

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 2016/17 season kicked off last AGM with us saying welcome to two new committee members Michelle Townsend and Sandy Mead. It also saw us say goodbye to a long serving member and great friend of mine, Wayne Davies. I would like to say a big thank you to Wayne for all of his work over the years, he was a big part of building our junior program as you see it today.

Previously I have focussed on a lot of on-field related information in my report but this year I thought I would focus on more of the off-field and behind the scenes work that is required to run the club. I'll leave the on-field stuff to the coach's reports.

As soon as the committee was elected, we held our first meeting to start mapping out what laid ahead for us in the coming season.

The club was and still is in a fantastic financial position thanks to the work of the current and two preceding treasurers who have all run a very tight ship.

We are usually quite successful in obtaining grants from various state and federal bodies and this year was no exception as we received two grants. We used part of one grant to get new first-aid kits for the teams and the remainder will go toward getting a new trailer next season. Yes we will retire 'old blue' and get a new trailer that can carry all of our gear and tents much more safely.

Once again our sponsors are amazing and continue to support our club and sport in what is a very competitive space. We really need to continue showing our support so please use our sponsor's services wherever possible and make sure you mention you are a Rebel.

Amongst many things, the committee also organises all the carnivals, fundraisers and events and this season

seemed to be back to back right from the start. We had the Bunnings BBQ, Registration Day, Season Launch, October Carnival, Capri Movie Night, Breast Cancer Awareness Round, 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, Senior State Champs, Quiz Night, Junior State Champs, Club Day and Presentation Night.

These are just some of the things that need to be done throughout the Softball season, so we would love people to either come on the committee or offer to help with a subcommittee if possible to help spread the load a little. We have a lot of fun taking care of all these things and we'd love to have you come and be part of it.

I want to personally thank all of the volunteers that make this Glenelg Rebels freight train push on no matter what is thrown at us. Committee members, coaches, umpires, scorers, team managers, everyone who helped with a raffle, BBQ, Car Park Duty, diamond put out or pack up, diamond maintenance and any other little duty that came up throughout the season. I truly thank you more than you can imagine!

I also want to congratulate our players who have represented their schools, our club, our state and even our country – in comps such as SAPSASA, Waverley, Canberra and Australia Cup and Dragon's Academy. Great stuff and great recognition of your hard work.

I don't really want to single any one or two committee members out, but I think you'll agree that we have one of the most active Facebook pages of any small sporting club in the state and that is mainly thanks to Keryn and JT for keeping it fresh. Thanks for keeping our members and supporters in the loop you two.

See you all in a few months for the 2017/18 season.

**Brad Barry**  
Club President

# A GRADE

## Coaches

Rick Mead (HC), Tim Mead, Peter Edwards

## Scorer

Simone Thompson

## Team Manager

Michelle Townsend

The pre-season started with a great deal of enthusiasm and expectation as the news was confirmed that the committee had agreed to enlisting some pitching assistance for our young pitching staff in the form of Morgan Lashley. Morgan had originally planned to visit our shores courtesy of the Seacombe Softball club in Season 2015/16 but an unplanned pitching accident saw her undertake surgery and rehabilitation for a significant knee injury that for many would have been a career ender. Lucky for us, she was fit and healthy and still keen to explore our city and play some softball along the journey. Fair to say that we will be forever thankful the Seacombe deal fell through, and we could cement an arrangement for her to play with our club.

Her first exposure was less than kind (weather wise) as she blew out some cobwebs at the October Long weekend tournament, where the club fielded a senior elite team for the first time. We tasted our first success, winning the tournament over a talented WA Academy side and the season ahead looked very promising. We also took the opportunity to introduce some different team systems and fair to say we have had our share of controversy and conversation regarding these measures, but the team will tell you that it took a lot of pressure from the players and let the coaches shoulder the responsibility of pitch calls and offensive signals. The umpires all had an opinion and as it turned out we had to wait some weeks before it was universally accepted that we were within the rules and the system was a working model for the future.

The season proper was all that could be expected from a young and developing squad, seeing significant wins over the eventual minor premier and most others along the way. We ended up with a white wash over Port Adelaide, failed against West Torrens only once and split the points with Seacombe and Walkerville. Sturt was still proving to be a nemesis but our last serious game against them in the minor round saw us victors 3-2 with

them at full strength and a bewildered Monica Perry wondering what the finals would bring. We finished third eventually, reaching finals for the first time since the last premierships some 5 years ago.

After a close and hard fought win against Seacombe in the semi-final 3-2, and the demise of the Non-National pitcher playing with Walkerville, we comprehensively demolished their under-strength side in 5 innings with a hitting and fielding display that saw many developing players finally establish their rightful status in the A Grade competition. We did meet a determined Monica Perry and Sturt in the Grand Final and showed that we were a little inexperienced at stages, but it was a wonderful effort to make the last week of the season and we should be proud as a club of the efforts for the season. The players will be more prepared next year and better for the experience of the "big stage" and the future is very bright indeed.

On reflection, some defining moments for the season saw us lose Georgia Bevan to the world of AFL Women's competition representing the Crows. Sophie Hoyle also joined West Adelaide in the SANFL but was able to juggle duties to finish the season with us. Several players represented us at State and National Level in the form of Montana Edwards, Kushla Brewster, Jamie Mead and Lauren Beck all heading off to Perth for the U19 tournament with Jamie maintaining her spot in the National squad as a result. Sasha Penglase sustained a significant soft tissue injury that saw her miss a large part of the season, and struggled to get enough game time to force her way back in to the starting 9 at finals time. Kushla also suffered a wrist injury that saw her miss the last half of the season but I am confident she will be back stronger and fitter for pre-season in July/August. Jacqui Manning and Lauren Beck decided to take a hiatus after the xmas break and this put some pressure on the depth for A and B grade ultimately. Regan Lambert, Cara Davies and Megan Wheatley had career defining season finishes and they will certainly be exciting to watch in future years. We also saw Courtney Todd-Shepherd, Rhianna Manfield and Aleesha Mead join the A Grade squad for the finals and play their roles with distinction, gaining valuable experience and exposure at the same time.

In closing, we wish Jamie Mead all the best as she heads overseas to Texas to continue her Softball dream, and we hope to convince Morgan to return for another year

to finish the great work she has started with our junior ranks this year. To the rest of the squad, you should all be proud of your efforts and we as coaches, parents and supporters will look on with interest at what the future will bring. My sincere thanks to my panel of coaches in Tim Mead, Peter Edwards and the B Grade staff of JT, Cathy Lambert and Kay Bevan for buying in to the program and rolling with the changes. Special thanks to my “weekend Wife” and team manager Michelle Townsend, and Simone Thompson our scorer who as a non-softball person is fast establishing a reputation and skill set as a formidable statistician. All the on-field success is a direct result of the vision of those supporting the program, and we went a long way to establishing a very healthy culture of winning and learning for those who join in future. With the departure of Jamie, I believe that Tim will return to his other love in baseball, so we wish him well and start the process to find the next coaching panel to continue the journey. Winners for A Grade are as follows:

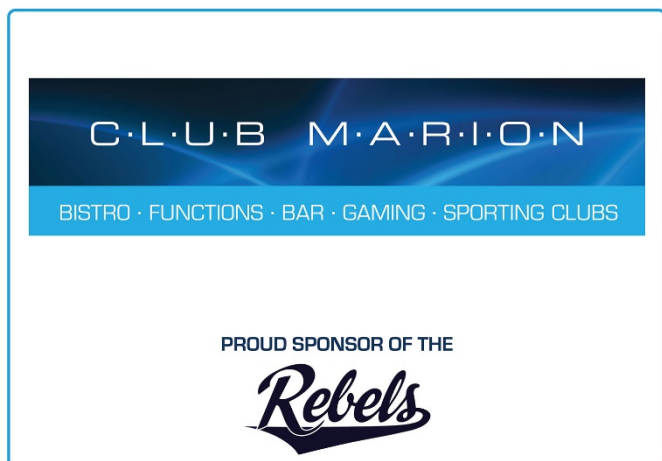
**MVP** - Morgan Lashley

**Most Consistent** - Jamie Mead

**Rebels Spirit** - Megan Wheatley

**Rick Mead**

A Grade Coach



## B GRADE

### Coaches

Jenny Turner, Kay Bevan and Cathy Lambert

### Team Manager

Chris Wheatley

### Scorer

Marcie O'Neill

If we were to measure the B Grade stats based on our coach-player ratio, we nailed season 2016/17 with a 100% pass mark! Unfortunately, seasons are generally measured on a win-loss ratio, so in that regard, we did not hit such a high percentage, but we had a fair crack at it anyway.

As a bit of background, the season started very well with core group of 7 B Graders, and we worked with the A Grade, C Grade and Under 17s to fill the gaps every week. Not ideal but, hey, it's early in the season and everyone is juggling. As the weeks progressed, B Grade won a couple of games but lost a few players. So we ended up with 3 B Grade coaches for 3 B Grade players – and it was pretty clear we needed to rely on other teams to prop us up every week. And prop up they did, with a record 30 players taking to the diamond for B Grade this season. And to prove we like variety, we never fielded the same line-up twice. Some might see this is unsettling, but we saw it as a refreshing change each week! And it is always nice to meet new people!

Jokes aside, it was a tough year for B Grade. Massive thanks to Kay and Cathy for their ongoing patience and coaching overage while I was working and overseas at the start of the season. Marcie again was a trooper and a very valuable asset in the scoring department. And we love Chrissie and her snacks. She's the best.

Big thanks to my three regulars – Bek (13 games, 0.209), Morts (13 games, 0.241) and Kayla (18 games, 0.279). It has not been an easy season – and I know I have asked a lot of all three of you in various forms, but thank you for sticking with us.

There are a lot of amazing Under 17s coming up, and they will form the basis of next season's B Grade. Thank you for taking the time to mentor them and help them learn the ropes in the second half of this season, so that we can best prepare them for senior softball next year, and that we can be an emerging force to be reckoned with.

Trophy winners

**0.33333333** – Kayla Cook

**0.33333333** – Michelle McCarthur

**0.33333333** – Bek Jury

**Jenny 'JT' Turner**

B Grade Coach

## C GRADE

### Coach

Kate Szczypiorski

### Scorer

Sharon Ward

### Team Manager

Jane Bennett

This season being my first coaching season, I would to thank the girls for bearing with me.

They worked hard and were improving every week. We started off the season by getting all our runs at the end of the game, and ended the season by getting them consistently throughout the game.

Our batting peaked at the right time - we just need to carry it through to the next season.

The girls were full of banter and that's what kept the positive and fun vibes going throughout the game.

Unfortunately we didn't make finals but that's ok - there is always next year now we know how each other play and the ability of each other we can work towards getting to the finals next season.

I would like to thank our manager Jane Bennett for being the best team mum ever and Shaz for putting up with all of us while scoring ... much appreciated.

Also a thank you shout out to B grade coaches for helping out with training when I couldn't do it and Nat for helping on game days.

Good job to all the girls. It was a great bunch to coach as my first coaching gig :)

### TROPHY WINNERS

**Batting Award** - Bianca Smith

**Batting Award** - Jade Downs

**Best Team Player** - Denise Spares

Kate "Shippo" Szczypiorski

C Grade Coach

## D GRADE NAVY

### Coaches

John McGahey (HC), Andrea Slade

### Scorer

Sandra Franke

What a season !!!

Going right back to August/September pre-season at Marion primary, not knowing if we would have one or two D-Grade teams, right up to 1 or 2 weeks before 1st game when two D-Grade teams were established, I had a pretty good idea who would be in D-Navy.

SO.. away we go.

We had what I thought would be a very "competitive" team, an assistant coach, a scorer, and I can coach a bit?? Oh yeah .. and 3 or 4 very handy pitchers & catchers) Not a bad start.

To get anywhere near the "top sides" in D-Grade, the team needed to be more versatile than in previous years, and I knew these ladies were good enough to play in multiple fielding positions and set out to prove that to them, me & the rest of the competition the benefits of that.

There were some "discussions"? with some players when they found out the position I asked them to try, but I don't think any of them refused, in fact, I think some enjoyed the challenge. (That's my story anyway).

From October to Xmas, the team were outstanding and finished the year in 2nd place behind Walky. However, Seacombe & Sturt had not played their double-header yet.

So, with 5 games to go, all we had to do to secure 2nd spot & double chance was to WIN ALL 5 GAMES.

SO WE DID!!

First final against Walkerville wasn't our best. We lost. (Didn't need a week off anyway??)

Pre-lim against Sturt had everything, and if you weren't there, you missed the most outstanding comeback you will ever see.. (In any sport – Trust me)

Long story short ....

The game started at 2.00pm,

At 3.00pm, we were 11-0 down, yep, nothing wrong with your eyesight, 11-0 down, 2 out, I think Tash up to bat, 2 strikes on her. (At this point we are ONE pitch away from being mercy ruled out in final) sitter catch to infield, put it down, Tash safe at 1st. (That fielder just dropped the game!!)

At 4.00pm, all is good in the world, we win 14-12.

On to grand final against Walkerville, who had won the last 3 premierships.

Briefly, for those who weren't here, the team could not have done anymore...We were in front 1/2 way through, they clawed their way back, we caught up by innings 7 and held them,

Then a tie-breaker...Unfortunately we couldn't get runners home, they score 1 run – game over.

It was heartbreaking at the time, and still hurts personally due to my connection with Walkerville previously.

That saying about “no one remembers who came second” is rubbish, because I will never forget this season!

BUT, let me tell you that no coach anywhere could be more proud of that group of women than I am right now. AND I hope to get the job next season, because I want to go one step further??

Now for the thankys, and if I miss anyone - my sincere apologies.

To Andrea Slade (“my cool assistant”) it's been great having someone to keep me sane. You know I appreciate it. Good job.

Sandra Franke – our wonderful scorer (Probably didn't learn any new words, but some of the old ones got a workout!!) Don't retire – we need you.

Amanda Conway – for scoring when Sandra wasn't available, and of course ensuring Dannii & Ashlee were out each week .

Ashlee Conway – I know you are a part of our team, but you gave up your time and we all appreciate it.

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Brad - supplying keys, info, ideas when I asked, plus giving your time over finals training.

TO Darcy, Angel, & Kalesi for filling when needed, and doing a great job of it. Thankyou from all of us.

Lastly, to the committee for allowing me the pleasure of coaching this wonderful group.

#### TROPHY WINNERS

**M.V.P.** – Jess Easton Hegarty

**Best team Person** – Imogen Brown (Voted by the team)

**Most Improved** – Zoe Butefisch

**John McGahey**

D Navy Coach



## D GRADE WHITE

### Coaches

Megan Wheatley (HC), Jess Ward

### Scorer

Sharon Ward

The 2016/17 D white season was a season of ups and downs and everything in between. Whilst we didn't win a game our game sense and basic skills definitely improved. We had a large team of 13 players but somehow always needed a fill in, so we would like to say a big thankyou to everyone that filled in for us this season. We would also like to say a big thankyou to everyone who helped us out in coaching when we were playing and scoring, in particular Mamma Sharon for always stepping up when we needed her.

This season we stripped it back to the basic techniques and plays and we saw a huge improvement in both. Our main tactical focus of the season was to develop our

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relay plays and by the end of the season we were really impressed by the large improvement we saw. We pushed most players out of their comfort zones and encouraged them to try new positions and all rose to the challenge. We were also really impressed by the girls' perseverance and determination in long fielding innings on those hot summer days. But most of all we were proud of the girls for consistently getting bat to ball. I look forward to seeing everyone out again next season.

**MVP: Mari Foodi**

A player who is always willing to learn and try new things when they're asked of her, even though they may be far out of her comfort zone. She always performs and is a great motivation for the rest of the team.

**Coaches Award: Lisa Tait**

Probably one of the most committed players we've ever seen. She travels two hours or so to make trainings and games and is always willing to put her hand up for extra club duties as well. She was a pleasure to coach and improved a lot.

**Most Improved: Leigh-Anne Hodgetts**

We brought Leigh-Anne into the infield this season after playing a lot of outfield and by the end of the season she was a star corner. Her batting improved out of sight and she was always at training and keen to learn.

**Megan Wheatley**

D White Coach

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## UNDER 17 NAVY

**Coaches**

Dean Jury (HC), Peter Edwards

**Scorer**

Liz McGee

**Team Manager**

Sharon Ward

As Confucius once said "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

This season didn't really go the way Peter and I had planned for. We hit a couple of stumbling blocks early. The year had more than the odd "fall" with injuries, the odd tear and a tantrum or two. But enough about me

and Peter. Collectively I think we did manage to rise after each "fall".

We ended up with a squad of 10 girls. Some of which had never played together before. They all jelled together really well. To the point the nick names came out. There were the standards like Monty and JJ. To the more inventive like S-Dog, Rigor mortis and Lozenger. To my personal favourite, Big Dog Homewrecker. Sometimes it pays not to ask.

Even though we had a squad of 10 players, it wasn't until the last 3 games of the season where all 10 girls were available at the same time. Injuries and the odd holiday certainly played their part in keeping some girls off of the diamond. This meant we drew on some U15s to play up. So thanks to Tara, Sacha, Jade and Kaitlin. Courtney and Kalesi also filled in for us before the round 3 cut-off. Thanks girls for helping us out.

Peter and I discussed what we thought our roles would be for this season and that player development would be a key to one of our achievements for this year. To that end there was a lot of emails & texts with JT each week to ensure that the U17s girls from both teams got opportunities to play seniors. Out of the 19 U17 players from the two teams, only 2 didn't play any seniors games due to availability. And excluding Monty, the remaining 16 girls played a total of 120 senior games this season from the Ds through to the Bs.

As I said at the start, we had the odd "fall" along the way this season. We ended the season in 5th spot, half a game out of the top 4. We won 8 games and drew 2. The 2 draws didn't help our final placing. However, each and every girl was able to do something awesome this season. From some great catches, to great plays, to great hits. We just lacked a little bit of consistency. I put this down to a lack of self-belief by the girls. Peter and I certainly believed they were more than capable of playing some great softball. When they did manage to put it all together at the same time we took it up to some of the other teams. A win over top placed Seacombe and handing out a thumping to Sturt Blue early in the season were a couple of times when everything worked. We finished the season on a high with pretty much an error free win against Port.

I had some very good support this season so big thanks to Peter for "coaching the coach" and the girls, Sharon

for team managing and Liz for scoring. And Lia for putting all the stat's into I score. Like I said to Sharon a few weeks before our last game "She and Liz must've been doing a good job because I didn't notice them on the bench". And no, that's not a joke about Sharon's height. She really kept the girls in check so much so that I really didn't notice them too much either.

Now on to the awards. As Peter and I had daughters in the team, at the start of the season we asked Liz and Sharon to select the MVP. They'd have their picks each week using the 3,2,1 scoring system and then they let me know after the final game who they've selected. But before we go there, we have 2 other awards to hand out.

Peter and I decided to hand out a Most Improved and a Coaches Award.

There's a few girls in the running for the Most Improved Award, however one player stood out a little bit more than the others. She always had a great attitude, was willing to play wherever we asked and made some massive improvements this year. It's hard to go past someone who can slap a grand slam. With a batting average of .217, 10 RBIs and a fielding average of .857, the award goes to one of our go-to outfielders, Erin Barrett.

The next award is the Coaches Award. Again, a number of girls were in contention for this and it was really close. However the girl we chose worked hard on a number of aspects this season. We kept at her about her self-belief and body language in the field which has come a long way. We pushed her to really put in those second efforts. She ended the season with a batting average of .267, 16 RBIs, a fielding average of .833 and she got 38 strikeouts, the Coaches Award goes to Tayla Mead.

Like I said, this was a close call, so close in fact that Peter and I would like to award a second coaches award. And thanks to the committee for allowing us to do so. The second player we'd like to award this to was a joy to coach, she usually had a positive attitude, except when I cracked the odd "Dad joke". She always gave 100 percent, even if we pushed her to keep having a go. She is a utility and would play in whatever position we asked. She batted .304, was walked an amazing 17 times, had an ERA of 3.65 and a fielding average of .846. The second Coaches Award goes to Jess Johnson.

Finally the MVP as selected by Liz & Sharon.....

The interesting thing here is that I still kept my own points system and came up with the same person, so ladies, you got it right. I also had every player in the team with points, with the top four players within 5 points of each other, so it too was very close. Liz and Sharon said they also had a number of players close to each other. So who got it? The MVP goes to someone who started with a particular role in the team, but that changed a little bit throughout the season. She had a great attitude week in, week out. She certainly provided us with some highlights this year. She ended with a batting average of .556, 17 RBIs, 4 home runs, a fielding average of .926, but much to her disgust didn't get to pitch, the MVP award goes to Montana Edwards.

Finally, I hope all the girls have learned a lot this season, that they've enjoyed themselves and that we see them all back next year. And as most of them will be playing in the Australia Cup, feel free to come and watch them in action in May.

**Most Improved** - Erin Barrett

**Coaches Award** - Tayla Mead

**Coaches Award** – Jess Johnson

**Most Valuable Player** - Montana Edwards

**Dean Jury**

U17 Coach



## UNDER 17 WHITE

### Coaches

Sophie Hoyle (HC), Kayla Cook

### Scorer

Marcie O'Neill

### Team Manager

Chris Wheatley

The 2016/17 season started off slow for our young and inexperienced team with majority of the girls coming up from the u15 program. With the leadership of senior members of the group and consistent pitching every week from Darcy Lapidge the girls managed to grab a few wins on the board leading up to the Christmas break.

After the break we had the inclusion of Nat Brinkworth helping out at trainings which brought the girls plenty of extra knowledge and intensity at trainings which really showed on the field when players needed to step up. The girls were very open to being moved around on the field and out of their comfort zones where we found new stars in Kalesi at short stop, Taylah at second base and Amber on the pitchers plate.

The girls improved significantly as a group over the course of the season and apart from a few mind blanks on the field and causing their coaches some early grey hairs, they were a pleasure to coach and we are looking forward to watching their progression moving into senior softball.

Big thanks to Marcie for scoring and Chris for being our manager and to all the parents for bringing their kids out to trainings and games each week.

**Best Team Player** - Rhianna Manfield

**Most Improved** - Kalesi Natadra

**Most Valuable Player** - Aleesha Mead

## UNDER 15

### Coach

Brad Barry

### Scorer

Sue Campbell

I will start by thanking my assistant coaches Bec Catt and Lauren Beck for joining me on the under 15 journey this season. Sue Campbell was a great asset to me this season and continued to score for me all the way through. I also want to thank Stephani and Laura from the Under 13s who filled in when needed.

Thanks to all of the girls, you were a fun group to coach, and most of the time we had a lot of laughs. Whether it was all of us waiting for Georgia to catch that last fly ball of the night or Tara trying to drill the ball back at me in batting practice - actually that's not too much fun. It is just as important that the players challenge us as coaches as we challenge the players, or neither of us will grow and improve. So I thank you all for asking questions and taking advice from us throughout the season.

We weren't sure just how many players we would have returning for under 15s this season but once we had confirmed we had 9, I felt we probably needed one more to go into the season with. We asked Summer Arnold to step up from under 13s and she accepted the challenge - I am very glad she did.

So we had 10 and we were ready to go, but what did this mean? When your 10 players are spread from 12 yrs old to almost 15yrs old, you never know what to expect.

My goal as always with the Under 15 team is to make Div 1 as we can continue to test ourselves against the best in the competition. Unfortunately, we lost those one or two close games in the first half which saw us playing a must win game just before Christmas which we lost by just 2 runs and missed the chance to continue in Div 1.

So at that stage it's about resetting the goals and we all had the goal to push ahead and dominate Div 2.

We started strong after the break, smashing Sturt and West Torrens, then we lost a close one again another Sturt team. We all reflected on that game as the one we let slip which turned out to be a critical game. Once again we were going into a crunch game, the last game of the season having to win that game to stay alive. We



had a fantastic game against West Torrens but unfortunately fell short by a run and we were out – our season was over. It was actually one of the best games of the season and the attitudes of these young Rebels was exactly where it needed to be. They were fighting for each other, getting excited in each other wins, feeling each other's pain when something wasn't going right – they were playing as a tight knit team and I was so proud of them. We finished the season with 9 players that had become great mates and better softballers than when they started – I'd say that is a win in my book.

Now the difficult task of picking 3 trophy winners...

Our **Best Player is Sacha Mutze**. Sacha was by far our most consistent and threatening batter this season and relished the task I set her of being our go to 3<sup>rd</sup> base player even though it was fairly new to her. She was also one of our pitching options and never once shied away from the task, although she did often list the other players that were able to pitch. Well done Sacha, a very worthy winner and I look forward to watching you achieve great things in this sport.

Our **Best Team Player is Summer Arnold**. Summer stepped up to play under 15s this season when she could have had her final year in the under 13 team and not once did I think she was out of her depth. She has great game sense for someone so young and held down Short Stop no problem at all, while also proving a handy outfielding and catching option. She always has a great positive attitude which is infectious and took on any challenge we threw at her. I look forward to seeing Summer's development as a softball player, she has a very exciting future.

Finally our **Coaches Award goes to Kaitlin 'Chapstick' Chapman**. There is just something about the way Kaitlin goes about her Softball that makes you think she loves this game. She listens intently to instructions and asks all the right questions that indicate she is comprehending the game more and more each time she goes out on the diamond. We really focused on her at second base and she became the second base in our strongest line up. She has a very handy bat and just needs to take it a bit easier on herself 😊

**Brad Barry**  
U15 Navy Coach

**Hamilton**  
**HOLDEN & HSV**  
**DRIVE WITH PRIDE**



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## UNDER 13

### Coaches

Kay Bevan, Jamie Mead, Bek Jury and Jess Ward

### Scorer

Jodie Graham

### Team Manager

Sandy Mead

### U/13 Division 2 Premiers

Angel Bednall, Chelsea Billinger, Olivia Graham, Caitlin Jaensch, Eden Lapidge, Charlie Marshall, Alice McGinn, Chloe McKenzie, Steph McKenzie, Laura Murray, Ella Redmond, Tahlia Sheriff and Erin Taylor.

I would firstly like to start by congratulating all of the players and thanking the many support persons behind the scenes.

For many senior players, they can finish their careers having not experienced the excitement of a Grand Final birth let alone a Grand Final win at a young age.

Due to insufficient numbers for an u/11 team, we decided to combine the u11 and U/13 age groups and provide 4 coaches to support the varying levels of skill and experience. Ages ranged from 10 – 13, with several players having never played before.

I would like to thank my co coaches Jamie Mead, Jess Ward and Bek Jury for their commitment and support shown to the development of these girls and help achieve their dream of a premiership. These girls are only young themselves but have offered wonderful support and knowledge.

To Morgan and Pete. Pitching and catching coaches. How lucky we are to have had the guidance from such two greats of the game.

To Jodie, Sandy and Keryn, scorer, manager and junior coordinator...thank you so much for your ongoing support each week. A big commitment all season.

For those of you that were able to witness our Grand Final win, I am sure you could not help being touched by the excitement and pleasure that these girls exuded ...unforgettable.

The amount of support shown by the club, parents, families on that day epitomises what Glenelg Rebels stands for .....thank you so much . It never ceases to amaze me how much pleasure and satisfaction coaching juniors gives me. I thoroughly recommend it.

Every single player had a job to do and it was done to the best of their ability, good enough to win a premiership. The continual improvement throughout the season, particularly after the Port Pirie country championships, was achieved by the girls own perseverance and determination.

I really hope you all get to experience another Grand final win, but remember, the journey to get there is just as important as the win itself.

Edie, Steph, Laura and Chelsea shared the pitching duties.

Charlie, Olivia, Laura and Edie.....catchers

Caitlin, Alice, Tahlia, Chloe, Angel (before injury)...outfielders

Ella, Steph, Erin, Chelsea, Laura, Olivia, Edie...infielders.

You are all stars!

Really hope to see you all back playing in six months' time, not long, so rest up.!

Trophy Winners:

### **B & F: Eden Lapidge**

10 year old with the tenacity and passion of a player well beyond her years. Pitched her heart out for the entire season, an absolute dynamo! My only concern is that we can keep her at the club and not lose her to the Crows Women's team (football her second love).

[glenelgrebels.softball.org.au](http://glenelgrebels.softball.org.au)

### **Coaches Trophy: Laura Murray**

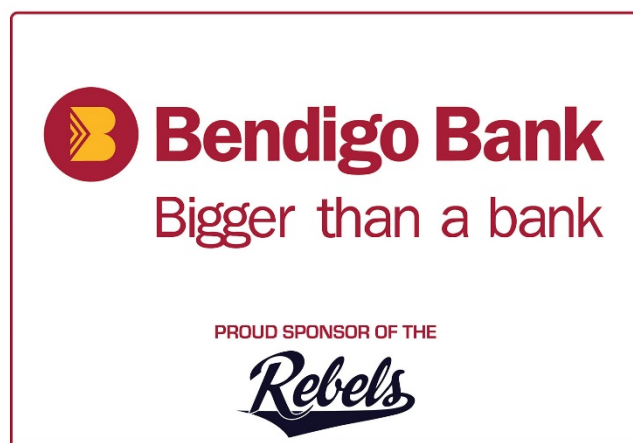
A dream to coach. Embraces any position asked to play without hesitation, and performs well. Trains like she plays, hard, committed and with passion. Huge future with Rebels ahead of her.

### **Most Improved: Caitlin Jaensch**

Remember those two bunts laid down in the Grand Final....that was our Caitie.

Always willing to have a go, be it sliding, slapping, bunting. Such a fantastic team player.

Kay Bevan / Jamie Mead / Bek Jury / Jess Ward  
U13 Coaches



## **NATIONAL AND STATE REPS**

### **U19 State Girls**

Jamie Mead  
Montana Edwards  
Lauren Beck  
Kushla Brewster

### **U17 State Girls**

Montana Edwards  
Marcie O'Neill (Statistician)

### **U15 Girls Development**

Jade Graham

### **Australian Squads and Duties**

Jamie Mead  
Montana Edwards

### **A Grade Team of the Year**

Jamie Mead (utility)

[facebook.com/glenelgrebels](https://facebook.com/glenelgrebels)

## CLUB AWARDS

### BEST CLUB PERSON

*Donated by Gerald Brown*

Brad Barry

### CLUB SERVICE AWARD

*Donated by Tom Whitworth*

John McGahey

### YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD

*Donated by Club Marion*

Jess Ward

### JOHNSON MEMORIAL TROPHY

*Donated by Chris Szpunar*

Jamie Mead

### JOY BANNISTER MEMORIAL AWARD ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

*Donated by Bannister Family*

Senior - Morgan Lashley

Junior - Hayley Phillips & Laura Murray

### KAORU WATANABE SPIRIT AWARD

Donated by and in memory of Kaoru Watanabe

Rebecca Catt

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

This season three very important Rebels were awarded Life Membership for their long and outstanding service to the club. This recognises the tireless work and years of dedication these three women have given and we would like to congratulate **Jenny Turner, Michelle McCarthur** and **Kay Bevan** on becoming Life Members of the Glenelg Rebels Softball Club.



## JUNIOR CARNIVALS

These carnivals and tournaments really are a great way to improve your skills and knowledge of the game. They are also invaluable in building friendships, confidence and a great team spirit. We encourage all juniors to participate in these occasions.

### Junior State Champs

Three Glenelg teams travelled to Port Pirie for the 2017 Junior State Championships on the weekend of 18-19 February. Despite wet and windy weather on Saturday and several injuries over the course of the tournament, all the girls played well, had fun and did the navy and white uniform proud

Our U13 team worked very hard with some close games but not a lot of joy on the scoreboard, finishing the weekend fourth overall. They are a great group of girls who get on with the game with a minimum of fuss. The benefits from the JSC experience have been evident in the team's dominance in games they have played since! Thanks to Jess Ward and Bek Jury for coaching.

Our two U17s teams were made up of a mix of U17 and U15 players so neither had played together as a team before. It was great to see them find their groove and play some good softball! Congrats to the 46ers for making the Div 2 grand final - it was only a narrow loss! We might be biased, but the Glenelg Rebels vs Glenelg 46ers qualifying final was the match of the weekend! Thanks to Dean Jury, Peter Edwards, Brad Barry and Rick Mead for taking on the tournament coaching duties.

### October Carnival

The first pre-season hitout for many of our players was the annual tournament held at West Beach over the October long weekend. Rebels had an Open Women's team, an U17 team and a combined U13 team with Walkerville. The weekend started out well under blue skies and the opening game saw our U17s take on our Open women's team, largely made up of our A-graders, due to the fact that there was only one other Open team in the draw. By the final day, the weather had turned and all games including finals were cancelled.

Rebels Open Women's finished as Carnival Champs and the U13 Glenelg/Walkerville combined team finished Runners Up on points. Great effort by all!

A big thanks to all the team officials, umpires and parents for all your hard work with tournaments, especially those like junior state carnivals where we have to travel. We couldn't take our teams to these tournaments without you!!

We hope you will all be back out to play in the Navy and White next season. Keep an eye out for winter training clinics and pre-season information and bring some friends along. Our goal going forward is to grow and develop our junior ranks to ensure a strong Club into the future.

**Keryn Lapidge**

Junior Coordinator

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## CLUB UMPIRES

Thank you to Andrea Mead who took on the duties of umpiring coordinator this season and to everyone who did an umpiring duty throughout the season. Without you and the blue and green shirts we would not even be playing each week.

Courtney Shepherd gained her green shirt this season and did a great job umpiring various junior games, well done Courtney a fantastic effort.

If you are interested in umpiring please contact the club as we will organise and pay for your training so you can umpire for the club and earn some cash from schools and other Softball tournaments.

We would like to give a special congratulations to Tara Johnson who was rewarded for all of her great umpiring throughout the season with a number of duties during the post season. This culminated in getting to plate the U13 Div1 Grand Final and then she received the Rookie of the year award from the Softball SA Umpire Association. What a wonderful achievement, great work Tara.

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## UNIFORMS AND MERCH

### Playing uniforms

After a couple of years full of bumps and let downs we were finally able to get the whole playing group out on the park in their new playing shirts. The whole process of changing supplier and coming up with a new and unique design has been challenging to say the least! A big thank you goes out to Brad Barry who put his creative talents to work to come up with the updated Rebels logo and the fantastic design of the new shirts. So after 3 seasons of transitioning firstly, into pants and then the new shirt, we are finally there!

Our new supplier, Blackchrome, has been wonderful to deal with and I will be working with them in the off-season to bring you customised compression tops and bottoms ready for the 2017/18 season.

### Merchandise

Once again, our merchandise has proved popular amongst players and supporters alike. We will continue to grow our product line (all suggestions welcome!) to ensure that we remain the best looking and most visible club at West Beach... watch this space!

A big thank you to everyone for your support and best wishes for a relaxing off season ... see you in August!

Cheers

**Jane Bennett**

GRSC Uniform and Merchandise co-ordinator.

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## GRSC COMMITTEE

### President

Brad Barry

### Vice President

Jenny Turner

### Secretary

Liz McGee

### Treasurer

Sharon Ward

### Committee

Jane Bennett

Chris Wheatley

Keryn Lapidge

Dana Wright

Michelle Townsend

Andrea Mead

Sandy Mead

We would like to say a big **thanks** to all of the **coaches, umpires, scorers, managers, parents** and especially the **players** who put on the Navy and White this season. It goes without saying that this club would not be the proud developing club it is, without you.

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## NOTICE OF AGM

Advance notice of the Annual General Meeting & Special General Meeting to be held at **7:00pm on Monday 15 May 2017 at Club Marion.**

Nominations are sought for the following positions:

### Executive:

President

Vice President(s)

Secretary

Treasurer

Management Committee

Applications are sought in writing by midnight **Sunday 23 April 2017**. Nominations must be endorsed by two financial members, and accepted by the nominee prior to submission.

## GRSC VOLUNTEERS

We couldn't do it without you!

Volunteers are a vital part of any club. Without them life at Glenelg Rebels would be extremely difficult. No one wants to pay more fees or see games cancelled – but that's the reality if our trusty band of volunteers didn't roll up their sleeves each week to do things such as Umpiring, Scoring, Team Managing, Grounds and Bases Duty at West Beach, running BBQ's and Car Park Duty, carrying the tent or kit bag to name a few.

Glenelg Rebels has some excellent members who continually put their hand up for one or all of the above duties and we are extremely grateful for this assistance. To YOU! we are extremely grateful. It would be fantastic if we could build an army of volunteers ensuring that all the work is not left to a few!

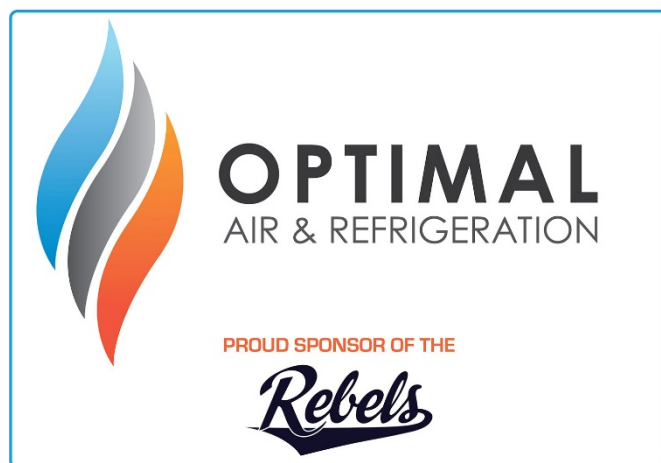
Volunteering is a great way to meet other members within the Club and can even be a bit of fun! Most of these duties are not difficult, and are an easy way for players, (juniors and seniors) as well as parents/partners to chip in.

So, next season when YOU see or hear a call out for volunteers please put your hand up to help. We will happily guide you through what you need to do.

Best wishes for a relaxing off season!

**Chris Wheatley**

GRSC Volunteer Co-ordinator



## SPONSORSHIP

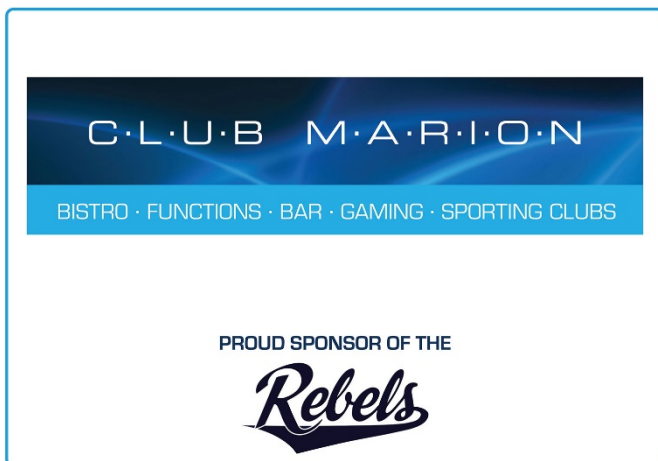
The club has done a fantastic job once again securing new sponsors for the season.

We welcomed back Halpin Financial Services, Bendigo Bank Glenelg Branch, Magain Real Estate and Optimal Air & Refrigeration for another season and were delighted to have Hamilton Holden join the Rebels family for season 2016/17.

We are always happy to have more so if you know of any businesses keen to get on board, please let the Committee know!

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## MAJOR SPONSOR



We thank our major sponsor Club Marion for their continued support of the Glenelg Rebels Softball Club in providing us with the amazing facilities we get to utilize every week. Please show your support by having a meal at the club from time to time.

Thank you to the City of Marion Council for their ongoing support of the Glenelg Rebels Softball Club and Club Marion.

See you all in a few months to take on Season 2017/18

# GO REBELS!