

BATCHAT

The Official Newsletter of the MCC Baseball Section

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Dear Member,

The season is drawing to an exciting finish, with all Senior Men's and Women's teams fighting for finals positions going into the final round. The season has taken on an extra dimension with the Men's Senior teams only a couple of wins away from the first Division 1 Club Championship since 1971, so cheer on any of the teams this weekend to help achieve this important result.

The club calendar is very busy over the next few weeks with the first Nine securing home field advantage for the Division 1 Semi-Finals, the important dates to note coming up are:

- Feb 14 – Final home and away game at Surrey Park
- Feb 23 – Tuesday night at Latrobe Uni (tbc) – Semi Final game 1
- Feb 27 – Saturday Semi Final Game 2 – lunch at 12.30, game at 2.00pm Surrey Park
- Feb 28 – Sunday – Semi Final game 3 if required at Cheltenham or Blackburn

If we win Semi Final series:

- March 1 - Tuesday night at Melbourne ball park Altona – Grand Final Game 1
- March 5 – Saturday Grand Final Game 2 – Melbourne ball park Altona
- March 5 – Women's Super Saturday at Surrey Park
- March 6 – Sunday Grand Final Game 3 – Melbourne ball park Altona
- April 8 – Presentation Night, Olympic room MCG

Senior Grades Finals chances this weekend:

- Division 1 First Nine – will finish 1st and have qualified for finals
- Division 1 Second Nine – qualified, a win secures third place
- Division 1 Third Nine – qualified, a win secures second place
- Division 1 Fourth Nine – a win and need one other result to qualify
- Women's Division 2 – qualified, a win secures second place
- Women's Division 3 – playing off for fourth place vs Sunshine

Events

14/02/2016 Final Home game

27/02/2016 Supporters Luncheon

05/03/2016 Women's Super Saturday

08/04/2016 Senior Presentation Night

Results

1st Nine		
Round 24 - Wed 3rd February		
Men's Division 1	Springvale	1
	Melbourne	6
Round 25 – Sun 7th February		
Men's Division 1	Melbourne	4
	Waverley	5
Senior Grades – Round 16		
Men's Division 1 Reserves	Melbourne	2
	Waverley	2
Men's Division 1 Thirds	Waverley	3
	Melbourne	4
Men's Division 1 Fourths	Waverley	1
	Melbourne	5
Men's Division 4 East	Essendon	8
	Melbourne	15
Men's Division 4 South	Melbourne	11
	Cheltenham	7
Women's Division 2	Footscray	6
	Melbourne	10
Women's Division 3	Melbourne	6
	Springvale	11
Masters A 38+	Doncaster	7
	Melbourne	11
Masters B 45+	Melbourne B	4
	Waverley	6
Masters C 45+	Melbourne C	11
	Fitzroy	3

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Match Reports

Division 1

In the mid-week game, Melbourne won comfortably 6-1 to sweep the 2 game series and has secured top place and a home field advantage for the Division 1 finals and will start favourites in a match up against either Cheltenham or Blackburn in a three games series beginning February 23rd.

The first nine went down to Waverley 5-4 Sunday, despite outhitting their opponents 13-9. The damage was done early with Waverley scoring 5 runs in the second innings, bunching 6 of their nine hits in that one frame. Melbourne nearly stole the game late - loading the bases with none out and scoring two in the ninth, but a double play squashed a chance to take the lead.

The second last game of the season is an important game this Sunday at home against Preston, despite ladder positions being locked in, a win could seal the Club Championship.

Division 1 Reserves

After leading the game 2-1 for most of the game, the seconds gave up a late run to only come away with a point - so will have to beat bottom placed Preston to secure a finals place this weekend.

Division 1 Thirds

A tight but good win 4-3 over fellow finals aspirant Waverley that has secured either second or third place.

Division 1 Fourths

An excellent win, defeating second placed Waverley 5-1, errorless defence, pitchers that threw strikes and good at bats with bunched hits have kept the fourths finals chances alive. A win this week however does not guarantee a finals position, needing 1 other result to go their way.

Masters 38+

We didn't get a good start. Maybe it was because the Superbowl Party at Bryce's place during the day left a few shady, perhaps it was the distraction of the people having person training just behind the CF fence... Either way when six guys are rolling around the grass 15 minutes before game time 'stretching' and no pre-game hitting and fielding takes place, we can't expect to hit the ground running. 5-0 down after the first two innings with Glen McColl working well and Ol' Barry umpiring - we couldn't get started in the box. Bottom three Andy got on base with an E6, but somehow thought he could turn it into a double unaware that good catchers run down the line on infield ground balls ;-)

Lucky a two out rally started with a Ben Neave double, then consecutive singles to Val, Sean, Murray, Dave, Lard and and a Mike Hill double and we got back to five all.

Doncaster scored another two in the fourth to ensure Lardio's ERA reached >1 for the season...bad luck big fella. We came back with another five thanks to hits to Andy, Webby, Ben, Val, Sean (double), Murray and Dave Keyhoe. Another run in the last with hits to Mike Hill and Bryce Gammon who managed to hit a double to RF - probably the first in his life! Bryce came in and threw nine strikes for two K's and a regulation ground ball to close off an 11-7 win. We will finish the season as minors Premiers for the second year in a row. Last game of the regular season next week re bottom placed Upwey B, followed by a Semi at Surrey Park the following week.

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News

Supporters Luncheon

There will be a supporters BBQ lunch on Feb 27th as we have now secured a home final on Saturday Feb 27 – Game 2 of the Semi Final series vs either Cheltenham or Blackburn, game starts at 2:00PM, lunch from 12:30PM onwards.

2015/16 Presentation Night

The Senior Presentation Night is Friday 8th April in the Olympic room at the MCG (enter via gate 3) starting from 6:30pm for Pre Dinner Drinks and 7:00pm for Presentations and Dinner. Come celebrate the season.

Details and Booking Form [here](#)

Eastern Athletics Little League All-Stars Tryouts

Enrol for 2016 Eastern Athletics Little League All-Stars Tryouts.

Player must be registered and play in a Sunday Baseball Team within the Eastern Athletics Charter and not play in a Little League Minor Team on a Friday Night.

For comments, suggestions and contributions, send to the editor demonsbc@yahoo.com.

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