

Home run Holman
Mark is awarded life membership

Know your stadium
The winters prize winner was:
Steve "Footy" Foote



WE'RE BACK!!

By Darren Llewellyn

Only a few weeks to the start of the Summer PCBL season, with Round 1 on September 13/14. At this stage most of the rosters are filled, with a few spots open for late starters. If you are interested in playing, go to the club website for information and to register:

northsydney.baseball.com.au

Due to the large number of teams and resulting pressure on ground access, we are taking 2 teams across to the Manly Summer League, with all games being played out of Aquatic Reserve

each Saturday.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact Doc on darrenllewellyn@yahoo.com or 0414 907 206. Be quick as the Manly competition starts on September 6th.

The remaining 9 teams will comprise the largest contingent in the PCBL, with games played at Flat Rock and Bicentennial Reserve on Saturdays and Sundays. We expect to have teams in A, C, D, E and F grades to cater for all skill and competition levels. As above, contact Doc for more info. ■



Mark Holman Awarded Life Membership

The club recently recognised the contribution of one of our valued members with Mark Holman awarded Life Membership at the recent AGM. The award was presented by fellow Life Member Alan Clinch.

Mark has been an active member of the club for over 10 years, with his involvement on and off the diamond appreciated. Like most Bears, Mark came across the club and the sport of baseball through family and friends. Over the years Mark has taken on the roles of coach, administrator and supporter with equal enthusiasm, and along the way formed a number of deep friendships. Add to this his role on the PCBL Executive and as a Director of Norths Leagues Club, and it is clear that Mark's contribution to the sport and the club is significant.

Congratulations Mark, and thank you for your service to the club. ■

Winter Season Wrap



By Darren Llewellyn

We've just seen the end of another season with a mix of success and frustration. On the downside, the season was hampered by washouts, best summed up by the F7 side who only played 6 of 15 games during the regular

season. Of course the upside was this same team remained undefeated and brought the F Grade championship back to the club.

Of the 8 teams, 5 made it to the finals and 4 of these to their respective grand finals. Unfortunately it was not our day for the A1, C2 and D1 sides, but they have reason to be proud with their accomplishments. Coming back next Winter to make the next step will surely be a motivator in the coming months. Well done to the C1 side who fell one game short of their grand final, as well as the A2, D2 and F8 sides who narrowly missed the finals.

For those Bears who take the summer off, we look forward to seeing you back next Winter. ■

Winter Award Winners

A1 MVP – David Thorne
Best Defensive Player – Alex McDonald

A2 MVP – Glen Smith
Player's Player – James Menzies

C1 MVP – Jesse Hoobler
Player's Player – Josh Cuthbertson

C2 Best Pitcher – Stephen Lin
Best Batter – Peter Chan

D1 MVP – Cameron Ludowyke
Player's Player – Tim Holland

D2 Co-MVP – Scott Kelso
Co-MVP – Alex Offenstadt

F7 MVP – Nathan Tucker
Player's Player – Darren Rutgers

F8 MVP – Michael Nesbitt
Coaches Award – Chris Balchin



Effd (7) Wins it all!!



by Vicky Benko

This year we went: 8 from 8 – Minor Premiers and Winners of Grand Final. We have had such a mix within our side with ages and experience ranging from none to lifetime and 24 to 60. Hot to trot. It was the most fabulous season and although we lost many matches to rain it never dampened our spirit. We still had to attend Al's Boot Camp on every washout or bye weekend and then only then we allowed to go for refreshments at the nearest local. We trained everywhere from North Sydney Oval to even ten pin bowling at Darling Harbour. Thanks Popeye it really did put us in good form and friendship to carry us through for our win. Everyone contributed something to our season.

We were the luckiest Bears throughout the season missing out on playing Mark Holman's team due to numbers and activities and only got to play our nemesis the undefeated North Ryde team for the first time in the Semi-Final. We played and won 6 games in the lead up to finals with North Ryde playing and winning 11 games and unfortunately for them due to technicality and stats we finished Minor Premiers by a margin of 0.02 going into the finals. We did not get any home finals and played our semi at North Ryde RSL. We managed to again come from behind to win 11 - 9 after being down by 3 runs with

MC to bat, MC hitting a spectacular ball to score our three runs to win the game taking straight through to the Grand Final - *Best ever birthday present!*

Think we had a week off? Not likely as Al's Boot Camp kicked into overdrive. And although we did get to go and support games at Flat Rock on Saturday we had a muck about game with others from The Baseball to get our eye in. It all help and thanks to JD and others for helping us out.

We started to get excited once we had sorted out the neutral venue for the game as no home Grand Final was available for Effd grade. The big day loomed and was the quietest the girls have ever been. It was such an exciting game and although I played in it, I couldn't tell you much about it. We did not get off to a great start with a tunnel ball and a dropped catch but that was the very worst of it. Once we got those out of the way we settled down nicely and our determination to win kicked in. We just rolled from there. For two hours we played our guts out and entering the last inning we found ourselves down by six runs (in a seven run rule comp).

North Ryde walked our first five skilled batters who patiently took their turns at the plate. They left the rubbish and batted not for glory but for the team. Everyone manages to score and with zero outs and six across the plate, Baggy Pants Carter was due up. Carter hit a walk off single to score

the winning run. TIME, GAME let the celebrations begin! Effd grade wins the Grand Final.... We are still celebrating!

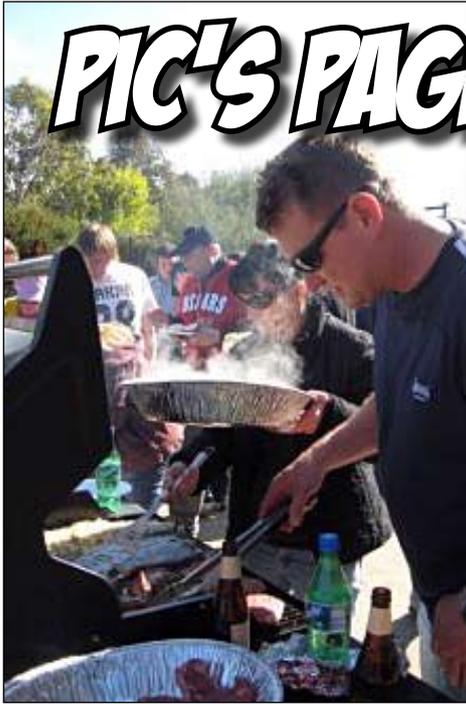
I have been so very blessed with my team mates, and they all contributed in some way to the most special baseball season ever.

Thanks to Kirsty for all her nonstop encouragement, support and patience with her base coaching. Thank you for believing in us and for taking doctors orders. We really missed you but you were always there with us. Thanks to Paul (The Ninja) for taking on the role of coach again this season and who is still recovering from an injury sustained during the grandfinal. Thanks to our Popeye - Alan Clinch and Lindsay and Travis for support and encouragement throughout the season. Thanks to Julie for being part of our team and your tireless efforts both on and off the field and for not letting things get he down. Thanks to JP for solid catching and technical advice. Thanks to Matt for tireless support both on and off the field. Thanks to Roger for never giving up and being part of our team. Thanks to and welcome to Darren (Daz) for great pitching, fielding, batting and for fitting in so well. Thanks to Nathan for brilliant fielding and the biggest home in our Grand Final (which almost cleared the gums trees) they're still talking about it. Thanks to Brad for not injuring himself so much over the season with so little game time but still qualifying for the finals and for your spectacular catch in left field. Thanks to MC for being part of Effd and for hitting us through to the grandfinal - So nice to have you onboard (yes, biased bear). And thanks to Zan again for tireless effort both on and off the field - what a player. Lastly a big growl to Bonnie for being the best dressed and behaved mascot ever.

We are still celebrating our win as you could tell from Presentation Day and we look forward to bringing home the next trophy for summer. Thank you to everyone who came to watch us play, especially the support we received from our own club - you know who you are. To Effd - you are the best bunch of misfits who made this season worthwhile. We beat them and it's only up from here. Thank you all for a fabulous winning and grinning season.

GGGGGGGGRRRRRRRRRR!!!!!! ■

PIC'S PAGE!





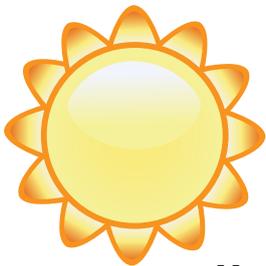
The Bear Pause Needs Your Help!

Please submit all material, images, links, video etc. by COB Tuesday

WE NEED YOU!

Submissions to:
kncruz@inet.net.au

Saturday's Weather Forecast



Max 17°

Click here for a full report on PCBL gound closers

World Masters 2009



No other multi-sport event in the world attracts as many participants as the World Masters Games. Since 1985 the Games have brought together mature aged sports men and women from around the globe who share a commitment to the simple philosophy of "sport for life".

"Masters" is simply an age designation; it does not denote a level of proficiency or a particular achievement. To compete, all you need to do is to satisfy the age criteria for your sport. The World Masters Games are for you.

If you will be 35 or over by next October and would like to be part of a team, or would like more information please contact Kristian Cruz or Alan Clinch. ■

