

Castle Hill Softball Club Inc.

Squeeze Play

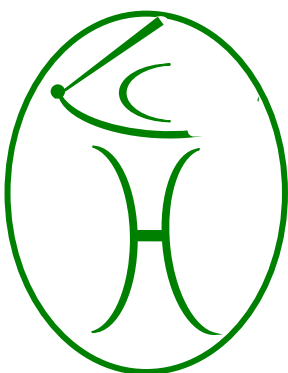


Inside this issue:

Rain, rain, go away for Round 15!	1
This Week	1
Match Reports	2-5

If you are rostered on for an umpiring duty, please make sure you wear closed-in shoes and sign-on at the table outside the canteen at least 15 minutes prior to the game. Sign-on inside the canteen for canteen duties.

Failure to complete a duty may result in the club being fined.



Rain, rain, go away for Round 15!

First we couldn't get rid of the heat, and now the rain has come to terrorise the end of our softball season! Luckily, the grounds remained open (although they were still a little soggy) last weekend so that everyone could play Round 15! Unfortunately, however, because of the rain the CNSA movie night on the diamond has now been postponed indefinitely. Rain is also forecast this weekend, so please keep an eye out on our Facebook page and website for updates!



However, on to some happy news! From our success in Round 15, this weekend we have four of our six club teams in their respective Semi Finals! Our Men's Division 2 team will be playing at Stanhope Gardens on Friday evening (9:00pm), our Junior Boys combo team will be playing at IPP on Saturday morning (11:00am), and our Ladies A Reserve and Mixed Division 2 teams will play at Stanhope Gardens on Saturday afternoon (12:45pm and 3:45pm). We would love to see as many of you as possible at the grounds supporting and cheering on these teams in our club colours!

For those of you playing in a Semi Final, a reminder that you must all be in correct uniform. Given the weather forecast for Friday night and Saturday, please check in regularly to see if games have been moved to IPP / been cancelled. Good luck everyone, and go the green and white!!

This Week: 3-4 March 2017

Team	Game	Diamond	Duties	Plate
Men's Division 2	SG Friday 9:00pm vs. Cruisers Blue	2		
Junior Boys Combo	IPP Saturday 11:00am vs. Raptors	10		
Ladies B Grade	-	-		
Ladies A Reserve	SG Saturday 12:45pm vs. Blacktown Workers	2	SG Ground Set-Up @ 12:00pm; Canteen SG @ 2:00pm-3:30pm	-
Mixed Division 3	-	-		
Mixed Division 2	SG Saturday 3:45pm vs. St. Michael's	1	Canteen SG @ 5:15pm-6:30pm	-

Please Note: You must be 13 years or older to do an Umpiring or Canteen duty.

Match Reports

FRIDAY NIGHT GAME

Men's Division 2 vs. Titans

Draw 8-8

MVP: James Collis

Wow!! What a phenomenal game!! I was so proud of the men tonight, and they stepped up against a very tough opposition team. After being mercy-ruled against this team on both other occasions playing them, it is safe to say we didn't really have many high hopes of a win - but with nine players again this week nothing could stop us!

We had a bit of a rocky start in the first innings, but some very sensible batting by the men meant that we ended up with a few people on base. Bren and Joseph took walks to first base (Joseph managed this after a 10-minute long bat, fouling off at least eight balls before Deon gave up writing them all in!), and a great hit to centre field by Junior scored Bren to get us off the goose egg right from the start! Then we went out into the field, and it is safe to say that this was by far our best fielding game of the season! The first two batters were caught out by James and Junior, and then after their next four batters started to pick some of the gaps, Rod took the third out with a spectacular line-drive catch at the pitchers plate, only allowing them one run in total. Sabs also did a great job at third base, not having played a single infield position all season (on his own protest) - and we eventually convinced him to not stand so far behind the base for fear of a line-drive back at him!

If we consider our first at bat a little sluggish, our batting in the second innings was nothing short of phenomenal!! I couldn't believe it, but for the first time this season we scored seven runs across the plate, and we only had one out! We had a double to left field by Rod, a single to right field by Mark (which landed perfectly just inside the foul ball line), another single to right field by Bren, a double to right field by James, a single to left field by Jo, a double to left field by Junior, a line-drive back past the pitcher to Sabs, and Danny took one for the team in the gut! It is safe to say that Deon and I were a little bit excited at this point, and so proud of the effort the men were putting in! Although we have had quite a number of games cancelled this season, you could still see the improvement, and it couldn't have made me happier to see everyone coming together as a team!



Match Reports

Unfortunately Titans weren't going to let us score seven runs again, and brought on their gun pitcher for the next innings. We did have a good crack at it though, with Rod popping a great ball just short of centre field's reach, and Bren hitting a great ball to short stop that was very well picked up and they just managed to get him at first base. Titans then came out firing in their next two batting digs, but our awesome fielding held up! They got quite a few big hits in, but we capitalised on the easy outs, with Mark and Junior both taking an out with Bren at first base, and James sealing the third with a great catch in deep left field. At the top of the third, it was quite a similar story, with James taking two fly catches at left field, and Rod taking the third out with a fly catch to the pitchers plate.

At the top of the fourth innings, we had a score of eight a piece, and we were more than happy to keep it that way if possible. Titans came up to bat and scored a solid five runs, with great fly catch outs to James and Junior, and an awesome put-out by Bren at first base after James hurled the ball back in on the catch to get the runner that didn't hold up. It was then our turn to bat again, and Titans were determined to finish the innings. James took one for the team and made it to first base on a hit, and Danny and Joseph both did as instructed and took as many balls as possible in the batters box. Thankfully, time was eventually called and the score reverted back to eight all!

Perhaps the best part of this game was that no-one except myself, Deon, and Rod realised that the game was a tie, and that we had in fact been in front for a majority of the time. Everyone finally got in on mine and Deon's excitement when they eventually realised what the final score was! You all played so very well, and didn't give yourselves enough credit to think that you could beat such a good opposition team! Congratulations guys on a really great game, and keep up that spirit for next week in the Semi Finals!!

Congratulations to each and every Castle Hill Softball Club team member each week! We hope you are having a great time and meeting new people, and we are sure you are always representing the green and white well and giving 110% for every game.

Good luck to everyone for your next game, and most importantly, have loads of fun! See you all out on the diamond!



SATURDAY GAMES

Junior Boys Combo vs. BYE

BYE

Our Junior Boys team had the BYE for Round 15, in preparation for their Semi Final next week. Good luck everyone! Your club is cheering for you!!

Match Reports

Ladies B Grade vs. Phoenix

Loss 16-6

MVP: Kristy Camwell, Rochelle Rees, and Meera Roy

The final round of the season, and we needed to win by at least nine runs to keep our finals chances alive! Winning the toss, we decided to bat first in the hope of scoring some quick runs and put some pressure on the opposition. And swing the bat we did! But no-one seemed to tell the other team what was supposed to happen, and they caught all three of our batters in the outfield after only five pitches, and just like that it was our turn to field. Meera started as pitcher this week, and she really did a great job for us making the batters hit the ball. Unfortunately though, it was one of those days where you move somebody in the field only to have the batter hit it straight to where they were. It was a bit like a nightmare, and after seven runs across the plate it was time to bat again.

This was a much better batting dig, and we scored six runs with doubles to Gina, Julie, and Kristy, along with safe hits to Zoe, Isabella, and Olivia, and a wonderful hit by Caitlyn before the coach sent her home in a sacrifice chasing the runs. Our second time in the field we restricted them to only two runs, with a great running catch to Zoe and a good double play to end the inning.

Batting time again and the coach's instructions were to swing at the first pitch if it was close. After a normal Rochelle bat of at least ten pitches, she finally made it to first base, but after the next few batters were caught out again we were back in the field. We decided to call for volunteers to pitch, and Julie jumped at the chance! And a fine job she did throwing strikes, but unfortunately Phoenix were just too strong in the batters box, scoring another seven runs across the plate before the game was called.

Well done ladies on a wonderful season. The commitment and effort you have displayed all season was a credit to you all. Also a big thank you to Kellie and Matt for the great effort you put in with the team and myself. See you all next year!

Ladies A Reserve vs. Seven Hills

Win 4-2

MVP: Michelle Sutton

A very tough but good game this week against Seven Hills, with both teams still fighting it out for a semi final position. But we had a full team again this week (what a shock!), and we weren't going to let them get on top of us, with the win allowing us to leap-frog into third place on for and against points!

We started well with the bat, scoring all of our runs in the first innings! We were seeing the ball really well, with Ange, Deon, and Coomzy all taking the walk to first base. Laura and Sutton both had great hits to left field, scoring two of our runners, and Jenny had a great hit through short stop, forcing some errors and allowing us to double our run total. Unfortunately, after this point, we just couldn't hit the gaps in the field anymore - with the exception of Sutton, who hit a beautiful double over left field's head at the bottom of the third innings. It was okay though, as we held them back with our fielding.

In the field, Laura and Deon were on fire as always, taking three strike-outs as well as a throw-out at first base. Seven Hills were hitting the ball everywhere, but our infield of Coomzy, Sutton, Emma, and Carolyn stopped them in their tracks, taking the lead runner on many occasions! Ange, Aimee, and Jenny also covered the outfield really well against a big-hitting opposition, holding them to only one or two bases on every hit. As a team, we worked really well to hold them to only two runs over three innings! Seven Hills came out firing at the top of the fourth innings though, scoring another two runs, but time was on our side today, allowing the reversion back to a 4-2 win!

Fantastic game ladies, and congratulations on scoring a spot in the Semi Finals next week! I'm really proud of how well we have played this season - bring on the finals!

Match Reports

Mixed Division 3 vs. Raptors

Loss 10-2

MVP: Danny Russell

Unfortunately we couldn't quite come away with a win for our final game of the year. Congratulations team on a really great season, and we will see you all again next year!

Mixed Division 2 vs. Eagles

Win 15-5

MVP: Craig Lean

A really great game this week! And the perfect score, allowing us to keep our equal first position for the semi finals next week!

We were a little slow starting with the bat in this game, being held to nothing after the first innings. We managed to find our mojo after that though, scoring fifteen runs over the next four innings (including two sets of seven runs across the plate). In most cases, we really made their outfielders work hard. Honourable mentions with the bat go to everyone, but some of the stand-outs include: Ange (two singles to left field, a line-drive through short stop, and taking one for the team on a hit!); Aimee (a monstrous hit to centre field that was unfortunately caught out, and another that dropped just short of the fielder); Joseph (two singles to centre field); James (a single and triple to right field on errors); Deon (a single to left field); Bren (a single to centre field); Carolyn (two singles to left field); Rod (a single to centre field and a double to left field - which he actually ran for!); and Leanie, our batting superstar this week, with a double to centre field and a monstrous triple that split centre and right field.

In the field we were also really strong, not allowing them to score any runs until the fourth and fifth innings. Aimee and Deon did a great job as our usual pitcher-catcher combo, striking out four batters. James and Bren both took great catches in the outfield, and Rod, Jo, Carolyn, and Ange all teamed up in the infield to take most of the outs (either as a play to first base or tagging out the runners as they came past). Best play of the game however goes collectively to Leanie, Carolyn, and Deon. After a monstrous hit to right field by one of the young Eagles men (who could run like the wind), Leanie chased it down (all the way into the outfield of the game on Diamond 3), threw it all the way back in to Carolyn at second base (on the full), and then Carolyn fired it to Deon at home plate, who tagged out the sliding runner, stopping what would have been a solo home run. It was very awesome to watch! And was a tribute to how awesome our fielding had been in this game up to this point!

Thankfully the rain held out for the majority of this game, and hopefully the weather will be kind to us again next weekend for the Semi Final! Congratulations everyone on an awesome season, and let's hope we can keep it going for a few more weeks!

Congratulations to each and every Castle Hill Softball Club team member each week! We hope you are having a great time and meeting new people, and we are sure you are always representing the green and white well and giving 110% for every game.

Good luck to everyone for your next game, and most importantly, have loads of fun! See you all out on the diamond!

Please send us through any photos each week of your games, so that we can include them in Squeeze Play!

CASTLE HILL SOFTBALL CLUB INC.

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We're on the web!
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