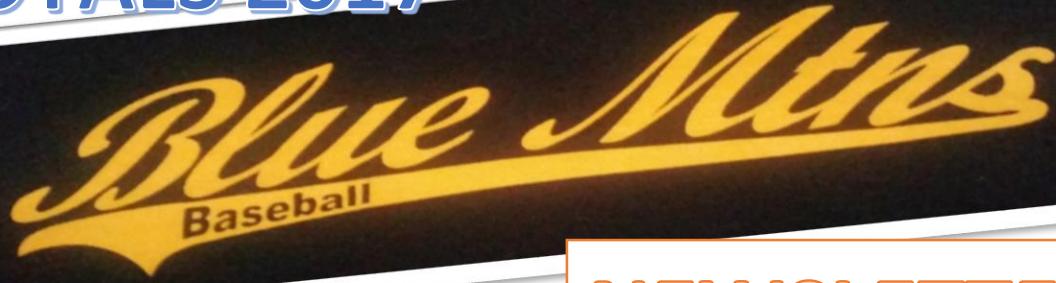


ROYALS 2017



NEWSLETTER #7

OPENING DAY AT LOMATIA!

The sun was shining and the sky was blue -aaaaah so nice!

H West and G3 West played at home and alas F2 had to travel again.

So Brad - how was your time at Kellyville.....

"Well this week we travelled even further west to Kellyville. Up till the morning of the game we were going with eight again. Luckily for us I got a text around 9am from Angus saying that he was travelling back from work in Dubbo and that he may be back in time for the game. Luckily for the team he made it back. Thanks for the big effort mate.

Going out there we knew we would be in for a fight. Kellyville were two from two and had won by big margins to lead the comp.

We started great. After one out we strung together four straight hits including a monster double from new import Nick Shaw. Off the left field fence on the fly. After some debate whether it was a home run, he was sent back to 2nd. But we got three early runs.

Unfortunately, Kellyville were in the hunt and they replied with four in the bottom of the inning.

Fast forward to the third after a quick second inning and Nick Shaw comes up with one on. Not be outdone by his mate Angus the week before, he put one over the left field fence. No doubter. We had the lead 5 to 4. We again kept them scoreless in the bottom of the inning.

To the 4th and we scratched out another run but gave them one back in the bottom. Still up by one.

Unfortunately, that's all we could score through the game against some decent pitching. Nine hits in total. They scored another one in the bottom of the fifth to tie and then we

went to the sixth. Unfortunately, they scored one more to snatch the game from our grasp, losing seven to six.

We had some great pitching from Steve who started and then later from Nathan and Angus. And much better in the field as well, including the play of the game by Brad Filmer. A running, sliding catch in right in the forth. At the time it saved us the lead.

And some not so good injury news from Chris Jones today. Out at least a few weeks. Hope we get some good news for you Chris.

And a quick shout out to Matt New. After some dubious scoring from the away scorer the week before it appears he may have led the team with four hits.

I'm sure a win is in the cards for our first game at home this weekend."

*

Always the house of pain for F2.....win or lose!

*

The Rookie reports.....

A game with more ups and downs than a roller coaster.

G3 started well at Lomatia 2:45 with the closest to a full team we have had all season. We had 2 reserves and a welcomed addition in new blood Ben up against Penrith on a well-manicured diamond thanks to a previous working bee. First innings started well with both teams in and out quickly getting a couple on the board with Big O back on the mound the G3 boys got 3 across to be up 3-1. A greater improvement in our batting on last season had the mood up and ready for the second. Bistro was at 1st leading the calls keeping the mood on as the Penrith boys got a few more on the board. Big O was solid on the mound dropping his wild thing form for a more controlled approach getting a few in the zone so the G3 team could field well. Solid batting from The Beard and others kept us close with Penrith clawing back to tie us up at the end of the second.

Time for a change of pitcher and Big Ezi stepped onto the mound for his first attempt and probably should have just stepped straight off again. If the aim was to throw balls he did it well sending in a barrage, leaving his pride and ego splattered all over the diamond. The only good to come of it was Capa at catcher did more squats chasing balls than the local Brazilian butt lift aerobics class. He walked off the diamond not fitting into his uniform after his workout. Penrith got a few more across to leave G3 chasing once again.

Up to bat and the boys performed well again with B Murph hitting a third base hit, T Atkins hit the fence down left field, some good positional hits from G Murph and others but Gerrard smashing one straight down the middle just right of 2nd to find the back fence at Lomatia for his and G3s first home run for the season to really lift the mood and help with the fight back. B murph took to the mound for an Innings then Gerrard stepped up for his first time on the mound getting balls in the zone and allowing some great catches to be taken by B Murph at short and Big Ezi at left field. There was some solid fielding by The Daz at Centre and Rhino who swapped out for The Beard at 2nd along with a solid glove from Bistro at 1st. All in all we are all disappointed with the loss of 14-9 but showed great improvement at the bat and basic fielding. We just need to get the mound sorted and victory will be ours. As that was the last loss we have allowed ourselves for the season it is going to be a great run to the finish.

*

A rather sombre report from the snowfields of “The Heath”

After a soggy start to the season Lomatia opened herself up to baseball and the fans poured into the ground. It was standing room only at this Easter/Anzac Day spectacular. The skies were a little overcast but the field conditions were firm underfoot and when play began the crowd were enthralled.

The Schofields team were of a group of players comparable in vintage and physique to many of the Royals. While their age and fitness levels might have suggested a relaxing afternoon for the home team, the brutality of the opposition’s hitting in the first dig suggested a long afternoon for our outfielders. 5 runs, just like that! The only casualty for our opponents appeared to be when one of their big-hitting, leadership group pulled a hamstring when comfortably ambling to first. However, when considering the sidenote (below), perhaps that injury was part of a grander, more nefarious scheme??

When the mighty Royals first batted we were in and out in quick succession. Moonboot and Matty were doing an excellent job keeping the pitching and catching tight, and in the second innings Schofields started to look beatable.

Sidenote: at this point your humble correspondent notes that shady characters were seen lurking around the tree behind home plate, and money appeared to be changing hands. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the fix may have been in. What is the basis for this scurrilous suggestion? Well, leaving aside the sidelining of Schofields’ biggest hitter after one innings let’s consider the following:

Exhibit A: Schofields' fastest player attempting to steal home when the ball was easily caught by our catcher, there was no pressure or obligation to run, and plenty of opportunity to return to third! He was determined!!!

Exhibit B: Schofields' player steals second, watches the batter swing five seconds after the ball hit the catcher's glove, and jogs back to be tagged by an incredulous first base because of a 'foul'.

I will allow minds more fertile than mine to determine whether this was sheer dumb luck or something much more sinister.

Anyhoo, back to the ballgame. The Royals began swinging and stealing bases. With the notable absence of two of the more senior members of the team [ahem], everyone appeared to be connecting with the ball and running around the diamond. James, Lochie, Steve H, James, Wil and Jeff made some great connections and Matty, Cate, and Lauren had great eyes and kept the Royals moving around the diamond (sometimes quicker than they expected). Steve L guided the troops admirably. Lochie and James finished the game on the mound, and behind the plate, and had a lot of fun.

Up 13-5 the Royals watched our opponents get back to within a run before time was called without the home team needing to further trouble the scorers.

A great, first-up home ground victory against a generous and fair-spirited opponent. Lots of fun!

PS. The team wishes Batman all the best in his recovery from appendicitis.

*

G3 travel to Chapman Gardens to play Mackillop at 12.30.

H are at home at 12.30 and F2 make their first home game at 2.45

A quick reminder that as G3 are away the canteen will not be staffed by the usually flamboyant Holly but Cate for H grade and someone from F2 (anyone Brad)!

*

ALSO on Saturday this weekend!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

FOUNDATION DAY in Springwood



We are having 2 stalls to promote the club both Baseball and Softball.

Wil, myself, Janet and Peter will be manning (womaning?) the stalls but need anyone and everyone else to stop by and help out. Don't worry no sales pitch just answering queries and being seen and friendly. It has been a big date in our club calendar for the last few years and continues to help get the name out there, which remains biggest problem.

Just pop in on your way to or from the games and help make us look good.



That's Wil trying to get political clout! Susan Templeton dived for cover!

*

Fees Fees Fees!!!!!!

There are a few lollygaggers (what are they Bistro?) LOLLYGAGGERS!

We know who you are and where you live (from the forms you filled out) so this Saturday the EFTPOS machine will be at Lomatia for your convenience for Fee payment.

We have already registered with BBNSW and have been charged for your registration, so please play nice.

AGM

Is coming on the 9th of May at the Macquarie Room at the Springwood Sports Club.

7.30 start to the proceeding and why not join us for dinner prior!

*

Cate and Kesha's Trivia Gala!

The ladies are putting together a fabulous night of the usual stuff for trivia nights and so much more – how much more? Even they don't know yet!

Trust me it's coming soon – details as soon as they come to hand!



*

Umpire fee – again!

Teams/ coaches - Don't forget everyone to pay your Assigned Umpire his fee of \$25 after every game.

T SHIRTS AND HOODIES ARE IN THE HOUSE!

Feel that chill in the air – buy a BM Hoodie! - \$45 only

Wanna look cool and fabulous at Coles – wear a T shirt - \$20 each

*

So as we head to another day of combat – remember what Yogi Berra said –

"IT AIN'T OVER TILL ITS OVER"

Particularly poignant as it seems all three teams are clocking off in the fourth innings this year!

*

Goodness me is that the time? See ya!



Where the beer is cold and the welcome warm. Except for that little guy who
hates us baseball types