

# Comets Summer 2016-2017 Presentation Season Reports



### **CONGRATULATIONS**

on a great Summer Season

**Junior & Senior Teams** 











#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Keep checking for updates

Date	Time	Event
1/4 & 2/4		StGBA Round 1
8/4 & 9/4		StGBA Round 2
19/4	7.30pm	•
22/4 & 23/4		StGBA Round 3
29/4 & 30/4		StGBA Round 4
6/5 & 7/5		StGBA Round 5
13/5 & 14/5		StGBA Round 6
17/5	7.30pm	Committee Meeting
20/5 & 21/5		StGBA Round 7
27/5 & 28/5		StGBA Round 8
3/6 & 4/6		StGBA Round 9
10/6 & 11/6		StGBA Round 10
17/6 & 18/6		StGBA Round 11
21/6	7.30pm	Committee Meeting
24/6 & 25/6		StGBA Round 12
1/7 & 2/7		StGBA Round 13
8/7 & 9/7		StGBA Round 14
15/7 & 16/7		StGBA Round 15
19/7	7.30pm	•
22/7 & 23/7		StGBA Round 16
29/7 & 30/7		StGBA Round 17
5/8 & 6/8		StGBA Semi Final
12/8 & 13/8		StGBA Final
16/8	7.30pm	<b>Committee Meeting</b>
19/8 & 20/8	•	StGBA Grand Final
20/9	7.30pm	Committee Meeting
18/10/16 7:30pm Annual General Meeting		

### Go to: www.comets.org.au

For regular updates and more information on the season and events to come!

#### REMINDER AT THE AGM ALL POSITIONS ARE MADE VACANT

Every club needs a band of members who are willing to put in just a little bit each month on the

All club members, senior players and parents are welcome and encouraged to stand.

Come along and step up to the plate!

## Comets Baseball Club Inc.

POSTAL ADDRESS PO Box 110 Jannali 2226

Clubhouse Phone: 02 9589 1864 Web: www.comets.org.au

## **Our Sponsors**

The Club is privileged to have a range of fine sponsors.

As they have supported us we ask that you support them.

For a comprehensive review of each sponsor,

please see our web site.







Sydney Survivors Kirrawee Base Camp Shop 26/118-126 Bath Road, Kirrawee, NSW, 2232, Australia. Ph: 1300 787 848

Email: enquiries@sydneysurvivors.com.au

## **Our Sponsors**

## Detect A Leak

ABN: 31 136 578 508









Jason Noye Bricklaying 9542 8882









## Jannali & Gymea Car Clinic



#### PRESIDENTS REPORT - Summer 2016 - 2017

Well Done Comets Baseball Club

With the summer season now over its time to thank all the Volunteers that made it all happen

I believe it's very important to always thank you the parents. You are the ones that make sure the kids are at training, they have their gloves, they have not forgotten their hats, they have their protectors, all those little things.

Then we have our grandparents, Aunties and uncles that pick up the slack when help is needed

What about the great effort of all of our Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers and Scorers the Club cannot thank you enough for putting you hand up when needed and it should not go unnoticed that some of these people had no knowledge of Baseball before this Summer, the Comets will be in good hands for years to come with people like this involved, well done and thank you.

The Players, I would personally like to thank all of our Comet juniors for the way they conducted themselves throughout the season, on many occasions it was said to me how well-mannered our players are also how we looked in our uniforms, an asset to the Comets how we are seen by other clubs and the community in general at this time I would like to thank our Uniform Officer Julie Little always with a smile and ready to help, thanks Julie.

We also have many Junior umpires in our ranks, who will umpire games all morning and then have rush off, generally with those trusty people whom I spoke about above to their own game, there is not enough praise given to these young Umpires and it would not be proper at this time to thank our Junior Umpire Coordinator Jim McDonald, his tireless work makes our umpires the pride of the fleet.

Our ground! always open, once again there's Jimmy McDonald, whilst we are all enjoying a cold drink on Friday afternoons or a cuppa at 6.30 on Saturday mornings you will find Jim or Dru (when Jim's away) mowing, fertilizing or marking the 3 diamonds. Great effort guys.

Canteen Coordinator Suzette and her crew, have done an excellent job at keeping up a high standard, I would like to mention only good comments were reported to me throughout the season and once again when parents / grandparents were rostered on for canteen duty you were always too willing to help and with your support this makes us a family orientated club.

Once again our under 10's Social Committee has really set the bench mark, what about the Christmas Party WOW, and then the trivia night, I know there was nothing but praise and rightly so if I can say these 2 events were the BEST EVER well done.

Another fund raising event we do is the Bunning's BBQ, wow. People have now got the idea why you either do the early shift or the last (never the middle of the day) great effort Comets.

To the grading Committee what an excellent job, Andrew Hodges you worked some magic, I still don't know how you did it, great effort.

As always I would personally like to congratulate the players with representative honours all your hard work and your parents time has given you the opportunity to play at a higher level, grab it with both hands you will enjoy it and remember it for the rest of your lives and for all Comets players the opportunity is there for you.

Congratulations to all the teams that made the Finals, U10-3's Premiers and our 16-1's and 17-2's Premiers

To my very hard working Executive and Committee the tireless work and many hours spent to make this Club what it is (THE BEST), still waiting on that dinner I proposed last year guys?

As it is with the end of every summer season of Baseball, I would like to wish all the 17's that have played there last Junior game of Baseball with the Comets the best for whatever road you take but remember you will always be a Comet and always welcomed at the Comets, and there is always Senior Baseball.

Life Member, it is with great pleasure I would like to announce that Cameron Hall was awarded life membership of the Comets Baseball Club for his many years of service to our club

Lastly, I would like to thank our sponsors, you are all very important to the Comets and are the difference, you are the ones that supply the club with the kit bags, baseballs, gloves, masks, leggings, batting machines, Zooka machines, discounted uniforms, enable us to keep our fees low, to help families, to offer coaching, scoring and umpire courses, I would like to especially thank Sydney Airport they have no affiliation with the club other than going out into our community and offering, asking how can we help Comets, Sydney Airport ongoing support with the Comets Baseball Club is one that I hope will go long into the future.

Congratulations to all our senior baseball players

Another 1st Grade trophy, WELL DONE boys!

Tason Noye
Club President

#### Juniors - U7's

Coach: Phillip Tasker
Assistant Coach: Shaun Richards
Managers: Lesleigh Tasker
Scorers: Tasha Dixon

**Team:** Gemma / Lex / Nicholas / Jettison / Zachary R / Zachary T

Levi / Mason / Patrick / William / Blake

WOW what a fun season the under 7's team had this year! Every single team member participated each week with a smile on their face and the improvements seen were fantastic. Some players not even being able to throw a ball at the beginning of the season to being able to throw straight to a glove by the last game.

We hope all of our players return next year to continue building their skills and enjoying some baseball fun! See you next season - Phill

Lesleigh - Manager

#### Juniors - U9-1's Royal - Finished 8th

Coach: Michael Brain
Assistant Coach: Paola Pastura
Manager: David Biddle
Scorer: Jess Bowden

**Team:** Keziah / Jack / Keiran / Oliver / Emily / Chloe / Ashley

Stephanie / Mitchell / Sophia / Jenna / Olivia

Our U9-1 Royal team started the season as a U9-3 team and due to some success during the first 5 games of the season we were regraded to the 9-1 competition. This was a big jump in skill level for our team but they continued to work hard at training particularly building on their batting game. By the end of the season they even put a little bit of pressure on the top ranking team in the first innings with a few excellent hits – following the all important "3P" principle "Power, Position and Purpose". We had lots of fun at training; using water bombs to develop "soft hands" (perfect on a hot February night!), playing "baseball soccer", making the parents work hard in our kids vs parents half field baseball and of course practicing our "3P's"!!!

One of the most impressive aspects of the U9-1 Royals was their team spirit and good sportsmanship. They never ever gave up and were always encouraging one another with gusto from the dugout with enthusiastic chanting and cheering. This was so beautifully encouraged by our "dugout Mum" Fran Pastura. Thank you so much for being such a wonderful mentor for our kids. The support of our faithful parent "rent a crowd" as well as that of our assistant coach Paola Pastura, base coach Sebastian Semos, regular scorer Jess Bowden and other dedicated parent helpers, Craig Matthew and David Biddle, willing to assist with set up and training week after week, was invaluable.

Thank you so much.

We may not have always been the winning team based on the score board, but you are all winners in my eyes.

Congratulations and thank you for an enjoyable season.

Michael Brain - Coach

#### Juniors - U9-2's Gold - Finished 3rd

Coach: Ken Dickenson Manager: Barton Peeters

**Team:** Liam / Finley / Anais / Felix / Callum / Brodie / Billy

Tyler / Zachary / Lucy / Ruby / Daniel

The parents and players were all looking forward to a promising t-ball season in September but when Ken put his hand up to coach again, we thought that all hope was lost. Once again, we would be consoling our little players with the "winning isn't everything" mantra each Saturday morning and trying to convince them, and ourselves, that having fun is the most important part of the game.

Surprisingly, however, we had a very good season. The kids won more games than they lost and when they did lose, they still, mostly, had fun. We even had to venture out of the Shire twice, for two losses, but returned safely without being attacked by Orcs.

Despite Ken struggling to remain on task himself, he did a great job developing the skills of each of the kids. It was a delight to watch them growing as players, getting bigger hits, taking catches and making good plays. They learnt the importance of tagging up on a fly ball and even executed a stunning triple play.

It was a lot of fun to be a part of this team. The parents were all involved on game day. We shared the scoring around and had numerous volunteers to be base coaches (they usually ran out to first or third base as soon as we asked for someone to keep the bench in line). All families helped out on the seventeen occasions that we had canteen/ground duty.

Big thanks go to Ken for his time and effort coaching the team, as it was often like trying to herd cats, especially at training on a hot day after school. He did a great job.

Hopefully, all the kids will be back again next summer.

Barton Peeters - Manager

#### Juniors - U10-2's - Finished 7th

Coach: Dan Spooner Assistant Coach: Floyd Gee

**Manager:** Geoff Marks (assisted by Luke Attwells)

**Scorer:** Peita Burgess, Michelle Morgan-Spooner & Sonia Bradford

**Team:** Thomas A / Joshua / Lucas / Thomas G / Charlie

Harry / Aiden / Lincoln / Christiaan / Persephone

Circumstances brought the majority of our boys from last year back together for another season. It was always going to be interesting to see how well they bounced back from their success last year and to see how their skills have developed to face the Zooka machine. We also acquired some new players, who showed incredible patience and desire to learn and improve throughout the year.

The script didn't go exactly to plan, but it wasn't through lack of trying, or skill that put the kids in the position they ended up in. Most of the games were actually incredibly close in skill level, but sometimes the bounce of the ball just doesn't go your way and what appears to be a close game sometimes wasn't reflected in the score. That being said, the kids should be incredibly proud of their efforts and their development through the season. Special mention should be made to Percy, who joined our team mid way through the season after arriving from overseas and Christiaan, who was in his first season and thrown into the game head first.

We set out this year to develop the kids from T Ball players to Baseball players and to use this transition year as a way to develop them both as sports players and as people. They certainly showed that in all aspects of how they conducted themselves at games, their sportsmanship, their efforts at training and their overall attitude. They always had fun.

Good luck to those staying another year in Zooka and I'm looking forward to watching and coaching those that move up to baseball.

Congratulations, kiddos' - Dan Spooner - Coach

#### Juniors - U10-3's - Finished 1st

#### **WELL DONE TEAM !!!**

Coach: Rod Boulton
Assistant Coach: Gavin Bolling
Manager: Andre Haigh
Scorer: Megan Haigh

Team: Jake / Bryce / Gabriel / Cole / Max / Brody / Jucody / Ethan / Simon / Maxton / Bryon

Another season over, and what a season it was!!

They started the season off strong and that's it stayed. The boys had a great season with only 3 ties and one loss.

What an effort!!

Each and every week the boys knowledge of the game and their skills improved making it an easy job as coach on the sidelines. It was great to turn up on a Saturday morning with the boys raring to go and play ball.

This year was the first year for most of the team that they faced the Zooka machine, and stepped up to the challenge from the very first game. Each week during training and pre-game warm ups the boys were keen and attentive. The practice paid off with improvement all round with plenty of great batting, running and fielding.

Each team member is to be congratulated on their effort. They all brought their own unique style to the team which made them a formidable force on the field

A special thank you to the Assistant Coach Gavin, the Manager Andrew and Scorer Megan I could not have done this without you.

Thanks to the parents of all the players who helped with warm ups and packing away the equipment after the game and all the cheers of encouragement from the sidelines.

I look forward to seeing the boys back next season for another fantastic year of baseball.

Thanks
Rod Boulton - Coach



#### Juniors - U12-1's - Finished 8th

Coach: Marty McDonald Assistant Coach: Trevor Geldenhuis

Manager: Julie Little Scorer: Beth Kendrick

**Team:** Madeline / Matthew / Kuean / Kale / Blake / Benjamin

Toby / Bailey / Jai / Fynn / Luke / Reilly

We had a very young side full of talent with all players able to play U/12 the following year. With this in mind we decided to test them by playing in the 1/s comp. We had a great start by winning our first game however we found the stronger sides with older kids were a bit beyond us.

So proud of these kids though they fort every game and stayed in touch with them and remained competitive.

By the end of the year we finished the season against a couple of the strongest sides. This showed us we made the right choice as the kids gave them all a run for their money.

The 3 main pitchers Benny, Fynn and Blake all showed they are going to be a force next year. We also had some really strong relievers Kuean and Reilly who also batted and fielded above there ages. Jai and Bailey always keeper that 3rd base safe as a bank and Madeline, Matty and Kale played infield and outfield with enthusiasm and a safe pair of hands. Toby and Kuean kept our dish solid while our little pup of the side many years down organised the outfield and at the end of the year smashed some balls.

Many thanks to all the parents for your support but a big thanks to Trevor and Julie who I would have been lost without.

Marty - Coach

#### Juniors - U12-3's Gold - Finished 7th

Coach: Steve Bourke Assistant Coach: Steve Audet & Rob Harriss

Manager: Jodie Friedrich

Scorer: Simone Johnston & Peita Burgess

**Team:** Ben / Emily / Lila / Katie / Riley / Kade / Thomas

Jake / Oliver / Dylan / William / Callum

Well where did that season go? They do say that time flies when you're having fun and if the kids had half as much fun as Steve & I did this year then it would have flown for them too (even though the grey hair tells a different story).

This year's team was again made up of a mix of kids from our side last season with the rest coming from other Comets teams. If we thought that last year's team came together to make a tight bunch, then these guys and girls took it to the next level which speaks volumes about the quality of kids that they are. In some ways they got on too well with us often having to separate them just so we could get through our training drills.

As a bunch they all had one thing in common and that was that they were all first year 12's and therefore it was their first year playing pitch baseball. This was both exciting and somewhat daunting for them and us as coaches but we think that we all coped with it quite well. First priority was finding some kids that could consistently throw strikes and they were all lining up to have a go. We identified three to work with and between them they performed week in week out. In our final few games of the season we also trialled a couple of dark horses and these kids too pitched outstandingly. Next season competition for the mound will be intense and we as coaches will be spoiled for choice.

We again adopted a bit of a rotation policy with, apart from pitching or catching, each of the kids playing in every position at a number of times throughout the season. This once again benefited each of the kids immensely with them learning not only the differences between the infield and outfield, but also the differences in fielding around the diamond. With all our pitchers throwing plenty of strikes we enabled the opposition to hit the ball into play and in turn allowed our kids to make plenty of outs. The kids regularly making these outs and the number of strikeouts that our pitchers were able to make was a real stand out for us this year and something that they can all be proud of.

As a team we seemed to save most of our best performances for those teams that went through to make the finals and despite us losing these games, they were the ones that we were most proud of. They did however save their best performance of the season for our last game which saw them walk away with a 17-0 win. This was highlighted by some excellent performances on the mound, in the field and in the batter's box. Whilst we did wonder why they all waited until that last game to bring it all together, we realised that everything that we had been saying all year had gotten through and it was extremely pleasing to see them all play to their potential.

We would like to thank Rob Harriss for all the hours that he put in assisting us with all the kids, particularly our pitchers. Coaching is always easier if the kids are keen to learn, which our kids definitely were, but in a sport like baseball it is invaluable when you have experienced "former" players who are able to draw on the countless hours of high quality coaching that they received in their junior years.

To our Manager Extraordinaire Jodie, thank you for everything that you have done throughout the season. All the phone calls, texts and emails ensuring that everyone knew what was going on and when, as well as the unenviable task of chasing up money if necessary. It is very much appreciated by not only both of us, but also the rest of the parents.

Simone & Peita, the ladies in the scorers box, thank you very much. Each and every week you were not only happy to jump in and take on the task of scoring, but always wanting to learn from those more experienced scorers around the club. You were also always happy to give a pitch count, no matter how often we asked...and Steve B has not forgotten that he owes both of you a wine or two.

Thank you to each and every parent for getting the kids to the games and training ready to go when asked, despite how early it sometimes was, their awesome participation levels when called upon for ground duty, as well as the amazing fancy dress efforts at the Trivia Night (which we believe we lost on a count back). Thank you also for putting up with all of Steve's text messages.

We would like to thank the Comets club and all the families that supported Ben & Sharon Whitney during the most difficult of times after Steve's passing over the Christmas break. It was news that shook us all and while it is still difficult to comprehend, the outpouring of support and willingness to help by everyone was amazing to see. We know that it was, and continues to be, truly appreciated by Sharon & Ben and something that we are sure they, as well as us, will never forget. We will miss seeing Steve at training and games each and every week but we know that his presence will never be forgotten.

We hope that we see all the kids back for another season next year and that we can all work together to build on what we started this year. Thank you.

Steve Bourke & Steve Audet.

#### Juniors - U12-3's Royal - Finished 8th

Coach: Michael Sant
Assistant Coach: Max Pillington
Manager/Scorer: Fiona Blom

Team: Laura / Caitlin / Ayden / Meghan / Sam / Elizabeth / Sara / Luca / Edward / Lara / Tara

The Royals that assembled at the start of the season were a collection of first time players, kids backing up from under 12's last year and some making the step up from Zooka ball. Together with a novice coach we set off on a journey of learning and re-learning some baseball skills. By the end of the season they gelled into a close knit team that played really well together.

Whilst we didn't pick up a lot of wins during the season, I was really pleased with the development of the team. This was particularly evident in the comparison between our two games against the table topping Dolphins, where a round one 12-0 drubbing was followed up by a close fought 12-11 loss which saw the coach chew his nails to the bone as we came ever so close to a crucial 3rd out.

A few notable efforts during the season were:

Sam M, our MVP managed two Grand Sams during the season

Lara S, our most consistent hitter managing a batting average of 0.364 and finishing the season as starting pitcher in her first year of pitch baseball

Elizabeth M, our best fielder pulled off a couple of nice double plays

As a coach I was pleased with the development of each and every one of these players and wish them all the best for their future baseball endeavours. I'd also like to thank Max for his help and the knowledge he passed on to me throughout the year. Our scorer and manager, Fiona, did a great job of making sure we had great records and keeping all the families up to date with what was going on. A big thank you also to other parents who stepped up and helped out whenever they were asked.

#### Juniors - U14-2's - Finished 5th

Coaches: Brett Elliott
Assistant Coaches: Chris Little
Manager: Tony Ash
Scorer: Jodie Moreton

**Team:** Rafif / Christopher / Jack / Lachlan / Matthew S / Oscar

Matthew H / Joel / Daniel / Jackson / Oliver

2016/2017 was a season of ups and downs for us. At times we played the brand of baseball that showed we were capable of beating any team in our competition and at other times we allowed ourselves to be beaten by teams with far less ability than us. As it turned out we missed the semis by 0.24%. Who knows, if the storm that came through in our last game had arrived 20 minutes later we might have been holding the trophy now.

Of course baseball is not all about winning. It's also about personal development, team spirit and developing a sense of fair play. In an early game this season Jack was substituting for the other team and took a great outfield catch off a big hit from Jackson. That is what fair play is all about and everyone at the ground, with the possible exception of Jacko, was impressed with Jack's unselfish effort.

I have no doubt that every boy tried their best during the year and I can say with confidence that in all cases their skills improved. I hope they all go on to play baseball for many years and I am sure that some of the boys are destined to play our great game at a high level. Special mention must go to Joel, Jack, Jackson and Oscar who helped out by playing some games throughout the season for our Under 17s teams.

Thanks must go to Chris Little and Paul Henville for helping to coach the boys, Tony Ash for managing the side, Helen Everson and Jodie Morton for scoring and for all those who helped out with pitch counting. Thanks also to all the parents for helping in the canteen, on the BBQ and in raising funds for our great club.

I hope to see all of you around the diamond next season.

Brett Elliott - Coach

#### Juniors - U14-3's - Finished 5th

Coach: Scott Tully

Manager: Amanda Perryman Scorers: Rebecca Ferguson

**Team:** Kirsten / Olivia / Nicholas / Jasmine / Adam / Ciara

Tiffany / Caitlin / Tyson / Callum / Cameron

This year's Comets 14/3 consisted of many experienced players: Kila, Cal and Camo played the previous season with the 14/3 boys; Caitie, Bejazzle and Bisho were in the 14/3 girls; Smithy, Liv and Tiff from the 12s; while we welcomed Nic and Tyson in their debut season.

The 14/3s competition started with 4 teams and at that stage we were looking good for the semis! We started with a win against the Dolphins and a one run loss to Bosco before losing to Giants. We were then joined in the 14/3s by two teams coming down from the higher grade: Scots and Cronulla.

With 6 teams, the standard of the 14/3s was higher than the previous season and we enjoyed the challenge of the competition. We particularly enjoyed fun and competitive games against the Dolphins but had less success against the other teams. Our batting was good with the team hitting at 290 with an on base average of 530. We scored 111 runs across 14 games but were out batted by the opposition who scored 195 runs.

Each member of the team is to be congratulated on their approach to the season. There was always good turnout at our Friday afternoon training and the team were enthusiastic and supportive of one another.

A big thank you from the players and coach Scott (aka Scottie) to the 14/3s support crew of manager Amanda, assistant coach Rebecca, and scorer Frank. A team runs very smoothly when there is a strong support team to help the coach and players.

Thanks also to the Club and all those who make Comets such a great place to play ball.

Scott - Coach

#### Juniors - U16-1's Joint Venture - Finished Minor Premiers and 1st Place

Coaches: Peter Munro & Scott Pearl
Assistant Coach: Trevor Geldenhuis
Manager: Margaret Phillips
Scorer: Frank Bishopp

Team: Ticara / Joshua B / Nathan / Roy / Jai / Riley / Kobi / Joshua P / Lachlan / Bailey

We warmly welcomed our Joint Venture partners, the Illawong Marlins and with the return of some familiar faces we had a full complement for the season.

What a season it was!

We saw brilliant batting, the majority of players had a batting average above .382, enabling us to score more runs than other teams in the competition. Everyone could pitch and having a couple of top catchers and the best fielding in the competition kept most opposition teams to a bare minimum of runs.

Most important of all was the excellent team work, the ever improving skills and smiles on faces. The players put in a 110% every week, always having fun, which resulted in the team being Minor Premiers and Premiers.

Ticara, Bailey, Jai, Josh B, Josh P, Kobi, Lachlan, Nathan, Riley and Roy thank you all for a tremendous season of baseball, we hope you enjoyed yourselves.

Every week our loyal supports cheered and encouraged the team. To all the families, thank you all for your support throughout the season, it really was a team effort.

Last but not least THANK YOU TO OUR COACHES, Peter Munro, Scott Pearl and Trevor Geldenhuis for generously giving your time and wisdom at both training and the games.

#### Juniors - U17-2's - Finished Minor Premiers and 1st Place

Coaches: Mick Herring
Assistant Coach: Glen Tomlinson
Vanessa Walker
Scorer: Barton Peeters

**Team:** Hayley – 1st Base Rhys – Catcher / Anywhere else Carl – Pitcher / 3rd Base

James – Pitcher / Short Stop Mkenna – 2nd Base Travis – 2nd Base
Luke – Pitcher / Short Stop Mitch- 1st Base / 3rd Base Matt – Catcher / 3rd Base

Firstly a big thankyou to Vanessa (Manager), Barton (Scorer), Stu Martin & Glen. A big thank you also to Joel Peeters & Jack Little who both not just filled in but matched it with much older and bigger kids...well done.

A big thank you to Stu for assisting with pitching, hitting and in general passing on his knowledge...and the use of his stealth bat. Stu does not have kids in the team but still chooses to give up his time to help younger players and for those that chose to listen you could see a marked improvement.

What a great team we have, only the bare 9 players and you managed to go through the entire season only dropping 1 game....the best thing that happened to us. Finishing the regular season in 1<sup>st</sup> place got us a home semi final against Bosco who had beaten us last time we played. At one stage we were down by 4 but the team rallied to tie up the score going into the last innings. We didn't allow a run, our turn to bat....first 2 batters out, next 2 walked, next batter drove in the winning run...final score 9-8. Off the to Grand Final.

During our week off instead of sitting around the team had a scrimmage against our 16/1's, 8am start on a Saturday which was tough for a few of them. Then the scheduled Grand Final was washed and rescheduled to the following week, I think we played 1 game in 4 weeks.

We started the Grand Final strong thanks to a dominant performance from our starting pitcher, although limited to only throw 39 pitches he got through 2 1/3 innings and struck out 6 of the 7 batters he faced. Our batting was strong from the start and we jumped out to an 11-0 lead, St Pats fought back but we ended up winning 11-6.

Well done to all players & parents for being supportive and cheering for all team members.

Grand Final MVP- Carl

Thank you to all the players for your effort & attitude throughout the season.

Mick Herring - Coach



#### Juniors - U17-3's - Finished 5th

Coaches: Marty McDonald

Assistant Coach: Tony Brissett & Jim McDonald

Manager: Fran Pastura
Scorer: Suzette Staeker

**Team:** Yok / Grace / Emma / Paola / Liam / Cayden

Christopher /Oliver / Jacob

WOW, What an awesome season TEAM !!!!!!!!

On Behalf of Marty (Coach), Jimmy & Tony (Assistant coaches) & Myself (Mamma Fran - Team Manager)

We would like to THANK our awesome 17/3's who came together & played as a TEAM !!!!!!!!!

They always turned up to training & their games with great empathy & big smiles!! Even when they had to play under extreme HEAT!!

In the dugout we had 2 huge esky's crammed with ice for our thirsty players & water spray bottle filled with a secret ingredient.....(Tea Tea Oil) very refreshing & kept the team not only cool but calm!!!

We had 3 generations of Mc Donald's - Jimmy, Marty & Jacob !!!

We were very lucky as our team had 2 awesome pitchers - Ollie Ollie & Yokstar!!

Three awesome catchers - Emmarooski & Paola & Jacob !!!

Don't forget our infield & outfielders - Gracie, Liam, Chris, Cayden !!!!

And behind the scene we had Suzette our Scorer & Claudio as our pitch counter

Throughout the season our team had a mixed bag of wins & losses !! But they always showed true sportsmanship & were a credit to the COMETS baseball family !!!!!!!!

Also a BIG THANK YOU to our parents who helped with BBQ, & Ground Control commitments.

P.S A Big Thank you to our team's siblings, grandparents family & friends & fellow team members from other teams who came along to show your support !!!!!!!!!

Many thanks

Fran - Manager

#### **COMETS SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Another fun and successful year for the Comets fund raising team!! Thanks to all that pitched in and made it happen.

A bright sunny day, a visit from Santa, not one but two fire trucks, succulent snags on the BBQ, and some serious water slide action guaranteed an awesome Comets Xmas party for the end of 2016!

Santa and his helpers had their hands full with dozens of exited kiddies anxious to receive a lolly bag and an opportunity to put in a few last minute present requests for Christmas day.

The heat made it a challenging visit for Santa, as I'm sure he is used to a colder climate, however, he tightened up his belt and did a super job entertaining the mob. A huge thanks to Claudio and Fran for their efforts on the day.

Once Santa retired to his sleigh for a cold drink, the hoard quickly moved their attention back to left field, also known as the Comets version of wet n wild! There was a constant stream of kids extreme water sliding for hours with smiles all round.

Thank you to those who made themselves available to man the BBQ/Canteen, sell raffle tickets and help with setup/clean up. With over 300 in attendance it was a great afternoon.

The beginning of 2017 saw the red carpet roll out for the Comets major fund raising event, a "Hollywood" inspired Trivia night!

A full hall of base ballers dressed up as their favourite movie star coupled with a few refreshing beverages and an enthusiastic trivia master guaranteed a fun, involved night. If you weren't dressed up you looked out of place! It was great to see how involved the crowd was with best dressed going to Buzz lightyear and Woody from Toy Story.

Heaps of support was offered by local and outside of area businesses with some excellent prizes and auction items on offer. A big thanks to all those who supported by bidding on auction items, purchasing raffle tickets, and attending on the night. Without you the night would not have been half as successful.

Additionally, thanks to the individual teams who provided some well thought out and generous hampers.

With all your help we achieved a great result on the night and raised over \$5300. Well done considering we were short on teams this season.

A big shout out to Peita and Liam for their efforts supporting the prep and decorations for the night! Thanks so much for your help.

Again, thanks to all for making this year's events a success. Let's look forward to making 2017/18 even bigger.

Cheers.

**Comets Social Committee** 

#### **SUMMER 2016 - 2017 AWARDS**

Most Improved Junior Non-Pitched Team U7's

Most Improved Junior Pitched Team U12-3's Royal

Jimmy McDonald Award Steve Bourke

Family Award The Johnston Family

Jessica Clay Award U10-3's Maxton Ward

Junior Representative Players: CRONULLA Junior League World Series Team

Josh Bishopp, Riley Taylor, Bailey Curtis, Josh Pearl

**CSJBA Senior League Team** Josh Bishopp, Riley Taylor, Bailey Curtis,

Ticara Geldenhuis, Kobi Paynter, Roy Munro

CSJBA Junior League Team Josh Pearl

BNSW Youth Women's NSW Team Ticara Geldenhuis

U16's National Youth Championship Josh Pearl

**NSW Country Team** 

U16's National Youth Championship Bailey Curtis

**ACT Team** 

**1st Grade Gold:** MVP: Bryce Lincoln

Batting Award: Lachlan Ryan 0.514

**2nd Grade Gold:** MVP: Daniel Carberry

**Batting Award:** Daniel Carberry 0.389

**2nd Grade Royal:** MVP: Adam Evans

Batting Award: Chad Jones 0.579

4th Grade: MVP: Ben Lopes

Batting Award: Yuta Pendlebury 0.481

6th Grade: MVP: Andrew Haigh

**Batting Award:** Joe Potter 0.611

7th Grade: MVP: Casey Tregillgas

On Base Avg: Linton Burling 0.644

## THAT BRINGS US TO THE END OF SUMMER 2016-2017...

## HOPE YOU ALL HAD FUN AND ENJOYED THE SEASON

### **SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!**

