

Castle Hill Softball Club Inc.

Squeeze Play

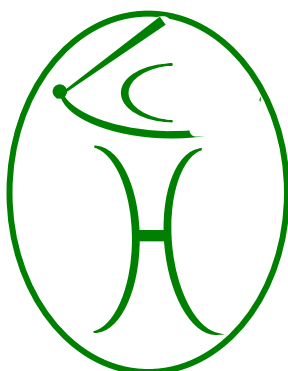


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If you are rostered on for an umpiring duty, please make sure you wear closed-in shoes and sign-on at the table outside the canteen at least 15 minutes prior to the game. Sign-on inside the canteen for canteen duties.

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



GRAND FINAL SUCCESS!

We had to take an extra week to get to this point (due to that pesky rain again), but we eventually made it to the Grand Final weekend for the 2016/17 season! And what a fantastic day it was!!

With the end of this season also comes team parties and our end of season Presentation Day and AGM for 2016/17. Our Presentation Day will be on Sunday, 21st May 2017 at the Castle Hill Tavern, Castle Hill.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Mixed Division 2 team, who came away victorious from their Grand Final appearance as PREMIERS!!

Thank you to all of the Castle Hill supporters who came out in the wind and cold to cheer on our Mixed Division 2 team in their Grand Final game, and congratulations to this team on coming through right at the end to finish as champions!!

Please note that RSVP's to Presentation Day and lunch orders are due by Monday, 15th May 2017. Also, a reminder that nominations and voting for Club Player of the Year and Junior and Senior Rookie of the Year are due next Friday, 31st March 2017. Please see your emails for further information.

Congratulations to this team on a magnificent season, and congratulations and thank you to all of the Castle Hill teams, managers, and the Executive Committee for all of their hard work and dedication. We hope to see you all again next season!

Thank you again to everyone for your time and effort this season - we hope you have all had a wonderful time with Castle Hill Softball Club! Looking forward to seeing you all at Presentation Day!!

This Week: N/A

Team	Game	Diamond	Duties	Plate
Men's Division 2	-	-		
Junior Boys Combo	-	-		
Ladies B Grade	-	-		
Ladies A Reserve	-	-		
Mixed Division 3	-	-		
Mixed Division 2	-	-		

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

Match Reports

SATURDAY GAMES

Mixed Division 2 vs. St. Michael's

Win 5-4

MVP: James Collis

We couldn't believe we had actually made the Grand Final this year when the email came through, so we definitely weren't going to take this opportunity for granted and we were going to give it everything we had! But after going down to St. Michael's 10-0 in our round game earlier in the season, we knew it wasn't going to be easy.

We started the game at bat, and we almost made it three-up, three-down (whoops!), if it hadn't been for Joseph's triple to right field! Unfortunately, he was stranded at third base, and we were scoreless going into the field. Thankfully, however, our fielding was on fire, and even though they got a few hits in of their own with loaded bases, we kept St. Michael's scoreless as well, due to great fly ball catches to Carlos and Aimee.

Going into the second innings and unfortunately our batting didn't improve (this time it was three-up, three-down!), and we were back to fielding in no time. And at this point St. Michael's pounced. With a safe hit through short stop and a walk to first base awarded, they had a few hits that scored them two runs; but we didn't let them have any more. We shut them down with an infield play to first base, a fly catch by James at left field, and a killer throw from Rod at third base to Deon to take the out at home plate.

At the top of the third, we once again went three-up, three-down, and we just couldn't seem to find our mojo with the bat. Thankfully, we reciprocated in the field, taking St. Michael's three-up, three-down as well, thanks to fly ball catches to Aimee, Leanie, and Deon.

After a great team talk coming back into the dugout, we started to get into our batting in the fourth. We were pushing for St. Michael's to make some errors, and we got a few, but not enough to put some runs on the score board. Sutto made it to first base, as did Bren, but both were unfortunately put out due to forced plays at second base. Ange then made it to first base on a hit through short stop, and continued round to third base on a great double to centre field by Aimee. But both were then stranded on the third out and we went back out to field. But our fielding hadn't deteriorated at all, and we held them to no runs again. Aimee and Ange took a great infield play at first base, Deon took a tag at home plate to stop them scoring another run, and Deon and Ange picked-off a runner at first base trying to steal to second.

At the top of the fifth innings, we were starting to get desperate. Although St. Michael's were only two runs in front, we weren't having much luck with the bat and we were running out of time to score some runs ourselves. Deon made it to first base on a fielder's choice play, and Laura hit a single through short stop, but again we couldn't convert these hits to runs before our third out. St. Michael's tried to add to their run total at this point as well, having loaded



Match Reports

bases at one point. But our fielding prevailed yet again, taking two outs through forced plays at third base with Joseph, and James taking a fly ball catch.

Coming into the sixth and last innings of the game (we just scraped it in with enough time to spare), it was do or die. Unless we scored at least two runs, the game would be over and St. Michael's would be awarded the premiership trophy. Rod was up first, and with a full count, slammed it through third base's feet, and safely limped to safety at first base (after having injured himself in the previous innings). Carolyn then hit the ball to short stop, who made a fumble error, allowing Rod to progress safely to second. Leanie then came up and slammed the ball to right field, giving us loaded bases. At this point the dugout and our supporters were going nuts, and we were finally making a stand in this game! Our momentum then halted a little with two outs, but we weren't out of it yet. Ange hit the ball to short stop who threw it to first base, who then dropped the ball and allowed us to score our first run of the game. Then, with loaded bases yet again, Aimee patiently waited for her pitch, taking it all the way to full count, and was eventually awarded a walk to first base, scoring our second run. Next up was Joseph who, after practicing this exact hit in the first innings, slammed the ball past right field for a triple, scoring all three runners!! We were now up 5-2, and we couldn't believe it!! St Michael's had a short team talk in the infield and decided that five runs was more than enough for us, striking out the next batter.



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!

We went into the field super pumped, knowing that we had to hold them out before they managed to score three or more runs. Less than this would have been optimal, as we weren't sure we had the energy to go into a tie-breaker! Their first batter hit it through short stop, but we got them out when the next batter forced them to second base. The next few batters were determined to get on base as well, and they did, but we managed our second out on a forced play to third. In the meantime, St. Michael's had scored two runs, and we were holding on to our lead by our fingertips! Their next three batters made it onto base through two hits and a walk (after hitting off six foul balls), and with loaded bases nerves were running high, both on the field and in the spectator chairs. If their next batter hit a safe hit, the game would be over.

By this point all of the other Grand Finals in our timeslot had finished, and so everyone had come over to watch the end of our game (no pressure at all!). One of their solid female hitters came up to the plate, and slammed the first pitch to left field. But thankfully, James barely had to move, and the ball came straight down into his glove. This was the third out, and the score was 5 runs to 4. We couldn't believe it - WE HAD WON THE GRAND FINAL!!!

Match Reports

Anything that happened after this point was just a blur! Celebrations were happening all around the field, we did our cheers and shook St. Michael's hands, and went down to Diamond 7 for the presentation. It is quite possibly one of the most exciting Grand Finals we have ever been a part of, and one that we certainly won't ever forget.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the club and the team in the Grand Final, and every other round of this season - we really appreciated the support! Thank you especially to Julie for coming out and scoring for us, both during the season and throughout the Finals series.

Congratulations team!!! I hope you all had a wonderful season and we will see you all back here next year!!

Michelle and Aimee



**CONGRATULATIONS
MIXED DIVISION 2!**

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We're on the web!
castlehill.softball.org.au

