

Comets Baseball Club
2023-24 Junior Season Report



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President's Report

Eight teams of junior baseballers played with Comets this summer, ranging from the tiniest of the t-ball minors all the way up to the tallest brutes of the LA17s. Looking purely at wins and losses, you would say that some teams were more successful than others. Some things, however, such as grading and the strength of other clubs, are out of our control. So, we focus on things we can control, ensuring the kids enjoy the games, growth of the teams and development of players' skills.

During the season Peter Munro came on board as Club Coach. Pete organised a very successful and well attended training day in January, which was run by Tad Powers. All the kids benefitted from Tad's extensive baseball knowledge and really enjoyed the day. There is a good possibility of similar sessions being held again next summer.

Congratulations to our Little League 3 and Junior League 2 teams who both played finals baseball. Congratulations also to:

- Harrison Bolling, Xavier Dunn and Finn Stevens who represented the CSJBA in the Rookie Reps tournament
- Lincoln Potter, Kai Shibata and Cooper Jacenko who will represent the CSJBA in the upcoming Little League Majors state championships, Lincoln also played in the CSJBA team which won the Sydney Cup whilst Kai and Cooper played in the Association Cup, finishing as runners-up
- Zac Jacenko who will represent the CSJBA in the Junior League state championships

Finally, while the summer season has come to an end, we are already planning for next season. Keep an eye out on our social media for player development days over winter, as well as our Try Tball/Baseball sessions and grading sessions in the coming months.

Enjoy the off-season. Maybe come up to Comets and watch some of the seniors in the winter league.

See you all in Spring,

Barton Peeters
President



Junior Secretary's Report

For 2023-24 in the Comets Juniors, we had 92 registered players, slightly up from 90 last season. This players were split among the 8 teams listed below, with 5 friendship players playing in Div 1 at other clubs.

Team	Coach
Tball Minor	Adrian Snelling
Tball Major Div 2 (Gold)	Bryce Fisher
Tball Major Div 2 (Royal)	Trevor & Kuean Geldenhuis
LL Machine Pitch Div 1	Michael Turner & Pete Munro
LL Minor Div 3	Ryan Frost
LL Minor Div 2	Paul Dunn
Junior League Div 2	Michael Brain
League Age 17 Div 2	Max Pillington

The teams had mixed results this year.

This year, the way the numbers fell, several teams had players either playing up an age group and/or players new to baseball.

Both Michael Brain's & Ryan Frost's teams had both, with these teams both making it into the finals, a great achievement.

Congratulations to Ryan Frost Little League Div 3 team as minor premiers and runners-up. A big improvement during the year for a team cobbled together with new and underage players.

To our Tball Minor and Major teams.

There has been a few issues over the last few years with teams (from other clubs) playing a win at all cost game style, so much so a few rules changes were brought in this year to try and prevent this horrible attitude that teaches the kids zero about order baseball. Comets coaches Bryce, Trevor and Adrian should be acknowledged for the way they teach our youngest comets the best way to play and develop.

A special mention to Adrian and his Tball minor team, all bar one player new to the game. I had the pleasure of watching a number of their games this year. With the coaching, and the support of each and every parent, all the kids baseball skills improved out-of-sight.

A few changes at the Club during the season, a massive thanks to Suzette for her service to the club over 7 years in the canteen, Suzette and her team worked hard behind the scenes to make sure we are all well fed and hydrated on those hot summer Saturdays during the season.

To Rhys Peeters our junior umpire coordinator who is moving on. I and I am sure all at the Comets thank you for your dedication, no umpires = no games.



Junior Secretary's Report

Rhys gave up his time freely on Saturday mornings despite his heavy work/study load.

Max Pillington has kindly volunteered to take over the roll from season 2024-25.

A role that has been vacant for several years is CLUB COACH, the club coach role covers all aspects of our junior teams, from development, proper grading and mentoring coaches.

Pete Munro has taken on the role and already has great plans for the development of the juniors.

There will be a few winter training sessions for our players, and other development, coaching and recruitment nights which we will be sending out details to everyone about soon.

Pete organised and ran the Tad Powers training camp for our pitched teams on the 27th January this year. The day was one of the better days at the club for several years, the kids all got so much out of it as did the coaches and parents who were listening in on the sideline, I believe another similar day is in the planning for next season. Thanks to Pete for all that he has done in such a short period of time.

As always, thanks to the coaches, managers and scorers from each team who make it possible for the kids to get out on the diamond each week. And all the parents who volunteer week in week out, thanks you.

As a club we encourage our younger senior players to take on assisting our junior teams, this year we have 3 teams with younger Comets senior players as assistant coaches.

As a club we need to continually develop coaches who understand baseball, if any of our younger players are interested in assisting teams at training and on game day please let me know.

Club Trivia Night, this year will be run by Mike Turner's & Pete Munro's Little League Machine pitch team, The night will be held at Kurrnulla Hall in Jannali on Saturday May the 4th

Thank you to the executive and the club volunteers, it really is a team effort in getting the kids organised each year.

Craig Nancarrow
Junior Secretary



Secretary's Report

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

I won't repeat all the thank you messages of Barton 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 Representative teams or for the longevity of their service to the club as a player.

This year we recognise 4 players for their selection in CSJBA All Star teams:

Cooper Jacenko – Little League Majors

Lincoln Potter - Little League Majors

Kai Shibata – Little League Majors

Zac Jacenko – Junior League

And a further 3 players for selection in the CSJBA Rookie Reps program:

Harry Bolling

Xavier Dunn

Finn Stevens

We also recognise 17 players for reaching service milestones:

11 for 5 years continuous service:

- Xander Burrows
- Harrison Bolling
- Hamish Brell
- Elijah Dragarski
- Xavier Dunn
- Lachlan Entwistle
- Thomas Gibling
- Fletcher Nobbs
- Benjamim Spratt
- Patrick Stratton
- Jake Taylor

And 6 for 10 years continuous service:

- Keziah Biddle
- Bryce Boulton
- Ashley Nupier
- Lucy Peeters
- Ruby Peeters
- Simon Pillington



Secretary's Report

Extremely pleasing for the club is the number of recent Juniors who are now playing with the Seniors, with a further 4 joining the Senior teams this Winter. As a result of this continuing involvement in Senior baseball we are again fielding 8 teams this winter, two of which are formed of parent and child combinations, and with all but 1 having age 18 and under players on the roster.

Looking forward to another successful season in 2024/25

Michael Sant
Secretary



Team Reports

T-Ball Minor

Coach: Adrian Snelling
Assistant Coach: Finlay Nancarrow
Manager: Cassandra Kean
Scorer: Sarah Edwards, Sophie Nott & Sophie Sallis- Miller

Team: Charlie Snelling, Elijah Cordoba, Ari Sallis- Miller, Lachlan Gleeson, Odin O'Connor, Edward Nott, William Knight, Edison Gill, Forrest Edwards, Henry Horrack, Harper-Lee Wells

Another season over! The statement 'time flies when you are having fun' never reigned truer.

The season kicked off with only one player who ever played T-Ball previously. However, this was only a minor issue. The entire team gave everything they had every game. Well at least for the first half anyway! The aim of the game was and still is fun. The kids enjoyed themselves and this continued through the entire season. The team really did their best, listening (most of the time) and most of all, were great mates. The team really enjoyed batting and the improvements in their skills from the start to the end of the season was very noticeable. Every single member of the team deserves a mention as they all brought their own skills to the team however a special mention goes out to Ari and his amazing catches, the unstoppable Charlie and Ari Pitcher/ 1st base combo and we cannot fail to mention the Fozzie shuffle!

It was great to see the improvements of every single player over the season. We all learned together and enjoyed ourselves along the way. The parents were as much part of the team as the players, manager, scorers and coach. Everyone jumped in and helped where they could, the parents were as much part of the team as were the kids who were playing.

A 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 hope that everyone plays again next season!

Adrian Snelling
Coach



Team Reports

T-Ball Major Div 2 Gold

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

Team: Archie Lacey, Oliver Gibling, Joshua Gill, Scarlett Fisher, Huxley Inglis, Deklen Dragarski, Hunta Dragarski, Eden Griffen, Vinny Usherwood, Finn Deehan, Brody Hayes

Finished: 5th

What a year for our teeball Major gold team. A very successful and enjoyable year.

I am so proud of every player in the team. Each and every week there was consistent effort and determination at training and in the game. It was so rewarding to see the efforts at training work to their advantage on game day.

One of my biggest focuses when coaching is making sure everyone has a fair share of time in different positions throughout the year, that way the kids can develop and learn this great game of baseball. I feel as if all of my players progressed as a result of this.

The amount of plays these kids made as a team was second to none. I was so proud to watch you all throw the ball and make outs on each and every base throughout the year.

I would like to thank Justine, our manager, who made the season possible. Thank you for organising everything behind the scenes and making sure the season ran smoothly. I can't thank you enough for all you have done this season a lot.

A big thankyou to Mark Inglis, our assistant coach. Thank you for your efforts at training and on game day. You were always there to train or coach the kids when I was absent and supported the kids consistently throughout the season.

Last but not least, a big thankyou to all the parents of the team for your constant support. Thank you for making sure the kids attended training and game day and for your support throughout the season. It wouldn't have been possible without you all.

I look forward to seeing you all again next season.

Bryce Fisher
Coach



Team Reports

T-Ball Major Div 2 Royal

Coach: Trevor Geldenhuis
Coach: Kuean Geldenhuis
Manager: Ryan Chivers

Team: Noah Piggott, Austin Luk, Ryan Taylor, Myles Hickey, Henry Chivers, Camden Evans, Finlay Brell, Jon Cieplik, Rei Shibata

Finished: Runners-up

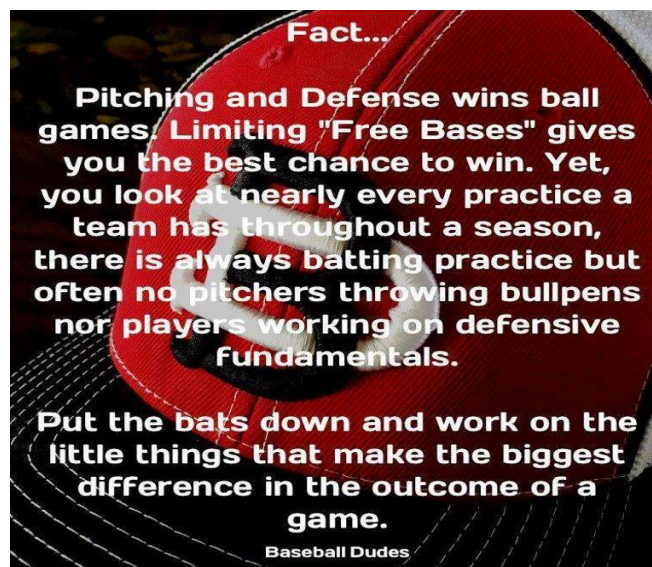
Where did the time go?

2023/2024 was a special season as I was able to coach with my son, Kuean, which was great watching him spit out all that myself and other coaches taught him when he was a Comets Junior and CSJBA Rep player.

Thinking back on the last few games that were played, I am quite proud of how far the young players had progressed from the beginning of the season.

After the first training session I remember saying, I can't believe I am doing this again, clearly forgetting how small the kids were.

Then after the last game, I said to Kuean that is why we coach. The improvement in throwing, hitting (not that too much time was spent on hitting at training) and the fielding was incredible.





Team Reports

A few wins and few losses along the way kept the players in the competitive mood, with the same question week in and week out. DID WE WIN?

Sometimes the answer was we were winners and other times it was we were losers, always followed up by, did we learn from what happened?

The disappointment from was soon forgotten after the players started trying to analyse what went "wrong".

Thank you to all the parents for scoring, dropping kids off at training and games, and for filling in for the coaches when we were away.



Team Reports

Machine Pitch Div 1

Coach:	Mike Turner
Coach:	Pete Munro
Managers:	Charlotte Johnson and Lana Turner
Scorer:	Rowena Lew
Team:	Arthur Turner, Finn Stevens, Walter Brell, Jude Cross, Jude Douglas, Joshua Fleming, Jayden Papachristos, Cooper Bosson, Jordan Brain, Luca Dunn, Thomas Harris
Finished:	6th

The 2024 season for the Zooka Team in Division 1 has been one of remarkable growth highlighted by outstanding teamwork and hard work. Over the course of the season, our players have demonstrated dedication, resilience, and sportsmanship, embodying the true spirit of the game. While we faced various challenges, our collective efforts have resulted in significant progress and success on and off the field.

Throughout the season, our team focused on continuous improvement, refining our techniques, tactics, and teamwork with each game. Through dedicated practice sessions and constructive feedback, players honed their abilities and enhanced their overall performance, resulting in commendable progress individually and as a collective unit.

One of the defining aspects of our season was the remarkable cohesion and camaraderie displayed by the players. Encouraging a supportive team culture, our team fostered strong bonds and mutual respect among teammates, contributing to a positive environment.

Several players distinguished themselves with outstanding performances, demonstrating exceptional skill, determination, and leadership throughout the season. Whether through batting, exemplary defensive plays, and a high baseball IQ all players exemplified the highest standards of excellence and sportsmanship.

Competing in Division 1, our team faced formidable competition from skilled opponents, presenting a significant challenge in every game. However, these challenges served as valuable learning opportunities, motivating our players to elevate their performance and rise to the occasion.

As we reflect on the achievements and experiences of the 2024 season, our team looks ahead with optimism and determination. We would like to thank our Manager Charlotte and scorer Rowena for ensuring all aspects of the season were run smoothly. Building upon the lessons learned and successes achieved, we are committed to furthering our development, fostering a culture of excellence, and pursuing our goals with passion and dedication in the seasons to come.

Mike Turner
Coach



Team Reports

Little League Minor Div 3

Coach: Ryan Frost
Assistant Coach: Xavier Nancarrow
Manager: Heather Taylor
Scorer: Amy Plodthao

Team: Elijah Dragarski, Cooper Frost, Arin Plodthao, Jack Harris, Kleo Cieplik, Bailey Nupier, Isla Potter, Nico Eizenberg, Sofia Taylor, Arlo Taylor

Finished: Minor Premiers and Runners-up

This year's team was a mix of experienced players, new to baseball players & players playing above their age group.

Coaches, managers, scorers and all the parents sat down at the start of the year to brainstorm how the transition from LL Div 2 last year to LL Div 3 this year would go.

Top age kids restricted to 30 pitches was our main issue.

It's hard to believe this team finished as minor premiers and fought through to a grand final appearance.

Grand Final day, the kids came in with the same attitude they had all year, just go out and have some fun. Unfortunately, we fell short on the day, but from where we started the season to where we finished the season, I couldn't be prouder of each and every player on our team.

Thanks also to the parents for your total support during the year.

We may not have the same team next season, but I hope to see you all around Comets for years to come.

On to the players

Arin Plodthao: Our gun starting pitcher and speed demon around the bases. Most games you'd hear the girls of the team ask "Where's Arin?"

Jack Harris: aka, "The Brickwall". A huge year for Jack. Our catcher blocked and jumped all year long and made many rocket throws for outs at 3rd base. His batting has improved out of sight with a number of big bombs this year.

Elijah Dragarski: The quiet achiever, but don't let that fool you, our 3rd baseman filled a big role as relief pitcher and made plenty of outs.

Cooper Frost: Coach's son, our 1st baseman, one of our pitchers and Homerun king. Cooper saved the day on more than 1 occasion.



Team Reports

Bailey Nupier: The pocket rocket, you'd never miss Bailey in her bright pink shoes. Bailey has come along way and is turning into a great little player.

Arlo Taylor: What can I say, the class clown, definitely keeps the Coach on his toes but Arlo has cemented his role as one of our outfielders and has got the relay plays down pat.

Sophia Taylor: Well this girl has a good set of lungs and is a real team player, talks non stop and cheers on the loudest for her team mates, dislikes batting close to her brother Arlo but does she like to talk.

Kleo Cieplik: Our Centrefielder, who is not afraid to take one for the team, always has a big smile and keen to get amongst it.

Nicco Eizenberg: The smallest member of the team but has this kid got an arm. Nicco came to us as a brand new player, our short stop with a rocket as an arm.

Isla Potter: Another one of our new players who loves being a part of the squad, Isla is always happy and Chirpy and talks nonstop.

Guys and Girls, well done on an amazing year, a season of growth that you should all be proud of.

Many thanks to everyone who chipped in and helped during the season. Special mention to Heather, Amy, Kylie, Jenny, Xavier and Craig. Without your help I guarantee I'd be bald or very grey.

Ryan Frost
Coach



Team Reports

Little League Minor Div 2

Coach: Paul Dunn

Assistant Coach: Chris Stratton and Simon Forshaw

Scorer: Nigel Turner

Team: Jake Taylor, Fletcher Nobbs, Ryan McGinty, Patrick Stratton, Hamish Forshaw, Thomas Gibling, Lachlan Entwistle, Hamish Brell, Benjamin Turner, Harry Bolling, Xavier Dunn

Finished: 6th

NO REPORT SUBMITTED



Team Reports

Junior League Div 2

Coach:	Michael Brain
Assistant Coach:	Blake Parker
Manager:	Paul Mignacca
Scorer:	Lorraine Goddard-Hall and Nicki De Ridder
Team:	Keiran Brain, Byron Nobbs, Jake Davidson, Ruben De Ridder, Nathan Griffen, Tyler Mignacca, Byron Parker, Ethan Croxson, Blake Beaton, Logan Wane, Liam Taylor
Finished:	3rd

Overall a positive season for the Junior League Div 2 team, playing deep into the finals. The boys had a great season with 10 wins from 15 games, and also a big win in the semi final, however we lost a close one in the final which ended the season.

The team looked really good throughout the year with some great individual performances along with much improved teamwork. Endless batting sessions with Pauly had the boys hitting really well towards the end of the season. Thanks Guys for a great season and hope to see you all back for the next season.

Blake Beaton

Another great year from Blake. Solid at second base and a real contributor from the outfield. Not only a fielding threat but his batting and baserunning had significantly improved this year. Always keen and with a rather large smile on his face to match, Blake is a pleasure to have in the team and I'm sure will continue his baseball journey with enthusiasm.

Keiran Brain

This young man is clearly going on to big things in life, he continues to inspire the team with massive hitting and great pitching. Always can be counted on when his team needs him. A real credit to the Comets, thanks for another fantastic year Keiran.

Ethan Croxson

A great first year in the team, Ethan proved himself as a lead off batter and a very solid fielder at short stop. Continually backing up when in the outfield Ethan shows a knowledge of the game which is impressive, looking forward to another season with Ethan.



Team Reports

Jake Davidson

Jake hit big in his first year of baseball and transitioned well into the team as a highly valued team member. His catching was first class and played full games at catcher when injuries impacted the team. A great year for Jake, well done and can't wait to see what he can do in his next season of baseball.

Ruben De Ridder

What can I say about Ruben? It's great to see someone love his baseball so much. Countless outs at second base and great hitting and baserunning, this player loves his baseball almost as much as his post-game sausage sandwich. Thanks for another great season Ruben, can't wait for next year.

Nathan Griffen

WOW, Nathan's first year of baseball was highlighted with outs from second, caught flyballs and humongous run scoring hits. Great start for Nathan in baseball as a consistent contributor to the team. I'm looking forward to see what his second season will produce.

Tyler Mignacca

Catcher, Pitcher, Short stop, outfield, on base hitter, Tyler can do it all! Great season by Tyler, he was moved out of his preferred catching role to pitch and did it so well he has become a pitcher. Doesn't matter where Tyler is, he will do it with no fuss. Thanks for a fantastic year Tyler.

Byron Nobbs

The beating heart of the team, Byron provides so much more than just a catcher to the team. His infectious smile and spirit is such a positive to the team. Byron unfortunately was injured towards the end of the season and found an untapped resource to other positions which he excelled at. Thanks Byron for being such a team player, it means a huge amount to the team.



Team Reports

Liam Taylor

Mr fix it, Liam can do it all. 3rd base, Pitching, Outfield and hitting. Liam is always in game mode with his one and only fist pump strike. Liam is a pleasure to coach as he does any task required with effort, energy and enthusiasm. His throwing had a noticeable sting in it this year, well done Liam.

Byron Parker

Byron's batting was fantastic as he had a hit nearly every time he graced the plate, and he hit em hard. Byron's enthusiasm while fielding was infectious and much improved. Byron had some great saves at 3rd and contributed with his outfield play consistently throughout the season.

Logan Wane

Logan had a way of always finding a way out of a bind while batting this year, he often took the Pitcher deep into 5 or 6 pitches which was fantastic for the team as he was chewing up the count. He has a knack of stealing bases with huge leads and consistently does well at first base. Great season Logan.

Blake Parker

Assistant Coach



Team Reports

League Age 17 Div 2

Coach:	Max Pillington
Assistant Coach:	Liam Flynn and Rod Boulton
Manager:	Barton Peeters
Scorer:	Peita Burgess
Team:	Ruby Peeters, Lucy Peeters, Bryce Boulton, Xander Burrows, Matthew Chatterton, Simon Pillington, Jake Bolling, Keziah Biddle, Lucas Flynn, Alexander Griffen, Ashley Nupier
Finished:	6th

The kids on this team are vary from brand new to the sport to seasoned 10 year Comets players, with less than half of the team coming from SL3 last season and the rest coming up from Junior League for their first year at this level.

We had an interesting season with 15 games played, two draws and the rest losses.

8 of these were by 5 runs or less, which means that we were usually in the running.

Even though we were often struggling against older and some highly skilled opposition, our team kept on trying right until the end of the last game.

Special mention goes to our pitchers – Bryce, Jake and Simon. To our catchers – Lucas and Ruby.

The rest of the team can be described as utility players, being very good in whatever position they were placed from week to week.

As we head into this year's winter senior season, a number of these players will be joining adult teams for the first time and I hope that they will continue to enjoy the sport in the future.

Thank you also to the parents who helped out each week with warm-ups, scoring, pitch counting and base coaching. You know who you are...

Max Pillington

Coach



2023 – 2024 Awards

Most Improved Non-Pitched Team	T-Ball Major Div 2 - Royal
Most Improved Pitched Team	Little League Minor Div 3
Jimmy McDonald Award	Julie Little
Junior Member Award	Kuean Geldenhuis
Junior Team Coach	Michael Brain
Family Award	Nancarrow Family

Junior Representative Players

- Rookie Reps	Harry Bolling, Xavier Dunn and Finn Stevens
- Little League Majors	Cooper Jacenko, Lincoln Potter and Kai Shibata
- Junior League	Zac Jacenko

Jessica Clay Award	Jordan Brain
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Little League Minor Division 3

- MVP	Arin Plodthao
- Batting Average	Cooper Frost (0.720)

Little League Minor Division 2

- MVP	Xavier Dunn
- Batting Average	Ryan McGinty (0.588)

Junior League Division 2

- Dedication to improvement	Nathan Griffen
- Rookie of the year	Jake Davidson

League Age 17 Division 2

- MVP	Matthew Chatterton
- Batting Average	Bryce Boulton (0.461)