

# Tigers Softball Club Yearbook 2019



# The Year in review

## Pre-season

After winning Division 3 in 2018 retirements and other departures meant that we had to remodel the team. We also decided to set up a 2<sup>nd</sup> team to cater for those who either couldn't play on Wednesdays or had doubts about playing in Division 2 (though ironically enough for a variety of reasons very few of those players actually ended up playing on Tuesdays!). Dan had already committed to returning to the team before the end of the 2018 season and his arrival encouraged a number of other guys to sign up for the Division 2 campaign. We introduced most of the new players during the winter indoor campaign and initial signs were promising. Recruitment for the 2<sup>nd</sup> team also went well and the temporary return of Ed Covington gave us a useful veteran presence for the first few games. Still we had two untried squads at the start of the year so it was hard to predict how either team would travel over the year.

## Pre-season Tournaments

Both teams had a bright start to the year. We bloodied several new players in the rec part of the NW1 tournament and also did well on the pitch finishing as runners up. The comp half of the tournament was tougher but gave us valuable experience of playing at a higher level which we put to good use at Firstball where we played really well all weekend and walked away unbeaten and with the Silver trophy.

## League Season overview

### Division 2

After an opening day loss we went on a tear, winning 10 of our next 11 games, a run good enough to claim both promotion and (as it proved) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division crown. The last 3 weeks of the season proved tougher, we ran out of steam, losing all 3 games, but we had just done enough to claim the championship by virtue of our 2:1 head to head lead against the Meerkats. Overall a very successful season but the slump at the end gave us plenty to work on before next season.

Dan was the main man at the plate and in the field. Alyssa was one of the best outfielders in the league. Brad was impressive in the field and his batting got better and better as the season went on. Caroline hit well and looked good at catcher. Craig was good with the bat and in the field. Emma and Jackie both hit really well in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season. Matty and Steve gave us a fine pitching duo. TK and Jackie were both good on 1<sup>st</sup>. Jonny gave us a valuable presence and made us better in the outfield in every game he played. Holly started the season hitting really well and was good all season long, she was good at catcher and also put in some fine performances at 2<sup>nd</sup> base and in the outfield.

### Division 4

Similar to the Division 2 campaign in some ways, we started the season in great style but then found life harder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season when we played against tougher opposition. We still did enough to win promotion however and will be plying our trade in Division 3 next year. Just as important, if not more so, though was the way that several of the new players blossomed as the season went on. With a winter of indoor ahead we can look forward to 2020 with confidence.

James was our best player, hitting for both average and power. Dave was the pitching mainstay. Harry got better and better as the season went on. Aiden showed real determination and enthusiasm and also improved as the year went on. Sandra was our best and most experienced female player. Mikala gave us some batting power and was solid in the field. Stevie G. provided a welcome veteran presence and was reliable with both bat and glove. Oli was another good all round player with some experience (even if that was c.10 years ago!). Rachael and Lynsey were both fantastic, getting better and better as the season went on with Lynsey's hitting a particular highlight. Becky made Dave realise he could never hope to be the grumpiest player on the team whilst also having all the attributes to become a really good softball player. Evie also showed lots of promise with a reliable glove, a good arm and potential at the plate. All in all we looked really promising and should kick on again in 2020.

## In season Tournaments

The “rec” one day tournaments (North West 2 & 3 and the LGBT tournament) gave the Tiggers valuable experience and we won a trophy at NW3 after an exciting final. In the generally tougher two day tournaments we had an enjoyable time at Sefton, put in a good display at Leeds, were runners up at the Nationals and finished 4<sup>th</sup> at Manchester.



## Division 2 match reports

### 01/05/19 @ Camels II

Our first Division 2 game left us defeated but far from disgraced in a tight, well-played game where the Camels extra experience at this level eventually gave them the win. We didn't do a lot wrong in the field with lots of people contributing to a strong team performance. Particular highlights included Craig making an impressive running catch at full stretch in left field and Caroline leaping out from behind the plate to make a fine play and throw on a dribbler to get the out at first. At the plate Dan and Jonny were the OBP leaders, each going 3 for 3. On the base paths the most memorable moment was Caroline doing a spectacular face plant after tripping over first base (but was she out? No! Did she play on? Yes!).



**MVPs were Alyssa and Dan.**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Camels</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>10</b>

### 08/05/19 Marauders

We had too much quality for a gallant but out-matched Marauders team who had to play 1 short. After a reasonably even first innings we burst into life in the 2<sup>nd</sup> batting round the order and chalking up eleven runs. That killed the game as a contest and we wrapped things up by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup>.



After a couple of errors in the 1<sup>st</sup> everyone played well in the field, with a truly excellent throw to 1<sup>st</sup> by Sally and some impressive catching the outfield the main highlights. With the bats there were a number of strong performances. 3 Home Runs from Dan grabbed the headlines, with Sally also recording a 4 bagger on her season debut. OBP leaders were Craig, Dan, Steve and "Hard-Hittin" Holly who all batted 1000. Overall this was a good solid win after last week's set back and got our league season back on track, though we did have to take a moment to mourn the absence of some of the team...

**MVPs were Sally and Craig.**

<b>Marauders</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>24</b>



## 15/05/19 Speeders

We hung onto the Speeders coat tails in the first half of this game before an eight run burst in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> put us in a position to press on for the win. A couple of (small) defensive wobbles added to some powerful batting gave them the edge in the first half of the game, but we kept in the fight and patience at the plate eventually paid off in our big 5<sup>th</sup> inning.

Dan was our OBP leader, going 5 for 6 and also hitting both our home runs. TK, Jonny and Brad were close behind in the on base stakes, all going 4 for 5.

In the field Steve pitched a good game, Dan made a couple of really spectacular catches on pop-ups, Jackie was solid on 1<sup>st</sup> and Craig made some nice outfield plays.

It was close game throughout but after our big 5<sup>th</sup> innings it was our game to lose and despite a wobble or two we did eventually bring home the win.

**MVPs were Jackie and Dan.**

<b>Speeders</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>



## 22/05/19 @ Bats

This game started as a tight affair, with a score of 1:1 after 3 innings, but the runs started to flow after that and our 2 big innings to the Bats 1 meant we chalked up the win.

In the field Matty pitched a good game, Brad showed some nice touches at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Craig was good in the outfield. OBP leader was Caroline with a not at all lucky 3 for 3 record, Craig was best of the rest going 3 for 4. Home Run Heroes were Emma, Brad and Matty with 1 apiece. All 3 homers were on really nice high quality hits. Holly also continued her hot hitting streak with a couple of nice base hits.

Overall this wasn't a game that will live long in the memory, we didn't play great but we hit well enough to get the job done. The Meerkats will pose a tougher challenge next week.

**MVPs were Jackie and Dan.**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Bats</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>



## 29/05/19 Meerkats

The Meerkats were in the lead after the first 2 innings but we clicked as a team after that and an eleven run bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> put us in position to seal a mercy win in the 5<sup>th</sup>.

With the exception of a couple of early errors we were generally impressive in the field despite the miserable weather conditions, persistent rain throughout the game making the ball greasy and hard to handle. Stand outs included Matty who pitched well in the trying conditions, Jackie who was good on 1<sup>st</sup>, Holly who made some nice plays at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Jonny and Craig who kept things tidy in the outfield.



With the bats Holly, Dan and Craig all batted 1000, all going 4 for 4. Jonny was our Home Run Hero with a 4 bagger in the bottom of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. We ran the bases well as a team, putting pressure on the opposition and making the most of our opportunities.

A special mention needs to be made of Mikala who did a fine job on her Division 2 debut going 2 for 4 at the plate and not letting anybody down in the field.

**MVPs were Jackie and Jonny.**

<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>

***Tigers***



*Alyssa Jones*

***Tigers***



*Brad Hadwin*

***Tigers***



*Caroline Drake*

***Tigers***



*Craig Brooks*

***Tigers***



*Daniel Downes*

***Tigers***



*Emma Pritchard*

***Tigers***



*Holly Smith*

***Tigers***



*Jackie Eavin*

***Tigers***



*Jonny Huck*

***Tigers***



*Matty Bell*

***Tigers***



*Stephen Beddows*

***Tigers***



*Tereza Kokocinska*

## 05/06/19 @ Sharks

A close fought well-played game with some impressive defence on display from both sides. Tied at 3:3 at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> we grabbed a slender lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> that we managed to hang on for the rest of the game without ever being able to feel comfortable.

Batting leader was TK who batted 1000 (4 for 4). Bets of the rest were Dan, Craig and Brad, who all went 3 for 4. Alyssa was the star in the field with some impressive catches in left. Craig was also good in centre right. Matty pitched well and Holly was the infield star with an impressive display on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Overall this was our best performance of the season so far and we took the win against another team that also played some fine softball.

**MVPs were Alyssa and Matty.**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Sharks</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>



## 19/06/19 Camels

A polished performance that gave us our 6<sup>th</sup> win on the bounce. We fielded well and hit better. After a slightly stuttering first inning the bats came to life and we put up big numbers throughout the rest of the game. The Home Runs were shared round with Craig, Dan, Brad and Matty getting one apiece. Dan, Holly, Brad, Steve and Matty all batted 1000.

In the field Jonny took an excellent, telescopic arm catch in left centre, Jackie was good on first, Craig did a fine job at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Steve both pitched well and fielded his position well but Holly was the pick of the bunch with an all action display at catcher throwing out multiple runners on ground ball mishits.

**MVPs were Holly and Steve**

<b>Camels</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>21</b>



## 26/06/19 @ Marauders

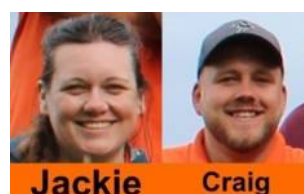
A 9 run top of the 1<sup>st</sup> gave us a lead we never looked like losing. There were lots of good batting performances up and down the line-up and we were efficient in the field.

Craig and Brad topped the OBP rankings, each going 5 for 5. Holly, Dan, Emma and Matty were all close behind, going 4 for 5. Dan and Matty were the Home Run Heroes with 1 apiece.

Steve both pitched well and also fielded his position well. Jackie did a fine job again at 1<sup>st</sup>. Dan made some really nice plays at short stop and the outfield collectively did a good job. Many thanks to Mikala for rearranging the rest of her life so that she could play.

**MVPs were Jackie and Craig**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Marauders</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>



## 03/07/19 @ Speeders

After an initial burst of scoring in the first 3 innings neither team did much to trouble the scorers until the 7<sup>th</sup>. A 3 run burst in the top of the inning gave us a potentially match winning lead but a series of unforced errors in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> handed the win to the Speeders. The miscues at the end were a fitting end to a flat performance, possibly our worst in the league this year.

Dan topped the OBP rankings going 4 for 4. Dan and Brad were the Home Run Heroes with 1 apiece. TK also hit a triple in the top of the 7<sup>th</sup> that set up that three run inning. Steve both pitched well and also fielded his position well. Dan made some nice plays at short. Holly took a nice catch in right, Alyssa made a couple of good grabs in left field and Brad came oh so close to pulling off a miracle grab that would have saved 3 runs in the 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**MVPs were TK and Dan**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Speeders</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>

## 10/07/19 Bats

After last week's defeat we got back on the horse with a routine win against an overmatched Bats team missing some of their best players. It was a curate's egg of a performance, we were good in the field, albeit against a toothless opposition, but some of the batting left a bit to be desired.

Dan (4 for 4), Jonny and Matty (each 3 for 3) were the OBP leaders, and Dan Jonny and Matty were our home run heroes with 1 apiece. Jackie played well on two. TK was solid on 1<sup>st</sup>. Alyssa took a couple of nice catches in the outfield and pitcher Matty fielded his position well.



Jerry from the Bats enjoyed the rare distinction of being out 3 times in 2 at bats, he was caught out in right field on his 2<sup>nd</sup> plate appearance ( a nice take by Emma), only for it to be realised that he'd hit an 11" ball. Reprieved he batted again and was caught out again in right centre. Definitely not his day.

**MVPs were Jackie and Craig**

<b>Bats</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>

## 17/07/19 @ Meerkats

A good win, an important win, not a must win but nice none the less. When we played the Meerkats first time round they were awful, and for the first 3 innings of this game it looked like we were returning the favour, lots of fielding errors and some not very clever batting left us 3-9 down. **BUT** after that we clicked into gear, we scored 15 runs over the last 4 innings whilst conceding only 2.

Looking at the good stuff, Dan led the OBP stats going 4 for 5. He and Jonny were the Home Rune heroes hitting 1 apiece. Jackie was the female OBP leader, going 3 for 5. Steve pitched well, Dan, Craig and Brad all did good jobs in the infield, Jonny took some important catches in the outfield after coming on as a sub and the whole team looked a lot more switched on defensively in the second half of the game.



**MVPs were Sophie and Dan**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>



## 14/08/19 Sharks

A good win and a good game on a soggy pitch on a soggy day that turned very wet in the last inning. Just like our previous game against the Sharks it was close throughout with some impressive fielding eventually giving us the win.

Steve pitched well, Matt had a good game on 3<sup>rd</sup> TK was good on 1<sup>st</sup> and Dan was excellent at short stop turning some nice double plays. Holly made a couple of nice tags at home and Craig was good in the outfield. Everybody else also contributed to a fine team display.

Dan was the OBP leader going 3 for 3, Brad, TK and Craig were best of the rest each going 2 for 3. Craig was also our Home Run hero with a 2 run shot in our 5 run 3<sup>rd</sup> inning that gave us a lead we never relinquished.

**MVPs were TK and Craig.**

<b>Sharks</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>10</b>



## 21/08/19 @ Speeders

With 3 players away we struggled to contain a heavy hitting Speeders team. We started brightly but after the Speeders got a roll on we couldn't live with them. Small mistakes can make a big difference and we made enough mistakes to end up well beaten. We let the pressure get to us at times, pressing at the plate after we got behind on the scoreboard and looking for the miracle play in the field at times rather than just doing the basics and staying calm.

Matty and Emma were our OBP leaders going 3 for 4 and Matty was also our only Home Run Hero with a brace of four baggers. In the field Brad did a good job at short stop, TK was solid on 1<sup>st</sup> and James made a promising 2<sup>nd</sup> Division debut at 3<sup>rd</sup>. Craig was the stand out in the outfield with Alyssa also doing good work.

**MVPs were Alyssa and Matt.**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<i>Called for bad light after six.</i>
<b>Speeders</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	



## 28/08/19 @ Sharks

A disappointing performance. We only started batting in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning and our fielding was below par throughout.

Ignoring Dave's cameo performance (1 for 1 – batted 1000, thank you and good night) James and Brad topped the OBP rankings, each going 3 for 4. There were a few good plays in the field, we made a nice out on a run down between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and there was a good double play when Alyssa took a good catch in left field and then doubled off the runner on 3<sup>rd</sup> but we were flat in the field most of the evening. All in all it was a night to forget.

**MVPs were Alyssa and James.**

<b>Tigers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Sharks</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>16</b>



## 04/09/19 Meerkats

There wasn't a lot riding on this game for us but it was vital for the Meerkats to get the win if they wanted to get promotion and that showed in the performances of the 2 teams. They were determined and efficient and we weren't.

OBP leader and only Home Run Hero was Dan who went 3 for 3 including a 2 run 4-bagger. Best of the rest were Brad and Steve who each went 2 for 3.

Alyssa took a nice catch in right field, Craig took a basketful of catches in centre right and we turned a couple of double plays but otherwise there wasn't much to write home about in the field. A downbeat end to a downbeat last 3 weeks of the season but we shouldn't let that overshadow our overall achievement. We won promotion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> successive year and collected a division winner's trophy to go with it.

**MVPs were Holly and Dan.**



<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Tigers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

## Final Division 2 table

	P	W	T	L	F	RS	RC	Pts %	GB
 Tigers (C)	15	10	0	5	0	224	163	.778	-
 Meerkats (P)	15	10	0	5	0	262	169	.778	-
 Speeders	15	9	0	6	0	212	174	.733	1
 Sharks	15	8	0	7	0	195	169	.689	2
 Camels II	14	6	0	8	0	139	218	.619	-
 Marauders	14	6	0	8	0	156	209	.619	-
 Bats (R)	14	2	0	12	0	130	216	.429	4

Tigers above Meerkats and Camels II above Marauders on head-to-head record.

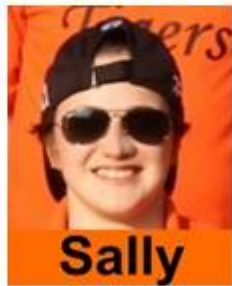
<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>H/A</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>May 1</b>	<b>Camels II</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 6-10</b>
<b>May 8</b>	<b>Marauders</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 24-4</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Speeders</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 21-20</b>
<b>May 22</b>	<b>Bats</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 16-11</b>
<b>May 29</b>	<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 21-6</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Sharks</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 11-8</b>
<b>June 12</b>	<b>rest</b>		
<b>June 19</b>	<b>Camels II</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 21-3</b>
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Marauders</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 24-5</b>
<b>July 3</b>	<b>Speeders</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 11-12</b>
<b>July 10</b>	<b>Bats</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 15-0</b>
<b>July 17</b>	<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 18-11</b>
<b>July 24</b>	<b>rest</b>		
<b>July 31</b>	<b>Sharks</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>p.p.</b>
<b>August 7</b>	<b>rest</b>		
<b>August 14</b>	<b>Sharks</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 10-8</b>
<b>August 21</b>	<b>Speeders</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 11-23</b>
<b>August 28</b>	<b>Sharks</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 8-16</b>
<b>September 4</b>	<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>L. 7-26</b>

## Final Division 2 Batting Stats board

<u>OBP</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>PA</u>	<u>OB</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>OBP</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>PA</u>	<u>OB</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>HRs</u>	<u>(M)</u>	<u>HRs</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>PA</u>	<u>OB</u>
Dan	13	46	52	885	Holly	14	29	54	537	Dan	11	Sally	1	James	5	7
Brad	15	40	57	702	Jackie	12	23	46	500	Matty	6	Emma	1	Dave	2	3
Craig	15	41	59	695	Emma	13	21	47	447	Brad,	3			Mikala	3	8
Jonny	10	24	36	667	Alyssa	14	21	53	396	Jonny				Sally	2	4
Matty	13	29	49	592	TK	12	18	46	391	Craig	2			Sophie	2	4
Steve	11	23	39	590	Caroline	10	12	33	364							



# First team squad



# Division 4 match reports

## 07/05/19 @ Colt 45s

Our first league game as a team ended in a deserved victory over a spirited Colt 45s team that never went away. It was nip and tuck for the first 4 innings before an 8 run top of the 5<sup>th</sup> gave us a big lead that set up our win.

There were lots of good performances in the field. Oli was excellent at 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ed gave us some welcome experience at short stop, Lynsey put in a really promising performance on 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mikala was impressive at 1<sup>st</sup>. Steve made some nice plays in centre right and James made one really excellent catch of a line drive in left.

At the plate Oli was the OBP leader, going 6 for 6. Female leaders were Rachael and Mikala, each going 4 for 5. Home Run Hero was James who hit a screaming line drive to lead off the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Overall we produced a really impressive first performance and deserved our win. Special thanks to Jackie for coming along on her night off and scoring and being generally supportive.

**MVPs were Mikala and Oli**

<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Colt 45s</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>



## 14/05/19 Swingers

Our second league win was a much more straightforward affair than the first. The Swingers tried hard but didn't have a reliable pitcher and struggled in the field.

We took lots of walks, boosted a lot of batting averages and got better in the field as the game went on. Steve in particular did a lot of good work at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Mikala was as reliable as ever at 1<sup>st</sup>.

James was our Home Run hero, Sandra (5 for 5), Ed and Aiden (both 4 for 4) were all perfect at the plate with everyone else getting on base at least twice. It wasn't a game to live long in the memory but we did an efficient job and chalked up the win. Thanks to Jackie for helping out in our hour of need. Freeze should pose a much sterner challenge next week.

**MVPs were Mikala and Steve**

<b>Swingers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>



***Tigers***



*Aiden Peakman*

***Tigers***



*Becky Crawford*

***Tigers***



*Dave Wareham*

***Tigers***



*Ed Coington*

***Tigers***



*Eoie Sanders*

***Tigers***



*Harry Schulte*

***Tigers***



*James Wright*

***Tigers***



*Janine Lomas*

***Tigers***



*Lynsey Taylor*

***Tigers***



*Mikala Martin*

***Tigers***



*Oliver Sharpe*

***Tigers***



*Rachael Andrews*

***Tigers***



*Rob Lawrence*

***Tigers***



*Sandra Zlatinska*

***Tigers***



*Steve Girling*

## 1/05/19 @ Freeze

A fine team performance gave us the win against the previously undefeated Freeze. An 8 run second inning gave us a lead that we never gave up. Freeze came close in the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> but a 5 run top of the 7<sup>th</sup> knocked the stuffing out of the opposition and they went quietly in the bottom of the inning.

In the field there were lots of good performances all over the park. Dave pitched his best game of the season so far. Ed did a fine job at short stop. Lynsey put in a promising performance at 3<sup>rd</sup>. Aiden did lots of good stuff at 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mikala did her customary fine job at 1<sup>st</sup>, James and Oli both took good catches in the outfield (with Oli doing a similarly fine job at 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 7<sup>th</sup>) and all the rest of the team also contributed.

With the bats Dave (5 for 5) was the male OBP leader with Mikala (4 for 5) leading the way for the women. Evie also deserves a mention for her best batting performance of the season so far. There were lots of other good performances up and down the line-up and the whole team ran the bases with aggression that didn't tip over into stupidity.

Our initial plans to bat 6& in this game were scuppered by the unfortunate but unavoidable withdrawal of one of the male players. Janine was the unfortunate one who missed out as a result, but took the set back without complaining and did valuable work with the camera over the evening.

**MVPs were Mikala and Dave**

<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Freeze</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>



## 28/05/19 Rippers

An efficient defensive performance combined with just enough good hitting gave us the win. A five run bottom of the 2<sup>nd</sup> gave us a lead that was never seriously threatened by a Rippers team who had to reorganise their line up part way through the game due to injury.

Steve G. was our Home Run hero with a Grand Slam that highlighted our 6 run 5<sup>th</sup> inning. OBP queen was Mikala who went 5 for 5. In the field guest Steve B. pitched well, Sandra did a fine job at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mikala was a rock at 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone else also did their bit in a good team performance. Thanks to Steve for guesting and to Ed for playing for us in these first 4 league games, an injury crisis for the Mayhem team has meant that he's been called up to the majors rather earlier in the season than originally planned.

**MVPs were Sandra and Stevie G.**

<b>Rippers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>16</b>



## 04/06/19 Enforcers

At 13-5 down half way through the 5<sup>th</sup> we were looking down the barrel of our first league defeat of the season but we didn't give up and a 6 run bottom of the



5<sup>th</sup> put us right back in contention. One run behind with 2 down and no one on base in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> things looked grim again but the rookie middle of the order did the business sending home the tying and then the winning run.

In the field Sandra did a fine job on 2<sup>nd</sup>, James looked good after moving to short stop half way through the game and Dave pitched a good game. James (4 for 4) and Dave (3 for 3) both batted 1000 and James was also our Home Run hero, his 3 run Homer in the 5<sup>th</sup> being central to our come back. There were lots of other good performances up and down the line up, Oli C. and Harry each went 3 for 4 as they both made promising debuts for the team.

**MVPs were Sandra and James**

<b>Enforcers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>

## 11/06/19 @ Thunder IV

Another slow start but we came back well and chalked up another win. Our 10 run 3<sup>rd</sup> innings was the decisive turning point in the game, and our initially leaky defence tightened up impressively in the last 4 innings and helped nail down the result.

Defensively it was very much a team effort, the wet conditions meant there were inevitably a large number of handling errors but we didn't panic, kept plugging away and eventually got the result. Dave pitched well and finished with a number of strike outs including one to finish the game.

James was our Home Run Hero and Steve and Mikala were the OBP leaders, each going 4 for 4 at the plate. There were lots of other strong performance up and down the order and almost everyone got at least 1 hit.

It was another lengthy affair and it was nearly half past nine before some of us got back to the pub. Sally and Janine made their Tiggers league debuts and so did Rob, it was a great to see them all out on the pitch.

**MVPs were Lynsey and James**

<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Thunder IV</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>





## 18/06/19 Base Invaders

We started brightly but found a hard hitting Base Invaders team too hot to handle. Holidays and other absences meant we had had to swap things round in the field and an early injury to Stevie G. meant another reshuffle mid-game.

Fielding highlights included Evie doing a good job on 1<sup>st</sup>. Steve took a couple of nice catches in the outfield before his injury forced him into the infield and guest Jackie got a couple of tag outs at home.

Steve and James were our Home Run Heroes. James (3 for 3) also headed the OBP standings along with Dave (2 for 2).

Thanks to Jackie for guesting and here's wishing a quick recovery to Steve, with his dodgy ankle, and Lynsey who took a nasty blow to the jaw from a VERY hard hit ball at 3<sup>rd</sup> that ricocheted up off her glove.

**MVPs were Evie and James**

<b>Base Invaders</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>



## 25/06/19 @ Bandidos

We might have lost this game but we put in a creditable performance against a Bandidos team that included a number of players with long Division 1 histories in their ranks.

James was our Home Run Hero with 3 and also led the OBP standings going 4 for 4 at the plate. Dave and Oli were the best of the rest, each going 3 for 4.

We put in a bit of a curates egg performance in the field, there was some really good stuff and also some not quite so good bits. Dave pitched well, James and Sandra took nice catches in the outfield and Becky did a good job at catcher. Everyone else worked hard and we never let the game run away from us.

**MVPs were Sandra and James**

<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Bandidos</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>19</b>



## 02/07/19 Blue Jays

A good win in the sun on the new pitch 8 with its unblemished batting boxes. Matty pitched well. Oli was good at short, Harry showed up well at 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sandra was excellent again on 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mikala did her normal good job at 1<sup>st</sup> and the outfield didn't get much chance to shine as we shut the Blue Jays down for most of the game.

Home Run heroes were James, Craig and Matty with 1 apiece. Lynsey hit really well with Rachael not far behind. Harry's batting continues to improve with each game he plays. Male OBP leaders were James and Matty, each going 4 for 4, Lynsey led the way for the women batting 3 for 4.

Thanks to Craig and Matty for helping us in our hour of need. Hopefully we'll have a few bodies back off the DL by next week.

**MVPs were Sandra and James**

<b>Blue Jays</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>



## 09/07/19 @ Stingers

A close fought game against an impressive Stingers team, the runs dried up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the game after a frisky start that left the teams tied 8 all after 3 innings but we then crawled slowly ahead into a lead that was just large enough to give us the win.

James and Mikala were the OBP leaders, each going 4 for 4. James was also our Home Run hero with his weekly four- bagger. Dave pitched a good game. Steve and Oli made some nice plays at third and short stop and everyone else did good work as we kept the Stingers to just the 1 run in the last 4 innings of the game.

**MVPs were Rachael and Steve**

<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Stingers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>



## 16/07/19 Colt 45s

A close game for the first couple of innings and one that even at the end felt closer than the box score shows it was, but once we started scoring we just couldn't stop.

James (4 for 4) and guest Caroline (3 for 3) were the OBP King and Queen, each batting 1000. James was also our Home Run Hero collecting his weekly 4 bagger as well as 2 triples.

Alyssa pitched really well in her first league start. Lynsey was impressive at 2<sup>nd</sup>. Oli made some nice plays at short stop including an impressive catch whilst going back on an awkward pop up, Steve did the same at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sandra did a solid job at 1<sup>st</sup>.

Some impressive base coaching by Becky wasn't quite enough to earn her MVP selection whilst on the DL but she did also take some nice photos.

**MVPs were Lynsey and James**

<b>Colt 45s</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>



## 23/07/19 Freeze

We started brightly but lost our way somewhat in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the game, sunstroke perhaps? – it was very hot. We made a few errors in the field and the runs dried up in the last 5 innings BUT we still did also do a lot of good stuff in the field and we kept the game tight throughout. We were also a bit unlucky with the bounce of the ball at times, which never helps in a close game.

James led the way at the plate, batting 1000 (4 for 4) whilst also adding his weekly Home Run. Best of the rest, and leading the way for the women was Lynsey who went 3 for 4, carrying the good form she's shown at practice into the league. In the field Dave pitched a good game, Harry was excellent on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sandra did a lot of good work on 2<sup>nd</sup>. Steve and Oli came down to base coach on their night off, Jackie came down and did the scoring - team players

**MVPs were Sandra and Harry.**

<b>Freeze</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Tiggers</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>



## 23/07/19 Bandidos

A good win against Bandidos side missing a few of their regulars. Traffic chaos in South Manchester meant we only had a legal team on the pitch at 6.59 but things calmed down after that early panic and we put in a fine performance to claim the win.

OBP leader was Harry who went 4 for 4 (1000), Sandra was the female leader going 3 for 4 (750). Guest Matty pitched a good game, Becky made a couple of nice catches on pop ups behind home plate, Lynsey put in a good performance on 1<sup>st</sup>, Mikala did well on 2<sup>nd</sup> and Harry made some nice plays at 3<sup>rd</sup>. James and Oli shared the short stop role and both did a good job. All the outfield worked hard and helped keep the opposition's scoring under control by getting the ball back into the infield with impressive speed and regularity.

**MVPs were Lynsey and Steve.**

<b>Bandidos</b>	1	0	1	1	3	0	3	9
<b>Tiggers</b>	2	0	4	5	0	2	X	13



## 13/08/19 @ Base Invaders

After a truly awful start in this game we fought back really well and even though we didn't claim the win we finished the game with heads held high. 13-3 down after 2 innings we tightened up in the field and started to hit with purpose in the second half of the game and really made the Base Invaders fight for the win.

OBP leaders were Steve and Lynsey who each went 5 for 5, Oli, James and Dave (all 4 for 5) were close behind. James was our sole Home Run hero with a 2 run shot in the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Dave pitched well. Other fielding stand outs included Lynsey, who recovered from a shaky start to put in a really fine performance at 1<sup>st</sup>, Harry who similarly got better and better at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Oli who made some nice outs at short stop.

Special mention for Aiden who did a fine job scoring and never complained on nearly but not quite getting some game time on more than one occasion as the evening unfolded.

**MVPs were Lynsey and Harry.**

<b>Tiggers</b>	3	0	4	1	2	7	4	21
<b>Base Invaders</b>	6	7	3	1	1	5	X	23



## 20/08/19 Enforcers

A game of two halves, a game where we made rather too many mistakes but also a game where giving everyone some playing time was definitely a higher priority than chasing the win. League season over we then retired to the pub to celebrate promotion and a very successful first year.

Batting leader was Steve who went 3 for 3, best of the rest were Dave and female leader Rachael who went 2 for 3. In the field TK made some nice plays at home, Dave chalked up a few strike outs, Rachael made an exciting catch in the outfield and Harry made a nice grab running back at short stop.

**MVPs were TK and Harry.**

<b>Enforcers</b>	2	0	0	9	0	1	11	23
<b>Tiggers</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

*Enforcers were home team but chose to bat first.*



# Tiggers Friendlies

## 30/04/19 Rookies

The first ever proper game for our new second team ended in an entertaining 12 all tie, which finished after 5 innings as umpire Linni wanted to go home! (or go to the pub anyway).

We leapt out into a big lead with an 11 run first innings but the bats went quiet after that whilst the rookies gradually clawed their way back into contention.

Winning wasn't the main point of the exercise though, everyone got some useful experience both in playing an actual game and in playing together as a team.

Particular stand outs were Lynsey, who went 3 for 3 at the plate and Oli who looked very promising at short stop and hit the ball with real power.

**MVPs were Lynsey and Oli.**

*(No box score as no proper scoring)*



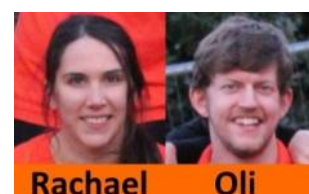
## 23/07/19 @ Rookies

Rachael was the heroine of this particular tale. With no league games scheduled at Parrs Wood this week we played a friendly against the rookies (who used a couple of guest pitchers) and after a close first half of the game pulled away to a comfortable win.

Rachael started by making a promising pitching debut before moving to 2<sup>nd</sup> base where she chalked up an impressive number of outs and assists, including starting the double play that removed Dave Warren and Ed Woodcock, who were showing the rookies how not to do it 😊, in a single blow.

Elsewhere, Steve led the way with the bat, going 5 for 6, Lynsey led the way for the women going 4 for 6. In the field Harry got some useful time in a short stop, Lynsey played most of the game at first and seemed to grow in confidence as the game went on. Oli flashed the leather at 3<sup>rd</sup> chalking up some nice outs and also showed off his base running skills.

**MVPs were Rachael and Oli.**



<b>Tiggers</b>	1	5	2	0	5	0	5	18
<b>Rookies</b>	1	2	3	3	0	0	0	9

## 27/08/19 Friendly: Tiggers v Rookies

A nice postscript to the league season. A comfortable win in a friendly where we were put under just enough pressure to make it feel like a real game. Dave and James both batted 100 (4 for 4) but James also hit 3 Home Runs. Harry also claimed a 4 bagger. Female OBP leaders were Alyssa, Emma, Becky and Mikala who all went 3 for 4.

In the field Alyssa was the stand out with an impressive pitching performance. Evie impressed on 1<sup>st</sup>, Emma did some nice work at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and everyone else contributed to a good team performance.

**MVPs were Alyssa and James.**



<b>Rookies</b>	1	0	0	2	0	3	2	8
<b>Tiggers</b>	5	1	5	0	1	4	X	16



<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>H/A</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>April 30</b>	<b>Rookies friendly</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Colt 45s</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 20-17</b>
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Swingers</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 25-5</b>
<b>May 21</b>	<b>Freeze</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 20-14</b>
<b>May 28</b>	<b>Rippers</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 16-6</b>
<b>June 4</b>	<b>Enforcers</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 16-15</b>
<b>June 11</b>	<b>Thunder IV</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 18-15</b>
<b>June 18</b>	<b>Base Invaders</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 5-24</b>
<b>June 25</b>	<b>Los Bandidos</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 9-19</b>
<b>July 2</b>	<b>Blue Jays</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 17-2</b>
<b>July 9</b>	<b>Stingers</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>W. 11-9</b>
<b>July 16</b>	<b>Colt 45s</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 17-2</b>
<b>July 23</b>	<b>Freeze</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>L. 11-13</b>
<b>July 30</b>	<b>Rookies friendly</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>August 6</b>	<b>Los Bandidos</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>W. 13-9</b>
<b>August 13</b>	<b>Base Invaders</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 21-23</b>
<b>August 20</b>	<b>Enforcers</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L. 2-21</b>
<b>August 27</b>	<b>Rookies friendly</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>

## Final Division 4 Batting Stats board

	App	PA	%age	rank	HR		App	PA	%age	HR
James	14	53	811	1	13	Oli C.	2	6	667	
Oli S.	12	47	596	5		Ed	4	18	833	
Dave	12	45	733	2		Steve B.	1	5	600	1
Steve G.	12	45	689	3	2	Craig	1	4	500	1
Aiden	12	40	475	7		Matty	2	8	500	1
Harry	8	29	483	6						
Rob	5	15	600	4						
Mikala	13	56	643	1		Janine	2	6	333	
Lynsey	13	54	593	2		Alyssa	1	3	667	
Sandra	12	53	528	3		Caroline	1	3	1000	
Rachael	12	50	480	4		Jackie	2	6	667	
Evie	10	37	378	6		Sally	1	4	500	
Becky	9	34	382	5		TK	1	3	333	

# Second team squad



Aiden



Becky



Dave



Ed



Evie



Harry



James



Janine



Lynsey



Mikala



Oli



Rachael



Rob



Sandra



Steve

# Tournaments

## North West 1 (Rec), 13/04/19

A successful day for our recreational level team, one that saw us finish as runners up in North West 1 tournament. Three easy wins against the less experienced teams were followed by a close run fourth game victory against a strong Thunder team. That took us through to the Gold final where we went down to a narrow loss against our old foes the Bobcats. The tournament gave Evie, Janine and Aiden their first taste of competitive softball. Mikala returned to action after a multi-year gap and Steve Girling after a year off.

Opponent	Score
Swingers	W. 12-6
Leeds	W. 17-7
Meteors	W. 17-2
Thunder	W. 13-12
Bobcats	L. 10-12

In the field Steve B. did a fine job at pitcher. James battled hard at short stop and made some nice plays. Sally was excellent at 3rd. Craig was faultless in the outfield and Steve G. took some highlight reel catches. Mikala got hit by one very hard hit ball at first but didn't let that put her off and was good all day.

With the bats the OBP leaders were Caroline and Aiden. Home Run heroes were Sally (1), Steve B. (2), Craig (4) and James (5).

Overall we had a successful and enjoyable day. It was dry all day and it had even warmed up a bit by the time we returned from our lunchtime visit to the pub.

**MVPs were Sally and James.**



*Dave, Craig, James, Steve G., Janine, Aiden  
Caroline, Mikala, Steve B., Evie, Sally, Emma*





## North West 1 (Comp), 14/04/19

A tough day at the office for our Comp team but we played hard all day, got one win, came close to another and didn't let ourselves down in a long, hard (and cold) day of Softball. We were the only second division team in the competition and overall our performances against Division 1 and NSL teams were more than respectable.

We started with a heavy, sobering (in more ways than one), defeat against the Mavericks before enjoying a well-deserved victory against Mayhem. We were competitive in our next 2 games against Latinos and Dodgers before suffering further heavy losses to the Camels and Sox. Our final, placing, game saw us facing the Dodgers again and we went down to a heavier, but still respectable, defeat than in our first outing against them.

Batting leaders over the day were Mikala and Matty. Home Run champions were Dan and Alyssa with 2 apiece, Matty, Brad, Craig and Jackie also chipped in with 1 each.

In the field there were lots of nice plays and hard work all through the line up. Steve and Matty both pitched well. Dan showed impressive range at short stop. Holly did some nice work in both infield and outfield. Craig was death to flying things in left field, Caroline continued from Saturday as Queen of turning pop ups into outs. Everyone else did lots of good work and the whole team kept their heads up through what was a long, hard day.

The weather was dry again, though bitterly cold and we certainly got our money's worth with 7 games in total, indeed those who played both days should be in mid-season form by the time the league campaign starts in a couple of weeks, if they've recovered by then!

**MVPs were Mikala and Matty.**

Opponent	Score
Mavs	L 1-23
Mayhem	W 6-2
Dodgers	L 8-12
Latinos	L 6-7
Camels	L 9-26
Sox	L 3-17
Dodgers	L 6-13



*Matt, Dan, Brad, Craig, Alyssa, James, Steve B.  
Mikala, Holly, Jackie, Caroline, Emma, Sally*



## Firstball, 27 & 28/04/19

A successful weekend at Firstball culminated in the undefeated Tigers taking the Silver Cup after a blistering performance in the final against the Sharks. It was a weekend of two halves with a wet cold and windy Saturday followed by a sunny, warm Sunday that reminded any doubters why we love playing Softball.

On Saturday we start with a big win against the Speeders followed by a shut out of Camels II. In the afternoon we had a good win against the Bobcats followed by a scratchy performance in a narrow win against the Hackers. Our last game of the day was an agreed tie against the Sharks - it was windy, wet and horrible so we went to the pub. On Sunday morning a solid win against the Bats was followed a wild, high scoring ties against the Meerkats. At the end of the round robin we ended 2nd (on runs conceded) to the Sharks. Our semi-final was a rematch against the Meerkats. Again there was some big hitting but the defences turned up this time and we won a close encounter to reach the final.

In the final against the Sharks we put in our best performance of the weekend. Big hitting and good defence, highlighted by Alyssa's bases loaded running catch in centre field that snuffed out the Sharks last chance of getting back into the game.

Overall we had a really successful weekend. Home Run leader was Dan(4) followed by Brad(2), Matty, Jonny, James and Steve with 1 apiece. Jonny (789) was the male OBP leader closely pursued by Matty (773). TK (739) was the female leader with Jackie (722) close behind.

In the field both pitchers played well all weekend. Jonny, Craig and Alyssa were all excellent in the outfield. Mikala was impressive at 2nd (and hit with real power). TK and Jackie both did fine jobs at first. Everyone else contributed lots of good work throughout a long weekend that left us with a trophy, booze and lots to look forward to this season.

**MVPs were Alyssa and Matty.**

Opponent	Score
Speeders	W. 17-3
Camels II	W. 8-0
Bobcats	W. 18-7
Hackers	W. 7-3
Sharks	T. 5-5
Bats	W. 11-6
Meerkats	T. 13-13
Meerkats	W. 9-7
Sharks	W. 23-8/t>



**B: Jonny, James, Craig, Brad, Dan, Matty**  
**M: Steve B & Jackie F: TK, Emma, Alyssa, Holly, Mikala, Dave**





## 11/05/19 LGBT tournament



***Dave, Craig, James, Mikala, Aiden, TK, Steve G.  
Oli, Alyssa, Caroline, Sandra, Emma, Jackie***

An enjoyable day out in the sun that gave us some valuable game time - and we won a couple of games as well. The day didn't start on a good note when Matty had to drop out early on Saturday morning, but with a bit of help from old boy Michael and an emergency call up for Craig we kept the show on the road.

We started the day with a high scoring, close, loss against the Base Invaders in which both teams batted a lot better than they fielded. More impressive batting, and some tighter fielding then gave us two good wins against the Camels and the Chester Drawers before a loss in our final group game against the heavy hitting Bombers team.

After an hour's gap that put us in the silver cup semi-final against that same Bombers team, a game in which our bats never really got going.

OBP queen over the day was Sandra (800) with James (750) being the male leader. James was also our Home Run leader with a brace, Craig and TK also one Home Run each. In the field there were lots of encouraging performances. Worthy of particular mention were Oli, who did a good job at short stop, and Alyssa who put in an impressive performance at pitcher in our 3<sup>rd</sup> game. Steve worked hard at 3<sup>rd</sup>, James took a couple of really nice catches in the outfield, Caroline took a good catch in right, Mikala was her normal reliable self and Dave pitched well.

**Tournament MVPs were Sandra and Oli.**

<b>Base Invaders</b>	<b>L. 10-11</b>
<b>Camels</b>	<b>W.13-3</b>
<b>Chester</b>	<b>W. 12-3</b>
<b>Bombers</b>	<b>L. 5-11</b>
<b>Bombers (Semi)</b>	<b>L. 4-12</b>





## Sefton



**Mike, Craig, Dave, Brad, Steve B., Oli (Inserts, Aiden and Rachael)  
Jackie, Holly, TK, Emma, Sandra, Caroline**

The Tigers had an enjoyable time at the Sefton tournament. A long weekend of Softball at a nice new venue and it was also sunny on Saturday and Sunday afternoon (though very wet on Sunday morning). We welcomed old boy Mike back to the fold and rookie Rachael had her first taste of tournament play.

The first 3 games sorted out the comp. and rec. placings and we found ourselves with 3 tough fixtures. A respectable performance against the Camels was followed by large losses to the MK Diamonds and Traveling Dodgers.

After the split we had two more Saturday games, a tough loss against the Fins followed by a morale boosting victory against our old foes the Leeds Bobcats.

On Sunday we had a heart breaking loss against the Dales followed by a respectable defeat against the Sharks. Third game up gave us our second win, a 9-7 victory against a strong Vikings side. The final game of the weekend had a definite "game too far" air about it and we were well beaten by a heavy hitting Bolts team.

Saturday rookies Rachael and Aiden both did us proud with Oli also playing well on Sunday. Steve did all the heavy lifting at pitcher with Dave chipping in for a couple of games on Saturday. Mike did a good job at short stop and everyone worked hard and made some fine plays over the weekend.

Male OBP leader was Brad (632) with Mike and Craig close behind (579). Female leader was Jackie (684), with Caroline (533) in 2nd place. Home Run Hero was Craig (5) with Brad also hitting a pair of 4 baggers.

With a big chunk of our Division 2 line-up missing and a number of rookies in the team we put in some good performances against some tough opposition and ended the weekend with our heads held high.

**MVPs were Jackie and Brad.**

Opponent	Score
Camels	L. 4-9
MKD	L. 3-19
T. Dod	L. 2-20
Fins	L. 8-16
Bobcats	W. 11-8
Dales	L. 8-9
Sharks	L. 3-10
Vikings	W. 9-7
Bolts	L. 2-11



## Leeds



**Sandra, TK, Martine, Sophie, Holly, Rachael S., Jonny Dan, Brad, Matt, Steve B., Craig (Inserts Kate and James)**

The Tigers, with assorted guests, had a highly successful time at the Leeds tournament, with a 100% record in the initial group stages and eventually finishing in 4th place (out of 26). That 100% record put the team in the platinum (top level) competition where we won 2 games out of 5 in the round robin and came within 1 out of getting to the 2nd v 3rd play-off.

Craig was the leading Home Run hero with 6, Matty hit 3 and Brad, Dan, Jonny, James and Rachel got 1 apiece. Brad (857) was the male OBP leader with Holly (714) leading the way for the women.

Captain Jonny picked Craig and TK as the tournament MVPs, Craig for his batting prowess and TK for her impressive work on 1<sup>st</sup>. "It was a really positive weekend and I feel that everyone can take something good away from it. It was also really pleasing to hearing how much our guests enjoyed playing for Tigers and felt really welcome with the team." He was also impressed by the way Matty and Sandra played over the weekend and gave Rachael a special mention for taking two massive hits (away) from Benkei and Ross.

**MVPs were TK and Craig.**

Opponent	Score
Pyros	W. 13-11
Sombreros	W. 14-8
AJs	W. 14-2
Sharks	W. 8-3
Sheriffs	L. 15-21
Terriers	L. 7-10
Marauders	W. 14-4
Bombers	L. 9-12



## North West 2



*Steve B., James, Harry, Oli, Rachael, Lynsey, Sandra, Dave  
Becky, Holly, Evie, Steve G. (Aiden lying down)*

The Tigers put in a series of very creditable performance in the heat at NW2. In the round robin we had 2 wins, over Thunder and Stingers, a perhaps unprecedented total of 3 ties, against Freeze, Base Invaders and Dales, and 1 loss, to the Bobcats in what was our 5th consecutive game - definitely a game too far in the very testing conditions. In the 3rd place play-off game we again lost to the Bobcats but only after a much more creditable performance.

James was our main power threat and hit 4 homers over the day. Lynsey led OBP standings at 692, James and Steve were tied for the male lead, each hitting 647. Steve and Dave both pitched well. Sandra and James both did good work in both infield and outfield. Aiden took a couple of really nice catches in the outfield. Oli did good work at short stop and lots of people got to try out new fielding positions, something which produced lots of promising performances. Everyone worked hard all through the day.

We had 3 players making their tournament debuts and 3 others playing only their 2nd tournament day, all of them got lots of useful experience. Stevie G. wasn't able to play after his recent injury but he was still a valuable member of the team, scoring the games and helping with the base coaching. We got through a lot of water, and a lot of ice cream, over the day with some of us then moving on to Jackie's "Not quite Canada Day" poutine party - an enjoyable end to a long but excellent day.

**MVPs were Sandra and James.**

Opponent	Score
Thunder	W. 7-6
Freeze	T. 10-10
Stingers	W. 8-7
Base Inv.	T. 10-10
Bobcats	L. 1-21
Dales	T. 10-10
Bobcats (F)	L. 5-10



## Manchester



*James, Brad, Dan, Craig, TK, Steve, Dave  
Caroline, Holly, Jackie, Sandra, Emma*

We had a few ups and downs but ultimately had a pretty successful time at the Manchester tournament eventually finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place. On Saturday we enjoyed an easy win against the Bats before suffering an equally one sided loss against the Speeders. We took early leads in both our next 2 games before letting the other team back into it, we hung on for the win against the Meerkats but ended up tying with the Marauders. We then rounded off the day with an easy win against an outclassed Drizzle team.

<b>Bats</b>	<b>W. 15-3</b>
<b>Speeders</b>	<b>L. 2-15</b>
<b>Meerkats</b>	<b>W. 9-8</b>
<b>Marauders</b>	<b>T. 6-6</b>
<b>Drizzle</b>	<b>W. 20-1</b>
<b>Sharks</b>	<b>L. 5-11</b>
<b>Bobcats</b>	<b>W. 8-3</b>
<b>Mavs II</b>	<b>T. 6-6</b>
<b>Sharks</b>	<b>L. 5-11</b>

Sunday started with a heavy defeat against an impressive Sharks team. We restored a bit of pride with a couple of really good defensive performances. We chalked up a comfortable win against the Bobcats before playing out an exciting tied game against the Mavericks.

That result meant we finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place with our reward another encounter against the Sharks. The semi-final stayed close for a long time but we eventually went down again against the eventual tournament winners. Half the team then retired to the Bridge Inn for a well-deserved pizza.

Jackie was the female weekend OBP queen with the Czech connection (TK and Sandra) tied in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Brad led the way for the boys with James and Craig 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dan was the Home Run King with 7, James got 2 with 1 each for Brad and Craig.

In the field Steve and Dave both pitched well. Dan did a fine job at Short stop, Brad looked good at both short and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jackie did some good stuff at 3<sup>rd</sup> and TK was solid at 1<sup>st</sup>. Craig was the best in the outfield, Holly and James took some catches and everyone else did lots of good work.

**MVPs were Jackie and Dan.**





## Nationals



*James, Mike, Holly, Jackie, TK, Caroline  
Matty, Steve, Brad, Dan, Emma, Sandra*

Tigers were entered into the lower (rec) level of the National championships. 12 teams were split into 2 groups of 6 with the top 3 from each group playing for silver and the bottom 3 for bronze.

On A very windy and blustery Saturday morning the Tigers awoke to some nice sunshine and lush green diamonds full of hope for the following 2 days. We started the day with a welcomed 10am start and a comfortable 9-2 win over the Yorkshire Dales. This was followed by a 13- 3 victory over the Fockers which featured a brilliant 4-3 rundown from TK and Jackie to tag out Kiwi diving head first in an attempt to get back to 1<sup>st</sup>. Next up were the Zombies in a much closer game but never the less a 17-13 for the now roaring Tigers. The wind showed no signs of calming down but both Matt and Steve battled the conditions much better than our opponents giving the batters no easy walks.

A Hard fought 13-10 loss to the Bulldogs somewhat seemed to galvanize the team for the next game against the as yet unbeaten TV Rattlesnakes. Tigers put in their best all round performance of the day to come away with a tight 10-9 victory with some outstanding fielding and solid batting from the team. This Put us top of our group on H2H over the Rattlesnakes with the Bulldogs just behind but all 3 teams would be carrying a 1-1 record into the Silver competition.

Up first with an early start with an unbeaten record from Sat were the Bracknell Scorchers. Steve won his 1<sup>st</sup> toss of the weekend and completely threw the opposition by electing to bat 1<sup>st</sup>, much to the astonishment of the Scorchers captain. A pulsating encounter followed in which the Scorchers got off to a great start leading by 5 after the 1<sup>st</sup> innings, (Tigers don't do early as they are usually still half asleep) 2 runs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> followed by a shut out of the opposition gave us renewed belief and the team spirit was outstanding, a doughnut for the Tigers and a single from Scorchers put them 6-2 up. Tigers Hit back with 3 runs to a shutout to make it 6-5 Scorchers then added 4 in the next and final innings managing to hold them to 3 for the tie.

another really tight and tense game followed against the second seeded Falcons where once again we were the away team. This was probably the best all round performance the team put in so far even the blues heart was racing as the Tigers tried in vain to stop the Falcons swooping to victory as the mighty Tigers defence couldn't stop the winning run crossing the plate.

<b>Dales</b>	<b>9-2</b>
<b>Fockers</b>	<b>13-3</b>
<b>Zombies</b>	<b>17-13</b>
<b>Bulldogs</b>	<b>10-13</b>
<b>Rattlesnakes</b>	<b>10-9</b>
<b>Scorchers</b>	<b>9-9</b>
<b>Falcons</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>Oddsox</b>	<b>6-5</b>
<b>Falcons (SF)</b>	<b>13-5</b>
<b>Scorchers (F)</b>	<b>10-17</b>



At this point we looked certain to go out as both the Rattlesnakes and Bulldogs had won against the oddsox leaving us 5<sup>th</sup> out of 6. The Oddsox were our final group game and only a victory could keep our hopes of a semi final alive. After a 1<sup>st</sup> innings where both teams put numbers on the board , Tigers having a 5-4 lead the Defence kicked into the same high gear it had been using all day and stopped the Sox from scoring. Tigers added a single in the next innings before both teams traded shutout innings as the game somewhat fizzled out. After a long wait it was confirmed that Tigers had finished 3<sup>rd</sup> setting up a semi-final against the base hitting Falcons with a chance to avenger the earlier close defeat.

As expected this was another tight affair with both teams defences keeping the score low through the first 3 innings. With Sophie having recorded the locations of the opponents hitting locations in the previous encounter this gave us a slight edge in the field Tigers took a 6-4 lead into the 4<sup>th</sup> inning an exploded with a mighty 7 runs in the 4th with some superb base hitting of our own. The Falcons could only reply with a single run as the Tigers closed out the game to make the Final.

The unbeaten Bracknell Scorchers awaited us in the Final in what was expected to be a hard game. Bracknell hit an impressive 9 runs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> innings where everything seemed to go their way, Balls just short of the fielders gloves, balls taking wicked bounces of the rock hard dirt. Tigers Hit back with 7 of their own to get the game within 4 but the impressive Scorchers followed up with 5 more to take the game beyond reach and the Tigers were unable to claw it back. Brad took an amazing catch as the ball looked destined to clear the fence from a huge hit but ultimately it proved a game to far for the now very tired Tigers who would have to settle for the Runners up trophy.

Overall the Team spirit over the weekend was brilliant with everyone encouraging and supporting each other. Both pitchers pitched really well in the often challenging conditions. Individually in no particular order, Brad put in some fine performances in the outfield hit solid all weekend, Matty lead off with the bat with some great doubles on did some great work on 3. Sandra was excellent in the outfield taking some great catches including 2 in the final.

Emma hit solid all weekend including a fine HR, Holly played 2 excellent games at 2 and did some fine work in the outfield. Dan with his usual power hitting and speed around the bases, Jackie with some great base hitting. James with some impressive batting, Caroline with good hitting and fielding, Mike with some nice outfield work and solid hitting. TK did great work on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and had some nice 3 baggers. Overall I would like to thank the whole team for their amazing efforts over the weekend. Special thanks to Mike Mia for dusting off his Tigers shirt and Sophie for scoring and being head cheerleader all weekend.

Steve

*Male OBP leader was James (762) with Brad (741) close behind and Matty (724) third. Female leader was Emma (615) with Caroline and TK (500) tied in second. Home Run Leaders were Dan and Mike (3 apiece) with James, Matty and Emma claiming 1 each.*

**MVPs were TK and Brad.**



## North West 3



Mikala, Aiden, Tom, Kayleigh, Dave, Evie, Rachael, James  
Holly, Sandra (& Isobel) Steve, Steve

We had a day of two halves at the North West 3 tournament, for the first 4 games we never really put things together. There were some nice moments but for the most part we looked lethargic. The second half was very different; we started to play with some purpose and belief and after an exciting final ended up as Bronze Cup winners.

Swingers	6-1
Bobcats	5-15
Freeze	2-8
Stingers	2-10
Swingers	12-4
GBU	8-3
<b>Stingers (F)</b>	<b>18-13</b>

We started the game with a 3 game round robin. We were efficient defensively against the Swingers but our bats never really got going and it was late in the game when we sealed the win. We made a bright start against a notably strong Bobcats team but they came back strongly and ran out comfortable winners. Last up was a closer game against Freeze, but we again struggled to put runs on the board. Our 1 win meant we finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the group and would play a second 3 game round robin the afternoon, starting a good 5 minutes after the end of the first one.

First up were the Stingers, and we hit rock bottom in this game, they played well but we were really flat. Happily things were about to get better. Next up was a rematch against the Swingers, and we were much better than in the first game against them. We hit the ball hard, ran the bases aggressively and shut them out until the last five minutes of the game. We continued the good work against an enthusiastic GBU side who showed lots of promise but couldn't stop us from grabbing the win.

We then had an hour off before it was confirmed that we'd finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the group and would face a rematch against the Stingers in the Bronze final. The skipper told the team to show them we were a far better team than we'd shown in the first game and we didn't waste any time, put 5 runs on the board in the top of the 1<sup>st</sup>. They didn't let their heads drop however, had a big inning of their own and were 9-8 in the lead after the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Runs dried up on both sides after that though and at the end of 50 minutes we were tied 12 apiece, shutting the Swingers out in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> to take the game into extra innings. The pressure was on and we rose to the challenge, putting 6 runs on the board with some impressive hitting

and determined base running that put the Swingers defence under pressure that they just couldn't cope with. Three more outs later we wrapped up the win, won the cup and rounded the day off with a degree of comfort that hadn't seemed likely a few minutes before.

Male batting leader was James (750) with Dave (667) runner up – small sample warning on that 2<sup>nd</sup> one. Female leader was Rachael (643) with Sandra (588) best of the rest. Home Run leader was James with 4, with Tom also hitting 2 (*both in the final*).

Many thanks to Tom and Kayleigh for guesting for us, Isobel also spent the day with us and was at times perhaps the most energetic member of the team.

**Tournament MVPs were James and Rachael**





## Final 2019 Tournament Batting Leader board

On base (M)	On base %age (F)	Home Runs (M)	Home Runs (F)
Jonny 806	Jackie 590	James 20	Alyssa 2
Matty 735	Sandra 543	Craig 18	Jackie / Sally / 1
Craig 684	TK 541	Dan 13	TK / Emma
		Matty 7	
		Brad 5	
		Steve B 3	
		Jonny 2	

Day	PA	%age	H	R	Days	PA	%age	HR
Steve B	14	145	556	3	Holly	13	132	417
James	12	139	676	20	Emma	11	119	471
Craig	11	117	684	18	TK	11	109	541
Brad	11	109	661	5	Jackie	10	105	590
Dan	9	103	680	13	Sandra	11	105	543
Matty	8	83	735	6	Caroline	9	86	535
Dave	8	59	542		Mikala	6	68	456
Aiden	5	56	554		Alyssa	4	51	471 2
Steve G.	3	42	500		Rachael	3	35	486
Oli	3	38	579		Evie	3	33	212
Jonny	4	36	806	2	Becky	1	12	417
Harry	1	14	571		Janine	1	4	250
					Sally	1	17	765 1



## Single Sex League: Show Us Your Hits

In 2019 the MSL ran a small women's single sex league. The Tigers based SUYH team took part and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 1&2 regular season record followed by victory in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place play off.



Date	V's	Score	MVP	HRs
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Mavericks	L. 4-19	Sophie Addison	
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Camels CBL	W. 16-1	Alyssa	Martine Knight, Jen Falcona
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Pitchslap	L. 8-11	Annie Downes	TK
19 <sup>th</sup> August (PO)	Camels CBL	W. 16-15	Holly	



## End of season awards

### Male

### Female

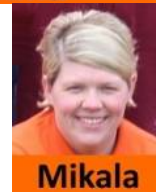
Division 2 batting champion



Division 2 home run champion



Division 4 batting champion



Division 4 home run champion



Tournament batting champion



Tournament home run champion



Division 2 players' player



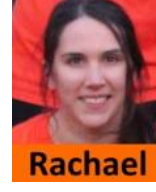
Division 4 players' player



Division 2 captain's player



Division 4 captain's player







## The Tigers in Winter (2018 - 2019)

We had winning seasons both before and after Christmas and won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division title in the 2019 season. We also performed well in the indoor tournaments, ending up in the “gold” section of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ones. Before Christmas we also played a series of friendlies against the Meteors on our “off” weeks (the league only ran every 2<sup>nd</sup> week so we needed something to keep our eye in!). The 2019 league gave us the chance to bring Matt, Craig and Mikala into the team as we started to build towards the summer season.

Before Christmas the women led the way in the Home Run race, TK and Alyssa ending in joint first place with 4 each, closely followed by Dan and Mike (3), Robb got a pair and Sully one. In the New Year Steve was top of the pile with Nine, Alyssa was close behind with 8, followed by Craig (6), Dan (5), TK (4), Matty (3) and Jackie (1).

All the way through the league our strength lay in our team defence, we conceded nearly 70 fewer runs over the season than any other team. Our batting wasn't as strong but the strong defence was enough to give us the league title when tied on points and head to head with Maelstrom.





