

Baseball Newsletter



WINTER 2016 #13

FROM THE DUSTY PLAINS OF SAINT MARYS TO THE SNOW CAPPED PEAKS OF SPRINGWOOD THEY BATTED.....

From the mountains they headed east to play in the west on a mound that was equivalent to Ashley Brown 2 – G3 Western.

Finally, the sun was out and the Royals could play baseball in June. Perhaps we should have waited until July.

The goat track at Monfarville had improved slightly; ankle high grass, half an attempt at a mound (which was more like a speed hump, putting our pitchers off like their pants were on backwards). The large hole on the way to first didn't cause us much grief anyway. Not many of us passed by it on a regular basis.

Lochie rocketed them in as usual, so imagine St Marys' delight when Jeff warmed up. St Marys couldn't make the speed adjustment and only manage to hit half a dozen balls to the outfield the entire game.

The game was played and lost in the infield along with the tidy pitching from St Marys - not a walk the entire game. Our misfields, dropped balls, bad throws did not help our cause but we stayed positive, perhaps we could lull them into a false sense of security and come from behind and beat them like last time.

Half the game gone... what is that on the horizon, is that a glimmer of hope? Jeff takes a catch in left field, side away, lets have a bat. Two down and Paul starts the charge with a big hit way over right field. He gets to first then Matt, then Steve H we're on a roll. Paul makes it home with Matt hot on his heels - close out at home plate... glimmer has gone!

Unbeknownst to everyone there was a devious plan being hatched in the dugout between Julie and Jobbo. St Marys, so far in front, got cocky with their casual and extremely long lead-offs from second to third.

It's great when well-laid plans come to fruition.

This is how the last dig went. Royals take two quick outs with the next batter getting to two. St Marys on-deck batter makes his way to the batters box. A glance and a

smile pass between Jobbo at pitcher and Julie at centre field no one is paying any attention to Julie making her way towards second base like a tiger. The runner on two takes a big lead and Jobbo takes the mound, the runner checks second base and short are still in position and relaxes ready for the sprint to three. Julie is now only a few steps away from the runner, who still hasn't noticed, when Jobbo breaks and the pick-off is on at two - poor bloke didn't see it coming. Time and game!
We didn't win but the moral is "It ain't over until the fat lady sings or at least tags you out at second base from centrefield"!
A big thank you to the Royals showing their respect for the passing of a relative of St Marys during the week and lining up on third base line for one minute's silence before the game.

Closer to and in fact at home G2 sounded a little like this.....

The Gods of Lomatia Gardens had come good again after a Friday of snow falling on the upper end of the mountains, we had near perfection at the 12:30 hit off with sunshine, the sweet smell of hotdogs at the ready and after nearly a month between games Steve Beard didn't let us down with his pre game stretching come yoga come tantric positions out in the middle of the field. A quick pre game pep talk from super coach Brodie to get the mood set and we were ready to go. We hit the diamond with a team line up that smelt of victory. Bistro was catching to B Murph, Big Ezi, Steve Beard and Kurt, rockin his well prepared ginge were at 1,2and3 and Chilli was at short making out the infield. Showbags made a come back after a 6 week absence with a new addition to his family and had the dark circles to prove it. Glen Murph was in control at centre with Rhino taking his spot at right field. Kellyville came out cracking the bat hard. There was many a big out field hit and Glen and the boys had their work cut out for them. Despite a gallant effort Kellyville started putting runs on the board early. They got 6 home in their first dig and we were up. We got our first look at their pitcher who was a little erratic, but took so long between taking his spot at the mound and releasing the ball that many of us fell asleep waiting for it. Despite a good hit from Glen Murphy and a few others we were back out on the diamond. Second innings much like the first with a few good plays, Owen from third firing in a late cracker to first to get the out, but it felt like the demon of the diamond that we are becoming way to familiar with was back. Simple errors flattening the mood and the team cohesion is lost. Many changes were made to shake up the opposition. At the mound Kurt and Showbags had a go, but no one was able to find their mojo. Wild thing Owen also took his turn firing in the missiles he is well known for, along with a few casualties and body blows. Glen Murphy swapped with bistro enabling him to take a great outfield catch and Adam, El Capitan, moved into second. Kellyville also changed their pitcher who didn't find his mark too early allowing Chilli and a few others to get good bat to ball, but most notably Steve Beard once again surprised himself with a hit a few metres off the boundary.

The end result was a disappointing 14-2 loss. Once again we are unable to get a great team effort from everyone all at the same time. Many individual moments of greatness is not going to get us there. Head up boys you are only as good as your last game and our next one is this Sat. The hunger for a big win is building.

The Rookie

**Now as you may have noticed there was no newsletter last week, but AT in his graciousness (yes AT) sent us a review of the only game that week.
Exciting, ain't it?**

We travelled down to Bensons lane to play the hard hitters from Hawkesbury. Most of the side we lost the final to last year. Angus out and Macca out Stevie down took to the mound.

We get ready to play. Oops no jerseys. Special thanks to Steve Leiter for driving down to drop jerseys off for us. Much appreciated Steve.

Things started well with us scoring 1 in the first and they followed suit scoring the same. Then we scored 2 in the 2nd to lead 3-1. Unfortunately that's were the game went south. They scored 10 in the bottom of the 2nd. Very few hits but lots of walks led to a big inning.

We never got back in the game from there losing 14-3. Certainly not our best game but trim the page and onto next week

**So this week we are down the home stretch, G3 at least, with the GEEE's at Lomatia, CSC and the Hawks ~ and the far sweeping FFF's Devilishly at Fairfield
Good luck to all!**

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Oh Elizabeth –you thrill me – check this out!



**Cut it out and put it on your Fridge!
No Fridge? See the Good guys!**

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As in previous years let me explain the Rainout procedure for those that just came in,
oh Batter who walks!

Several factors come into play:-

1/ Lomatia is too boggy to play safely on, as in last week, and grounds are declared unplayable. Blacktown did as well but not some as in Bensons so games are relocated accordingly where possible.

2/ The vast majority of Councils close grounds so it is declared a washout round by the SMBL (Mr. Grumpy).

3/ If the BMCC closes all its grounds but Lomatia is playable we can seek an exemption and use the diamond.

4/ All ground Curators must notify the SMBL as early as possible, but no later than 9 am Game day of closures so that all clubs can be notified by 10 am Game day.

5/ If the teams are on site and the weather goes belly up the Umpire and the Team coaches make a joint decision whether as to proceed. BUT the Umpire has final say.

At Lomatia we quite often have a different micro climate to the Flatland people this cause some headaches for all concerned. Although Kemps Creek no show presumption this year was a first.

Patience my dears, patience.

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SPONSORSHIPS!

This week we welcomed on board a new club Sponsor.



SIMPLICITY FUNERALS

George McNeill, father to Lochie and Loren, hubby to Tanya has joined us with a very generous introduction for Softball.

We are both very appreciative and excited about the partnership.

Welcome aboard! Hopefully a photo op soon!

This is particularly good for Jobbo, Mike and myself; mumble mumble....

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Oh the segue's.....



OSCAR goes to Japan!

He is nearly there – please chuck us a few bucks next time you are at Lomatia, or we will come around and play election adds till you give ua an open cheque book!

Did someone say SOFTBALL!

Yes I did and REGISTRATION is coming up on the 10th and 17th of July at Lomatia.

SUMMER FUN! Do it!

BM BLUE MOUNTAINS SOFTBALL CLUB
 BMSC PO Box 216
 Springwood NSW 2777
bluemountains softball.org.au

WHICH SPORT

- ▶ Is played by people of all fitness levels? SOFTBALL
- ▶ Is played by ages 6years to 96? SOFTBALL
- ▶ Is played at the same time every week? SOFTBALL
- ▶ Is played at the same place every week? SOFTBALL
- ▶ Can the whole family play at the same place every week? SOFTBALL

Your team is waiting!

Training at Lomatia Park Springwood

Registration in July Ph: 947740000

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Trent says :-

Don't forget to drop into BUNNINGS Valley Heights this Sunday for a BMSC fundraising BBQ! We all go there anyway (twice) on a weekend so be a silly sausage - buy a Sausage sandwich!

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**Lastly- really!
The World Masters Games in Auckland next April!**

We still have time to put together a team.

Who is interested?

**In the coming week I will email all eligible players seeking
their thoughts.**

**The Games on 07 (before Kevin) were unforgettable, we had
a ball.**

**Truly big time stuff, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, at
least a game a day in an appropriate division and every night
there is something on.**

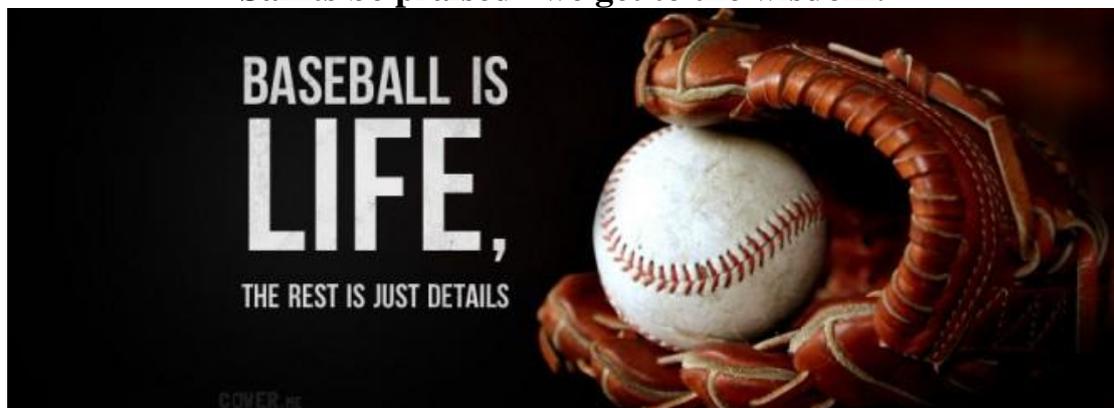
**Did I mention the merchandise! And you will meet real MLB
greats!**

I want you!



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Saints be praised –we get to the wisdom!



Be off with you – you street urchins! Get outta here!