeky one from Todd's double after an errant pick-off moved Eamon to 2nd. Fitzroy then left the bases full, allowing Preston to escape the full effects of their tiring pitcher. Preston was not done either, a home run to the leadoff batter and a sac fly to score another left the score 3-2 Preston.

Pitching changes all around and the 4th got off to a great start with Gianni leading off with a hit and coming home on Eamon's grounder to short. Adrian "Razzle" Rooks pumped a long double to left and he and Eamon trotted home on Todd's 2-strike chinker to left. Two run lead and Preston hearts looked close to breaking. Darren took the hill for his first pitch of the year and immediately showed them why he's a premiership winning pitcher and they aren't, gunning down the first batter and drawing a soft grounder from the second that, unfortunately, resulted in an error and not the out that was needed. This was all Preston needed. In with a chance they started to hit and run the bases. Even Henry "Two-Dads", throwing a runner out at 3rd and Darren nearly picking another off didn't stop them as they stole, walked and hit their way to three runs on two outs. Errors in the field compounded the issue and it was with a great sigh of relief that we got the third out and went back to the bench, our fate in our hands.

It turns out that our hands, the same hands that had caused the errors that left us behind in the first place, were not the safest place to entrust our fate. We came up empty. Preston did not even have to bat again. It was a very poor ending to a game we should have won.

Hits: Todd 2 (2b), Spike 2, Gianni, Ron, Adrian (2b)

Pitching:

- Gianni 68 pitches, 35 strikes, 3BB, 1K, 3 runs
- Darren: 35 pitches, 16 strikes, 3BB, 1K, 3 runs

Todd Robinson

Sixths (3) defeated by Essendon (13)

Tough day at the office for the new kids on the block as we came up against a very experienced and big hitting Essendon team. We went down 13 - 3, although a lot of those runs were unearned. Just need to tighten up the fielding and not swing at so many balls outside the strike zone and things will improve. Marcus threw a good game throwing lots of strikes, and Blake had a nice little 3 up 3 down in his only inning. Overall not too bad an effort first up.

Brett Bennell

Round 2

Thirds

This week we had our 1st game at home for the season and we were up against Bonbeach who had a tight tussle last week against Werribee. Luke Bride took the mound this week and threw a great game. facing 24 batters, striking out 6, walking 1

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The stats are as follows:

- Christian De Petro: 2 singles, 3 runs scored
- Brad Sharples: single, rbi, run
- Dave Andrews: single, home run, 2 runs, 4 rbi
- Jimmy Furhmann: 2 single, 1 run, catcher !!
- Ryan Mc Ivor: single
- Doug Buckle: 2 rbi
- Luke Bride: single, run
- Rob Mc Leod 2 dbls, 2 runs
- Marcin Niepostyn: single, rbi

Was good to see Dave and Marcin back from overseas holidays and as you can see, both contributed. Dave's hr was an absolute tracer to right field. I would also like to thank Tristan Joss who caught his 1st game in a long while and did a great job, Marcin who scored for the 1st 75 minutes of the game, Daniel Bennett who relieved Marcin, and Christian De Petro, who scored the remaining of the game when Marcin came in. A good all round team and club performance, well done. This week we are at Williamstown, day & time will be known to you when the club knows.

Cheers

Tony Bullen

P.S. Thanks to Gerard Joss for getting the ground up and running and Marc Heenan for umpiring, thanks guys.

Round 1

Firsts

Fitzroy falls 3-2 after big Berwick comeback

Fitzroy saw victory slip away on Sunday when a zero-run ninth inning lead disappeared after a furious charge from Berwick, who ended up with a 3-2 win at Merri Park. Alex Turlea paced Fitzroy at the plate. Turlea went 2-4 and scored one run. He doubled in the fourth inning and singled in the ninth inning. The lead stayed with Berwick after the eleventh, when it scored one run on an RBI single by Craig Barnett.

John Peterson

Thirds

Fitzroy(9) defeated by Berwick (13)

We travelled out to Berwick for round 1 not knowing what we would be facing and got off to a great start scoring 5 in the 1st inning with a little help from the Berwick boys. A couple of walks and a muff fly at leftfield, which was a tough call, then Jimmy Furhmann scored 2 with a double, a Ryan Mc groundout scored a 3rd before Doug Buckle and James Aslanis knocked in the last 2 of the inning. With James Aslanis on the mound he got their lead off to ground out before walking the next 6 batters. This allowed Berwick to tie it up at 5 all without a ball leaving the infield.

The game was a slow one with both pitchers struggling, we received 8 walks and a HPB but some silly errors really hurt us. As long as we get this out of our game we will be much better in the long run. The frustrating part was we out hit them 7-4.

The batting details are:

- Christian De Petro 2 singles, rbi scored 1 run
- Brad Sharples single, scored 3 runs
- Clint Xuereb single 2 x BB scored 2 runs
- Jimmy Furhmann dbl, 3 rbi
- Luke Bride K, BB,
- Ryan Mc Ivor groundout rbi, 2 x BB including an rbi
- Doug Buckle double 2 x k 1 x rbi
- James Aslanis single, walk, rbi
- Rob Mc Leod 2 x flyouts, 1 x BB.

A good job done by James, I think he was a little nervous, but we can't afford to give up 10 walks and a HPB, commit errors and win. Luke Bride caught well, and to the 2 new guys at the club, Christian @ shortstop and Rob @ right field, did nothing wrong in your 1st appearance at Fitzroy.

This week we are at home to Bonbeach, again we are the late game, so if you can be there by 2.15 for 2.30 warm up.

Cheers

Tony Bullen