



The Bear Pause

Volume 2, Issue 5 21 October 2005

Rude Awakening For E1 Bears Dream Season

The E1 Bears are no longer undefeated, but played a tough game and were very unlucky losers.

Once again Richie pitched a standout game, throwing 6 innings of 3 hit ball including 8 strikeouts. Unfortunately, the E1's fielding was not as sharp as it has been in the past, which can hopefully be put down to the crappy infield of Majors Bay rather than complacency.

The Bears base running was not as tight as it had been in the four previous games and as such, opportunities to take the lead in the game were stifled. The final score of the match was 4-2, with the Concord Comets scoring 4 unearned runs and the Bad News Bears scoring 2 earned runs.

The game saw Yvette's return from the USA and once put into the game she made her presence known, turning a timely double-play with a precision rarely seen outside the majors.



Ryan Banks and Pauly Baseball in action in the E1s 4-2 loss to the Concord Comets.

Other bright points of the game included Jimmy robbing a Comet of a three-run homer by taking a tippy-toe catch next to the boundary cones and Michael Cudmore's huge Sacrifice Fly deep to left to place him in the lead for E1 RBI king.

Overall it was a disappointing loss, but showed us we can match the division leaders and taught us some valuable lessons. This week the E1s travel to

the Kuring-Gai Stealers and a win will secure second place on the table.

Round 6 will also see the introduction of the "Moneyball" theory being applied to the E1s and the exit of the small-ball theory; Billy Beane personally rang Pauly Baseball during the week and asked, "Pauly, small-ball? Dude, why?" Handy timing too with the E1 Bears playing at the supposedly very short left field at Cliff Oval.

B1s Find Their Stroke Behind Strong Pitching & Solid Fielding

After arriving late and being demoted to #9 in the batting order young James Menzies responded by not allowing a single hit in the first hour. This included Jimmy's batting where he also shut himself out of the game for the first hour. Jimmy was helped out by faultless fielding, featuring some very tidy plays by Shinpai (welcome back).

During this hour the Bears visited the batting cages and led 12-0. The next hour the Bears scored 7 more runs with everybody hitting. Fortunately the angle of the sun was okay when Dougie came to the mound. New boy Dan went to 2nd for Pogo. Billy P pitched the final inning and the Bears won 19-6.



The B1's James Menzies was solid on the hill.



Col watches Shinpai score one of 19 Bear runs.



Billy Patterson connects in the first inning.

E2 Bears Wake Too Late From Slumber



Sixty Seconds With...

The E2s lost on the weekend 7-8 to the Comets after a sluggish start with the bat by the Bears saw the Comets race to a 7-2 lead. It wasn't until the last innings that the Bears started to wake from hibernation and came back strongly but lost by one run.

The Bears started the game with Bruce Alaimo pitching. Bruce threw a number of good pitches but struggled to get into his rhythm and was eventually replaced by Takuro. Takuro also struggled with the wind and the umpire's strike zone and was eventually replaced by Stephen Davidson, who had no problems with finding the zone; Stephen's curves were sensational and prompted the umpire to ask if he was allowed to pitch in this grade!

One of the positives of the game was the solid defensive play by the Bears with excellent fielding all round, with Takuro "Mister Cool" Kakinuma outstanding in the outfield and also combined successfully while pitching with Bruce at third base to carry out a great pick off of a Comet runner. Laurie Nolan was solid at catcher until his back problem crept back and he had to bench himself, this however allowed Yvette to come in and smash a base hit through second and to get the batting rally going in the last dig.

The Bears have shown that they are the team to beat this year with excellent pitching options and solid defence in the field, the failure with the bat this weekend will be a one off!

James Wedesweiler

Nickname: "Jimmy"

Position: I like them all

Age: 28

Seasons with Bears: 3

Scouting Report: (completed by Coach) Jimmy is a very handy outfielder and punctuates a big catch through his signature falling over move. Since Jimmy joined the Bears last summer his bat has improved immensely and Jimmy can be always counted on for a Hit-By-Pitch at a crucial point of the game. Although he doesn't like to slide, Jimmy is very fast and one of the best base stealers going around.

Value to the Bears: (completed by Coach) Jimmy's obvious sense of humour is a huge plus for the team to keep everything in perspective and having Jimmy around for a beer after the game is quite entertaining for the married members of the team so we can relive our bachelor days through listening to Jimmy's Don Juan stories.



There's nothing Jimmy Wedesweiler won't do to help his Bears team win—NOTHING!

Most embarrassing Bears moment: Going to a special "adult" party only to find I was going to be the catcher that night.

Best Bears moment: Going to a special "adult" party and finding I was the catcher that night.

Favourite celebrity:
RuPaul.

Dream Car: Mercedes SLK 450, because it's German, fast, with little room in the trunk and like me a luxury to drive.

Biggest Regret: Making a baggage claim at the Garuda Indonesia baggage counter for a lost 4.5kg bodyboard bag on my arrival in Bali.



E2 Pitcher Takuro "Mister Cool" Kakinuma shows good form against the Comets.



E2 catcher Brett Lord waits on a pitch from Takuro Kakinuma.



First baseman Claude Davidson warms up between innings.

G2 Bears Lead All The Way

Well you win some and you loose some and this week it was our turn in the sun. We barely got to nine starters but that's all you need. They came from all corners of the city including the member's stands at the cricket.

It was a fearsome sight to see big John D. running to the game, getting there just in time, doing a quick strip and pulling on his black and white superman costume. Dan led us off with a great performance on the mound holding Thornleigh to small scores in

each of the first 3 innings supported by some good fielding.

Our batting fired up with the first seven up getting home with none out which put us back in the field again (G grade rules). David Rowe our new recruit (he is signed and sealed B1s so you can't have him) in his first at bat used the famous "Big Stick" and cracked a home run off the first pitch. No fences at Greenway so a great display of running as well.

David Dumay must have been watching Jim "Bullseye" Strachan in the B2s as he took it for the team twice in 2 at bats getting around the bases on each occasion to add to the score. After

Dan A. had completed his great opening stint we invited David Rowe onto the mound. Dave bought the heat and stunned the Thornleigh players who thought Doug Nolan had been smuggled into the team as they watched the balls zing past for strike after strike.

All in all a great day out with a 19-12 win in the bag. Well done to the team and to John Dumay for his vigorous defense of the fielding abilities of Thornleigh to get an error reversed by the scorer (I won't mention who was batting at the time). Watch out for the rest of the season the Big Black Bear has awoken!



Got a burning question about life and all it's meaning?
Ask Yogi.

Dear Yogi,

As our millionaire club benefactor (sic), could you please provide me with a case of your finest, coldest Crown lager. Could you also ask that zany bunch of pranksters in the committee where on earth they got the crazy idea for laying down gauntlets like this, just so that I could win a case of beer now that I am indefinitely refraining from the amber fluid?

Many hit home runs that day. It would seem that Hag's and Paul's words of encouragement, added to their cool temperaments, reap results. Why they were so silent at Concord was anyone's guess. Far be it from me to ponder the gods of baseball and their policy of ironic punishment.

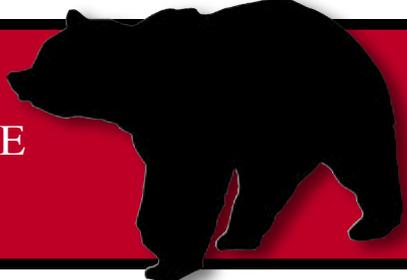
Thanks Yogi,
Dan

Dear Dan,
The beer is on the way. Be sure to share it with your teammates. After all, that is why we play with the Mighty Bears. Glad I could bring some amber sunshine into your life. Okay then, next topic please.

Yogi

Yogi can be reached at bearpause@optusnet.com.au

THE MYSTERY BASEBALL MOVIE REVIEWER



The Bad News Bears (1976)

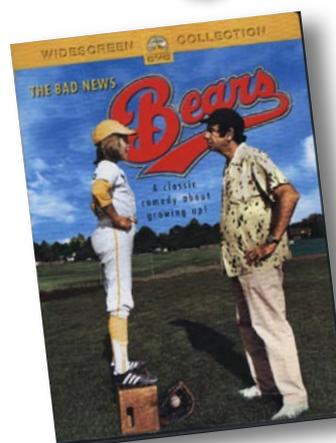
Starring: Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal

What do you get when you mix a 'has been' alcoholic coach with a bunch of misfit kids that no-one wants in their team? The Mighty Ducks, Little Giants and probably about 10 other movies and "The Bad News Bears."

Admittedly this must have been one of the first in this story line as the movie dates back to 1976 and apparently was one of the highest grossing films for that year (so the DVD cover says).

Walter Matthau plays the 'has been' minor league baseball player asked to come down and manage a team of misfit kids that are left over when all other teams have been selected for the Little League competition.

Reminiscent of training at Gore Hill on a Thursday night, the players on the team stink, cannot make throws to 1st,



cannot field groundballs and cannot catch flyballs. Well the after the 1st couple of games being done by a lot to none the standard issue Ring-ins are called on to help out.

Like Norths have never done that. AKA 1/2 the E1 side. Anyhow's, you can all work out what happens next.

Best Line in the movie:

"I am hitting 841. I'm one of the Bears... Do you live around here????? I got a Harley Davidson. Does that turn you on? Harley Davidson?"

Rating: 3/5 

You Can Still Join Us For Sunday's World Series Breakfast!

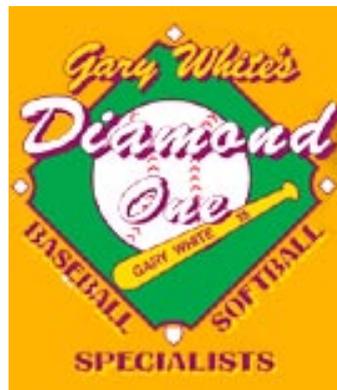
The Bears will be holding the annual World Series breakfast on Sunday 23rd October, from 9:30am at the Sports Bar, North Sydney Leagues Club.

The cost is \$15 per person, which includes an all-you-can-eat breakfast, entertainment and prizes. The first game of the 2005 World Series will be shown on the big screen from 10:00am.

The event is being sponsored by Gary White's Diamond One. Be sure to visit the store for your baseball and softball gear! www.diamondone.com.au

RSVP to

bearpause@optusnet.com.au
See you there!!



Thanks to Diamond One Sports for donating a \$100.00 gift voucher as a door prize for the upcoming WS Breakfast on Sunday 23rd October!

Level 1 Umpire Training Now Available To Bears Players

If you're a registered Bears player and interested in becoming a Level 1 Umpire, the club will cover the cost! Please see enrolment details attached or direct any questions to John Dumay at jcd@progressivemanagement.com.au

B2s Beat Up Greenway 11-3

With a loss the previous week, the Bears B2 team were roaring & ready to make amends against a Greenway side who had come off a convincing victory the week prior.

Leading off the game, Josh Cuthbertson fulfilled his duties yet again by hitting a single to take him to first. Jim 'Bullseye' Strachan came to the plate and true to form, took a HBP to put runners on first and second. Mike Taylor comes to the plate, takes a strike but the catcher misses and the runners advance to second and third. He then grounds a ball down the third base line which allows Josh to come home and Jim S to advance to third. Michael 'that was no error' Bromley visits the plate, hits one to the infield that is juggled and dropped which allows him to advance to first. Bases loaded and 'The Doctor' comes to the plate. High on confidence from his home run the week prior decides to blast a double to center, Jim S and Mike T come running home.

The top of the order continued it's dominance over the opposition and the team ran home six to start the match. It now came down to the defense, was it going to collapse as it had done the previous week or were the crew ready to put it all behind them and move forward. It wasn't too long before it was evident that it was to be the latter.

I do believe it was three up, three down. In fact, it was pretty much this way the entire game with some fantastic running catches in the outfield and some handy work in the infield, especially Kristian's stretch save at second and still managed to turn to make the play at first.

Doc pitched well for his three innings with only 1 hit, 2 strike-outs, 1 walk and no runs. In fact, Doc's performance throughout the day was solid and he

could be considered a little unlucky (again) not to have won the mug with two doubles, a single & three RBIs... or was it 4?

Another who joined Doc on the 'BIG' hitters list for the day was Mike Bromley with a triple in the second inning with an RBI to boot. The Funky Spud came on with three innings to go as relief pitcher and managed to hold Greenway to three runs walking home with the win. The game was a solid display of safe, solid & consistent hitting as well as smart base running and fantastic defense that we know, especially down that third base line...
Josh Cuthbertson.



B2 Bears pitcher/catcher/first baseman Doc Llewellyn has been dominant of late.



Bring on the Spud! Craig McQuillen's junk balls proved a good follow up to Doc's smoke!

In The Next Issue:

There's a new email address for submissions to the Bear Pause. Please submit all materials before EOD Wednesday to this email address:

Submissions: bearpause@optusnet.com.au



So You Wanna Be A Big League Owner?

You wanna make all the right calls, trade players and choose favourable match ups? You wanna buy low and sell high, sailing the seas of high-pressure deals striving to earn your franchise more capital and in the end field the greatest Bears Team ever?

Right! You asked for it so here it is! As of next summer (2006) we will begin running the first Interclub Fantasy League. It will be base loosely on the Big League Fantasy Baseball that we're sure you all know and love.

For those of you who have no idea what we're on about let us explain.

Basic rules of NSB Fantasy League:

The rules are fairly simple - at the start of the 2006 season each NSB Fantasy owner will be given \$15 million capital to purchase 5 players (3 batters and 2 pitchers).

The value of these players will go up or down depending on the number of people who during that week own that player. For example players in high demand will cost more to acquire (the first player price changes will take place the Monday after week 4 of the 2006 season).

Once you have built up your roster (within the provided salary cap) and based on individual performances throughout the league, NSBF Points will be allocated to your NSB Fantasy Team based on the following:

For BATTERS

HITS, BB, SB, RS and RBIs.

Additional NSBF Points are awarded for EXTRA BH, HRs and GRAND SLAMS. A NSBF BONUS POINT multiplied by the number of HITS that player had on the day will be allocated if your Player is leading a particular category (see power rankings)

NSBF Points for BATTERS are deducted for STRIKE OUTS/PUT OUTS and CS. (More NSBF Points are deducted for a STRIKE OUT then a PUT OUT.

For PITCHERS

WINS, INNINGS PITCHED, SAVES and STRIKE OUTS.

They will be deducted points for HITS, LOSSES, BB, BLOWN SAVES and ER.

Each NSB Fantasy owner will be given 2 TRADES a week. This means you can trade out old players for new ones. Providing you have the capital to acquire who you are after. You may save up your TRADES but to a maximum of 10.

So that's about it really. In a nutshell the idea is to buy low and sell high thus generating more capital to buy higher price players and players who may be on a tear that everyone knows about whilst earning NSB Fantasy points along the way.

Two prizes will be given at the end of the season Firstly to the NSB Fantasy owner with the most NSB Fantasy Points and secondly to the NSB Fantasy owner that has the highest Net worth team (NSBF \$)

All stat sheets (from those coaches and managers that chose to supply them) are now available online under each teams name by round and date. This will allow you in 2006 (as an NSBF Manager) to track all players' performances across all grades from week to week.

Perhaps this information will lead to favourable match-ups or help you develop what ever kooky system you think works in order to acquire tomorrows stars today (after all, us managers are a superstitious ridden, pine riding, wacky bunch!)

Sounds simple huh?

Ok, so it is pretty simple but before you go all Steinbrennere on us and head straight to the higher teams trying to sign up all those high priced, over paid, winy "oh how can I live on \$4 million a season" babies lets get to the modified rules part of the NSBF League.

Besides the fact that you may not be able to afford all the players you want straight away given the amount of capital you have to start with, you'll have to spread the money around (same as in the Big Leagues).

In addition to the salary cap keep in mind that we are planning to handicap the top and bottom sides in order to even it all out. It's kind of like

the "Bookies spread" and this is where things get tricky.

The modified NSBF rules:

PITCHERS IN A HIGHER GRADE

- Will be awarded fewer NSNF Points for: A WIN
- They will also be deducted more NSBF Points for: ER and BB
- They will receive more NSBF Points however for: INNINGS PITCHED, SAVES and Ks
- They will be deducted less NSBF Points on HITS

PITCHERS IN A LOWER GRADE

- Will be awarded fewer NSNF Points for: STRIKE OUTS
- They will also be deducted more NSBF Points for: HIT
- They will receive more NSBF Points however for: AWIN
- They will be deducted less NSBF Points on BB

BATTERS IN A HIGHER GRADE

- They will be deducted more NSBF Points for: CS
- Will be awarded more NSBF Points for: HITS, BB and SB
- They will be deducted less NSBF Points on STRIKE OUTS

BATTERS IN A LOWER GRADE

- Will be deducted more NSBF Points on STRIKE OUTS
- They will receive more NSBF Points however for: DOUBLES, TRIPLES and HRs

So that's it folks. The nuts and bolts of it, but a few other things obviously still need to be ironed out which brings us to our next point. The weekly power rankings that will run as of next week in The Bear Pause to serve 2 purposes:

- Obviously it's a good gauge for who's doing what and everyone likes a little recognition when they're doing well.
- It forms the foundations for next season's starting player prices. It also give us a way to track the data over this season and run a mock version of the Fantasy League in an attempt to put the ball in play next year, so to speak.

Cheers, Kristian Cruz and The Bear Pause.



***NORTH SYDNEY LEAGUES
BASEBALL CLUB***

***LEVEL 1 UMPIRE'S TRAINING REGISTRATION
PACKAGE***

7:00 – 10:30pm

October 24 & 31

November 21 & 28

**Aquatic Baseball Diamond, Aquatic Drive,
French's Forest**

www.northsydney.baseball.com.au



LEVEL 1 UMPIRE'S TRAINING REGISTRATION PACKAGE

You must:

- ✓ Complete and sign a registration form
- ✓ Pay the appropriate fees.

Fees

Fees for the Course (including GST) are \$40 and an additional \$10 for a rule book.

Enrolment Date

Mailed, faxed or emailed registration forms must be received by October 15 2005. The Club may accept registrations after those dates at its discretion. If you don't want to be disappointed, register early.

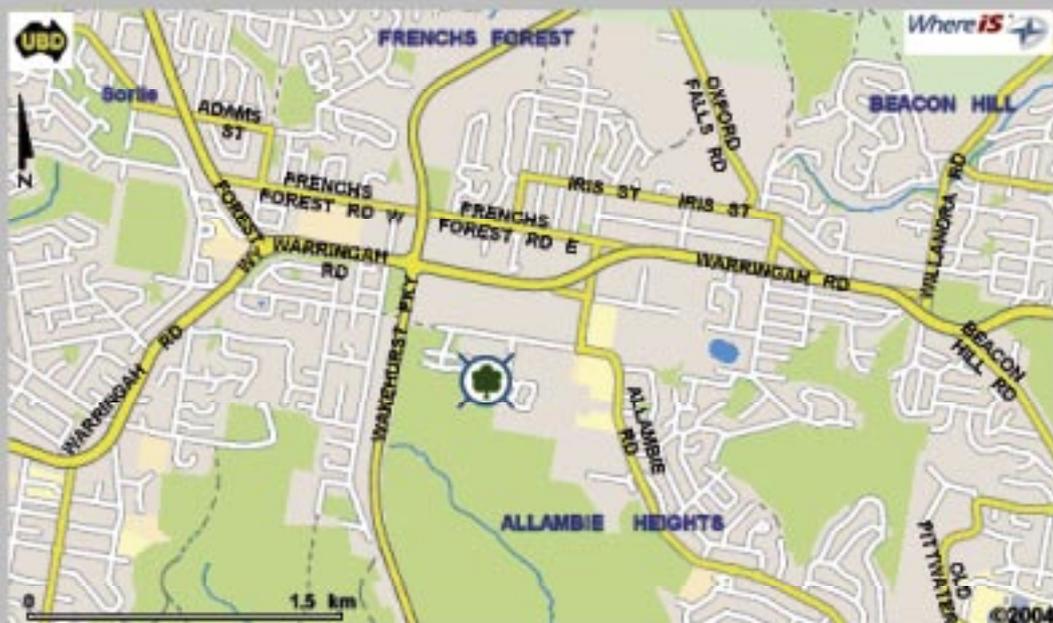
Training Times and Venue

7:00 – 10:30pm

October 24 & 31

November 21 & 28

Aquatic Baseball Diamond, Aquatic Drive, French's Forest





Level 1 Umpires Registration Form

First Name & Surname:

Date of Birth:

Gender:

Street Address:

Suburb & Post Code:

E-mail:

Phone: (Home)

(Mobile):

Affiliated Club:

Signature

Date

NOTE: Payment must be made with registration form. You can pay by credit card, cheque or direct deposit to our bank account.

Payment Options (Tick one)

- Fee only \$40
 Fee and rule book \$50

Credit Card

Pay by Credit Card (indicate type): Visa MasterCard Bankcard Total \$ Amount:

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: ___/___

Cardholder Name: _____ Signature: _____

Cheque Payment

Make a cheque payable to North Sydney Leagues Baseball Club & post with a printed copy of this form to:

John Dumay PO Box 4092, North Curl Curl NSW 2099

Direct Deposit

Transfer funds directly to our Westpac account. Details as follows

Account: North Sydney Leagues Baseball Club
Branch: Crows Nest
BSB Number: 032 093
Account Number: 143049

Please use your full name as the reference and send an email to confirm the transaction.