

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2013/14 has been another successful year for the Rebels. Success isn't always measured by premiership success but by small individual team successes. It may be making your first fly ball catch or pitching your first strike out or for the more experienced players reducing the number of errors you make in the field but all these small successes make our club improve every year.

The Mens team again won the Mens Fastpitch Competition premiership for the third year in a row. The U15 Navy team also joined the premiership ranks winning the Adelaide Competition U15 Division 1.

Congratulations to Vanessa Stokes who after a winter playing professionally in Japan has been named in the Australian Women's team to compete at the World Championships later this year in Holland. Steph Trzcinski has also been named into Australian U19 squad and is currently on softball scholarship at the Berkeley, University of California.

It was great to see many new players at the club this year in all grades. Club was very pleased to add an U11 team to its ranks this year after a year without one, this grade helps build our club from the bottom up. Hopefully all of the new players have caught the softball bug and we look forward to you returning for an even better 2014/15 season. I am always pleased to see the return of players each year as retention of players is extremely important as a club but it is also a good indication that the club is doing something right.

Players cannot play without the help of our volunteers who coach, manage, score, umpire, do working bees and car parking duties. So a massive THANKYOU to our volunteers who get us on the diamond each week. We are always looking for new volunteers so if you are able to help out please let us know as our volunteers ensure that the club runs smoothly week to week.

Given that this is the latest the season has finished in many years, it will mean that the 2014/15 season will be upon us before we even know it. So no rest for the softball addicted!!

Natalie Brinkworth
Club President

A GRADE

The season just passed has been, to state the obvious, an extremely difficult and challenging one for players, coaches and supporters. On paper, the squad looked as solid and potentially successful as any other in the competition and our first few games showed a huge amount of potential. With the benefit of hindsight, this potential was not realized and we struggled to find form in games where all players fired at the same time. Each game passed and it was easy to find individual "stand-out" performances, but the reality of A Grade softball was evident as we came up against more established and "seasoned" teams, and while we started every game in fine fashion, on many occasions we struggled to maintain a consistent concentration and skill level in the middle and latter portions of the games. This was the biggest contributing factor to our final results and gives me a great deal of encouragement that with a solid pre-season, and some extra game time under our belts, this squad is destined for better things if they all work harder in coming years.

Our biggest issue presented at the start of the season was to identify and establish some additional starting pitchers. With the imminent departure of Steph Trzcinski (UC Berkley) and the spasmodic availability of Vanessa Stokes (both Australian representatives), opportunities were there for players, who may not have had them in previous years, to step up and show the competition what they were made of. On occasions this was the case, but on others we struggled as a team to support our starting pitchers and allow them to gain invaluable experience that would see them in future years become players who could consistently hold teams and allow our bats to win games. This is in no way an indictment on our fielders, simply a reality that panned out in front of our eyes that caught us all unaware at times. In many ways, while this has been a steep learning curve for our younger players, and a less than satisfactory result for some of our experienced players, it was the season we had to have as a squad to ensure that we are all crystal clear as to what is required next season to start the journey back to former glory.

Without delving too deep in to the world of statistics, there were a couple that give a good indication as to where we need to go in order to achieve the results we are looking for. The final team batting average of 1 hit in 4 batters, and the on base average of 1 in 3 players are both low in comparison to competition averages. If we are to succeed we need to improve on these results, and the final one of 152 strikeouts

for the season shows we have work to do yet. In a nutshell, we need to put some time and effort in to the hitting side of the game, and this will ring true throughout the junior and senior ranks, and not necessarily the mechanics of hitting, but also the situational decision making that will see us push runners around more consistently.

To round things off, we used 18 different players in A Grade this season, which gives a good indication of the depth we are building, especially when you remember that the B Grade played off in the grand final so we are looking healthy for the future. We welcomed several new players to the club and the decision to train as an A/B squad I believe has paid dividends already. The gap between A Grade and B grade was narrowed, and this largely contributed to us seeing success from most of our younger players as they were given opportunities.

While it may not have been apparent at times this season, I enjoyed the role and getting to know the players better, and look forward to bigger and better things to come. The time investment, while significant, is a minimum requirement to get the best out of players, and we will see in future now that we all know each other better, the rewards that will come from this investment in providing an environment that allows players to improve. It will quickly become apparent who is committed and is putting in the hours, and who is not and we are certainly creating a culture that will demand success in future, by doing no more than is expected, but expecting all to do their share. This culture will be self-governing in that it will eliminate any confusion on what is required to succeed, will provide help and support for those who need it, and realize the potential of all who commit, and cull those who cannot or will not. I look forward to watching this squad develop, as it will be an exciting ride. I hope to maintain some involvement in future years, and would like to thank the committee for their decision to allow me to undertake this role this year.

While I do not believe entirely in individual trophies within a team sport, it is reality that there will be players who perform consistently better over the season as a whole. These players should be rewarded for their efforts, and it is important that all the squad can see what can come of their efforts as they too progress, and measure their current levels against those who are currently achieving a higher standard. I mentioned and will emphasize consistency, because while there can be only one who is judged Most Valuable, consistency in approach, fitness, attitude, work ethic and performance is also critical to success. I have chosen to award 2 players this year that essentially played every game. Attended training religiously and were always taking advantage of opportunities to do more work. They are significantly different in their approach, achievement, standard of play and reputation amongst their peers, but each has contributed a tremendous amount to the squad this year, and it should be noted, to Junior ranks through coaching and mentoring. Lastly, the final significant piece of the puzzle is the future stars. We had

several this year, which made it extremely difficult to choose. In this mix were some very different playing styles. Positional flexibility and so expectations on some were more than others. This was always going to create a little conversation. In the end I decided to go with the one player who I believe made the biggest impact in the shortest time as she was given the opportunity. It is fair to say that the expectations on her current skill level and potential to succeed differed from some others, her statistics will reveal that she truly epitomized what it means to be given the privilege to play for your club at the highest level, and how the right approach will bring the rewards quickly. She still has a way to go, but has the right approach and I am sure will succeed in future. The real win for the club is that she is in very prestigious company and the future with all these players on board looks very bright.

Winners for A Grade are as follows:

MVP - Sophie Hoyle

Future Rising Star - Cara Davies

Rebel Spirit - Brianna McGee & Georgia Bevan

My congratulations to these players and all who played this season, and hope to see you all out at pre-season training later this year.

Rick Mead

A Grade Coach

B GRADE

B Grade is always one of the hardest teams to coach and play in merely due to its transient nature in players. B Grade is built to provide opportunities for A grade players to get themselves back into form, to develop junior players into future permanent A grade players with a mix of regular B grade players to keep the constant in the team. B grade never filled the same team twice but we definitely met all of our objectives to help the development of the players and the benefit of the club.

Working as an A/B squad, all players were used to working with one another which made the team environment very stable despite the constant change in personnel. B Grade had a rollercoaster range of results but it was not surprising given how close the B grade competition was this year. 2nd through to 5th position was within a point of one another. A win was required in our last game to secure a finals spot but also secured the double chance.

Sasha Penglase and our rookie Canadian Denise Spares shared the pitching duties throughout the season. We also welcomed new players Emma Nykiel who was a valuable utility and Talia Moyle who improved playing at this higher level. Life Member Heidi Bevan provided leadership and stability but was unable

to finish the season due to a back injury. It was very pleasing to see the improvement of the younger players, namely Cara Davies who became our regular centre fielder but also pushed her way into the A Grade for some starts late in the season. We also saw some future catching talent with Mia Davies stepping up late in the season to help behind the plate and Bek Jury made the most of her opportunities in the Bs as well. Big thank you to JT, Morts and Jess who formed part of team near the end of the season when injuries hit the squad, they stepped into the team as if they had been there all season. Another thanks to all the A grade players we had throughout the season.

Our grand final was played in our Preliminary final against West Torrens, with our massive crowd of Rebel regulars and Cara's school class it provided a fantastic atmosphere for a Rebels win. All players helped get us over the line, Elly with her bullet arm behind the plate and hitting a triple to put us in the lead definitely inspired the rest of the team. Cara and Kayla both made excellent catches late in the game which were both game saving moments in the field as well as Kayla's important sacrifice fly. Talia worked well with Morts to hold up the left side of the diamond with a very consistent Laura at first. Jess was solid at 2nd base but also did well with the bat. JT provided some light entertainment at right field but also some experience for the younger players. Sasha battled through all seven innings and managed to hold her nerve right to the end in some tough innings to get us over the line.

We were out powered by the strength and experience of the Walkerville team during the grand final. Playing grand finals provides invaluable experience to all players especially those players looking to play at higher levels in the future. It was a much improved effort from the previous year where we finished bottom.

Thanks to both Gary, Rick and Sophie who all assisted me during the year or coached when I was unable to. The B Grade was a team effort this year and all three of you made it a lot easier on me. It was also great to have Linda North (Rowdy) to be part of the team in a scoring capacity and Chris Wheatley as manager who made sure that all were fed and hydrated, especially those that were there all day for juniors and seniors. Also thanks to Lindy Rattigan, Liz McGee and Sandra Franke who also stepped in to score when Rowdy was unavailable.

MVP - Elly Beal

Most Improved - Cara Davies

Nat Brinkworth

B Grade Coach

C GRADE NAVY

Congratulations to our C Navy. They did work hard to get to the finals unfortunately like the Crows ran out legs in the final quarter. It was very unusual for s to win games before the Xmas break but this year we played our best games then. Thanks to all our fill ins for their efforts and also thanks to our import--Glenda" from NSW for coming over and helping us. Again the great work from the committee and volunteers is to be commended. The trophy winners are as follows

Most Valuable Person, Jenny Turner

It also won the best batting average. BUT I would like to add she is not a good bench warmer

Best team Person, Kyle Preece

Kyls was a great third base and strong batter. She made sure our equipment was at trainings and at games. She also made sure the Hydrator and the esky were also there as the incentive to our games. Kyls had hard times during the year but never let us down. WELL Done KYLs

Most consistent, Nat Hailstone

Nat believes she is an infielder but unfortunately she excels in her outfield catchers and her batting ability Sorry Nat but the song "Put me in Coach was written for you"

Enjoy the EOS.

Vicky Kolen

C Navy Coach

C GRADE WHITE

C White started the season off well but was unable to sustain it throughout the season. We had some close games but unable to get over the line in many of them. The season was still a success as we saw the development of many of our players who ended up playing an important part in the B grade team. We also saw the development of our junior players in this team as well which will ease their transition into the senior grades much easier in the future.

Jess Wadley was once again the glue that held this C White team together. Along with Jess' consistent hitting and fielding, she also provides invaluable leadership to the younger players in the team and helps to make their transition to seniors much easier. It was great to see Molly Matotek returned to softball this season, she shared the catching duties with Mia Davies. Bron Hurle became a more consistent hitter this season providing us with some extra strength in the lineup. Bek Jury developed her all round hitting game and Claire was an important utility playing the corners as well as helping out with the pitching on occasion. Jess Ward grew in more

confidence as player having her first full senior season with the Cs.

I would like to thank the number of players who filled in for us throughout the season, especially the U15s who rotated through this team and relished playing at this higher level. I would like to thank all those helped out with assistant coaching throughout the year but a big thanks to Simone Thompson our every reliable scorer and Jane "FIGJAM" Bennett our resident comedian, well team manager.

MVP - Jess Wadley

Most Improved - Bron Hurle

Nat Brinkworth

C White Coach

D GRADE NAVY

Due to weddings, hens nights, bad injuries & god knows what else, we had 23 players involved this season, so consistency of performance was never going to happen....

It was a strange year, because I don't think we played that bad, but couldn't get the wins we thought we would???

The upside of course is, we had a bloody lot of fun losing...We did!!

We had the core of last year's team, plus Lorraine Randall (Bugsy) who finally got cleared from West Torrens (another pitcher to give Tash a rest ...Yay) plus not too shabby with a bat in her hand either, Chloe Martin (just too old for under 17 & had never played softball before), and Kate Green from my under 15 (played 10 games for us after Tiff got injured).

After 7 games, Tiff Heinrich required a knee reconstruction due to a sliding incident, and she was sorely missed (she was last season's M.V.P.)

Due to my coaching under 15, I was absent for 8 games scheduled for 2.00pm.

That may not seem important, and those who filled in were great, so I am told, but I think it may have had some effect due to training under someone with different ideas to the person coaching on Saturday?? (or maybe I just want to feel missed??)

Anyway, It wasn't the season we would have liked, but I can guarantee the team put in the best they could, as we all did, and should still be proud of their efforts, and look to improve next season.

Just on that.. I am pretty sure we will have the services of at least one player from another club(who may or may not be a

catcher), plus a couple of junior players mother, who have played softball before have indicated their intentions of dusting of the gloves next season.. Watch this space.

Thank you to Dave Sheldon for not only scoring, but has a lot of sensible ideas on how the game should be played...Great effort again , and much appreciated by all concerned.

Thank you to Kylie & Sandra for scoring when Dave was unavailable.

Thanks to J.T. & Tiff for coaching when I wasn't available. I am just glad all our wins were when I was there.

To Andrea & her esky for helping us rehydrate whether we needed to or not??

And finally to D-Navy...You are a great group of people, on and off the diamond....THANKYOU

M.V.P. - Natasha Linke

Batting Trophy - Lorraine Randall

Most Improved -Chloe Martin

John McGahey

D Navy Coach



D GRADE WHITE

Wow what a season.. Upon returning from overseas and accepting the challenge of becoming coach for the first time, i began to work with the girls to discover their talents which would eventually lead to their new positions for the remainder of the season.

We went on to win our first of 4 wins against our fellow D Navy team and a draw to round out the season We ended the season on a high note, making it to the Div 2 D Grade Finals.

Even though we were unsuccessful in getting through to the Grand Final it was the first time that most of the girls had played finals and i am very proud of each and every one of them for doing everything they could. There was a lot to learn for both myself and the players this season and i thank

everyone of the D White team including all the juniors that filled in for us over the season.

I would like to say a big thank you to Leanne Bell for being our scorer this year, we could not have done it without you. I would like to thank all the other team coaches for giving me a hand throughout the season especially my assistant coach Tamyka. I would have not been able to give the girls the support they needed without you Tamyka, Thank you.

MVP - Jessica Pinos

Most Consistent - Olivia Bell

Most Improved - Talullah Barker-Gale

Bronwyn Case

D White Coach



2013/14 JUNIOR WRAP

It seems a long time since we commenced the 2013/14 Season with our Winter Clinics last July. With the official season start at our Registration / Come & Try's in August, then the October Long weekend Carnival, followed closely by the start of the Season proper with the State Junior Championships in Mt Gambier in February, Finals and for a few the season ending Waverley Easter Carnival last weekend, as well throwing in National Championships for U17' & U19's and Development Teams thrown in the mix ... that's a lot of Softball !!!

All this isn't possible without the support and hard work of many people.

Thanks to Gary Brinkworth for putting together the Winter Program and the support of Nat Brinkworth, Brad Barry and our Coaches who contributed their time. I'd also like to thank Brad for his time and commitment to our Junior Pitching program from the Winter clinics through to the end of the Season and to Steph and Donnelly for their contributions also.

To our Junior Coaches Georgia Bevan & Dean Jury (U17), Brad Barry, Jenny "JT" Turner, Dean Jury and Bek Jury (U15 Navy), John McGahey and Amy Buckney (U15 White), Steph Trzcinski,

Megan Wheatley and Bree McGee (U13) and Kay Bevan and Cara Davies (U11), thank you, these people have all given up their valuable time to assist our Juniors with their development, and I can't thank them enough for their commitment and effort in supporting our Juniors. ... I'd also like to thank Rick Mead for Coaching in Mt Gambier and his support of our Junior Coaches over the season.

These coaches all rely on the support of our Team Managers and Scorers to make life easier for them on Saturdays so big thanks also go to Sharon Ward & Liz McGee (U17), Kylie Buckney & Jill Brown (U15 Navy), & Sandra Franke & Claire Lewis (U15 White) Susie Campbell & Chris Wheatley (U13) and Marcie Trzcinski & Keryn Lapidge (U11). Many thanks to the parents who assisted Kay and Cara with the U11's on match day and to the parents who assisted all of our Junior grades with umpiring and other tasks, thank you.

Congratulation to all our Junior State representatives Megan Wheatley, Sasha Penglase, Kayla Rocco, Elly Beal and Tamyka Penglase (Asst Coach), U19's Congratulations also to Elly Beal who was also selected for U17's as Captain and has also recently been selected for the Secondary School Girls Team. Marcie Trzcinski attended the U17s as their Statistician. A mention also to Kyle Davies who represented the SA Boys U15 Development Team in Canberra ... well done all.

It would be remiss of me not to mention and thank Sharon Ward for her amazing organisational skills in ensuring both the October Carnival and Junior State Championships ran smoothly and to the efforts in Mt Gambier of Chris Wheatley and Franca Davies in looking after the players with the help of Rick, Brad, Megan & Cara and our "go for" David Ward.

It was a tough season for some of our Junior teams but they all showed big improvement and great attitudes. Congratulations to the U11's who had a great season finishing top and to our U13's who made Finals and showed marked improvement over the Season. But biggest congratulations go to Brad and our U15 Navy team on their Premiership. The girls fought hard and showed true character through the Finals series with both games before the Grand Final being knock out scenarios. The girls stood tall and showed true Rebels grit winning both "nail biting" games (both decided in the last innings) before their victory over Sturt in the Grand Final .. GO REBELS !!!

It was pleasing to see many Parents and Junior Players assisting with Club Duties and Fundraising activities over the Season and your support is always welcomed and very much appreciated ... but we can always use more help, so don't be afraid to put your hand up, there is always someone willing to assist or point you in the right direction.

At the end of the day without Parent support we don't have any Kids playing the game .. so thank you all.

Please stay tuned to our Updates with info about Winter Clinics coming soon (after a few months well earned rest). I wish all of you, the best, in your winter sport pursuits and look forward to seeing you all back in Navy Blue & White next season... GO REBELS !!!

Wayne Davies

Junior Coordinator

UNDER 17

Season 2013/2014 proved an interesting, fun and sometimes challenging season for the U17 girls.

We started off the season with basically a new team of girls coming up from U15s with only a handful of girls playing on from the previous year. We had several injuries early on which saw three of our more experienced players Alana, Amy and Tasma, missing out on the season. We had a diverse range of skill levels this year, which at times made it difficult to compete with the more experienced girls of other teams, but with the help of Dean, we were able to take some of the newer players aside to help build their skills whilst the more experienced players refined theirs. We had two completely new girls to the sport in Ashley and Tamika, who were brought along by their friends in their team and helped boost numbers, as well as two girls returning to the sport after a break Carly and Molly.

We saw a lot of development in these players over the course of the season, from stepping out of the batter's box on every pitch to being aggressive batters having growing confidence in the box.

Credit must be given to the senior players of our group in both the Bek's, Jess, Elly and Mia who often took the time to help the new girls with techniques or situations, as we all know softball is a complex sport, and really helped develop the team. A big thanks to the U15 girls who stepped up and helped us out when numbers were low, as well as supporting Bec Green with pitching as she took the mound every week, without any experienced back up, but still managed to do a fantastic job.

This year was definitely about enjoying softball; although we didn't have many wins on the board we made some great improvements. A highlight was a one run loss to West Torrens in a great team batting game, which saw the skills learnt throughout the year showcased. I hope the girls have learnt skills of teamwork, organization and time management that they can take into other aspects of life, as well as enjoying their softball and hopefully continuing into the senior ranks.

We have three awards this year an MVP, A most improved and a coach's award.

The MVP goes to a player who was consistent throughout the season and caught almost every game, even though it may not be her favourite position. This girl always takes on board advice and stepped up this year with leadership and voice, when she may have previously been quieter. I'm pleased to announce our **MVP is Mia**.

Our most improved player goes to one of our newer girls, who went from never playing the game to being a consistent batter and second base. This girl is a disciplined batter and by the end of the season had second base completely under wraps.

Our most improved player this year goes to Ashley.

Our last award is the coaches award, this goes to a not only a great team player but also a great club player. This girl was always helping the team by grabbing gear and helping fill roles when other players were away. Not only did she do a lot for the team, but also was the most consistent attendee at our fitness sessions on a Thursday night, even if fitness was not her strong point. She is always taking on board any constructive criticism, making an effort to put it into practice.

This year's coaches award goes to Jess.

Georgia Bevan

U17 Coach

UNDER 15 NAVY

Your Division 1 Premiership winning Under 15 Navy team for 2013/14 are Coco Punury, Lauren Jury, Amber Dodd-Mobius, Mae Fraser, Ruby Kromer, Sophia Higgins, Elena Blenkinsop, Jasmyn Brown and Mali Place. This enthusiastic, overwhelming, skilled, friendly and loud group was coached by myself, Dean Jury, Jenny Turner and cadet coach Bek Jury. I had my buddy and awesome scribbler Kylie Buckney at my side scoring for the season. Our team manager was Jill Brown, and base umpire was Jeff. I also want to thank Talica Natadra, for her part in the team during the first month or so and all of the under 13's who filled in during the season. To all of the names mentioned above, I thank you with the utmost sincerity for allowing me to coach you, or coach with you, or have you on my team.

Right from the first couple of training sessions I thought we had the potential to be a strong team in the competition. But then we had our first game ... woaaaaah, we needed to go back a few steps and nail down some of the basics. The thing I loved, and was maintained right throughout the season was that most of the time the players knew what it was we needed to work on, so they were up for it.

Once we had those basic nailed down and we had a couple of wins under our belts we settled into the season. There were some good wins, ugly losses and a draw we probably didn't plan on, but I look back to a couple of the close wins and losses which I think defined what these players were capable of. I could see that the fighting spirit and never give up attitude I was trying to get out of them was coming through. But most importantly could see they were happy in each other's success, in fact most of the time happier for their team mate's success than their own. That is the sort of thing that inspires me to coach, that team mentality and personal growth that sport can bring out in all of us.

They were believing in themselves and each other, starting to back themselves, get over mistakes quicker, stepping up when it was their own individual turn to shine for the benefit of the team. We did not have one superstar on our team, but we had a team which when they worked together was an awesome team.

Once we got to the big dance anything was possible and weren't we in for a bumpy little ride. Some coaches say, just treat it like any other game. To that I say, these kids are not idiots! they knew damn well how important the game was and just how hard they had worked to get there. We did all we could to try and chill them out but some of them were as uptight as I have ever seen them. So my great team of officials just took on our roles and tried to manage them as best we could with a few Kleenex in hand, a teaspoon of cement and a premiership to win. In the end we were victorious and the feeling of pride I have for that group of under 15 Rebels is second to none.

I really hope all of you come back to the Rebels next season and continue to develop your softball with your next coach. We have travelled a road this season which you will look back on in years to come in a very positive light, thanks for letting me be part of it.

Unfortunately after all I have just said, I have to pick three of these gems to receive an individual accolade and it has been so hard to do. For the first time ever I have drawn on my stats to help me decide between some very close contenders.

Batting Trophy - Coco Ponury

This year has been a breakout year for Coco, who has found real consistency and aggression in her game. She has put her stamp on her position at second base and as lead off batter. Some of the pitches she let go had me cringing at 3rd base, but I would say 95% of the time she was right and it was called a ball. It was only because we were such a strong batting team that I could leave her at the top of the order, but she may find herself down a few positions next season if she continues to bat that strongly. She had a Batting Average of 513, an On Base Percentage of 635, 20 hits, 24 runs, 10 RBI's, and even managed a lead off home in the final against West Torrens.

Best Player - Ruby Kromer

With her relaxed and quiet nature most things appear to come very easily to Ruby. But she had some confidence and belief things to sort out this season and I think she settled into the season and came out the other end as a stronger team player. Statistically she was nearly faultless with a Batting Average of 447, On Base Percentage of 533, 17 hits, 18 runs, 20 RBI's, 2 home runs and 4 triples. Her pitching has come on strongly and throwing 488 pitches in 23 innings, she gave up just 11 earned runs, averaged just one walk per innings with 21 strike outs for the season.

Coaches Award - Sophia Higgins

It wasn't until the end of the season that I really reflected upon the challenges Sophia must have faced as a 12 year old coming from the USA and joining the Rebels just two days after landing. She found herself in a team of girls that knew each other very well and she wanted to stand in the middle and take on the responsibility of pitching. That shows a lot of character and the best part is that she fitted in and was welcomed as if she had been a Rebel for life. With a batting average of 405, on base percentage of 542, slugging at 919, 15 hits, 24 runs, 19 RBI's and 5 home runs. She threw the most pitches for the season with 519 in 21 innings, giving up just 14 hits, striking out 33 batters with a strike percentage of 505.

Brad Barry

U15 Navy Coach

UNDER 15 WHITE

These girls did the usual pre-season with all other under 15's & by the time of the split the poor buggers only had just over 2 weeks (approx.) before the first game, probably our third time together as a team was our first game. Not ideal !!!

To top it all off, these girls were being coached by someone that most had never met before and am sure had reservations about his coaching ability (no comments please..)

I also was not sure what I had to work with, so it was all very new to all concerned.

To all who took on these roles during the season, please don't take this as a criticism, far from it, but, we never at any time had a "recognised pitcher or catcher", and it was a credit to those girls for having a "never give up" attitude.

These girls were unbelievable, the way they would all come to every training possible, do what they were asked on training & game days without hesitation (most times), then just go out & give it their best against what was at times, far better opposition.

Even though our winning success wasn't there, the girls showed much more improvement than they probably realise..That is not just my opinion, and it is FACT....

I really hope you enjoyed the season as much as I did & look forward to seeing all of you in Rebels uniforms next season.

I now would like to thank the following people..

Amy Buckney, (Asst Coach) who was terrific all season keeping the girls & I in line, plus because she is a current player, understands what the girls are going through, plus it was much more difficult for the team to "con her", because she has been there..Thanks Amy, and I really hope you can play next season, as I know how much you missed it.

Claire Lewis, (Team Manager) worked tirelessly game days, arranging shade, assorted paperwork & anything else the team required. Thanks personally, you were a tremendous help to the team & I, plus a very good sounding board if I needed a way around an issue. (Or if I was causing one??)

Sandra Franke (Scorer) This lady is amazing, not only is she at 2.00pm under 15 games, but you will often see her scoring 6.00pm senior games in all kinds of weather. I am not sure whether you volunteered (and don't care), I am just glad you were there, and on behalf of the whole team, a very big thank you.

Lastly, thank you to Tara Johnson & Darcy Lapidge from under 13, for filling in when needed, much appreciated.

It has been a while since I coached juniors, and at the start was as nervous as a rookie, but this group made me feel very comfortable, and I would like to coach juniors again if possible
THANKYOU

Most Valuable Player = Jessica Johnson

Batting Trophy = Kate Green

Most Improved = Georgia Hutchison

John McGahey

U15 White Coach

UNDER 13

This season the under thirteen team finished a very respectable 3rd place in the plate division. This crazy bunch of girls are both a pleasure and a challenge to coach. We've had our fair share of laughs, tears, space cadet moments and even a few dancing outfielders. Over the season all of the girls have made massive improvement to both their skill and game sense and should be very proud of themselves because we are.

We started the season off with Steph Trzcinski as coach who taught the girls lots of important skills. She had these words to

share about the girls: "I am so proud of them and in the short time I was there I saw them mature as girls as well as softballers. They all have so much potential if their willing to put in the hard yards. I loved working with them and I'm so glad I got the opportunity to pass on my knowledge." We unfortunately farewelled her to bigger and better things half way through the season and she was greatly missed by the team. However we were very lucky to gain Bree McGee as a coach and her well loved 'what would you do ?' game for the second half of the season.

The majority of the under 13 team plus three under elevens and their coach Cara Davies participated in the junior state champs in Mt Gambier. Whilst we didn't win too many games the girls had a great time and the improvement in all of the players was phenomenal.

We also had almost all of our players participate in the SAPSASA tournament and according to many people they all performed really well.

Thank you to all the parents, our scorer Sue Campbell and our team manager Chris Wheatley, without you guys this season wouldn't have possible and congratulations to all of the girls on a great season.

Most Valuable Player - Angel Downing

Best Team Player - Darcy Lapidge

Most Improved - Kalesi Natadra

Megan Wheatley

U13 Coach

UNDER 11

Sacha Mutze, Sunshine Hurst, Summer Arnold, Jade Graham, Olivia Graham, Tom Brown, Alex Trzcinski, Eden Lapidge, Brooklyn Morrison, Steph McKenzie, Chloe McKenzie.

The emphasis of our U/11 competition, is all about ensuring all players have fun, whilst experiencing team situations and acknowledging each other's best attempts at playing softball. This also includes, accepting umpires decisions (even though they may be not what you would like them to be) and learning to deal with your own frustrations and disappointments

I am very proud to say that all of these players demonstrated respectful behaviour to my assistant coach Cara Davies and myself, umpires, opposition and most importantly to each other.

We were lucky enough to have Steph, Brook and Chloe join our team after the Xmas break and Cara and I were rapt to see

how well the team welcomed , encouraged and included these players . It was great to see, thank you guys.

We had a broad skill base as well as age range in the team, from our two seven year olds in Eden and Olivia through to other players, up to 10 years of age. Once again, Cara and I were very grateful for the support and encouragement shown to these players, ensuring they came back each week.

As usual, a very big thank you goes out to the behind the scenes efforts, shared by many.

To the parents that supported their children with training, match days as well as supportive coaching roles at practice and on the day. Also to the shared managers' role, picked up by several parents, always a great help to coaches.

A big thank you to Marcie Trzcinski, our scorer, who had the players inked with their batting order and positions announced repetitively throughout the game.

To Cara, it gave me great pleasure to see how easily you coped with the demands of coaching, not always easy with a young age group. Your patience and fairness demonstrated as a coach, is what the Glenelg Rebels Softball Club strives for. I really hope you can continue to contribute and evolve as a coach, thank you Franca and Wayne for supporting Cara.

I really hope that you would all have come away from the season, knowing that Cara and I were always happy and accepting of your efforts in the game knowing full well that you tried your best. I know I had lots of fun, and enjoyed seeing you all achieve so much. I hope you did too!

Even though the emphasis is about participation and life skills, I can't help but mention that our U/11's finished on top of the competition... WELL DONE EVERYONE!!!!

Really hope you all decide to come back again next season, until then, stay safe.

Kay Bevan
U11 Coach



REBELS MEN TEAM

REBELS MEN JUST MISS OUT ON PERFECT SEASON.

The Glenelg Rebels Mens were everywhere this season, representing the club in the MFSA (Premiers), Senior State Championships (Mens Champions), Aussie Spirit Slowpitch (Champions), NAMSA (Premiers) and Hills (Runners-up) as well as the Canberra Skins, Open Mens Nationals for Northern Territory and even the European Cup.

MFSA

The 2013/14 MFSA Season saw Glenelg go in as red hot favourites after winning the previous 2 MFSA premierships and the 2013 Softball SA Champions League!

Going undefeated in the minor round with a dominant 72 runs for and 21 against record, we qualified 1st and went straight through to the Grand Final. Our opponent was to be the fast finishing Raiders lead by Australian Mens squad representative pitcher, Jarryd 'Chops' Farrell and boasting 7 current state players from U17, U19 and Open men's. It was the Raiders that hit the scoreboard first and with our backs to the wall early, The Bay Machine immediately responded courtesy of a 3 run HOMERUN to playing coach James Harris.

The Raiders clawed their way back in to the game with Farrell continuing to dominate with bat and ball and the Raiders were back to within a run.

Gaining momentum the Bay Machine broke the game open with a 5 run inning eventually taking out a third successive MFSA Premiership winning 10-4.

Massive thanks to the guys for their efforts.

To the Matriarch of SA Mens Softball, Lindy Rattigan, we wouldn't have a team in uniform or a competition to play in if it wasn't for you! THANK YOU!

Scott, Mark, Dan, Rick, Nick, James and Gus all played for the Hahndorf Magpies in Canberra in December's Skins tournament.

James played in the NAMSA premiership with the Roadrunners (back to back titles)

James and Joel Cooley all played for NT at Open Mens in March (SA could not fill a team)

James played in the European Cup in Italy for Dutch side DVH again in the off season

Scott, Mark, Dan, James, Rick and Nick all played for Hills in the Open Mens State Championships – taking out the title

James and Simone Thompson were both officials for the SA U19 Mens State team

Dan, Gus, Nick, Scott, James and Mark all played for Hahndorf in the Hills league narrowly missing out on that GF losing 3-4

Most weight gained – Tied – Phil Crisp and Scott Rattigan

Most insults outbound – Mark Cramp

Most insults received – Mark Cramp

Best collection of Snapchats – Gus Wuttke

Best first year player – Steven Lapidge (*Actual acknowledgement of a good performance)

MVP – Not awarded this year as the Coach can't give himself an award even though he had the highest number of hits, OB, stolen bases, extra base hits, sacrifices, runs scored, put outs, assists, 2nd in RBIs and walks, highest batting and slugging averages, 2nd in OB average, and least amount of strikeouts and no errors.

Congratulations to all Glenelg teams, especially our victorious teams and players/officials honoured tonight and once again to the Glenelg Mens team on a great year!

James Harris & Scott Rattigan

2013/14 CLUB AWARDS

BEST CLUB PERSON

Donated by Gerald Brown

Brad Barry

CLUB SERVICE AWARD

Donated by Tom Whitworth

Nat Brinkworth

YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD

Donated by Club Marion

Megan Wheatley

JOHNSON MEMORIAL TROPHY

Donated by Chris Szpunar

Steph Trzcinski

JOY BANNISTER MEMORIAL AWARD ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Donated by Bannister Family

Denise Spares & Sophia Higgins

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.

October Carnival

The season started off with the Carnival at West Beach over the October Long Weekend. We were able to enter a Under 15s Glenelg Rebels Team plus Under 17's Team with the help of Girls from both Mt Gambier and Port Adelaide. The girls in both teams thoroughly enjoyed their weekend and were able to make some new friendships. This was a great start to the season and got the girls prepared for the season ahead.

Junior State Champs

This year we travelled to Mt Gambier for the Junior State Champs weekend. We entered a Under 13s and a Under 17s Team. Both Teams played brilliantly over the weekend and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A lot was learnt and it certainly helped them all with their games for the rest of the season.

Both of these carnivals take a lot of organising and thanks must go to the Coaches for giving up their time Rick, Brad (Under 17s), Megan, Cara (Under 13's), Johnno, Amy (Under 15s) plus their Team Managers and Scorers. Also a very big thank you to the parents and players as without you we would not be able to participate in these carnivals.

Sharon Ward

Junior Tournament Co-ordinator



NATIONAL, STATE AND SCHOOL REPS

Starz (SA Open Women's)

Georgia Bevan

Vanessa Stokes

U19 Girls

Elly Beal

Sasha Penglase

Kayla Rocco

Megan Wheatley

Tamyka Penglase (Asst Coach)

U19 Boys

James Harris (Head Coach)

Simone Thompson (Statistician)

U17 Girls

Marcie Trzcinski (Statistician)

Elly Beal (Captain)

2014 SA Schoolgirls

Elly Beal

2013 Australian Schoolgirls team

Megan Wheatley

SAPSASA

Kalesi Natandra

Courtney Todd-Sheppard

Tayla Mead

Darcy Lapidge

Tara Johnson

Rachel Reid

Angel Downing

Aleesha Mead

Australian Squads and Duties

Vanessa Stokes

Steph Trzcinski

Official National scorer for U19 Womens/Mens tournament

Lindy Rattigan

WAVERLEY EASTER CARNIVAL

After somewhat of a debacle in establishing who was or who wasn't organising teams for the Easter Waverley carnival, it became a mad scramble by some individuals and clubs to try & put together teams in time for the nomination deadline. The end result was that we had only 4 Rebels players attend this year's carnival (Megan Wheatley in a Mt Gambier U19 team, Bek Jury in a Sturt organised U17 team (yes that was a little hard to stomach at first), with Amber Dodd-Mobius & Lauren Jury in a Glenelg organised U15 side. Umpire Michelle Hawksworth also made the trip over.

This is a bit of a shame as in my opinion it is one of the best junior carnivals going at the moment. The facilities are great & the level of competition is generally of a high standard. Maybe keep your calendar free for Easter next year for those interested.

Unfortunately due to the draw I wasn't able to catch much of Megan's or Bek's games at all, however Megan came home with a premiers medallion & Bek came home with a Plate runners up medallion.

Apart from Amber & Lauren (& yours truly as coach) the remaining members of the U15 side included 4 from Port, 1 Strathalbyn, 1 Echunga, 2 West Torrens, 1 Walkerville & 1 Sturt player. We played 10 minor round games before being

split into plate & cup divisions. After a slow start giving up our first 5 games (2 by one run and one of those to eventual Cup Grand finalist TVR) the girls started playing to their full potential and went on to win their remaining games to take out the Plate grand final. Just to show how much the girls improved, we played Casey in our first game and lost 5 to 6, but went on to beat them in the grand final 12 to 1. So all 4 Rebels players went on to play in grand finals.

It should be noted that the U15 team nearly didn't happen. A lot of effort was put in to make sure players from all clubs had the opportunity to experience this carnival and that the team didn't have any interstate imports, so was made up totally of players from various SA clubs. We ended up playing 12 games over the 4 days.

Even though they came from various clubs, they did our club proud, as did Bek, Megan and Michelle who went on to plate the U17 Plate grand final. I'd like to thank everyone who loaned us tops, Jane for helping out with the uniforms, and Nat & James Harris for their support.

Dean Jury

Waverley Tournament Co-ordinator

YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2013/14 WAS

President

Nat Brinkworth

Vice President

John McGahey

Secretary

Liz McGee

Treasurer

Sandra Franke

Committee

Brad Barry

Jane Bennett

Wayne Davies

Jenny Turner

Sharon Ward

Tamyka Penglase

Chris Wheately

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.

PHOTOGRAPHY

We would like to say a special thanks to **Phil Bell** for volunteering his time and skill in taking photographs during the season. He was out quite a few times taking some action shots for us to use on the club communication and also for the presentation night slideshow. But this season we really wanted to make sure all teams had team photos and he worked with Brad to make this happen, thanks Phil.

CLUB UMPIRES

As umpires co-ordinator, my job is to ensure all junior games have either a BASE or PLATE umpire at EVERY junior game depending on if we are “home team” or not, plus any umpire duties which the association gives us for seniors.

Many would think this “just happens”!!! It doesn’t..

So, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Senior teams for covering those duties which our Accredited umpires couldn’t cover, as I know it’s the one duty no-one wants to do, but the fines are too big to ignore & duties must be done.

Thank you also to Nat, Tamyka, & others who covered when I messed up with allocations & saved the club money.

Now, Most importantly , to **Michelle Hawksworth, Craig Paech, Jeff Brown** & towards end of season, **Bec Green**, your assistance was invaluable. (Am very sorry if I missed anyone)

Finally, to whoever does this task next season, the club Must find more umpires so that the co-ordinator doesn’t have to keep asking the same people. The association are forever asking me why we have so many teams & so few umpires...?? I have no answer for them. A suggestion from me is that, if you are capable of coaching, you probably know a few rules, and are capable of umpiring....? Otherwise, how can you challenge an umpire decision??

Something to think about over winter.

John McGahey
Umpiring Co-ordinator

GRSC VOLUNTEERS

We couldn’t do it without you!

Once again this has been a big season for volunteers and we would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to those who have put up their hands to help out with the

various duties we, as a Club, are asked to perform each year. Thank you for helping out with:

Marion Community Sports Club:

Market car parking duty
Friday night raffles

Softball HQ:

Collection and drop off of bases
Lock up
Grounds duty (including Junior carnivals)
Umpiring*

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.

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. 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! Not one of these duties is difficult, and is an easy way for players, (juniors and seniors) as well as parents/partners to chip in.

So, next season when **YOU** see 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!

* If you would like to have a go at umpiring please speak to Natalie Brinkworth or John McGahey to see how you can join the Green Shirt program for new umpires.

Chris Wheatley and Jane Bennett
GRSC Volunteer Co-ordinators

SPONSORSHIP

We went into season 2013/14 with an intention to simplify our sponsorship packages and create what we thought would be a more attractive partnership for small businesses. It seemed to work as we gained four new sponsors this year, one of which is a two year partnership.

Revive Fitness who Luke helped us get fit each week and provided us with memberships for raffle prizes. **Bakers Delight** **Glenelg** who have helped us out with Bread and Rolls for our various events that we have held through the year plus in addition to this they have provided us with vouchers to raffle.

Pure Financial Management have provided us with Water to keep our players hydrated at our October Carnival and Club Day. We also thank **Slade's Caravan Repairs** for their valuable support throughout the season.

We not only had these four sponsors but we were also lucky enough to be a part of a Barbeque at Coles Glenelg which was provided to us by the Rotary Club at Glenelg.

We wish to thank Paul, Gina and Luke from Revive, Marie from Baker's Delight, Michael and Tanya from Pure Financial Management and Brad and Andrea from Slade's Caravan Repairs for sponsoring our club for the season 2013/2014 and your support throughout the season is second to none.

Sharon Ward & Brad Barry

Sponsorship Co-ordinators



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.

continued support of the Glenelg Rebels Softball Club. 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.



LIVING THE COLLEGE DREAM



I asked Steph Trzcinski to write an article for the newsletter to give us an insight into what college life is like, a great read in my opinion, Brad Barry.

Ever since I could remember I always dreamed of playing softball for a Division 1 college in the USA, it's scary to think that dream has become a reality all so fast!

I can honestly tell you that college life is exactly how you see it on the TV, but it is also exactly NOT what you see. Sure there are parties at frat houses every weekend, and spring break is just one big party... for a normal student. But being a student-athlete at not only the academically best public university in the nation, but also one of the long-term best and most decorated softball program in the country is a lot of hard work. I am either on the field, in the weight room, in a classroom or sometimes (when I'm lucky) even asleep in bed, ready to do it all again tomorrow.

In College Softball, the first semester of school (Fall: August to December) teams generally just practice (a lot). The second semester (Spring: January – May) teams play tournaments all over the country, conference games, mid week games and then hopefully post-season games! So coming in the spring like I did was hard work. I came into a closely-knit group of girls that spend hours of their days every day with each other and I didn't even know anyone's names.

Needless to say I got off to a bumpy start. The first few weeks of pre-season tournaments took me to Arizona, San Diego, Riverside, Palm Springs, Santa Clara and even Hawaii. I got injured after the first two weeks of pre-season so I took some time off. By the time I was on the mend, I had started to really settle in with the team and have a better understanding with the catchers. My team (California – or Cal for short) is in the best conference in the nation, the Pac-12. We play a 3 game series against all the teams in it for our season and it really is challenging!

So far we have played Stanford, Oregon State, Arizona State and Arizona who are all tough opponents. We beat Stanford

2/3 games and won the series, which was great because they are our archrivals! (Seriously the color red is practically banned in Berkeley- there are also shirts on campus for sale that say: Voldemort went to Stanford). We only played one game against Oregon State (rained out), which we won, and we won 1/3 against Arizona (who at the time had the best team batting average in the whole country!)

I have experienced every emotion possible already at my time here. I've pitched no-hitters and shutouts but I've also had walk-off home runs and grand slams hit off me. Not to mention the injuries, fingers slammed in doors and concussions I've already had! My team and I have really been on a huge rollercoaster this year. The highs have been really high, and the lows have been really low, but it's so nice to have such a great and supportive team and coaching staff with you for every curveball that comes our way.

At every corner there seems to be something new that I didn't know about America or College. I have already improved my game and learnt so much about myself and the world around me in just a few short months here at Cal, I can't wait to see what the next 4 years bring me!

Steph Trzcinski



As most of you (hopefully all of you) are aware we made the switch to using the online mailing tool Mail Chimp during the season.

This allows us much more versatility in our weekly communication with you all throughout the season. One of the problems has been some SPAM filters blocking emails from mail chimp, so I think there are still some people not getting these emails. If you have not received any of these club emails please contact Brad on 0402 319 733 or brad@bradelaide.com so we can sort it out.

WINTER CLINICS

Due to the success of the club run winter training last year which was held at Woodlands Indoor Sports Centre we are planning to organise another program during the winter, leading into the season.

The next appointed committee and coaching group will put their heads together to come up with the plan, but shortly we will be asking for interested participants so keep a look out.

If you want to register your interest in advance, please contact Brad on 0402 319 733 or brad@bradelaide.com

PRE-SEASON PITCHING / CATCHING

We are after expressions of interest from pitchers and catchers to participate in a winter program. This is an expression of interest only at this stage which will allow us to work out the resources we will need to run the program. This is open to all U13 players, as well as U15, U17 or seniors who are serious about improving their pitching or catching skills.

Please contact Brad on 0402 319 733 or brad@bradelaide.com with your (or child's) name, age group or grade played during season 2013/14 and whether you are interested in pitching or catching.

NOTICE OF AGM

Advance notice of the Annual General Meeting & Special General Meeting to be held on **Monday 26 May 2014 at 7.00pm 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 4 May 2014

Nominations must be endorsed by two financial members, and accepted by the nominee prior to submission.

See you all in a few months to take on Season 2014/15

GO REBELS!