



Tigers Softball Club Yearbook 2018



The Year in review

League Season overview

We had a very successful league season in 2018, winning Division 3 and with it promotion to Division 2. This was made all the more impressive by our doing it without two of our best players from the year before.

Our success was built on an impressive batting line-up, defensively we were distinctly shaky at times, though we did get better as the year went on. Our best batter was Mike who hit for both power and average. Annie led the female batting averages, with TK the Home Run leader.

We had two really good rookies in Sally and James who both got better and better as the season went on and were joined half way through the season by Holly, who was also a rookie (despite the large number of different team shirts hidden away in her cupboard).

We had 3 effective pitchers in Mike, Steve and Dave. Rob was the mainstay in the outfield, with James and Emma increasingly effective as the year went on. Sally put in some very promising performances at 3rd with Jackie and TK both effective on 1st base.

Tony gave us a valuable veteran presence in what turned out to be his final playing season, hanging up his glove after a 17 year career.

Tournaments

We played in six tournaments in 2018, without ever leaving Manchester. We saved the best until last winning the Silver Cup at the North West 3 tournament with a convincing win against the Leeds Bobcats. We also performed creditably at the LGBT tournament, reaching the final and put in solid performances at Firstball, North West 2 and the main Manchester tournament.



Tigers



Alyssa Jones

Tigers



Annie Downes

Tigers



Caroline Drake

Tigers



Dave Wareham

Tigers



Emma Pritchard

Tigers



Holly Smith

Tigers



Jackie Erwin

Tigers



James Wright

Tigers



Josh Weaver

Tigers



Michael Miah

Tigers



Rob Lawrence

Tigers



Sally Cottam

Tigers



Stephen Beddows

Tigers



Sulaimaan Ahmed

Tigers



Tereza Kekocinska

Tigers



Tony LaFace

League Games

Drizzle

An under strength Tigers team were well beaten by an efficient Drizzle line up that pulled away in the 3rd and never looked likely to lose their lead after that.

Batting leaders were Tony, Mike (each 4/4) and Emma (3 for 3), who all batted 1000.

In the field Steve both pitched and fielded his position well, and Alyssa and Rob were the stars of the outfield. In his first outing of the year Sully improved throughout the game, Michael worked hard at short and Jackie looked solid at third base.

Tigers	2	0	2	1	2	1	1	9
Drizzle	1	2	7	8	0	0	X	22

MVPs were Alyssa and Mike.



Rebels

The Tigers chalked up their first league win of 2018 in a roller coaster game against the Rebels. Both sides hit well, though both were also helped at the plate by some uneven fielding in a game that went on well into the evening.

OBP leaders were debutants Mario and James, who each went 4 for 4. Leading the way for the women were TK (4 for 5) and Jackie (3 for 4). Mario was the Home Run King with a brace, Michael got one and was robbed of another by the undergrowth, being left with only a ground rule double.

In the field Steve pitched well again, TK was good on 1st, Mario took some nice catches in the outfield and Mike worked hard at short stop, with the highlight a really well worked 6-3 double play.

Overall this was a really encouraging performance with impressive hitting up and down the line up. One person who deserves a special mention is James. In his first ever game of softball he looked really promising and will only get better as he gets more games under his belt.

Rebels	2	4	1	9	1	5	1	23
Tigers	4	2	3	6	8	0	1	24

MVPs were TK and Mike.



Phoenix

Another strong batting performance was central to this win over a Phoenix team featuring several rookies. Four players, Sully, Sally, James and Alyssa, all batted 1000. James hit the first Home Run of his Softball career with Mike also recording a four-bagger. There were no female Home Runs, but Jackie, Alyssa and TK all hit triples. As was the case last week there were strong performances up and down the line-up.

In the field we looked a bit hesitant. This wasn't entirely unexpected with a few people playing in unfamiliar positions and the hard ground and fast outfield maximising the impact of any miscues. Rob was the stand out performer, looking really good in left field and Steve pitched well again.

Alyssa took a tumble in the outfield when she and James pursued the same ball with perhaps a rather too single minded intensity and collided, but no serious harm ensued.

Phoenix	0	3	5	1	9
Tigers	5	6	8	10	29

MVPs were Alyssa and Rob



Hackers

Another Tigers win in another see saw game. 14-5 down half way through the 4th our hitting clicked into gear and we won going away with the aid of a 12 run 5th inning.

Steve sneakily nabbed the OBP lead, going for 2 for 2 after entering the game half way through, a short head in front of Tony, Sully, Mike and Rob who all went 4 for 5. Female leaders were TK and Annie who each went 3 for 5. Home Run heroes were Sully and Mike with one apiece.

In the field Mike and Steve both pitched well. Sally made a promising debut on 3rd, Rob was excellent again in the outfield, TK played well on 1st and Tony had a good game on 2nd.

Hackers	0	3	3	8	4	2	0	20
Tigers	1	0	4	5	12	2	X	24

MVPs were Sally and Sully



Outlaws

A tough day at the office. The defensive frailties that have plagued us all season were painfully obvious again and the bats were quiet for once, the Outlaws efficient outfield being just that little bit too good for us.

Annie was the only 1000 hitter, going 3 for 3, and Mike hit our only home run (with a bit of help from the fielding side). The Outlaws outfield played well and many of the fly balls that we have got away with in previous games were converted into outs this time. In the field both Dave and Steve pitched well, TK did a good job on 1st.

Tigers	3	2	0	2	1	0	8
Outlaws	6	0	5	0	5	7	23

MVPs were Annie and Rob



Vipers

The best Tigers performance of the season so far. Strong batting and improved defence combined to produce a fine win. We went behind early but an eleven run second inning gave us a big lead that we never looked like losing. OBP leaders were Steve (5 for 5) and Caroline (4 for 4). Home Run heroes were Sully (1) and Mike (2). There were lots of other good batting performances throughout the line-up. We also ran the bases well, looking for the extra base and putting the opposition under pressure.

In the field we looked much improved. Sully looked very promising at short stop, Steve pitched well again, Jackie and TK were good on 2nd and 1st, debutant Chen was energetic on 3rd and all the outfield worked hard throughout the game, with lots of team work and backing up.

Tigers	1	11	4	7	9	32
Vipers	4	0	5	3	0	12

MVPs were Annie and Steve



Drizzle

Another strong performance gave the Tigers the win and revenge for our opening day defeat. After a feisty start and an early deficit our 8 run burst in the bottom of the 2nd gave us a large lead we never seriously looked like losing (despite the captain's best endeavours!).

At the plate OBP leaders were Mike (4 for 4) and Caroline (3 for 3) who each batted 1000. Best of the rest were Rob (3 for 4) and James and Sally (each 2 for 3). Home Run Heroes were James with one and Mike with a pair.

In the field Steve put in another good pitching performance. TK did a great job battling the sun at 1st. Sally made some nice plays at 3rd, Rob put in (another) fine outfield performance, Mike turned another eye catching double play at short stop and Emma made a nice catch in right field. Holly made her team debut and Josh came along to watch and will hopefully be coming down to training soon.

Drizzle	4	1	0	2	2	4	1	14
Tigers	2	8	4	5	0	1	X	20

MVPs were Caroline and Mike



Rebels

A see saw game in which batting 2nd was a definite advantage. The hardness of the pitch made every ground ball an adventure and contributed to our looking shaky defensively all the way through the game. In the end that defensive frailty and some good hitting from the Rebels cost us the win after we had twice held large leads. On the plus side they also struggled in the field and it was good news for the batting averages of most people who played !

Batting leaders were Annie (6 for 6) and Steve (5 for 5) who each batted 1000. Home Run heroes were TK who hit two and also Steve and debutant Josh with 1 apiece. There were lots of other strong performances up and down the line up. Defensively Rob was the best of the outfielders, Tony did some good work on 2nd, Annie took some nice catches on pop ups at catcher and Dave pitched well. In his first game (and only 3 days after his first practice session) Josh looked very promising both at bat and in the field.

Tigers	1	8	0	7	3	0	10	2	31
Rebels	2	3	1	1	4	9	9	3	32

MVPs were TK and Josh



Phoenix

An efficient performance against a very inexperienced Phoenix team in a game that ended up as a soggy affair as the recent drought came to an end.

We had another good week at the plate, hitting the ball hard and running aggressively. OBP leaders were TK, Holly, Michael and Steve who all went 5 for 5. There were four Home Run heroes, Emma and Steve each hit one, with Michael and guest Dan each claiming two.

In the field Steve pitched well, conceding only three hits in recording the shut out. TK was the other stand out performer with some good catches in left field. Emma also took a good outfield catch to finish the game.

All the best to Phoenix pitcher Chloe who took a nasty blow to the wrist, and thanks to Dan who made his (temporary) return to the team in our hour of need.

Tigers	9	9	5	12	35
Phoenix	0	0	0	0	0

MVPs were TK and Steve





Hackers

A really good team performance, against a big hitting Hackers team, that was based on some impressive infield defence.

Sully put in his best performance yet at short stop, Mike was equally good at 3rd, Jackie put in a good performance at 1st and Holly looked promising at 2nd. Steve pitched effectively and also fielded his position well.

In the outfield Caroline took a nice catch in right field and, after a bit of initial rustiness after a couple of weeks off, Rob got better and better in left centre as the game went on.

Sully, Mike and Rob were the OBP leaders, all going 4 for 4. Annie was the best of the women, going 3 for 4. Home Run Heroes were Mike with a brace and Steve with one. Rookie Emily also deserves a mention, going 2 for 4 in her first ever game.

Tigers	3	5	0	0	5	1	3	17
Hackers	0	3	3	0	1	0	5	12

MVPs were Jackie and Mike



Outlaws

Lots of runs (on both sides) were the most obvious feature of our win against an inexperienced, though talented, Outlaws team. Defensive errors from both teams helped the scoring along and meant this was perhaps not a game for the purist.

That said we did actually bat well in this game. OBP leaders were Mike, Emma and Tony who all batted 1000 and there were also lots of other good contributions up and down the order. Home Run heroes were Sully with one and Mike with a pair. In the field Steve pitched well and TK was as reliable as ever on 1st. Mike made a couple of nice catches on pop ups and turned a nice double play.

Outlaws	6	0	6	0	4	16
Tigers	5	11	6	5	4	31

MVPs were TK and Steve



Vipers

A defensively shaky first half of the game, in which we did not bat well at all, was followed by a somewhat less shaky second half, in which the batting was a lot better and eventually we somehow came away with the win.

This week's Home Run hero was Steve with an impressive blast over the head of the left fielder in the 6th. Looking at on base percentage James was the leader of the pack, going 4 for 4, followed by a whole rake of people who went 3 for 4. The other stand out performer under pressure was Caroline, who deserves a special mention for driving in the winning run in the bottom of the 7th.

In the field Sally showed some nice touches at 3rd, Steve looked good after a mid-game move to 2nd and Dave pitched well in relief. TK was solid on 1st and James was the pick of the bunch in the outfield showing good range and doing a good job of work backing up his team mates.

Vipers	4	4	5	0	0	2	5	20
Tigers	3	0	3	0	5	8	2	21

MVPs were TK and Steve



Outlaws

The Outlaws, boosted by their 2 higher division guests, were a much stronger team than the last time we played them, and that was reflected in this game. Our fielding has always been our main weakness this season and the Outlaws took full advantage as they ran away with the game in the later innings.

Best in the field were TK, who was reliable as ever on 1st, and Steve who worked hard at 2nd with the highlight a well turned double play. Annie also stood out, taking a nice catch on a pop up and getting a good tag out at home.

Batting super hero was Mike who batted 1000, going 4 for 4 with 4 Home Runs. Emma and TK also batted 1000 and TK was our other Home Run hero.

NB: Bad light brought the game to an early end, meaning that we only played 6 innings.

Outlaws	3	2	5	7	7	6	30
Tigers	6	0	3	4	1	2	16

MVPs were TK and Steve



Hackers

Won by forfeit as the Hackers couldn't raise a team.

Drizzle

We needed to win our last league game of the season to secure the Division 3 title and we did so in style. Fielding has often been our Achilles heel this season but not in this game. Strong pitching (and fielding) from Steve, an impressive performance on 3rd by Sally and good work all round in the outfield were the highlights of a really good team defensive performance.

We batted well in the first two innings and built up a big lead that we then defended well through the rest of the game. James was the only person to bat 1000, going 4 for 4 with an important Home Run in the top of the 7th, a 2 run shot that gave us valuable breathing space. Michael also homered taking his season (league) total to 19 home runs.

Drizzle scored 4 in the bottom of the 5th but we did not panic and shut them out in the last two innings to close out the win and the championship. All the best to Tony, who bowed out a winner when he retired as a player after this game.

Tigers	4	5	0	0	1	1	2	13
Drizzle	1	1	1	0	4	0	0	7

MVPs were Sally and Steve



Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
May 3	rest			
May 10	Drizzle	8	A	L. 9-22
May 17	Rebels	7	H	W. 24-23
May 24	Phoenix	8	H	W. 29-9
May 31	Hackers	6	H	W. 24-20
June 7	Outlaws	8	A	L. 8-23
June 14	Vipers	7	A	W. 32-12
June 21	rest			
June 28	Drizzle	7	H	W. 20-14
July 5	Rebels	6	A	L. 31-32
July 12	Phoenix	7	A	W. 35-0
July 19	Hackers	6	A	W. 17-12
July 26	rest			
August 2	Outlaws	7	H	W. 31-16
August 9	Vipers	8	H	W. 21-20
August 16	Outlaws	6	H	L. 16-30
August 23	Hackers	8		W. 20-0
August 30	Drizzle	7	A	W. 13-7



	W	L	F	RS	RC	%age	
Tigers	11	4	0	330	240	872	C
Outlaws	9	6	0	281	218	733	P
Drizzle	9	6	0	255	230	733	
Hackers	9	4	2	263	222	689	
Rebels	7	7	0	253	241	667	
Vipers	5	9	0	262	272	571	
Phoenix	1	13	0	112	333	381	R



Tournaments

North West 1



An inexperienced Tigers team had a generally successful time in the sun at the 1st North West series tournament of the year.

We started the tournament in a five team group. Our first game against the Detonators was a tight affair until the last innings when the Leeds side ran away with it. Next up was a high scoring affair against the Base Invaders which again was close until we pulled away at the end. Last game of the morning was a more comfortable win against the Meteors. After a 2 hour gap for lunch we then put in our best performance of the day against Leeds Dynamite, a tight well played affair against the eventual tournament winners that wasn't settled until the very last play of the game gave them the win.

Opponent	Score
Detonators	L. 5-12
Base-Invaders	W. 12-8
Meteors	W. 12-5
Dynamite	L. 3-7
Rippers	L. 11-24

The 2 and 2 record, and a third place finish, put us in the Bronze final where we put in a rather tired looking performance against the Rippers. We fell behind early, rallied in the middle innings but fell away again, with the Rippers ended up comfortable victors.

Male OBP leaders were Mike M. and Dave. Female leaders were Annie and Emma. Home Run heroes were Mike M. with 2 and Rob with 1.

Highlights of the day were the outfield performances of Rob, the obvious promise of Sally, good pitching from Steve and Dave and the batting of Emma, Annie, Caroline and Mike Miah. Jackie put in strong performances at both 1st and 3rd base. Many thanks are due to guests Mike C., Lewis and Sahida for playing for us in the absence of several of our more experienced regulars.

Tournament MVPs were Jackie and Mike



Jackie Michael

Firstball



Another weekend, another tournament: Some familiar faces returned to the side for our second pre-season hit out and we produced some good performances against generally strong opposition, finishing in a respectable mid-table position.

We played four games on the Saturday. We started and ended the day with revenge wins against Dynamite and the Rippers, teams we had lost to the weekend before. In between the two wins we played well but lost games against two higher division opponents. That 2 and 2 record put us into the silver competition on the Sunday, playing another round robin of four games.

All four of our Sunday games were close fought affairs. We opened with a slightly unfortunate defeat against Mayhem, then claimed a 1 run win against the Camels, narrowly failed to recover from a big first inning deficit against Thunder and then rounded the day off with a free scoring affair that ended in a tie against the Raiders.

Jackie and Alyssa were the best female batters with Dan and Michael leading the way for the men. Dan led the way with 4 Home Runs with JD claiming our only other four-bagger. Thanks are due to Narelle who helped us out by playing her first two ever games of Softball when we were short-handed on the Saturday.

Opponent	Score
Dynamite	W. 9-4
Meerkats	L. 3-5
Speeders	L. 5-14
Rippers	W. 13-4
Mayhem	L. 5-6
MCamels	W. 4-3
Thunder	L. 6-8
Raiders	T. 11-11

Tournament MVPs were Jackie and Dan





LGBT

We had a generally successful time in the sun at the LGBT tournament and a less successful time after the rain !

We started the tournament in a four team group. Our first game against a Titans team that hadn't fully got the co-ed message was a high scoring affair that they won in the last inning. Next up was another high scoring affair against the Base Invaders in which we fought back for the win after they had taken an early lead. Last game of the morning was our best performance of the day, a really tight game against the pre-tournament favourite Sheriffs that was in doubt until the last out.

Opponent	Score
Titans	L. 9-10
Base-Invaders	W. 10-8
Sheriffs	W. 4-3
Sabres	W. 9-5
Bombers	W. 4-1
Sabres	L. 1-5

Our 2-1 record and the head to head win against the Sheriffs put us in the top, Gold, competition. We had two group games, another good performance that gave us a win against the Sabres before a game against the Bombers that was cut short by the weather when we were ahead. After the Thunder storm we played a low scoring final against the Sabres and went down to a 5-1 defeat.

Male OBP leaders were Mike M. and guest Amilcar. Female leaders were Sally and Jackie. Home Run heroes were Mike M. with 4 and Amilcar with 2.

Highlights of the day were Mike's hitting, the versatility of Steve covering most of the different fielding positions over the day, pitching of Mike and Dave, some nifty play at 3rd from Sally, Amilcar in the outfield and generally strong performances from everyone on the team that got better as the day went on, though the big gap before the final meant we were a bit flat in that last game.

Tournament MVPs were Sally and Mike





NW2

We had a day of fluctuating fortunes at the North West 2 tournament. A slow start to our first game against Dynamite cost us the win, we came back well at the end but ended up 1 run short. Next up was another loss, a comprehensive defeat at the hands of a very strong Detonators team.

We perked up after that and recorded 3 wins on the bounce, scoring heavily against the Dales, Base Invaders and Freeze whilst looking solid defensively. Last up was a rematch against the Dales, a couple of fielding errors helped them score just enough as our batting form deserted us. Our best chance for a rally came in the 3rd inning where we loaded the bases with 2 outs but came up empty.

Male batting leaders over the day were Sully, Michael and Tony. Female leaders were TK, Annie and Jackie. Home Run heroes were Michael, Rob and Steve. We used the tournament as a chance to mix and match in the field and learned a lot over the day whilst giving people a chance to show what they can do. We used 4 pitchers, with Annie making her competitive debut, and all 4 pitched well. Sully grew into the short stop role, Emma caught everything in right field and Rob also played well in the outfield. Sandra and the baby came to visit, we all got very hot, Sally got a rather large bruise and we all enjoyed the day before many of us moved on to Jackie's not quite Canada day party.

Tournament MVPs were TK and Sully

Opponent	Score
Dynamite	L. 6-7
Detonators	L. 2-12
Dales	W. 13-1
Base Invaders	W. 16-3
Freeze	W. 13-4
Dales	L. 2-6





Manchester



We had an up (Saturday) and down (Sunday) time at the Manchester tournament. We had four games on the Saturday. A straight forward win against an inexperienced Dales team was followed by a comprehensive defeat at the hands of the Chargers, with only the roll back rule saving our runs conceded record from serious damage. A quick charge of our own to the other end of the playing fields was followed by an up and down performance against the Soft Boiled, but one that finished on a high as James hit a walk off Grand Slam Homer to claim a 1 run win. After a two hour gap we then finished the day with another win against the Meat Invaders.

Opponent	Score
Dales	W. 18-7
Chargers	L. 4-7
Soft Boiled	W. 15-14
Meat Invaders	W. 12-7
Camels	L. 14-17
Rippers	L. 12-13
Bobcats	L. 4-20

Our 3 and 1 record put us into the Gold (top) level cup on the Sunday with three group games to play. Higher scoring close loses to the Camels and Rippers were followed by a comprehensive loss to an impressive Bobcats team and an early finish.

OBP leaders were Dave and Emma. Home Run heroes were Mike with six, Steve and Di with two, and James, Sully, Emma, Sally and TK with one each. As a team we played in the same way as we have all year, we hit well in almost every game but in the field we showed the same frailties that have dogged us all season.



Tournament MVPs were Emma and Mike





NW3



After a slow start we got better and better over the day at the NW3 tournament, rounding the day off by comprehensively defeating the Bobcats in the silver cup final.

An early morning loss to the Detonators was followed by four successive group wins against Drizzle, Base Invaders, Misfits and Dales, that took us to the final where we put in our best performance of the day to claim the cup, our eight run fifth innings putting the win beyond doubt.

Male OBP leaders were Dave (909) and Craig (824), female leader was TK (647) with Emma and Sally tied for 2nd place (588). We hit a LOT of home runs. Craig led the way with 6 (six), Richard hit 3, Mike 2 and Steve, Emma and TK hit one apiece. Richard deserves a special mention for his excellent hitting in the second half of the day, a man transformed once he found a bat that suited him ! James's helmet also deserves a mention for saving him from what would otherwise have been a serious blow to the back of the head.

Opponent	Score
Detonators	L. 4-8
Drizzle	W. 6-5
Base Invaders	W. 17-6
Misfits	W. 20-1
Dales	W. 21-0
Bobcats	W. 18-6

Steve and Mike both pitched well. Craig was the outfield hero taking a basketful of catches. Richard did a really good job at short stop, TK and Jackie were both good on first, Sally made some really nice plays at 3rd and everyone else contributed to a really pleasing defensive effort. Over the day we scored 86 runs and conceded only 26.

All in all it was really good day and a fine way to end the season. Many thanks are due to our guests Richard (Titans) and Craig (Base Invaders) who both played really well.



Tournament MVPs were TK and Craig





Overall Batting Leader board

<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(F)</u>
Michael	769	TK	627	Michael	35	Rob	3	TK	5
Tony	745	Annie	606	Steve	9	Josh	1	Emma	2
James	705	Alyssa	586	James / Sully	4			Sally	1

OBP = On Base Percentage = hits + walks / plate appearances. (It's not a hit if another runner is **FORCED** out on the play).

MSL Batting Leader board

<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(F)</u>
Michael	821	Annie	667	Michael	19	James	3	TK	3
James	755	TK	655	Steve	4	Josh	1	Emma	1
Tony	750	Sally	629	Sully	3				

OBP = On Base Percentage = hits + walks / plate appearances. (It's not a hit if another runner is **FORCED** out on the play). Minimum of 10 plate appearances needed to feature in the OBP figures .You also need to have played in 1 or more of the last 4 games.

*=Guest

Final Tournament Batting Leader board

<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>On base %age</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	<u>(F)</u>
Michael	736	TK	605	Michael	16	Rob	3	TK	2
Sully	688	Jackie	581	Steve	5	James / JD /	1	Emma / Sally	1
Dave	662	Annie	575	Dan	4	Sully			

Players need to have played at least 3 tournaments to feature in the OBP figures .

Total Plate appearances (League and Tournaments)

Male	MSL	Tourn	Total	Female	MSL	Tourn	Total
Dave	31	74	105	Alyssa	39	19	58
James	49	46	95	Annie	45	87	132
Josh	16	0	16	Caroline	33	37	70
Michael	56	91	147	Emma	54	81	135
Rob	45	68	113	Holly	25	11	36
Steve	54	85	139	Jackie	37	74	111
Sully	35	32	67	Sally	38	70	105
Tony	40	15	55	TK	41	76	134



End of Season awards

MSL Batting Champion
MSL Home Run leader
Players' player
Captain's player

Male

Female

Mike

Annie

Mike

TK

Steve

TK

James

Sally



Show us ya Hits

For the first time since 2014 a Tigers based Women's team took to the field in 2018, playing 2 games against Tigers old girl Hayley McTear's team. We didn't win either game (the opposition sneakily warmed up for the main event by playing in the Single Sex nationals so were a bit more experienced) but both games were competitive affairs and hopefully we'll be playing a lot more of these games in 2019.



24/07/18: 'Show us ya Hits' v 'Crazy Bat Ladies'

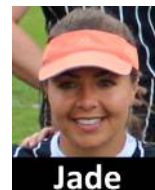
A good, well-played, game in which our Hits team ran the more experienced Bat Ladies very close indeed. In the end the Bat ladies had a bit more power and (not unexpectedly) a bit more team cohesion, which proved just enough of an advantage to get them over the line.

In the field Annie pitched really well, Jade was excellent at short stop and there were lots of other strong performances. At the plate Amy (4 for 4) and Emma (3 for 3) were the OBP leaders. Sally and Jade provided most of our power, each hitting a Home Run.

Stand out performer was Jade, an easy choice for MVP though Annie's pitching was also a highlight. With any luck this game won't be a one off, there may well be a rematch some time in August.

MVP was Jade.

Show us ya Hits	2	2	0	1	1	3	0	9
Crazy bat Ladies	0	3	2	3	4	0	X	12



04/09/18: Hits v Bat Ladies

All 8 Tigers women played for Show us ya Hits in their second game against the Mad Bat Ladies and put in a more than respectable performance against their more experienced opponents. Despite an early start darkness intervened in the 6th inning and rolling back to the end of the 5th gave the final score a lob sided look as the Hitters batted round the order in the bottom of the 6th before the blue called "Ball Game" with 2 outs.

Hits were hard to come by until that final flourish, though Martine hit a Home Run in the 4th. Alyssa was the OBP queen, going 3 for 3 with a single, double and triple. In the field Annie pitched well again, Sally made an impressive debut at short stop, Holly made some nice plays in right field and everyone else played well in a good defensive display.

Many thanks to Dan who stepped in to umpire the game.

MVP was Annie.

Bat Ladies	2	0	4	2	3	(3)	11
Hits	0	0	0	2	0	(6)	2



Indoor Season(s) in review



Plate winners

We played through the winter in the Manchester Indoor Softball League and (almost) everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. After a slightly slow start we finished 7th out of 15 in the pre-Christmas league, then kicked on after New Year, finishing 5th out of 18 in the 2018 league. We won the Silver Cup before Christmas and the Plate in the 2018 post season cup competition. Our best performances were based on impressive fielding, we looked really good at times and came agonisingly close to a shut out on a couple of occasions.

Dan finished the (league) Home Run race in the lead with 20, closely followed by JD with 18. Alyssa was the female champion with 9, TK was close behind with 7.

Amongst many other good performances Dan and JD provided most of the flashier fielding plays, Michael got plenty of pitching practice, Caroline's hitting into the side netting was effective and Jen got on base more and more often as she made more consistent contact.

Thanks are due to Mike Lott and Annie for organising things in the post-Christmas league (after Dave realised he badly needed a rest), and to both Mike and Julie Lott for playing for us all winter. The end of the campaign was marred by an ankle injury to Rob and a potentially serious knee injury to Michael Miah, hopefully they'll both be back in action soon. *(They were ! ed.)*





