



Tigers Softball Club Yearbook, 2015



2015 in review

MSL: Tigers

A stop start season of unfulfilled potential. Injuries and other absences meant getting a team out on to the field was a constant struggle. We put in some good performances in the first half of the year, but were always brittle defensively and the poor turn out at practices led inevitably to those problems getting worse as the season went on. There were some good individual performances, in particular the two Mikes gave us some real power in the batting line up, Hayley's hitting was impressive and Claudio was good with both bat and glove.

MSL: Wildcats

A big turnover in players meant this was always a season of rebuilding and consolidation but we ended up in a position of mid table respectability and played some good stuff along the way. There were encouraging displays all through the squad, amongst others Michael played well all season, Rob and Andy came on strong at the end of the year and JD also looked good in the few games he played. The arrival of Helen gave us some experience in the outfield, Emma P. hit like a veteran all year, Georgie showed promise and Sandra came on in leaps and bounds in the 2nd half of the season.

MSL: Men in Black

Frustrating in some ways as we underachieved, only winning 1 game in 4, but we played really well at times, turned some good plays and played in some competitive, exciting games, what more can you ask for ?

Tournaments

We started the season on a real high when we won the cup at Firstball on the back of a seven game winning streak. At Leeds we started and ended the weekend well with a bit of a dip in the middle. Main highlight was our first ever win against the East Midlands Tigers but after two rounds of pool play we missed out on the final on run difference. At Leicester we had another see-saw weekend before finishing on a high with a good quarter final win followed by a close fought semi- final loss to the Misfits. At the Manchester tournament we had a similar up and down time, despite some painful defensive wobbles we got to the plate final but then were well beaten by the Bats. At Sefton a dismal run of defeats on the Saturday was somewhat redeemed by some wins on the Sunday.



Tigers Squad



Tiggers Squad



2015 League Season

Tigers

22/04/15 Bullfrogs

A one sided score-line as we started the league season with a loss, but a performance that was better than the score suggested. We made far too many errors to win against an efficient Bullfrogs side but we did do enough to suggest that if we can cut out the errors we can look forward to brighter times ahead. The batting was a bit anemic but Mike (3 for 3) and Dave W. (1 for 1) were perfect at the plate with Dave E. (2 for 3) the best of the rest.

In the field Dave W. pitched well, Dave E. looked good in left (apart from his attempt to cripple Sarah !), TK made some nice takes at home, and Sarah (whilst under attack from Dave) and Hayley took good outfield catches. Elsewhere there was lots of effort but also a bit of rush and panic that made scoring easier than it perhaps should have been for the Bullfrogs.

Thanks to Wildcats Matt and Helen for helping us out in our hour of need, and to Kazim for coming along to support even though he knew it was unlikely he'd get much playing time.



Bullfrogs	3	4	0	6	0	3	5	21
Tigers	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	5

MVPs were Dave Eaton and TK.

29/04/15 Camels

In contrast to last week we remembered to bring the bats along for our second game of the season, but defensively we were still shaky and after a bright start we let the Camels put up crooked numbers at the plate in too many innings for us to get the win.

Steph, Ed and Mike were this week's Home Run heroes with one apiece. Claudio led the on base percentages for the men, going 4 for 4, with Sarah leading the way for the women, going 4 for 5.

In the field it was a bit of a curate's egg performance, some bits were good but others not so much, we were a bit too eager to think about the 2nd out before getting the 1st and too eager to look to the miracle play to compensate for an earlier error rather than just playing the percentages.



Tigers	3	5	2	4	2	0	4	20
Camels	1	7	3	3	6	5	X	25

MVPs were Mike Gaskell and TK.

06/05/15 Speeders

We played well for much of this game but in the end two bad innings in the field meant we didn't get the win. Despite the mid-game wobble there were lot of encouraging signs in the field. Hayley did well on first, Mike had his best game of the season so far at short stop, Dave had a good game in left field and Claudio showed his versatility with impressive displays both in the outfield and afterwards at second base.

Mike was this week's only Home Run Hero, but it was Hayley who led the averages going 4 for 4 at the plate. Best of the rest were TK, Dave and Sarah who all went 3 for 4. Overall we batted well though the base running was perhaps a bit hit and miss at times.

Ed suffered a reoccurrence of his leg injury in the build up to the game and was unable to play, he's not had the best of luck so far this year and we all hope this latest injury is not serious.



Speeders	3	1	1	6	8	0	0	19
Tigers	4	2	1	0	3	3	0	10

MVPs were Mike Gaskell and Hayley.

13/05/15 Mutineers

This top v bottom clash was much closer than might have been expected from previous results. It was a tight, well played affair between two good teams. We didn't quite do enough to get the win but we did more than enough to suggest we can look forward to the rest of the season with confidence.

Dave E. had a fine game on his return to short stop, Hayley looked good on two, Mike put fear into the opposition with his throws from the outfield and Kirsty had a good game at catcher with the highlight a fine tag at home. There was lots of commitment and lots of backing up and hard work overall it was defensively our best display of the season so far. Individually and collectively we did lots of good work.

Mike G. was the stand out with the bat, going 3 for 3 whilst also hitting our only Home Run. Best of the rest were Sam and Jon who each went 2 for 3.



Tigers	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	5
Mutineers	0	2	3	3	2	1	X	11

MVPs were Mike Gaskell and Hayley.

20/05/15 Lightning

We recorded our first win of the season in a tense, well fought and well -played game against a Lightning team who must still be wondering how they lost. After the first three innings Lightning were 7-3 up and looking heavy favourites, but they didn't score another run in the last 5 innings of the game. Instead we got our defensive act together and ground out the win in extra innings on the back of some impressive team-work. Recording the zero in the 8th inning to get the win, despite a runner starting the inning on 2nd, was the cherry on the cake.

We never looked fully convincing whilst batting but did just enough to sneak the result. Game star on both sides of the plate was Sam who went 4 for 4, put in a really strong defensive stint at 2nd base and also manufactured the winning run in the 8th inning with some aggressive base running.

Best of the rest with the bats were Steph, Jon and Michael M., who each went 2 for 3. Elsewhere in the field there were many impressive performances. Amongst others Dave E. looked good again at short stop, Dave W. pitched his 2nd good game of the week and Emma made some good plays at 1st.

Jon played well in his last game of the season, he'll be missed. Michael M. showed a lot of promise in his first Wednesday performance, it shouldn't be long before we see him again.



Tigers	0	3	0	2	0	1	1	1	8
Lightning	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	7

MVPs were Sam and Emma.

03/06/15 Outlaws II

Our best performance of the season so far. We had a few wobbles in the field but we kept scoring runs all the way through the game, we were never headed from first to last and eventually we ground the opposition down in fine style.

Home run heroes were Mike G. (1) And Michael M. (2, 1GS). Percentage leaders were the two Michaels, Sam and Kirsty, who all went 4 for 5. Everyone got at least one hit and everyone hit the ball hard.

In the field it was a bit of a mixed bag, we made some spectacular outs, highlighted by a couple of tag plays on 3rd, but in the first half of the game we also muffed a few more straight forward outs, not helped by the sun which made life difficult for everyone on the right side of the diamond, not least Hayley who ended up with a bruise rather than an easy out when she just couldn't see the ball coming in from 3rd to 2nd. Despite the hiccups we were basically solid defensively, Dave pitched well again, Helen did a fine job at catcher, Mike G. got the chance to show off his arm in the outfield and there were lots of good defensive plays all over the pitch.



Tigers	5	2	1	6	0	7	1	22
Outlaws II	3	2	2	0	5	0	0	12

MVPs were Michael Miah and Sarah.

24/06/15 Camels

What with a rest week, the Cup and then the Bullfrogs' forfeit last week we haven't actually been able to play as a team very often recently, so it was good to play together again, and also to record a solid win against a dangerous Camels team. We built a good lead in the first five innings that gave us an advantage big enough to survive a late fight back by the hump backed opposition.

In the field we played well as a team, amongst other highlights Dave pitched a good game, Emma was impressive on 1st and Sam did a good job at shortstop.

When we batted Dave was the on base King going 3 for 3. Best of the rest were Claudio, Sarah and Mike G. who all went 3 for 4. Mike G. also hit a 3 run Home Run in the 4th that gave us the cushion we needed to get the win despite the Camels rally in the last 2 innings.

Thanks from all the Tigers to Dan Jarman who stepped in at short (i.e. no) notice and did a fine job as umpire. More cup related disruption to our season next week, but things are looking up at the moment.



Sarah Mike

Camels	1	0	0	0	0	3	3	7
Tigers	2	3	1	4	0	1	X	11

MVPs were Michael Miah and Sarah.

08/07/15 Speeders

We haven't played together much as a team over the last few weeks and the effects were visible in what was a disjointed performance against an efficient Speeders team.

Heroine of the evening was Helen who played despite having an injured shoulder that prevented her from catching the ball or taking a proper swing. She even got an important base hit in the 4th that helped set up our 3 run rally.

The night's batting leaders were Michael (4 for 4) and Dave (3 for 3) who each batted 1000. Best of the women was Sarah who went 2 for 4 and she and Hayley could both count themselves a bit unlucky not to get more reward for their efforts. In the field Dave W. pitched well, Hayley made some good plays at 1st and Sam did some good work at 2nd.



Helen Dave

Tigers	2	0	1	3	0	0	1	7
Speeders	4	0	2	3	5	0	X	14

MVPs were Dave Wareham and Helen.

15/07/15 Mutineers

After three innings we were only 1 run behind but we'd already shown the defensive frailties that cost us the win. We batted well throughout the game but our inability to make the routine plays was fatal.

Batting OBP leader was Michael M. who batted 1000 (5 for 5). Close behind, batting 800 (4 for 5), were Mike G. and Kirsty with Mike also being our sole Home Run hero. There weren't many defensive highlights but Dave pitched well, TK took some nice outfield catches and Mike impressed at 2nd base.



TK Mike

Mutineers	3	2	2	10	3	5	6	31
Tigers	1	5	0	3	5	4	0	18

MVPs were Mike Gaskell and TK.



22/07/15 Lightning

A frustrating loss that followed a similar pattern to last week's game. We hit well but we didn't take enough of our chances in the field to get the win.

Sam and Ed were the OBP leaders each going 4 for 4 with Michael close behind (4 for 5). Hayley led the way for the women going 3 for 4. We hit well as a team but some over exuberant base running cost us at times. In the field Hayley had a good game in both the outfield and then on one and Dave both pitched and fielded his position well.

Making a welcome return to the fold was Ed who made only his 2nd appearance of the season, but it is farewell to Claudio, who had to drop out at the last minute, meaning last week's game was his final appearance of the season. He'll be missed.

Lightning	5	3	6	3	0	6	2	25
Tigers	3	5	1	0	5	6	0	20

MVPs were Dave Wareham and Hayley.



05/08/15 Outlaws II

A see saw game, the Tigers won this basement battle and retained their Division 2 status when a fielding error allowed the winning run to score from 1st on an attempt to complete a double play that would have taken the game into extra innings. Home Run Heroes were Michael (2) , Hayley (1), Dave E.(1) and Ed (1). On Base percentage leaders were Sam and Ed, each 4 for 5.

Outlaws	1	2	2	6	8	0	0	19
Tigers	5	5	4	0	3	2	1	20

MVPs were Sam and Hayley



19/08/15 Speeders

Tigers won by forfeit when the Speeders 1st base suffered a hand injury with 1 out in the bottom of the 3rd that forced her off the field, leaving them with only 8 players. In the limited action that did take place Dave E. was the star going 2 for 2 and taking a couple of nice catches in the outfield.

Speeders	0	2	1	3
Tigers	1	1	1	3

26/08/15 Outlaws II

A makeshift Tigers team, playing 1 short, started brightly, when batting at least, but faded in the later innings. The fielding had been shaky from the start however and as the runs dried up the game got away from us in a hurry in the 5th and 6th innings.

Best with the bats were guest Steve Beddows and Dave E. who each went 3 for 3. Sam put in a good pitching performance and also fielded his position well, collecting a large number of fielding assists. Thanks to Steve Beddows for guesting and to Andy, who made his Tigers debut. *(We were later awarded this game by forfeit as the Outlaws had an illegal batting order).*

Tigers	4	3	0	0	0	0	7
Outlaws	6	3	1	2	6	4	22

MVPs were Sam and Kirsty.



Division 2 Final Table

	G	W	L	F	RS	RC	%age	GB	
Mutineers	15	11	4	0	250	131	.733	-	(C)
Camels	15	9	6	0	208	204	.600	2	(P)
Bullfrogs	15	9	5	1	212	184	.600	2½	
Lightning	15	7	8	0	170	185	.467	4	
Tigers	14	7	7	0	209	192	.500	-	
Speeders	14	6	8	0	181	228	.429	1	
Outlaws II	14	2	11	1	158	264	.143	5½	(R)



Tigers League fixtures

Date	Opponent	Pitch H/A	Score
22nd April	Bullfrogs	6 H	L 5-21
29th April	Camels	4 A	L 20-25
6th May	Speeders	2 H	L 10-19
13th May	Mutineers	3 A	L 5-11
20th May	Lightning	5 A	W 8-7 (8)
<i>27th May</i>	<i>rest</i>		
3rd June	Outlaws II	6 A	W 22-12
<i>10th June</i>	<i>rest</i>		
17th June	Bullfrogs	9 A	W (forfeit)
24th June	Camels	3 H	W 11-7
<i>1st July</i>	<i>rest</i>		
8th July	Speeders	5 A	L 7-14
15th July	Mutineers	7 H	L 18-31
22nd July	Lightning	PW7 H	L 20-25
<i>29th July</i>	<i>rest</i>		
5th August	Outlaws II	9 H	W 20-19
<i>12th August</i>	<i>rest</i>		
19th August	Speeders	2 H	W (forfeit)
26th August	Outlaws II	4 A	W (forfeit)



Wildcats

28/04/15 Mavericks II

A mixed bag in the field and the bats never really got going against opposition boasting an experienced core of players that should make them favourites in the Division 4 title race.

Best of our batters was Luisa (2 for 2), best of the rest were Tony, Steve and Sarah N. who each went 2 for 3. Defensive stand outs were Luisa at third and Rob who caught everything in left field. Rob starred in the highlight defensive play of the game, starting a catch em out, tag em out double play finished by Sarah at 2nd. Tony pitched a good game and Stewart played his first ever game in the field on first.

Wildcats	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mavericks	0	7	3	2	0	4		16

MVPs were Steve and Luisa



05/05/15 Phoenix

An encouraging performance in sometimes awful conditions that gave us lots of reasons to be optimistic for the rest of the season.

Dave was the only one with a perfect record at the plate (3 for 3), best of the rest were Matt and Steve, who each went 3 for 4, with Sarah leading the way for the women going 2 for 3.

Defensive stand outs were Michael at shortstop and new girl Emma at second, both made mistakes but the pair of them also looked really promising. Dave pitched a good game in Tony's absence.

Sandra and Georgie made their outfield debuts and Georgie also scored her first ever run. We showed our collective inexperience at times with a few avoidable errors, but what was more important was the big improvement we showed over last week's performance.

Phoenix	3	4	0	3	2	3	0	15
Wildcats	1	2	2	0	1	1	3	10

MVPs were Michael and Emma



12/05/15 Drizzle

A win!

A good team performance, we had a bit of a defensive wobble in the later innings but there were extenuating circumstances that meant we shouldn't get too excited about that part of a game that we never looked like losing.

Tony, Michael and Luisa were perfect at the plate, each going 5 for 5. Tony also hit two Home Runs and Michael one. B, best of the rest were Emma and Hayley, and everyone apart from new girl Jenny (1 for 4) got on base at least twice.

Defensive stand outs were Rob both at first and later in the outfield, and Luisa on third base. Tony pitched a good game though he sometimes struggled to control the ball in the last couple of innings after taking a blow to his pitching hand that later turned out to have caused a fracture that may put him out for 4 to 6 weeks – get well soon Tony !

Drizzle	3	2	0	3	4	6	5	23
Wildcats	6	5	1	5	5	5	X	27

MVPs were Rob and Luisa



19/05/15 Moorkats

A second win, we were sloppy in the first few innings but tightened things up really well in the last 3, just enough to sneak over the winning line.

Michael was our Home Run hero, hitting a Grand Slam in the top of the 6th to give us the lead for the first time in the game. He was also one of three batters, Matt and Rob being the others, to lead the on base figures, going three for four at the plate.

In the field Matt made some nice catches in left field, Michael worked hard at short, made a dramatic will he or won't he circus style catch in the 6th and also turned a nice double play. Helen did lots of hard work without the ball backing up play and Dave pitched a good game. Sarah finished the game with a really nice play charging the roller and making the throw to first where Rob made a fine catch.



Wildcats	0	0	0	7	0	6	0	13
Moorkats	2	0	3	5	0	0	2	12

MVPs were Michael and Sarah

26/05/15 Barflies

Back to earth with a bump this week. We weren't too bad with the bats but in the field we produced what at times was an almost comically bad performance. There was one big defensive highlight; - we shut the Barflies out in the top of the 7th with the aid of that rarest of beasts, a triple play.

With the bats the top performers were Tony and Emma, (each 4 for 4), plus Dave (3 for 3). Best of the rest was Steve who went 3 for 4.

In the field Tony had a good game at first and Dave pitched well. Otherwise we did manage some good plays along the way but there were too many errors throughout the game for us to get much joy from the better bits. On a brighter note Charlotte returned to the fold and hit well in her first game back.



Barflies	0	5	2	6	3	6	0	23
Wildcats	1	0	4	1	2	3	0	11

MVPs were Tony and Emma

09/06/15 Freeze

What should have been a comfortable win turned into a close run affair but we in the end did just enough to nail down the result.

Batting leaders were Emma, Steve and Rob, all 4 for 4, with Steve also contributing our sole Home Run of the evening.

In the field we played well until the last couple of innings when score board pressure caused a few wobbles. Charlotte did a good job on first and Dave pitched well after coming into the game in the bottom of the 5th.

Stewart deserves a special mention for producing what was his best performance so far for the team, with a couple of base hits and some committed base running.



Wildcats	6	4	0	2	8	0	0	20
Freeze	0	0	3	1	9	0	4	17

MVPs were Steve and Charlotte

16/06/15 Colt 45s

After taking a 10-0 lead in the first innings we coasted through the rest of the game and had the same 10 run margin at the end. Whilst we should probably have been a bit more clinical overall it was a satisfying performance.

Batting leaders were Tony and Rob (4 for 4) and Matt (3 for 3). Michael was the Home Run Hero with a 3 run blast to set up the big 1st inning.

In the field we played well as a team. Amongst others Rob and Helen looked impressive in the outfield, Steve looked good on first and Tony pitched well, recovering from a 3rd inning wobble to nail down the win.



Colt 45s	0	1	5	2	1	0	0	9
Wildcats	10	0	4	4	1	0	X	19

MVPs were Rob and Helen

23/06/15 Falcons

A comfortable win against the rookie Falcons team who showed plenty of promise in their first game. We built up a big early lead but then got a bit sloppy at times rather than building on that good early work.

Batting leaders were Emma (4 for 4) and Luisa (3 for 3) who each batted 1000. Home Run Heroes were Tony with two and Emma, who claimed her first ever four bagger.

In the field Luisa starred on 3rd base, with an unassisted double play the highlight, Michael was good at short and Steve played well again on 1st. Tony pitched well and threw himself about with gay abandon in the field.



Falcons	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	6
Wildcats	4	6	0	3	2	0	X	15

MVPs were Michael and Emma

30/06/15 Mavericks II

The Mavericks showed why they are unbeaten in the league with a display of heavy hitting and (mostly) solid defence as they cruised to the win. We never gave up, scoring in all but 1 inning and a 4 run rally in the bottom of the 5th gave the score a well deserved more respectable look. Sandra was the stand out, she produced her best performance ever, showing instant dividends after playing in the Leeds tournament at weekend.

Batting leaders were Tony and Sandra, who each went 3 for 3, whilst the Home Run hero was Matt whose 3 run blast was the centrepiece of the 5th inning rally. In the field Tony pitched a good game, Sandra and Annie both worked hard in the outfield and Rob and Andy also made some good stops. Many thanks to Annie for helping out in our hour of need.



Mavericks	2	8	9	3	5	27
Wildcats	3	0	1	3	4	11

MVPs were Matt and Sandra

14/07/15 Drizzle

Holidays and other absences meant we had a much changed line up for our game against Drizzle. The game was a see saw affair, we went behind early, before rallying in the middle of the game. We tightened up defensively and then came to life with the bats, scoring 9 runs in the top of the 6th to give us a lead. Unfortunately a couple of defensive miscues, combined with a tight call on 2nd that could have gone either way, meant we then immediately handed it straight back again and whilst we got runners on base in the top of the 7th we failed to drive them in, scoring only 1 of the 3 we needed to make Drizzle bat again.

Batting leaders were Georgie and Dave who each went 4 for 4, with Sarah close behind going 4 for 5 including a couple of triples. In the field Dave pitched well in relief, Sandra made an encouraging debut on 2nd and Sarah made a couple of nice plays on 3rd.



Wildcats	1	4	1	2	1	9	1	19
Drizzle	5	3	7	0	1	5	X	21

MVPs were Dave and Sarah

21/07/15 Morekats

A game of 3 halves ! We roared into an impressive lead, had a wobble in the 4th and 5th, then got things back under control in the 6th and 7th. Star of the show was 16 year old debutant JD Downes. He took some nice catches in the outfield and went 3 for 4 at the plate including a Home Run in the 3rd.

OBP leaders were Michael and Charlotte, who each went 4 for 4, and TK who went 3 for 3. Six other players went 3 for 4 in what was a strong batting performance. We hit 3 Home Runs in all, from JD, Michael and a Grand Slam effort from Tony in the 1st that set us on our way to a big score.

In the field TK was impressive on 1st, Michael and Emma worked hard in the middle infield positions, Sandra took one for the team keeping the ball in front of her in right field, fireman Dave pitched well again in relief and Rob was excellent in left field, ending the game in impressive style with his running catch of a low line drive.

Dave and Tony also umpired the whole game between them as the blue was unavoidably detained elsewhere and the Morekats had no-one that could umpire.



Moorkats	1	0	2	4	6	1	2	16
Wildcats	7	4	7	0	2	0	X	20

MVPs were JD and Emma

04/08/15 (G1) Hackers

With half the team still recovering from the tournament at weekend and the other half rusty after a week off we never got out of the starting gate against a heavy hitting Hackers team. Highlights were few and far between but Matt and Annie both batted 1000 (2 for 2), JD impressed again in the field and the rest of the outfield worked hard with little luck.

Hackers	0	9	17	2	28
Wildcats	0	2	0	2	4

MVPs were JD and Helen



04/08/15 (G2) Barflies

A much improved defensive performance in game 2 of the double header but we just didn't score enough runs to deserve a win against the Barflies. Male OBP leaders were Tony and Matt who each batted 1000 (3 for 3) with Charlotte (2 for 3) the best of the women. Dave pitched well for the most part and everyone worked hard in the field.

Wildcats	1	0	0	0	0	3	4
Barflies	1	2	1	0	0	1	5

MVPs were Tony and Charlotte



11/08/15 Mayhem

We rested a couple of people and moved things round in the field and still recorded a comfortable win against Mayhem Freeze. We had 3 Home Run heroes, JD with a pair and Rob and TK with one apiece. Emma was the OBP leader, going 4 for 4, with Steve and TK close behind, each going 3 for 4. Overall we batted well and were perhaps a bit unlucky not to score more runs.

In the field Dave pitched a good game, TK looked good on first and Sandra did lots of good work on 2nd. She made a couple of nice tags but THE highlight was a late inning double play with a nice catch of a high pop up being followed by an alert throw to 1st to pick off the dawdling runner who had failed to tag up after the catch. Helen took a couple of nice grabs in the outfield and Emma at catcher also made an excellent throw to 1st to record the out on a dribbler in front of the plate

Mayhem	1	0	3	1	0	0	1	6
Wildcats	3	1	5	3	0	6	X	18



MVPs were JD and TK

18/08/15 Colt 45s

A comprehensive win against a Colt 45s team who never really got into gear, whereas we hit the ground running and just kept on going.

The whole team hit well with everyone getting at least one base hit . Steve (4 for 4), Rob (3 for 3) and Jay (3 for 3) were the OBP leaders, whilst the Home Run Heroes were Steve (2) and Tony (1).

We also put lots of pressure on the opposition all the way through the game with some aggressive base running.

In the field Dave pitched a good game, Sandra was excellent on 2nd Andy looked promising in his first game at short stop and everyone else contributed to a really solid team performance.



Wildcats	4	3	6	2	8	23
Colt 45s	0	0	1	0	0	1

MVPs were Steve and Sandra

25/08/15 Hackers

Illness, holidays and two broken fingers made picking the team a lot easier this week ! We enjoyed a bright start to this game but after scoring 5 runs in the 1st we ground to a halt offensively. We put in a decent defensive performance but never got the bit of luck that would have turned the game our way.

Batting leaders this week were JD (3 for 3) and Georgie (2 for 2). In the field Rob worked hard throughout in right centre, highlighted by a memorable running catch. Andy didn't look out of place at short stop and and JD made some nice plays in left centre.



Wildcats	5	1	0	1	0	7
Hackers	2	4	1	1	5	13

MVPs were JD and Emma

01/09/15 Phoenix

It was a case of "close, but no cigar" in our last league game of the season. In a well fought game we snatched the lead in the top of the 7th but couldn't quite hold on in the bottom of the inning, conceding the winning run when Phoenix were 2 down.

Batting heroes were Tony (4 for 4) and Dave (3 for 3), who each batted 1000. Best of the women were Emma and TK who each went 2 for 4.

In the field Dave pitched a good game, TK was good on 1st Rob took a couple of excellent catches in the outfield and JD showed a lot of promise at shortstop.



Wildcats	2	0	0	0	2	0	4	8
Phoenix	0	0	2	2	1	1	3	9

MVPs were Dave and TK

Division 4 Final Table

	P	W	T	L	RS	RC	%age	GB	
Mavericks II	17	17	0	0	347	124	1000	-	(C)
Moorkats	17	11	1	5	305	214	.676	5½	(P)
Hackers	17	11	0	6	338	180	.647	6	
Phoenix	17	10	0	7	246	231	.588	7	
Drizzle	17	9	0	8	235	286	.529	8	
Wildcats	17	8	0	9	229	247	.471	9	
Barflies	17	7	0	10	243	286	.412	10	
Colt 45s	17	5	1	11	209	270	.324	11½	
Freeze	17	2	0	15	129	313	.118	15	
Falcons	9	0	0	9	47	177	.000	18¾	



Date	Opponent	P	H/ A	Score
21 st April	<i>rest</i>	?	<i>n/a</i>	
28 th April	Mavericks II	1	A	L 1-16
5 th May	Phoenix	8	H	L 10-15
12 th May	Drizzle	2	H	W 27-23
19 th May	Moorkats	7	A	W 13-12
26 th May	Barflies	4	H	L 11-23
2 nd June	Hackers	3	A	p.p.
9 th June	Freeze	9	A	W 20-17
16 th June	Colt 45s	6	H	W 19-9
23 rd June	Falcons	5	H	W 15-6
30 th June	Mavericks II	9	H	L 11-27
7 th July	Phoenix	2	A	p.p.
14 th July	Drizzle	8	A	L 19-21
21 st July	Moorkats	3	H	W 20-16
28 th July	Barflies	4	A	
4 th August	Hackers	1	H	L. 4-28
4 th August	Barflies	1	A	L 4-5
11 th August	Freeze	4	H	W 18-6
18 th August	Colt 45s	8	A	W 23-1
25 th August	Hackers	1	A	L 7-13
1 st Sep	Phoenix	2	A	L 8-9

20/08/15 Urmston Rippers (Friendly)

Youth had it's fling for the Wildcats as we played a friendly against the new Urmston team in their first ever proper game of Softball. JD played at shortstop for the first time and Sully, Dan and Elliot all made their team debuts.

Urmston took an early lead in the top of the 2nd with a bit of help from their Division 1 ringers (Llnni and Michelle Collier) but we shut them out for the remaining five innings and gradually built a winning lead with some impressive hitting.

Outstanding star of the whole show was Rob who batted 1000 with 2 Home Runs and backed that up with some good work in the outfield in what was his most impressive Wildcats performance to date.

Best of the rest with the bats were TK and JD who each went 3 for 4. JD also looked a natural at short stop whilst TK was impressive again on first.

Elsewhere Tony pitched a good game, Sandra took a nice outfield catch and also recorded a couple of good hits. Emma took a towering pop up at 2nd and also effected a complicated tag play that seemed to go on for some time before the out was finally recorded ! Annie had to retire from the fray early with a nasty bang to her finger, get well soon !

The Urmston team were far from disgraced, they showed a lot of promise and kept fighting to the end, on another day they could have had a few more runs but we were on top of our game defensively all through the evening.

Urmston	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Wildcats	0	3	3	1	2	2	X	11

MVPs were Rob and Sandra



Men in Black

02/07/15 Sharks

It appeared to be a bit too wet for the Men in Black at the start of our first game. We looked OK defensively but scoring runs seemed an alien concept. Happily once the sun came out we began to apply ourselves and batted our way to an ultimately comfortable win.

Batting percentage leader was Mike G. who batted 1000 (3 for 3) and also hit our biggest hit of the night, a triple in the bottom of the 5th that set up the big inning that ultimately gave us the win. Best of the rest in OBP were Matt and Anthony who each went 3 for 4.

In the field Chris pitched a good game and also fielded his position well. Ed caught everything in left field. Rob was initially shaky in the outfield but played really well after switching to 1st. Anthony and Vince worked well as a middle infield pair and Matt did well on 3rd. Everyone else worked hard and kept the Sharks down to 1 run in the last 3 innings, the 1-5-3 double play that ended the bottom of the 5th was highlight reel stuff.

Men In Black	0	0	0	2	6	3	0	11
Sharks	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	6

23/07/15 Phoenix

Holidays, and injuries meant we had a number of new faces in the line-up for our second fixture and we played out a close game that was decided by one inning of impressive hitting by a Phoenix team notable for an almost complete lack of actual Phoenix players!

Batting leaders were Matt, Lee and Chris who all went 3 for 4 with Chris also supplying the power with a pair of Home Runs. Vince had a fine game at second. Shawn caught balls here there and everywhere in the outfield. Chris put in a strong performance as pitcher and Steve did a fine job as Catcher getting a couple of good outs at the plate. JD also looked good in the outfield, rounding off his first week of competitive Softball in impressive fashion.

Phoenix	1	0	3	7	4	0	0	15
Men In Black	3	1	2	1	5	2	0	12

13/08/15 Outlaws

We played well against a strong Outlaws team but whilst we hung in there for most of the game we never managed to take a lead and the Outlaws deserved their win. OBP leader was Harry who went 3 for 3. Home Run Heroes were Lee, Mike G. and Michael M. with one apiece. Chris pitched well yet again and the whole team worked hard in the field with the best of the bunch being Vince who looked good again at 2nd.

Men In Black	1	2	4	1	3	0	11
Outlaws	2	4	3	3	7	X	19



Thunder 14 Men in Black 5

It took us a couple of innings to settle into this game and in the end that slow start cost us the chance of a win, but once we had found our feet we made some nice plays and showed that we could compete with a team that had already won the league before the game started.

Shawn and JD were the OBP leaders, each going 3 for 3, with Ed best of the rest, going 3 for 4. Dave enjoyed pitching but couldn't hit for toffee. Shawn, Sam, Ed and JD all made nice plays in the outfield. One of our best best plays of the night, a catch 'em out tag 'em out double play was controversially expunged by the umpire who retrospectively decided he should have called an infield fly but we did also turn one or two more nice double plays. All the best to Lee, who picked up a nasty leg injury and thanks to Andy Grose, who came out of the crowd to help us in our hour of need.

Thunder	3	8	0	0	3	0	14
Men In Black	0	1	3	0	1	0	5

Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
2nd July	Sharks	7	A	W 11-6
23rd July	Phoenix	7	H	L 12-15
13th Aug	Outlaws	6	A	L 11-19
3rd Sep	Thunder	7	H	L 5-14



Tournaments

Firstball

We started slowly at Firstball before embarking on a seven game winning streak that won us glory in the shape of the Bronze Cup. Saturday morning defeats to both a strong Phoenix side and the Pinoy Eagles suggested it might be a long weekend, but we perked up in the afternoon with comfortable wins over the Moorkats and Fasst.

On Sunday we started the day with two more comfortable wins against Thunder and Leeds Lightning. As the weather deteriorated we then really hit our straps in turning over the then table leading Dynamite team in the last group game. That win meant we topped the table after the round robin.

The semi-final was a rematch against the Eagles and we eventually emerged 6-5 victors with Georgie driving in the winning run in classic style, bases loaded and 2 down in extra innings ! After that (and an hour getting warm in the pub) the final, a rematch against Dynamite, was a more straight forward affair, though it did feature the play of the weekend, a long hit to right field that Steph retrieved, throwing the ball to Mike G. who relayed it from right field straight to the plate where Sam applied the tag to the surprised batter for the out.

Home Run heroes were Mike G. and Tony, with 2 apiece. On base leaders were Sarah, rookie Rachael and Hayley for the women and Mike G. Dave and Tony for the men. Pitcher Tony struggled manfully against the awful wind for most of the weekend with Sam taking over on Sunday afternoon and stringing together 3 excellent games on the rubber that led us to the win.

MVPs in the final were Mike G. and Luisa, who made some excellent plays at 3rd and went 3 for 3 at the plate. MVPs for the whole weekend were Hayley and Mike G., with Sam deserving a more than honourable mention for both his play at shortstop on Saturday and the pitching on Sunday afternoon. The weather on Sunday afternoon was awful but we rose above it to register a deserved tournament win. The one sour note was an injury to Ed whilst guesting for the Lions on Saturday morning, that means he could be out of action for a few weeks, get well soon Ed, we need you!

Tournament MVPs were Mike Gaskell and Hayley.



Leeds

We had a fast start at the Leeds tournament, then a wobble on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning before finishing with a close fought win in the Tiger civil war, leaving us finishing the weekend with 2nd place in our round robin group, a 50% record overall and 6th= place out of 24 teams.

We started with a run fest, beating the Cougars 18-14., then a comfortable win over FASST was followed by a nail biter against the Outlaws with Michael supplying the 3 run walk off Home Run that gave us the 11-10 win. We played the big (hitting) boys of the group in our last 2 games of the day, losing both by big margins. Our own batting wasn't quite as good as it had been earlier in the day and our fielding was a bit shaky throughout the weekend.

In our first two games on the Sunday a sloppy loss - after a bright start - against the Royals was followed by a close fought game against the Honey Badgers. Our final game of the 2nd rotation was our clash against the Nottingham Tigers. Last year our game against the same opponents had been a low scoring affair, the 2015 version was different with runs aplenty. We took an early lead, then fell behind, then clawed our way back with some good D to find ourselves needing 3 to win in the bottom of the last. Line out, single, walk, double, left us one run behind, then a strike out was followed by Vince's 2 out walk that drove in the tying run. Emma M. also took the optional walk to leave Dave to drive in the winning run with a blooped single that just evaded the grasp of the left fielder. Whilst we had some good moments we didn't really gel that well defensively. Ed was scarily good in the outfield, Dave pitched well and there was lots of hard work elsewhere but overall a lack of experience, both individually and in working together as a team meant the whole amounted to less than the sum of the parts.

With the bats it was a different story. We batted well throughout the weekend. Tony and Ed both batted over 900 and best of the girls was Hayley with a really impressive 762 OBP. We also hit 16 Home Runs in our 8 games with 5 of the men getting at least 1 Homer (Ed & Michael, 5 apiece, Tony 3 (all in the same game), Vince 2 and Dave 1).

Overall it was a good weekend, exciting games, some impressive performances, and the best weather we've had at Leeds for some years! Kate from the Fish guested for us in the final game on Saturday to allow us to bat 6 & 6, we'd like to thank her for helping us out at the end of what was a very long day.

Tournament MVPs were Michael and Hayley

Opponent	Score
Coyotes	W 18-14
Fasst	W 12-4
Outlaws	W 11-10
Sheriffs	L 8-20
Cougars	L 10-21
Royals	L 6-12
Honey Bs	L 10-12
Notts Tigers	W 11-10





Leicester

We enjoyed a sunny Saturday and survived a sopping wet Sunday at the Labor Day tournament. Each day followed the same pattern with a fairly feeble performance in the first game of the day followed by much stronger performances later in the day.

Our first game of the weekend was a very flat loss to Leeds Lightning. We played better against the London Flames and Exiles before recording our first win against Pyros II, before we put in another good performance despite losing a high scoring close game against the Redbacks.

On Sunday we never got going in the first game against the Sharks, before bouncing back and playing really well to beat the Raiders. In the Quarter Final we put in another strong performance in beating the Swingers, then in the Semi Final we played well again but just came up short against a strong Misfits team.

Home Run leader was Michael with 3, with Sarah, Ed and Ian getting 1 each. Male on base percentage leaders were Ian (800), Ed (714), and Dave W. (684), female leaders were Hayley (667), Kirsty and Sarah (both 476).

In the field we looked fragile at times but Sam pitched well, Ed did good work all weekend and Kirsty and Hayley grew game by game at first and second respectively.

It was a pleasure to have Ian on the team for the weekend and we'd like to give many thanks to Chloe, Charlotte and Tanya for guesting for us and allowing us to bat 6 & 6 throughout the tournament and also to Dave Dean for scoring and being generally supportive!

Tournament MVPs were Ed and Hayley

Opponent	Score
Lds. Lightning	L 4-7
London Flames	L 5-12
Exiles	L 5-12
Pyros	W 16-7
Redbacks	L 15-16
Sharks	L 1-22
Raiders	W 12-5
(QF) Swingers	W 13-7
(SF) Misfits	L 7-9





Manchester

After a weekend of fluctuating fortunes at the Manchester tournament we won more games than we lost and got to the plate final, but then were completely outplayed in that final by a vastly experienced Bats line up.

Saturday was a mixed day both on the pitch and in the sky. In the morning the weather was dry and we did not play very well, going down to defeat against both a loaded Mayhem line up and the improving FASST team. In the middle game we recorded a win against an enthusiastic but very inexperienced Falcons team. In the afternoon torrential rain arrived and as the weather got worse our play got better as we recorded impressive wins against the Enforcers and Barflies.

Despite our winning record we found ourselves in the plate "Super 6s" on Sunday. We played really well in beating the Bats in our first game before recording another win against Leeds Lightning, though in that game we displayed the defensive weaknesses that then cost us our final group game against Drizzle.

After topping the group an 8 run 4th inning in the Semi against the 4th placed Barflies seemed to have set us up for an easy win but in fact we only just squeaked home 12-10 after another defensive meltdown very nearly handed them victory.

That win put us into the final, where we faced a far stronger Bats line up than the one we had beaten in the morning. We were 2-1 up after the 1st inning but that was as good as it got and they ran away from us with an impressive display of controlled hitting.

Home Run heroes were JD with 3 (1 Grand Slam), Mike G. (2), Hayley (1) and Sam (1). On Base percentage leaders were Dave W. (.773), Mike G. (.733) and JD (.682) for the men and Hayley (.520), Sandra and Emma (both .500) for the women. In the field JD was the stand out working hard all weekend and getting more than one force out from the outfield with some strong and accurate throws.

Tournament MVPs were JD and Hayley.

Opponent	Score
Mayhem	L 4-7
Falcons	W 15-0
FASST	L 7-11
Enforcers	W 10-4
Barflies	W 13-5
Bats	W 13-8
Lds. Lightning	W 13-8
Drizzle	L 3-8
(SF) Barflies	W 12-10
(F) Bats	L 2-17





Sefton



Opponent	Score
Fins	L 3-19
Mavs 2	L 10-17
Diamonds	L 5-16
Vikings	L 4-15
Fish (Big)	L 3-14
Sabres	W 11-4
Fish (Small)	W 11-5
Leeds	W 12-5
Plate SF Leeds	L 0-15

Five losses in a row on the Saturday were partly redeemed by a run of three wins on Sunday that took the team to a plate semi-final. This proved a game too far and the Tigers failed to trouble the scorers, being shut out 15-0.

MSL 2015: FINAL BATTING STATISTICS

Home Runs

Tigers	HR	Wildcats	HR	Men in Black	HR
Mike_G.	6	Tony	6	Chris_F.	2
Michael_M	5	Michael	4	Lee,	1
.				Mike_G.,	
				Michael_M.	
Ed,	2	JD,	3		
Steph ,		Steve			
Sam					
Hayley,	1	Emma P.,	1		
Dave_E		Matt,			
		Rob,			
		TK			

On Base Percentage

Tigers	M	Tigers	F	Wildcats	M	Wildcats	F	Men in Black	
Michael	793	Hayley	529	Tony	788	Emma P	620	Mike G.	833
Mike G.	697	Sarah	481	Steve	688	Charlotte	619	Lee	778
Sam	674	Kirsty	462	Dave W.	686	Luisa	548	Anthony	714
Dave W	657	TK	333	Matt	650	TK	542		
Dave E.	636	Emma	211	Rob	617	Georgie	432		
				Andy	414	Helen	426		
				Stewart	394	Sandra	415		

OBP = On Base Percentage = hits + walks / plate appearances. (It's not a hit if another runner is **FORCED** out on the play). Minimum of 20 plate appearances needed to feature in the OBP figures (except for MiB) .You also need to have played in 1 or more of the last 4 games.

Wildcats League Appearances (17 possible)

Rob	14 OF 11, 1st 1, EP 1	Emma P	14 2nd 13, C 1
Tony	14 P 10, 1st 3, OF 2	Helen	14 OF 13, C 1
Steve	12 SS 5, 3rd 3, OF 2, 1st 2	Sandra	13 OF 9, 2nd 3, C 1
Matt T	12 OF 10, 3rd 1, 1st 1	Georgie	11 OF 5, C 4, EP 1
Dave W	12 P 8, EP 2, 1st 1	Luisa	10 3rd 5, OF 2, C 2
Stewart	12 OF 6, EP 3, 1st 2	TK	7 1st 3, C 3, 3rd 1
Michael	11 SS 10, OF 1	Charlotte	6 1st 3, C 2, EP 1
Andy	9 3rd 3, OF 3, EP 2, SS 1	Annie	5 EP 3, C 1, OF 1
JD	6 OF 5, SS 1	Janette	2 OF 2
		Lisa	2 C 1, EP 1
		Sarah C.	6
		Hayley	5 EP 3, 1st 1, OF 1
		Emma M	2 C 1, EP 1
		Sarah N.	1 2nd 1
		Steph	1 OF 1
		Other	1 C 1

Tigers League Appearances (13 possible)

Dave E	11	SS 8, OF 3	Hayley	13	2nd 5, OF 4, 1st 2, 3rd 1, EP 1
Dave W	11	P 8, 1st 2	Sarah C	13	OF 8, 3rd 4, EP 1
Sam	11	P 5, OF 2, 2nd 2, SS 1, 3rd 1	Emma	11	1st 6, C 3, 2nd 2
Mike G	9	OF 5, SS 4	Kirsty	11	C 5, OF 4, 1st 2
Michael	7	OF 7	TK	8	OF 3, 3rd 3, 1st 1 C 1
Claudio	6	OF 4, 3RD 1, 2nd 1	Steph	5	OF 4, EP 1
Ed	3	2nd 2, 3rd 1			
Epoll	3	3rd 2, OF 1			
Jon	3	OF 2, EP 1			
Kazim	2	2 1			
Rob	2	OF 2	Helen	6	C 4, OF 1, EP 1
Andy	1	OF 1	Nat Davies (Camels)	1	OF 1
Matt	1	OF 1			
Guests	1	OF 1			

End of Season Awards 2015

Tigers



Players' Player



Captain's Player



Home Run Champion



Batting Champion



HR Champion :- MiB :- Batting Champion

Wildcats



Winter 2014/2015

We put a team into both the Winter indoor leagues run by BSUK during the 2014/5 off season and performed creditably in both. The league wasn't without its problems, with iffy lighting, some strange bounces and even stranger umpiring that added a random element to play at times. That said any Softball is better than no Softball and it did encourage quick reactions in the field and rewarded good base running so we should benefit from playing in it. Also in the final week of the league we produced our best performance of the whole winter which was a good way to round things off.

Team MVPs, (because they were the only 2 with 100% attendance records !), were Dave Wareham and Sarah Cassin – with Emma Miller also getting an honourable mention as she played 19 out of 20 weeks.



