# Comets Baseball Club 2022-23 Junior Season Report



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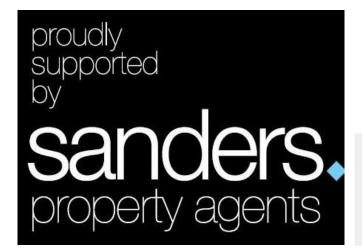


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Welcome to Players, Parents, Aunts, Uncles and Grandparents

The season has come to a close with a lot more baseball being played in comparison to the last few years. In 17 rounds most of our teams played all games with no washouts and those that were impacted by afternoon storms only lost 1 or 2 rounds.

Thank you to those who stepped up to coach, manage and score for all the teams, without your efforts there would be no baseball for our juniors.

Thank you to all the people who took the time to help with canteen and ground duties. To those who did not help, maybe next season.

This year we see a few more of the Senior League players finish their time as Comet Juniors and transition in senior baseball, and we wish them all the best.

Well done to the Senior League Division 3 and Intermediate League teams on reaching the finals series.

#### THANK YOU:

All junior players who umpired games on a Saturday morning.

Craig Nancarrow: our Junior Secretary which is not an easy job building teams and finding the coaches and maintaining a string of communications throughout the season.

Dru Bright: For the time and effort in keeping the field in top condition.

Liam Flynn: helping Dru with the field and repairing the home plate area.

Suzette Staeker: Keeping the canteen stocked and the canteen crew organised.

Kiara Johnston: keeping the canteen running and helping take the pressure off Suzette

Paul Mignacca: acting as the Equipment Officer and the Uniform Officer: These are jobs that require a lot of patients and are really not as easy as they sound. Arranging team kits for a number of senior and junior teams takes a lot longer than you would think. And co-ordinating uniforms for the T-Ball and Zooka players as well as managing the sale of uniforms to older players ensures a hectic pre-season for Paul.

Rhys Peeters: Co-ordinator and mentor for Junior umpires

All First Grade players: for the amount of time that they put in with any junior player before and during their training sessions

#### **Comets Executive**

Michael Sant: Secretary Alex Johnston: Treasurer

Barton Peeters: Vice President Craig Nancarrow: Junior Secretary

The life of a ballplayer is not a simple one.

It's a rollercoaster ride of happiness, tears, laughter, pain, success and failure.

All are a necessary ingredient in building character, mental toughness and the proverbial body armour needed for the challenges life brings.

These are the moments that will shape him. These are the experiences that will build him into something that remains to be seen.

It's within these moments ballplayers discover so much about themselves without even realizing it.

How they respond going forward will determine their future.

After loading the gear into the back of the truck I walked to the drivers side door and paused for a moment peering through the window.

Dejected and broken he sat rubbing tears off his cheeks just as I did decades ago.

Minutes earlier we were in a tough game against a team of fighters very much like us.

Our lead dwindled in the last inning and ultimately disappeared.

They walked us off and celebrated a

well-deserved victory.

They all think it's their fault. It's not. It's baseball's fault; the game they love that doesn't always love them back.

It's ruthless, yet beautiful.

Callous, yet nurturing.

It's the paver of challenging avenues they'll walk throughout their lives.

It's baseball.

..and it's not just a game.

Lastly, a big thank you to my wife Monja, who allows me the freedom to spend as much time at Baseball as I want.

Hope to see you all back for the 2023/2024 Season

#### **Trevor Geldenhuis**

President

This season we had our juniors field 8 full teams, 1 joint venture team as well as 5 friendship players, 3 who were lent to Cronulla for a Senior League Division 1 side and 2 to Yarrawarrah for a Little League Majors team.

Over 17 rounds and a possible total of 153 games, Comets teams managed to get out on to the diamond 147 times and that is an amazing achievement.

As I have mentioned a few times during the year none of this is possible without the time and effort put in by the coaches, managers, parents/carers, and supporters of all the kids, so once again thanks to all for your efforts.

Jannali hosted a total of 71 games, and for that to happen a hell of a lot of work goes on behind the scenes starting with a working bee before the season started.

- Our groundsmen, Dru & Liam, who put in dozens of hours each week to present a field that everyone at Comets should be proud of.
- Rhys Peeters as the junior umpire co-ordinator and his young umpires who did an amazing job all year.
- Suzette and her team in the canteen.
- Peita Burgess the results coordinator to the CSJBA.
- Barton Peeters & Liam Flynn our association delegates.
- Paul Mignacca our equipment and uniform officer.
- and last but not least the volunteers from every team who are tasked with BBQ and ground duty week in week out.

#### We thank you all.

Getting back into the swing of things after a few years of weather and virus interrupted seasons hasn't been easy, life for many has changed post covid but it was great to see so many smiling faces playing the game we all love, socialising and being in a fun team environment again.

As a club try to encourage an environment of fun for everyone of all abilities rather than a win at all costs mentality, and by all reports and observations our teams and supporters should be commended on how they conducted themselves throughout the year, we hold a standard better than most clubs. We should all be proud that everyone who represents this club helps contribute towards our reputation of playing junior baseball games in the right spirit and with fairness and respect.

This really has been a successful season and something for everyone at Comets to build on.

Success does not always come from winning, it also comes from setting goals and improving and the improvement from ALL teams this year has been noticeable.

Thank you to all players who put on the uniform this year, you worked hard, you enjoyed yourselves and you improved, It's only onwards and upwards for next season.

We are always looking to recruit new players of all ages, if you know of anyone new and interested in helping us build on last season, bring them along in 2023-2024.

Congratulations to all teams on a season well done.

#	Team	Coach	Manager
1	TBall Minor Gold	Bryce Fisher	Justine Inglis
2	TBall Minor Royal	Adrian Snelling	Danielle Mclean
3	TBall Major Div 1	Michael Turner & Pete Munro	Charlotte Johnson
4	TBall Major Div 3	Liam Dermody	Ryan Chivers
5	Little League MP Div 2	Paul Dunn	Jordan Brell
6	Little League Minors Div 2	Ryan Frost, Cal & Xave	Danny & Loren James
7	Intermediate League	Michael Brain	Paul Mignacca
8	Junior League JV	Max Pillington	Dave Biddle
9	Senior League Div 3	Ken Dickenson	Barton Peeters

**Craig Nancarrow**Junior Secretary

Congratulations to all on completing a very full season of baseball.

I won't repeat all the thank you messages of Trevor and Craig in detail, but just one big thank you to all the volunteers that have contributed to the successful delivery of a long season of baseball.

Each year we recognise a number of individuals, either in recognition of their effort and ability in being selected in one of the CSJBA State Championship teams or for the longevity of their service to the club as a player.

This year we recognise 5 players for their selection in CSJBA teams:

Cooper Jacenko - Little League Minors

Lincoln Potter - Little League Minors

Kai Shibata – Little League Minors

Zac Jacenko – Little League Majors

Jake Bolling – Junior League

We also recognise 6 players for reaching service milestones:

5 years continuous service:

- Nio Harrison
- Cooper Jacenko
- Alex Morgan
- Logan Wane

10 years continuous service:

- Lucas Flynn
- Kuean Geldenhuis

Most pleasing for the club is the number of recent Juniors who are now playing with the Seniors. It is even more pleasing when these Juniors drag their parents in to join the teams. As a result of this continuing involvement in Senior baseball we are now fielding 8 teams this winter, two of which are formed of parent and child combinations, and with all but 2 having under 18 players on the roster.

Looking forward to another successful season in 2023/24

**Michael Sant** 

Secretary



#### **T-Ball Minor Gold**

Coach: Bryce Fisher
Assistant Coach: Mark Inglis
Manager: Justine Inglis

Team: Huxley Inglis, Henry Butler, Scarlett Fisher, Joshua Gill

Hunta Dragarski, Oliver Gibling, Archie Lacey

Vinny Usherwood, Xavier Bugh

Congratulations to the T-ball Minor Gold team on a fun and successful year.

It was a pleasure to coach you all and see you develop in so many new skills over the season.

The kids displayed great sportsmanship throughout the season, encouraging and supporting each other on and off the field.

A big thank you to our manager Justine, who made this season possible, organising everything behind the scenes. You made everything run smoothly this season and I can't thank you enough. I would also like to thank Mark Inglis, our assistant coach, for everything you have done this year at training and on game day. I could always count on you mate and you always made it fun for the kids.

Last but not least, a big thank you to all the parents for bringing the kids to training and for all your help and support on game day.

I wish all the players from T-ball Minor Gold and their families a safe and happy rest of the year.

Bryce Fisher

Coach



#### **T-Ball Minor Royal**

Coach:Adrian SnellingManager:Danielle McLeanScorer:Alex Snelling

**Team:** Charlie Snelling, Rei Shibata, Bowie Mclean, Lucas Berringer

Edison Rakoia, Arwen Piggott, Eli Haidar, Aubree Mclean

The season kicked off with a team that had all the gear and no idea! A team as fresh as they came! A first season for the players, Coach, Manager and scorer! We all learnt together and what a way to build team rapport.

The statement "Never work with children or animals" has never reigned truer. The unpredictability every second of the match kept things so interesting for all involved and certainly kept everyone entertained! Herding kittens would have been easier! In saying this, the players really did their best, listening (most of the time) and most of all, were really good mates.

The team really enjoyed batting and the improvements in their hitting from the start to the end of the season was very noticeable. Running to first however was the challenge. If the team did run to 1st and not 3rd that was a win and when we say 'run', running was not a skill guite mastered...

Fielding was always a tough ask. This was not the players favourite part of the game except for the players who got to be in the catcher or pitcher position! Fielding was tough due to the age of the players (most being under 5), never playing before and the number of hot mornings we had. By the end of the season, all of the players understood that they had to throw to 1st, however this would typically be done after running back to their base or pitchers plate first! Many a fight over who would get the ball, didn't matter if the player was on 3rd and the ball was between 1st and 2nd, they all had to be a part of the game and getting the ball to 1st!

It was great to see the improvements of all of the players and the coach over the season. We all learned together and enjoyed ourselves along the way. I do not doubt that the parents had a tougher time getting the kids to the game than I had getting the kids to play whilst we were there. The parents were as much part of the team as the players, manager, scorer and coach. Without the parents, we would not have had the players at each game.

The aim of the game was and still is fun. The kids enjoyed themselves and this continued through the entire season, even if a few bribes from parents to children were required each week but what is parenting without a bribe!

A big thanks goes out to all involved, not just the team but those who make everything happen in the club. The season would not be possible without them!



Another big shout out goes to the team! You all did amazing and you made it enjoyable to coach you every week! Every little personality kept me entertained every minute of the match. Keep up the great work and I look forward to the next season with you.

Adrian Snelling Coach



#### **T-Ball Major Division 3**

Coach: Liam Dermody Manager: Ryan Chivers

**Team:** Max Chivers, Henry Chivers, Camden Evans, Ryan Taylor

Noah Piggott, Oscar Dermody, Jayden Papachristos

Zachary Tate, Livvy Rakoia

Result: 4th

The TBall Minor Division 3 team had a stellar season. We didn't win all our games but by gee the opposition team had to play well to beat us. It was Round 4 that told us we had a great group of kids with big tickers. We came up against a hot Juniors team who knew how to play. We were down by 7 after the first two innings. But after being shown how to play our kids responded with gusto and turned the tables in the next two innings to narrowly miss out by 3 runs. That was the theme for the rest of the season, the better the opposition and the tougher the game, the better we played.

The most pleasing thing about the season was the development of the kids. For half the team the season started as a continuation from TBall Minors. For the other half they were just getting acquainted with the game for the first time. But by the end of the season pitchers were throwing out batters at first, fielders were tagging runners and making plays on second and third, and batters were clearing the infield with ease. And didn't the kids love it. There's no doubt they were the happiest team in the competition.

All credit must go to our coach Liam. Liam's extensive baseball knowledge and experience was a huge bonus for our kids. But it was his patience and enthusiasm that really made it so much fun for the kids.

I'd also like to say a big thank you to all the parents in the team. Everyone did their part in making sure the games and the Club ran smoothly on Saturday's.

#### Ryan Chivers



#### T-Ball Major Division 1

**Coach:** Michael Turner and Peter Munro

Manager: Charlotte Johnson

Scorer: Rowena Dunn and Heidi Ross

Team: Walter Brell, Luca Dunn, Jordan Brain, Cooper Bosson

Jude Cross, Finn Stevens, Harley Collins, Teddy Grossett

Arthur Turner, Thomas Harris

Result: 3rd

In our first full season with no washouts from the rain, there's been so much learning in our final season as t-ballers. The team has learnt a lot about playing all positions, double plays and we even had a triple play! We managed a sliding session at Jannali which was enjoyed by everyone, teaching us a valuable lesson on the safe way to slide onto bases. The boys have really found their rhythm this year, played hard and fair against some tough teams. There were some really outstanding moments which made the coaches really proud of how far the team has come over the last 3 years. It is great to see that the team values every member and is working so well together, we can't wait to see what next year brings.

**Arthur Turner:** Arthur had a great season with his ability to play all positions, especially first base. He was always running fast around the bases and was working hard with Coach Pete on his left-handed swing.

**Luca Dunn:** Luca has had a tremendous season with his spectacular catching giving us our first triple play. This year it's been great to see Luca hitting into the outfield consistently allowing him and the team to run multiple bases. I'm looking forward to seeing how he develops next season.

**Walter Brell:** Walter continues to grow with each game and he saved his best performance for the last game, with a brilliant catch from a sky high ball. This year he gave it his all and has really gotten into the game. I feel so proud seeing how far Walter has come.

**Cooper Bosson:** Coops has been spending time honing his batting skills and he has finally found what works. It's been great to watch him find his style and hit some huge ones into the outfield. Cooper has tried really hard this year to build up his



speed between bases and has been consistently trying his best. A great effort this season from Coops.

**Jordan Brain:** After missing a few games at the beginning of the season, Jordan returned strong and quickly became a great team player. He faced some tough games but has always given it his very best. Jordan is a great all rounder, showing the opposition his flexibility every week. He is definitely one to watch. Well done on a great season.

**Harley Collins:** Harley was able to play every single position with an understanding of where the ball should go before the play had even happened! Throughout the last few years his throwing has improved and he now has one of strongest throwing arms in the team.

**Finn Stevens:** Finn brings 100% to every game. He has a strong left throw, getting the ball quickly to first base from the outfield. Finn is a well-liked and enthusiastic team player. He plays fair and is always considerate of other players, whether it is his own team or not. What a fantastic season Finn!

**Tom Harris:** Tom was our standout catcher who was always able to play the game hard and supporting his team mates. He continued to develop his hitting and was able to hit numerous line drive base hits throughout the year.

**Teddy Grossett:** Teddy had a great year and came up with outstanding plays in the infield, the highlight being a great play at 1st base against the Marlins. Teddy continued to work hard throughout the year and was a great support of his teammates.

**Charlotte Johnson** 



#### **Little League Machine Pitch Division 2**

Coach: Paul Dunn

**Assistant Coach:** Christopher Stratton

Manager: Jordan Brell

**Scorer:** Kris Harrison and Nigel Turner

**Team:** Jake Taylor, Xavier Dunn, Harrison Bolling, Benjamin Turner

Arlo Taylor, Hamish Brell, Lachlan Entwistle, Thomas Gibling Patrick Stratton, Ryan McGinty, Fletcher Nobbs, Nio Harrison

**Bailey Nupier** 

Result: 4th

The 2022/23 LL machine pitch season was one of strong improvement for the team. With a mix of new and returning players, the team was constantly developing, building from a difficult start to the season to only losing 1 game of the last 7 played! It was particularly memorable to see the team stringing together consecutive hits off the zooka machine to get plenty of runs on the board toward the end of the season. To look back from our 0-0 draw in our first ever game of zooka (in the previous season) to see how far the team has come is simply amazing. In the field, we saw some amazing catches and teamwork - a testament to the hard work the kids put into their training.

It was fantastic to watch the smiles on the kid's faces during the final gala day as they made some excellent catches, plays and hits to have a fun and successful day out (not to mention a lot of cold liquids and sugary snacks to help them through the hot afternoon).

And so it is with fond memories we put the (sometimes erratic) zooka machine back in the clubhouse for a well-deserved break. Now for an off season to rest and relax (and perhaps to practice some pitching), with a lot of kids excited to return for little league next year.

**Jordan Brell** 



#### **Little League Minor Division 2**

Coach: Ryan Frost

Assistant Coach: Callum Smith and Xavier Nancarrow

Manager: Danny and Loren James

Scorer: Erica Jacenko

**Team:** Cooper Jacenko, Kai Shibata, Logan Wane, Tyler James

Benjamin Spratt, Cooper Frost, Elijah Dragarski

Taj Murphy, Ethan Croxson, Arin Plodthao, Jack Harris

Result: 5th

As us parents sat down at the start of the year to brainstorm how we were going to transition into Little League from Zooka, a lot of ideas were thrown around. Do we import players, pay for gym memberships, new shoes, bootcamps or what if we pay for a super coach? What could be better than a super coach I hear you ask? Three coaches!!! So led by Ryan Frost, our trio of coaching experts were complete with Comets (self-appointed) legends Xavier Nancarrow and Callum Smith! Thanks for your efforts guys and great to see you imparting your wisdom on the younger generation.

To say it was a roller coaster of a year would be an understatement! We actually jumped out of the blocks strongly only losing one game out of our first 4, on the back of some strong batting and pitching performances. Maybe we started too well as regrading had us put up into the top half of the newly split competition.

The middle half of the season had us come up against some very strong teams but you could slowly see things coming together. Congratulations to everyone who gave pitching a go for the first time this year, including Kai, Cooper J, Logan, Arin, Cooper F and Tyler. We also must mention our catchers for this year Jack, Kai and Ben – not the easiest of jobs but you all did a great job and continued to improve.

It all clicked in December as we started to put some wins together, only dropping 3 of our last 7 games. With 3 games to go, and calculators working overtime, we realised we still had a chance of making the finals! Game 1 saw us have our biggest win of the year, beating Scots 12-1. Our second last game was probably the highlight of the season, taking on the undefeated Giants side who had beaten us by a combined 28 runs in our previous 3 encounters. Everything just worked for us in this game, lead by Kai who pitched beautifully, and finished off by Arin with a couple of big strikeouts, our fielders did the job taking catches and making plays when it counted. Eight players recorded hits against the comps best pitchers and we eventually won the game 7-5.



Coming into the last game we had to win against the number two team East Hills. You know when you get out of bed sometimes and you just aren't feeling it? I think that was one of those days. Defensively we were competitive only letting in 6 runs, but our bats didn't come out to play eventually going down 6-1. For us to come so close although disappointing, was a great sign of improvement and hopefully an indication of what's to come next year.

Our batting award this year goes to Kai Shibata, with a batting average of 0.607 and an incredible on base average of 0.893. Well done Kai! Second place went to Elijah (0.345) which included two Home Runs and third place to Tyler (0.320).

Unfortunately, there can only be one MVP, and this year we decided to award it to the person who was enthusiastic and committed to games and training, listened when spoken to and was keen to learn new things. This person improved significantly, and it's hard to believe it was his first year of baseball. Congratulations to Arin Plodthao, this years MVP!

Unfortunately, there aren't any more awards to give out, but Coach Ryan if he could would have awarded these:

- Most Improved: Tyler James
- Coaches Awards: Jack Harris and Ethan Croxson.

And finally, a massive thankyou to all of the parents and helpers throughout the year. Special mention to Erika Jacenko for scoring each week, the Stacey and Paul Spratt for pitch counting, my wife Loren James for making me look good managing and everyone who wore a vest, flipped a sausage or helped pack up a diamond. All your efforts were very much appreciated!!

Well done to the entire team, you should be proud of your efforts, Now get outside and practice your pitching! See you next year.

#### **Danny James**

Team Manager/Bat Boy



#### Intermediate League

Coach: Michael Brain
Assistant Coach: Blake Parker
Manager: Paul Mignacca
Scorer: Nicky De Ridder

**Team:** Liam Taylor, Blake Beaton, Byron Parker, Tyler Mignacca

Ruben De Ridder, Max Dal Mas, Byron Nobbs

Keiran Brain, Anderson Grant

Result: 4th

Maybe not a premiership year, but a very successful and fun year that we learnt a lot about the game and took big steps forward as a team. This season brought about many changes as we all moved up a league which meant using proper baseballs, larger diamond, new rules, stealing, pick offs to name a few. These changes meant we had to adapt quickly, learn new plays and develop a better understanding of the game. There were some proud moments for the team in a tough league with some good teams as we pushed to do our best and try and have fun along the way. Every player stood up and did something great throughout the season which is going to build a great team for upcoming years which I am already looking forward to seeing.

**Blake Beaton:** Blake was one of our new pitchers who showed some serious heat from the mound. With the continual improvement from last year Blake is making becoming a very good player who we can always rely on for an out or as pitcher and to get on base as a batter. Blake was thrown onto the mound early in the season and did so well he returned throughout the season to add some backup on the mound. Blake had a very good season full of fun and improvement. Well done on another fantastic season Blake and I hope to see you next year.

**Keiran Brain:** I'm not sure how but I think Keiran got a little faster between the bases this year. His quick thinking and speed allowed him to steal bases with ease. Keiran's batting, fielding and pitching have all improved so much from last year and he was always reliable to undertake any job the team needed him to do. Keiran is showing his abilities to be a very good baseballer and I'm not sure how, but he still improved throughout the year by pitching better as he progressed through the season. Another great year for you Keiran.

Max Dal Mas: Max had an outstanding first year and has become a very valuable team member. It has been great to watch Max's abilities improve all year long. Max made a number of outs after fielding cleanly and making good throws. Unfortunately for Max he was hit quite badly by a pitch in the second game, but to Max's credit he came back up to the plate and hit really well throughout the season. His confidence grew and he just kept improving as the year progressed. Well done Max on a great season, I hope you enjoyed the year, you are a valuable player and I really hope you will be returning next year to help us out.

**Ruben De Ridder:** Ruben has the biggest smile in the league as he strides around the bases. Ruben is growing in confidence with his 3rd year of baseball complete. This year he batted in some runs and looked lively in the field with some great catches and stops in the outfield. Ruben has improved by working on his swing selection and has proven a handful for the pitchers to get out. Ruben's year ended with his best hit of the year by smashing into the outfield and driving home some runs. Ruben continued to enjoy his Baseball and I hope he continues next year.

Anderson Grant: Andy's return to baseball was very welcome and he showed why he was missed last year with some great pitching and home run hitting. His speed around the bases was good, but his ability to unnerve pitchers was next level. Andy often had the pitchers more worried about what he was doing which took the focus off the batter. Not only was this hilarious to watch, it was valuable because we got more runners on base. A great all round effort from Andy and we hope to see him return next year.

**Tyler Mignacca:** Lead off in style is the way Tyler likes to do it. Often cracking the first pitch that comes his way. An enthusiastic player who has slot into catcher well. A very handy short stop, Tyler has made a number of outs from both positions making him a valuable member of the team. Tyler has a habit of sneaking around the bases before the fielding team knows what hit them. Another very solid season from Tyler, I'm looking forward to seeing how he goes next year.

**Byron Nobbs:** Byron is probably the most cheeky player in the team, always backing up a cheeky one liner with a big smile. The vibe is always up when Byron is around. A valuable member of the team always involved in the game playing at catcher. Byron's batting was outstanding this year, facing some harder pitchers Byron got on base regularly and usually converted to a run because he is quick to steal a base and always aware. Another fun season for Byron, I'm sure he will be back for more.

**Byron Parker:** Byron's effort throughout the year was evident with his improvement. He usually hit well, but was unfortunate to pick out fielders and have to really push to first base. His effort cannot be questioned. Byron's biggest hit of his time at the Comets was against the Sharks when he absolutely belted one out to the outfield. Byron has worked tirelessly on his fielding and made several plays from 3rd base. A really solid year from Byron who will be welcomed back next year.

Liam Taylor: Liam has stepped up big time this year with his pitching and improved batting. He was consistently smashing hits into the outfield and regularly getting on base. His base running was outstanding completing the lap around the diamond on many occasions this year. Liam's biggest improvement was becoming a reliable and regular pitcher, his form throughout the year got better and he struck out many an unsuspecting batter. His signature fist pump was a highlight for all. Well done on a great season Liam.

Blake Parker Assistant Coach



#### **Junior League Division 2**

Coach: Max Pillington
Assistant Coach: Liam Flynn
Manager: David Biddle

**Scorer:** Peita Burgess and Shelley Alexander

**Team:** Ashley Nupier, Lucas Flynn, Keziah Biddle, Jake Bolling

Simon Pillington, Matthew Chatterton, Daniel Cipriani

Aiden Alexander, Jack Wyld, James Rourke

Jacob Wilkinson

Result: 5th

This season has been interesting and new from the first moment with the formation of our joint venture Comets and Sharks Junior League team.

With two home grounds, two uniforms on the field and an introduction to a number of friendly new people from the joint clubs, there was a very different and exciting feel to usual seasons.

Although not able to get past that last play-off hurdle to make it into the finals, we showed on plenty of occasions that we were more than a match for the top sides when we were on our game.

This season we have been lucky to have a number of quality pitchers to play each game, with Jake and Aiden providing a solid lead off each game, and ably supported by Simon and Jack to keep the opposition batters on their toes.

Our catchers for the season were Jacob and Lucas who both provided some excellent glove work behind the plate.

Out in the field, Jimmy, Keziah, Daniel and Matthew worked hard each week to contain the opposition runs as well as securing those valuable outs, with Ashley returning from injury at the end of the season to add to our fielding depth.

Our batting during the season was peppered with great individual at bat performances, with different players stepping up each week to make the hit or bring a runner home.

The team this season was coached by Max with great support from Liam. Thanks go to them for giving their time and expertise to the kids and helping them to show their potential on the field.

We were also given great service from Shelley and Peita with scoring and for that we are very grateful.

Finally, the support we had from both clubs and the parents helped to make this season a fun, enjoyable and memorable one.

#### **David Biddle**



#### **Senior League Division 3**

Coach: Ken Dickenson

**Assistant Coach:** Matthew Wilson and Rod Boulton

Manager: Barton Peeters Scorer: Pam Wilson

**Team:** Brodie Dickenson, Christiaan Wilson, Xander Burrows

Bryce Boulton, Ruby Peeters, Lucy Peeters, Tiago Olival

Charlie Marks-Bradford, Lucrecio Bravo Da Rosa

Levi Burfoot

Result: 3<sup>rd</sup>

After seven rounds of the competition, it seemed like we were going to have really dismal season. With washouts and byes included, we had only one win to show for our efforts; one of our most experienced players was out for the season with a back injury; and one of our new players had an injured arm which meant he could only throw underarm.

This team, however, is full of character and determination, and playing for the love of the game, they never gave up. From round 8 onwards, things started to change. The work they did in training was being reflected in their performance on the field. Catches were sticking, throws were hitting the glove, double plays were delighting coaches and parents. And the kids were hitting the ball!

There were close games when they got in front and had to hold their nerve when the other team tried to chase them down. There were tight games where they had to rally in the final inning to get the win. It was exciting to come and watch them play.

The team went from 1 win in 5 games to 8 wins in 15 games and finished the regular season in third place. After winning a thrilling elimination semifinal, they ultimately fell one game short of a grand final appearance. They should be proud of their improvement and performance over the season, and proud of the sprit in which they played the game.

Many thanks to our coach Ken, assistant coaches Rod and Matt, our scorer Pam, and to all the parents who helped out with various tasks throughout the season.

#### **Barton Peeters**



### 2022 - 2023 Awards

Most Improved Non-Pitched Team

**Most Improved Pitched Team** 

**Jimmy McDonald Award** 

**Junior Member Award** 

**Junior Team Coach** 

LL Machine Pitch Div 2

Senior League Div 3

Liam Flynn

**Xavier Nancarrow** 

Mike Turner and Pete Munro

**Junior Representative Players** 

- Little League Minors Cooper Jacenko, Lincoln Potter

and Kai Shibata

- Little League Majors Zac Jacenko

- **Junior League** Jake Bolling

Jessica Clay Award Lachlan Entwistle

**Little League Minor Division 2** 

- **MVP** Arin Plodthao

- **Batting Average** Kai Shibata (0.607)

**Intermediate League** 

- **MVP** Liam Taylor

- **Batting Average** Keiran Brain (0.643)

**Junior League Division 2** 

- MVP Jacob Wilkinson

- **Batting Average** Simon Pillington (0.593)

- Coaches Award Aiden Alexander

**Senior League Division 3** 

- **MVP** Ruby Peeters

- **Batting Average** Bryce Boulton (0.741)