

SPRINGVALE LIONS
BASEBALL CLUB INC.



ANNUAL

REPORT



2017-2018

**PRESENTED BY
DARRYL ROSEWALL
SECRETARY**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Michael Wearne
Vice-President	Peter Higgins
Secretary	Darryl Rosewall
Treasurer	Michael Wearne
Committee Persons	Rod Anderson
	Mandi Avent
	Joe Campbell
	Sinead Flanigan
	Brandon Mize
Web Master	Rowan Hall
Junior Coordinator	Mandi Avent

Presidents Report

Another successful season both on and off the field for the club in 2017-2018 highlighted by another Women's Div 1 premiership as well as flags to Div 2 Men's 3rds and Masters and a finals appearance for several other teams.

The administration of the club was able to deal with most situations throughout the year including the changes to registration requirements, increases in both playing and team entry costs as well as the ever increasing demands of Baseball Victoria, City of Kingston, Melbourne Aces and club members we are indeed lucky to have the services of the most experienced club secretary who manages to stay in front of most situations.

Our finances remain healthy thanks mostly to the great work of our dedicated canteen and bar staff and the support of the majority of our members. The Women's tournament in January was once again a highlight and continues to prove what can be achieved when we work together.

Thanks to all committee members, coaches, scorers and anyone else that contributed to once again provide a successful and enjoyable season of baseball.

Mick Wearne

SECRETARY'S REPORT

This season has had many ups and downs for the players, teams and the club. Our overall numbers have decreased, especially in the men's and junior sections. Unless we can at least stabilise this trend and maintain or increase these numbers, then the future doesn't look good.

Congratulations to all the Coaches and support staff who organised all the teams on the field each week, not an easy task. Our Men's First, Thirds, Fourths, Women's Firsts, Seconds, Thirds, Masters 38+ Tomatoes, Masters 38+ Big Cats and Little League Minor teams, all achieved a finals berth. The Men's Thirds, Women's Firsts and the Masters 38+ Big Cats achieved ultimate success, a Pennant. Again, a special mention to the Women's Firsts team Premiers, "six in a row" a truly extraordinary effort in any sport, well done to all the girls and coaches involved in this dynasty success.

A big thanks goes to Mandi, who was the Junior Co-ordinator, her for all her enthusiasm and good work in handling the administration tasks so efficiently. Liaising with two clubs to enable our Junior League and State U'16 players to play juniors baseball was a never ending task.

Over the Australia Day Long Weekend we again conducted the 'Greater Melbourne Women's Open Friendship Baseball Tournament' at Springvale. In excess of 100 players participated in the four day event, both on and off the field. A big thank you to all those who contributed making this event an outstanding success which has now become a "must attend" event on the Women's baseball calendar.

A big thanks to all the Committee, especially Michael as President and Treasurer, he handled both these positions as a true professional. It is very rewarding to have dedicated committee members involved in the running of the club, doing all the tasks that contribute to the success of our club, a great club.

Next season again will be challenging one for all of us at the club. The numbers issue for the men's and juniors is a high priority that we cannot ignore and we need to work towards achieving an increase in these numbers. Our Women's programme has maintained a very strong presence as a leader in the competition, achieved through having a strong leadership group. In the coming season we all need to work together on re-establishing our club as a Division 1 club.

DARRYL ROSEWALL

TREASURERS REPORT

Contact Secretary for details at:

secretary@springvalebaseball.com.au

COACHES SENIORS

FIRSTS	COACH	<i>MICHAEL WEARNE</i>
SECONDS	MANAGER	<i>BEN ROSEWALL</i>
THIRDS	MANAGER	<i>DAVE STENHOUSE</i>
FOURTHS	MANAGER	<i>GRAHAM HOUGH</i>
WOMEN'S FIRSTS	COACH	<i>SHAE LILYWHITE</i>
WOMEN'S SECONDS	COACH	<i>JESSICA ADKINS</i>
WOMEN'S THIRDS	COACH	<i>SIMONE WEARNE</i>

COACHES JUNIORS

U'16 STATE	COACH	<i>SHELDON McDONALD</i>
MOORABBIN/SPRINGVALE		<i>MARCUS TOMLIN</i>
JUNIOR LEAGUE		
SOUTHERN MARINERS	ASSIST	
	COACH	<i>BRANDON MIZE</i>
LITTLE LEAGUE MINOR		
SOUTHERN MARINERS	COACH	<i>BRENT RIDDIFORD</i>

TROPHY WINNERS
SENIORS

FIRSTS	STEPHEN WEARNE MEDAL	MOST VALUABLE
	<i>LUCAS ANDERSON</i>	<i>RYAN KIRBY</i>
SECONDS	MOST VALUABLE	
	<i>TIM HANSON</i>	
THIRDS	BEST & FAIREST	FIELDING AWARD
	<i>BEN COOEN</i>	<i>NICK SHEARN</i>
	COACHES AWARD	
	<i>MORGAN STALEY</i>	
FOURTHS	BATTING AWARD	MOST VALUABLE
	<i>MARTIN CONTESSOTTO 0.563</i>	<i>YUUKI ISHIKAWA</i>
WOMEN'S FIRSTS	BILL REAY TROPHY	MOST VALUABLE
	<i>RIEKO ABE</i>	<i>AMANDA TORRINGTON</i>
WOMEN'S SECONDS	BEST & FAIREST	MOST VALUABLE
	<i>GABBY BEVIN</i>	<i>BAYLIN ROUSELL</i>
WOMEN'S THIRDS	BEST & FAIREST	MOST VALUABLE
	<i>DEB BRYANT</i>	<i>JANINE CAVANAGH</i>
MICK WEARNE AWARD 'Hardest Working Women's Player'		
	<i>DEB BRYANT</i>	
MOST RUNS BATTED IN	<i>AMANDA TORRINGTON</i>	<i>29 RUNS</i>
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER	<i>MADDY PATRICK</i>	
BEST CLUB PERSON	<i>MANDI AVENT</i>	

Div 2 Men's 2017-2018

The club enjoyed a surprisingly successful season after enduring some difficult times in the lead up with the departure of several of our more experienced players and several of our younger players putting their career on hold. Although the group was significantly depleted from the previous year in Div 1 the remaining players along with our quality import and also 1 new recruit we managed to get off to a great start winning several games early and then maintaining the momentum throughout the year eventually losing only one game to teams below us on the ladder to comfortably finish in 4th position. We put up a great fight in our finals series unfortunately losing in 2 very competitive games to the league's top team.

We could not have achieved what we did without the help of our coaching staff, pitching coach Rob Hogan, Ass Coach Ben Rosewall and list manager Rowan Hall and of course our Scorer Jenni Wearne.

Congratulations to Lucas Anderson and Ryan Kirby who shared the majority of the pitching and catching and to Import Christian DeLeon who was a class act throughout and has gone on to bigger and better things.

Mick Wearne

Thirds Report

Hi To all,

Not a large report but just to say we are keen to get back into the summer baseball, we really look forward to the challenge set to us each year coming from the fifths to the thirds and winning the flag is our goal each summer, last year being our best ever result in a hard fought game which meant so much to the players.

Hoping to fill the same side with some new members hopefully and to consolidate the Shepparton boys for the full season.

The original players from the very first fifth side we fielded have come a long way and yet still I think their best is to come.

Springvale hopefully continues along the same path and policies it really is a fantastic place to be around and each weekend have something to look forward to.

Until then, stay warm.

Cheers Stenny

Springvale Lions 4ths Report 2017-2018

Our season started weirdly with a bye first round. Long term players Darryl and Roger both decided to retire, but we were able to recruit Yuuki Ishikawa and Gabby Bevan from the Women's roster as regular players for the season. Other new players included Tom Kirby, Stewart Thatcher, Brandon Mize and Luke Martin. Thanks to fill ins Simone Wearne, Sinead Flanigan, Janine Cavanagh and Shae Lilywhite who helped out when we were short.

Lack of a pitcher was a problem with Team Manager Houghy unable to play all season following surgery. Yuuki became our main pitcher well supported by Cam Boucher and several others. Brandon Mize was a great support as our main catcher.

We only got to play 14 games for the Home and Away with Rd 10 v Preston a washout, another bye and Mulgrave forfeiting the last game.

This gave us 9 wins and 5 losses finishing 4th on the ladder.

The elimination semi saw us lose to Williamstown 8-3. Great effort everyone.

Trophy winners were:

MVP: Yuuki Ishikawa

Batting: Martin Contessotto 0.514

Team Manager: Graham Hough

Scorer: Janet Hough

Women's Firsts Report

Another amazing season for the division one Big Cat chicks winning the 6th premiership in a row for the club. Our core group of players shared roles this year with lots of girls contributing in multiple positions and roles to the team's success. Managing injuries and availability's I wanted to say thank you to everyone for being so flexible taking on the roles that we needed.

Amanda Torrington, Yuuki Ishikawa, Sinead Flanigan did the majority of our Pitching with Torro having a career best season with the bat and on the mound.

Reiko Abe was a stand out in the later part of the season especially in a pinch and solid at first base as always.

We got our veteran Jade Hough back also in the later part of the season after recovering from shoulder surgery, but we had a lot of help and support from our junior big cats each week. The girls had opportunities to shine and develop their skills and to be involved in tough situations when the games were on the line. It was an important season for them to have exposure to a higher level of play. Well done to those girls who were at training every week and putting their hands up to be involved.

Another stand out was Emily Devine who at 15 years old, spent most of the season as a starting member in the ones and heavily contributing regularly for the team and in the grand final. Well done Emily on your efforts this year.

Hanami Campitelli, Lili Cavanagh, Gabby Bevan who were involved and also special mention to Maddy Patrick who started the season in the thirds, end up playing her first (of many hopefully) game in the ones.

With another convincing grand final win, it's fair to say We are very proud of the women's program we have at Springvale and the people that make it a great place to be. Success can be hard to come by and it takes a lot of work to build the culture and depth we have, and then sustain it and continue the dynasty.

A big thank you to Chevy who became our third base coach for the season after falling pregnant, and Simone for your guidance and support. The program 'is' successful because of you both and we are lucky to have you.

Also to Sharni our long time scorer-we will miss you and thank you for your commitment to our team.

Looking forward to 2018/19 season and having an American import-team USAs catcher Anna Kimbrell join the club. She is a long time national team member and has played in a semi-pro men's league. So she comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience and we will welcome her with open arms.

See you next season

Coach Shae

WOMENS SECONDS REPORT

This season with the increase in junior players, I asked for the assistance of Shae so that we could properly develop the next generation of Springvale Women's players. Stepping into the assistant coach role I was able to learn about managing the team and continue to play without the stress of doing both.

I personally loved playing last season. The team bonded instantly becoming friends as well as team mates. We all grew together understanding each other strengths and weaknesses. With the injection of youth the senior players were challenged by the energy, enthusiasm and speed. While the Junior players were nurtured, supported and encouraged by the senior players while they learnt about the etiquette of baseball. We were extremely lucky to have had the perfect mix of new and old players.

Great job to everyone involved, I am looking forward to another fantastic season.

*Have a great day,
Jessica Adkins-Barber*

In addition to Jess's report, i took on the managers role in the seconds and with the team only loosing one game for the season was a real credit to the core players group we had and a disappointing finish to what was a very success year.

As most seasons go, there is always a need for some support from our thirds and first players that stepped in to help out, but this year it mostly gave opportunities to players wanting to make their way up from the threes, to the firsts where we had multiple players make their debut. A fantastic season by this team. A very enthusiastic core group and a lot to learn each week meant there was exciting things happening each week. commitment to trainings was impressive and i have to thank the parents for their commitment also. Much Appreciated :)

I know they will be hungry for another chance to re do their Grand Final performance and i am looking forward to seeing them continue to grow and develop their skills and make their way to the ones and be the future of our women's program.

Thanks to all those that helped, especially Christian who was at almost every game and Jess for her support also.

*Cheers
Shae Lillywhite
Head Coach*

WOMEN'S THIRDS 2017/18

The Women's Thirds had another successful season, finishing in the top four and taking part in the finals. The team worked hard to find themselves in a good position throughout the year – battling with player availabilities and relying heavily on Deb again on the mound to get us through.

Young guns Maddy Patrick and Alisha Devine were great in their first season of women's baseball – with Maddy quickly finding herself in the Two's and then earning herself some game time in the Ones.

Alisha worked hard and played a good role with the team, mixing it with the veteran players and learning a lot along the way. The whole team contributed over the course of the season, with notable mentions to returning player Kel Broekstra who played various positions and did really well with the bat.

Janine Cavanagh was also a significant contributor behind the dish, catching a lot of games and leading in the batters box. Jazz came in halfway through the year and provided a real spark for the team, particularly with her power hitting and good base running.

I would like to thank the girls who committed themselves so well, particularly those who turned up regularly and helped the team week in and week out. Also, those who attended training, it was great having some of the Thirds players around on a Tuesday night.

Big thanks to Ryan Langworthy and Brandon Mize for taking on Assistant Coach jobs and helping me out immensely, especially when I was running late or returning from a trip to South Australia. And also to Gabby Kovess for her dedication as our team's scorer.

I would also like to one more time say how proud and grateful I am for Deb's commitment to our team, and more importantly, our club. Deb would play any role asked of her, even at the risk of further injury to her tired and sore body. Deb, you have been the heart and soul of our Thirds team for many years, and it won't be the same without you out on the field. Please keep yourself around regularly, the program will miss you dearly.

I have enjoyed my time as the Thirds coach for the past three seasons and want to thank all the players and coaches who have assisted me over that time, particularly Shae and Shevy who have been flexible with me arriving late to Firsts games and still providing playing opportunities. I am excited that Fee will be taking over the coaching reigns and look forward to supporting her and the Thirds this season and beyond. The Thirds (like the Firsts and Seconds) are an important part of our program and club, and they can count on my support always.

Simone Wearne

Thirds Coach 2017/18

TROPHY WINNERS
JUNIORS

**U'16 STATE CHAMPION
MOORABBIN/SPRINGVALE**

MOST VALUABLE	<i>LILI CAVANAGH</i>
BEST DEFENSIVE	<i>EMILY DEVINE</i>
BEST HITTING	<i>ADAM HARRIS</i>

**LITTLE LEAGUE MAJOR
SOUTHERN MARINERS**

BEST TEAM PLAYER	<i>COOPER DOBLE</i>
MOST VALUABLE	<i>HENRY McKeY</i>
COACHES AWARD	<i>REBECCA MCNESS</i>

2017/18 Baseball Victoria U16 State Competition – Moorabbin/Springvale

The U16 team was coached by Moorabbin first's players, Canadian import Sheldon McDonald, and L.A. native Marcus Tomlin. Sheldon began the season as the coach before it was handed to Marcus after Christmas, when Sheldon returned home with an injury. Both men brought a refreshing sensibility to the game of baseball and were always positive with the players, at training and on game day.

Quickly labelled the Mooringvale Big Cats, the team was immediately competitive, winning the first game of the season and generally saving their best performances for the stronger sides. Starting strongly, and often getting ahead in these games, the team battled hard and either ran away with games or fell away late.

Finishing mid-field at the end of the season, the team conducted itself admirably, with great attitude and sportsmanship shown at all times - particularly against opponents that displayed a distinct lack of both of these qualities.

Post season awards went Lili Cavanagh as the team **MVP**, Emily Devine for her outstanding **Defensive** work behind the plate and Adam Harris for his **Offensive** hitting, base running and leadership.

On a personal note, this team of players restored my faith in junior baseball again, as no game went by without plenty of laughs being had in the dugout and plenty of exciting baseball played on the field. For Cade and me, Sunday mornings with the Big Cats was the highlight of the weekend. Apologies to all for occasionally going missing in action when it came to base coaching – a little distracted with the dugout laughs at times....

A huge thank you to Janine and Steve for all your time and effort in the scoring box, and the additional umpiring & match ball assistance when required!! Thank you to Michael, Daryl, and Graz for all your assistance on game day with the ground setup/umpiring. And thank you to Mandi for all your help with anything and everything we needed including general communication and advice.

Finally, thank you to all the players and parents for a great summer season of junior baseball, I feel fortunate to have been involved. Best of luck to the Springvale Lions for the upcoming summer season.

Yours in baseball,

Russell Johnston

Chelsea/Springvale U14 Minor League 2017-2018

This season we combined a team with Chelsea to put an Under 14 Minor League team on the field. Our Junior program, along with the competition overall, was certainly not as strong as years passed but, we had some talented young players on the field to represent our club.

Nathan and Will played their hearts out and dedicated themselves to the great sport. The two Springvale boys along with the rest of the team demonstrated talent, an eagerness to learn and dedication to the sport. The team finished third out the four-team competition and only missed the finals by one game.

Success can, and often is, determined by records. In this case, the results visible through the growth of the players and development of their personal talents speaks volumes for their success.

Springvale Coach and Team Assistant Coach

Brandon Mize

Little League Minor 2017/2018

Last season was more about an introduction to baseball, having some fun and development of baseball fundamentals, with the majority of players either new to baseball or at the lower end of the age group. Making the decision to play in the Minor League was fitting for our lack of experience. Although only playing 8 of a possible 13 games due to weather and forfeits, we held 1st position on the ladder at the end of the season. Unfortunately going down to Sandringham in the semi-final who then went on to win the premiership. Our older seasoned pitching depth helped us hold top spot throughout the season, with the younger players improving immensely in the field and with the bat towards the back half of the year was also a big factor in the team's success. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the improvement in the kids and the confidence in their ability grow as the season progressed. I hope to see them all back for another successful year.

Regards

Brent Riddiford
Coach