



Bases Loaded

Hail to the Chief

SOME consolation for **Mayhem Freeze** who suffered a 16-1 slaughter at the hands of **Mavs II** perhaps was that they got indoors before a freak wintery hailstorm swept across Parrswood. **Phoenix** will also be licking their wounds after **Hackers** inflicted the season's first shut-out, adding 11 runs in the 6th inning to the 8 already scored. The scores were altogether closer in the fierce felines' derby as **Wildcats** pipped the **Moorkats** 13-12, while the not previously winless **Drizzle** (see Correction, page 2) beat **Barflies** for their second, not first, win of the season.

Camels II extended their perfect season with a 20-7 defeat of the **Bats**, who started brightly but tailed off rapidly. One game behind are the **Sharks** and **Storm**, who both scored consistently in their respective games against **Mayhem II** and **Pirates**. They meet this week in Tuesday's Match of

the Day. And **Hurricanes** have yet to register a win as they were soundly beaten by the **Enforcers** to make it 9 wins in 11 meetings.

In considerably better weather on Wednesday, we got our first extra innings of

the season as **Tigers** pipped **Lightning** 8-7. The flashers were up 7-3 after 3, but then got a set of Olym-

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Time for the Alex Hall

THIS Saturday is my favourite softball day of the year. It's Alex Hall. I have spoken with lots of leagues around the country and while some will occasionally do charity days, as far as I can tell, none of them have anything like Alex Hall. It's a wonderfully crazy day of fundraising, fancy dress, food and drink. Although we don't have an official figure of how much we have raised over the years, estimates put it at around £25,000!!!! That is a staggering amount of money and it is to the great credit

of all the organisers over the years. I never met Alex myself but those that knew her tell me she would have been amazed that what started out as a one-off day has become a hugely anticipated date on the calendar. One of the aspects that people seem to enjoy about the day is the chance to play with players you don't normally play with and to play against friends and teammates. Especially when you can be really evil and joker your friend's home runs while they are still celebrating! Enjoy it, everyone.
Dave Dean, League Head

This week's games at a glance

Division 1

DOD @ GRX (5, BMcG)
LIO @ THU (4, IW)
MAV @ MHM (6, MD)
MKT @ OUT (3, DW)

Division 2

LIG @ BUL (2, TLF)
MUT @ CAM (7, AG)
OU2 @ SPE (9, HS)

Division 3

CM2 @ MM2 (7, LA)
ENF @ BAT (8, MG)
HUR @ PIR (6, BA)
STO @ SHA (9, AK)

Division 4

BFL @ WCT (4, AG)
DRZ @ FRZ (3, TS)
MK2 @ HAC (1, AR)
PHX @ COL (2, IC)

Hail to the Chief (from page 1)

pic rings while the striped cats chipped away and eventually scored the go-ahead run in the top of the 8th and held on. The **Bullfrogs** saw off the **Camels** with a consistent display, while **Mutineers** gave **Speeders** a head start, 12-4 after 4 innings, before narrowing the deficit to 2 in the 5th. But **Speeders** pulled ahead again, and made sure in the 7th with a further 7 runs to win 21-12.

The **Lions** could have become the first team in the history of the league to have anything other than a losing record against the **Mavericks** ... if they had won this week. But the Mavs' sense of history prevailed, and after taking a 5-0 lead in the 1st, never looked like losing. **Mayhem** might have been excused for thinking they were going to pick up their first win after scoring 13 in the top of the 1st. But **Dodgers** immediately fought back with nine runs, then consistently outscored Mossley for the rest of the game to win 21-18. **Greensox** beat **Outlaws** by a slaughter score in 7 innings. Ex-Outlaws Kath Mullin and Nathan Gulam rather rubbed it in with 3 and 2 homers respectively. The results leave four teams on identical 3-2 records behind the Sox, and a tricky, albeit temporary, problem to figure out the standings. If you're at all interested, the explanation is on page 9.

Correction

Our match previews last week referred to Drizzle as "winless", when they had in fact won one game, and have now won two. Apologies.

Official notice

Last week it came to the notice of the Exec that Camels II had fielded an illegal batting line-up in their game against the Enforcers. Specifically, having started the game playing one short, with a guest playing "down" batting at #8 and an automatic out at #10, they then found a second guest from a team in a lower division, to fill the missing slot. When the second guest, playing "up" batted at #10, this made the batting line-up illegal, since the guest playing down was no longer batting in the lowest possible place in the line-up. Camels II went on to win the game.

As clarified in Issue 2 of *Bases Loaded*, the Exec reserves the right to investigate any such instances if they are not dealt with at the time by the umpire on the field of play. After collecting evidence from all parties, the investigating committee was satisfied that the rule breach was an "honest mistake" not intended to deliberately flout the guest rules.

Nevertheless, Camels II have broken the guest rule, for which the standard penalty is to forfeit the game. The committee therefore decided to penalise Camels II with a 2-point deduction, suspended to the end of the season. The suspended penalty will be activated only if the guest rules are broken again (not for any other infraction). *The Exec*

Comment: What should they have done?

Opinion is divided, though issue 1 of *Bases Loaded* did suggest that if playing one short, the automatic out should precede the guest in the batting order. This case shows that captains would be well advised to take that precaution, so that if a 10th person turns up late or is found, they can slot into the batting line-up without breaking the guest batting rule.

Transfers

Sarah Cassin Tigers to Wildcats, 19 May
Jo Cole, Mavericks to Mavericks II, 22 May
Stephanie Hallows, Wildcats to Tigers, 19 May
Dave Harper, Storm to Hurricanes, 19 May

Birthdays

Monday John Kaye (Colt 45s), Liz Lyon (Outlaws II)
Tuesday Jocelyne Tong (Mayhem II)
Thursday Emma Carruthers (Thunder), Steve Howard (Mayhem), Graeme Nickson (Sharks), Harry Somers (Hurricanes)
Friday Kazim Muhammad (Tigers)
Sunday Charlotte Lamb (Hackers)

Match reports

Rookies and vets make a good mix

BARFLIES 0 3 5 0 0 0 0 8

DRIZZLE 5 3 5 0 0 4 x 17

Ump: Jeremy Fothergill; Pitch 8

HRs BFL Mike Cooney; **DRZ**

Brad Hadwin 2

BARFLIES Peter Brannan / Chris Radford (SS), Helen Smith (C), Paul Warburton (LC), Hayley-Jane Sims (2B), Chris Smith (P), Jane Mordecai (1B), David Roberts (RC), Deborah McCollum (LF), Mike Cooney (3B), Zofia Kuchta (RF)

DRIZZLE Tom Childs (3B), Rachel Wildgoose (C), Brad Hadwin (SS), Becky Grooby (2B), Andrew Bogie (LF), Heather Blythe (1B), Rob reckless / Alun Jones (RC). Laura Hartley (LC), Tim Roberts (P), *Jo Furlong* (OUT)(RF)

Without being complacent, something the MSL and its

teams can take pride in is providing an environment which allows rookie players to join and develop. On the nursery slopes of Div 4 it's a pleasure to see newbies grow in confidence week by week with the concomitant improvement in performance. Barflies @ Drizzle was a typical example of this. Teams comprising those new to the game with a couple of grizzled veterans produced an entertaining contest. Novice mistakes were offset by good plays. Indeed some outstanding plays: not-so-grizzled vet Brad Hadwin made a stunning full length diving catch at short and Becky Grooby put her body on the line to corral a hard hit ball and force the final out at second. Meanwhile in the outfield Andrew Bogie calmly hauled in a couple of towering fly balls. These plays ensured the precipitants prevailed.

And old and new accelerated their learning curves thanks to Umpire (in chief!) Jeremy Fothergill's rulings on two unusual plays. A batter-runner heading to first must not hit the white half of the base if there is the possibility of a play at that base. They are out if they obstruct the fielder or the defence appeal for a missed base. And when a runner fails to touch home plate but a subsequent runner does, an out results, again on appeal. *Two-out Tim*

MVPs: Sims, Warburton (BFL), Blythe, Bogie (DRZ)

Sefton edge Mossley in wind and rain

SHARKS 4 1 7 2 3 0 1 **18**
MAYHEM II 4 1 4 0 2 0 2 **13**
Ump: Al Green; Pitch 2
HRs **SHA** Stephen Woods 3, Rob Alger; **MM2** Jocelyn Tong, Caroline Jones
SHARKS Phil Longfield (EP), Kate Shearer (EP), Stephen Shearer (SS), Sarah Nickson (RF), Paul

Colton (CF), Mish Ireland (1B), Rob Alger (2B), Sharon Alger (3B), Stephen Woods (CF), Lauren Bicknell (C), Liam Harris (P), Claire Riley (LF)

MAYHEM II Mark Brennan (RC), Jocelyn Tong (RF), Steve beddows (P), Caroline Jones (LC), James Gradwell Spencer (1B), Tanya Mawle (2B), Lewis Le Fevre (SS), Judy Hallam (C), Chris Frost (LF), Becky Jones Moore (3B), *Shawn Khwaja* (MHM)(EP), Tanya Verdernikova (EP)

The game started in glorious sunshine leading all to believe the summer had finally arrived. The first two innings saw both teams going like for like batting with identical scoring. However the Sharks' batting game arrived in style during the 3rd

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The Cup(s)

The draws for the two cup competitions were made last week at the Parrswood pub and Hough End.

As was explained last week, cup teams are composites made up of one team's infield and another team's outfield. The draws were seeded so that Division 1 and 2 teams (plus an All-Star team from Division 3) were paired in the Wednesday Cup, and teams from the two halves of the division were paired in the Division 3 Cup.

In the draws shown here, the first half of the team name indicates the team providing the infield, while the second half provides the outfield. Pitcher counts as an "outfielder" for the split. The infielders are responsible for organizing the team, and contacting their outfield counterparts.

The first two rounds will be played as double headers on June 9th and 10th.

There is no home team: the first-named composite team is responsible for providing balls which can be used for both games, while the second-named team is responsible for providing the bases for the first game. Those bases should be left in place for the second games, and collected afterwards. Second games for each team will be on the same or a neighbouring pitch. Because of a shortage of pitches at USC, two pairs of games on the Wednesday will be at Parrswood.

Division 3 Cup Round 1

- [1] Pirates+Bats v Enforcers+Sharks (3)
- [2] Sharks+Enforcers v Camels-II+Hurricanes (4)
- [3] Storm+Mayhem-II v Bats+CamelsI (6)
- [4] MayhemII+Storm v Hurricanes+Pirates (8)

Round 2 (semi-finals)

- Winner [1] v Winner [2] (3)
- Winner [3] v Winner [4] (6)
- Loser [1] v Loser [2] (4)
- Loser [3] v Loser [4] (8)

Wednesday Cup Round 1

- [1] Mayhem+OutlawsII v All-Stars+Lions (2)
- [2] Thunder+Lightning v Outlaws+Mutineers (3)
- [3] Lions+Bullfrogs v Mutineers+Mayhem (4)
- [4] Dodgers+Camels v Bullfrogs+Thunder (6)
- [5] Tigers+Mavericks v Greensox+All-Stars (5)
- [6] Speeders+Outlaws v OutlawsII+Dodgers (9)
- [7] Meerkats+Tigers v Camels+Greensox (PW6)
- [8] Lightning+Meerkats v Mavs+Speeders (PW7)

Round 2

- Winner [1] v Winner [2] (2)
- Winner [3] v Winner [4] (6)
- Winner [5] v Winner [6] (9)
- Winner [7] v Winner [8] (PW6)
- Loser [1] v Loser [2] (3)
- Loser [3] v Loser [4] (4)
- Loser [5] v Loser [6] (5)
- Loser [7] v Loser [8] (PW7)

Coach's corner—Know your position #4: 3rd base

In the fourth of the series, we look at the role of 3rd base.

Know the play before the pitch. Repeat it to yourself or out loud. Remind yourself after every pitch so when the ball is hit, you know what to do without having to think.

Don't hug the 3rd base line: take a position half-way between the line and where SS is fielding. Don't drop too far back as it's quite a long throw to 1st base.

A lot of the balls hit your way will be hard fast grounders, so be ready to get down, and get your glove on the ground—so many errors are caused by the ball going under the glove.

If there are 2 strikes, move further away from the 3rd base line as batters tend to hit more towards the middle in these circumstances.

If the play is on 1st and the ball is hit to you, you need to make the l-o-n-g throw to 1st. This is something you should practice with 1B in training. Unlike the throw from SS to 1st, you don't have too much time to set yourself.

If the play is on 2nd, throw the ball over the base for the fielder to run onto. Be aware of whether SS or 2B is going to make the out.

If the play is on 3rd, and the ball is hit to you, you have a choice of going (usually) back to the bag, or forward to tag the runner. The one you choose will depend on where you end

up after fielding the ball. And if there is a chance of a double at 2nd, you will almost certainly go for the tag, unless of course you are right on top of the base. Look out for the runner deviating from the base path to avoid your tag: don't go chasing

them, as they are not allowed to run more than an arm's width off the path.

If the bases are loaded, remember that if you take the out at 3rd, the play at home is no longer a force-out. The state of the scores may tell you whether to get the out at 3rd, or throw home first and then expect the return.

A lot of plays at 3B will be tag plays. If the play called is not '3-2' or 'any base' (with 2 outs) then any play at 3B will need a tag. Be particularly aware if there is an unforced runner on

2nd as the play may be called as '1 tag 3' or '1 looking at 3' where the ball will be thrown to you for a tag play.

Field the ball first, even if the play is at 3rd, someone else (e.g. the pitcher) will cover your base.

If the ball is to be thrown to you, get your glove in position (or better still, both hands) so that the fielder can see where to throw to. Behind you may be several spectators (or a base coach) so make yourself obvious. Expect the throw to come at you low, as that is the best way to get a tag on a runner who should be sliding in. If taking a throw from the outfield, hold both hands up showing you are ready for the throw.

Be mindful that whenever there is a runner on your base and the ball is hit in the air, it can be thrown to you after it is caught to try and catch a runner off the base. There will rarely be an audible call as this will alert the runner.

Peter Jones



Single sex league

Attention potential teams or individuals wanting to play. This is another reminder about the Single Sex League team entries.

Anyone who is considering entering a team, or who would like to find a team should contact Ian Caird in the pub on Tuesday, or any of Ian Caird, Danny Gunn or Ann Gledson on Wednesday. The team entry deadline is extended to Wednesday 27th May, also giving potential captains another game night to round up players. Or you can send an email to anngledson@hotmail.com (women's) or Danny_gunn@hotmail.com (men's).

The women's league has four teams confirmed with Jade Shaw not far short of getting a 5th team together. We would prefer an odd number of teams as this means each match-day there is a resting team to help with providing players and pitchers.

The men are a little less far down the line, with so far two confirmed teams, and Thunder and Sefton currently hoping to get teams together.

It is planned that the first round of games will be on Thursday 11th June. Ann Gledson

Blu corner

With one out and runners on 2nd and 3rd, the batter hits a fly ball deep into the outfield. The catch is made and the runners set off. The runner on 3rd (R3) remembers to tag up, but the runner on 2nd (R2) leaves early. Both get home to score. The defence then successfully appeals for the base left early by R2, which is the third out. Does R3's run count?

What if it was the other way round, and it was R3 who left early?

ANSWER

*TLF for this question.
In the case of R2 leaving early, yes R3's run scores if they crossed the plate before the appeal is made. It is a timed play, not a force-out, and the time of the out is taken as the time of the appeal, not the time of the infraction. In the reverse case however, the run does not score: because R3 is given out, the succeeding runner (R2) cannot score, even if they crossed the plate before the out was given. Thanks to*

Nepal relief fund

MSL received a message from former Meerkats Beth Werakso, now living in Nepal, thanking everyone for their support for the Secret Garden Nepal Earthquake relief fund, as mentioned in these pages two weeks ago. You can follow details of the relief work, which intensified after a second quake hit Nepal last week, on their Facebook page www.facebook.com/secretgardennepalearthquakerelief, and of course all donations are still very welcome at <http://>



End-of-season Ball

Here is another reminder about this year's end-of-season ball. It's *the* softball event of the year, especially as it doesn't involve getting cold and wet. This year, there is the additional option of fancy dress: something scary (Harry Somers is thinking of coming as Jimmy Savile).

Date: 31st October

Location: The Midland Hotel

Hallowe'en theme, Fancy Dress optional

Cost of Ticket: £40

£5 discount to anyone who confirms and pays before August 1st.

Preferred method of payment is Bank Transfer.

However cheques and cash will be accepted.

If you would like tickets please email

jugsy44@googlemail.com giving your name, team, number of tickets, payment details and any dietary requirements.

Fantasy softball—Week 5 *by Charles Everitt*

With over a quarter of the season now in the books, week 5 saw the first tie in the head-to-head league as Scruffy's Blue Jays continued to rack up the points, scoring 67 only to be matched blow for blow by Sarah Marks. Andy Gardner's 11 points led the way for Sarah with 9-point contributions from Hacker Andy Shaw, Enforcer Katie Flanagan and Mav II Daniella Camporese. Both Daniella and Katie have been acquired by Sarah from the free-agent market in the last two weeks, very timely pickups indeed. The Jays had another big performance from Ian Mills (9 points), and Mav II starlets Chris Gresty and Nicola Brown who both added 9 points as well. The Jays may count themselves lucky not to have avoided defeat with Sarah having two players who failed to score in week 5.

Head to Head League Table

Jawsome scored 43 but lost by 1 to the Drinkers, the closest defeat

so this season at 1.1%. Jawsome saw Nat Leyland of the Sox and Becca Brannan of the Barflies both sitting for the first time this season. Combined, Becca and Nat had contributed 34½ points to Jawsome through weeks 1 to 4.

Watt's, continuing their consistency, scored 47 in victory over the Isotopes, and with the relative luck of not having played a team who has scored more than 40 points, won for the 5th week in a row and sit atop the table, two points clear of the Jays. Podnahs' 36-19 victory over Late Winner sees them sitting in 3rd on 12 points.

4th to 7th are separated only by points difference with the Drinkers and Jawsome holding a commanding lead in this department over Captain Brody's Bunch and

Joey's Giants.

Week 6 Fixtures

Week 6 sees another top-of-the-table clash as undefeated Watt's Up take on 3rd place Podnahs.

THIS WEEK'S RESULTS

The Rays	70–36	Chris Newham
Scruffy's Blue Jays	67–67	Sarah Marks
Jawsome	43–44	Designated Drinkers
Rob Reckless	29–39	Captain Brody's Bunch
Shark's All Stars	28–35	Joey's Giants
Isotopes	28–47	Watt's Up
Late Winner	19–36	Podnahs

In the middle of the table Isotopes take on Joey's Giants, the Giants looking to cement their position in the top half and steal a step on the other managers hoping to grab 4th place and a bye week in the playoff.

The Rays v Rob Reckless
 Scruffy's Blue Jays v Chris Newham
 Jawsome v Sarah Marks
 Shark's AS v Capt. Brody's Bunch
 Isotopes v Joey's Giants
 Podnahs v Watt's Up
 Late Winner v Designated Drinkers

Cumulative League

With those two scores of 67 Fantasy managers set a new record for highest number of points in a week. 654 Fantasy points were scored at an average of 41, blitzing the previous high set way back in week 1 when Fantasy managers averaged 38.

The Rays, who can probably claim to be the most inconsistent Fantasy team, top-scored in week 5 with 70 points, the Rays' Hackers boys Corner and Johansson adding 19 with their Thunder girls Elmaazi and Carruthers adding 18.

As a result of the 70 scored by

HEAD-TO-HEAD LEAGUE TABLE

Pos	Move	Team	P	W	T	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1	↑ 1	Watt's Up	5	5	0	0	212	137	+75	15
2	↓ 1	Scruffy's Blue Jays	5	4	1	0	281	198½	+82½	13
3	↑ 1	Podnahs	5	4	0	1	145	106	+39	12
4	↑ 1	Designated Drinkers	5	3	0	2	285	234	+51	9
5	↓ 2	Jawsome	5	3	0	2	220	199	+21	9
6	↑ 2	Captain Brody's Bunch	5	3	0	2	174	187	-13	9
7	↑ 2	Joey's Giants	5	3	0	2	181½	207½	-26	9
8	↓ 1	Sarah Marks	5	2	1	2	215½	211½	+4	7
9	↓ 3	Isotopes	5	2	0	3	126½	136	-9½	6
10	↑ 3	The Rays	5	2	0	3	221	241	-20	6
11	↓ 1	Shark's All Stars	5	1	0	4	136½	158	-21½	3
12	–	Rob Reckless	5	1	0	4	109	155	-46	3
13	↓ 2	Late Winner	5	1	0	4	138½	190½	-52	3
14	–	Chris Newham	5	0	0	5	140	224½	-84½	0

the Rays, they climb two positions to 3rd in the Accumulation League. The Drinkers who posted a score of 44 in week 5, cling to a slender lead of 3 points over the Jays at the top of the table. The Jays hold a 61-point lead over The Rays in 3rd so it looks like it's best of the rest for everyone else. 3rd to 6th are separated by only 6½ points so the middle of the table is still tightly packed.

At the foot of the table Ace of Jades and Lily's Legends swapped places for the third week running. Ace of Jades now sit only ½ point behind the Isotopes in 13th.

The Cup Competition

Advanced warning that the cup competition being played in weeks 8 and 11 of the season will see two midseason breaks from Fantasy Softball. During those two weeks, Fantasy managers will be allowed to make two

DREAM TEAM AFTER WEEK 5

Ian Mills (Hackers, Div 4)	38
Andy Gardner (Mavs II, Div 4)	38
Jan Bradley (Mavs II, Div 4)	36
Joanna Gardiner (Mavs II, Div 4)	35
Richard Sarver (Storm, Div 3)	35
Danny Gunn (Greensox, Div 1)	34
Jon Taylor or Gavin Whitaker (Storm, Div 3)	33
2 of Amy Calladine, Kay Carter, Suzi Wolfram (Hackers, Div 4)	32
2 of Vicky Green, Linda March (Greensox) or Areej Elmaazi (Thunder, Div 1)	31
Adam Faloona (Bullfrogs, Div 2)	23

trades and two cuts and pickups in this period. I will be sending round the usual information after the close of week 7 (4th June) and managers will have until 11.59pm Sunday on 14th June to submit any changes for them to be included in week 9.

Star players

Ian Mills has let one hand slip off the Fantasy Softball MVP Trophy and is joined by Andy Gardner of

Mavericks II, both having scored 38 points through 5 weeks. We wait with baited breath for June 16th when Hackers take on the Junior Mavs for the first time in the league.

Ian and Andy are closely followed by three other Mav II J Bradley 36, J Gardiner and P Waters 35. D Gunn, Sox, leads the charge from Division 1 on 34 points. In Division 2 A Faloona, Bullfrogs, leads his division on 29 whilst R Sarver, Storm, leads all those in Division 3 on 33 points.

Match reports (Continued from page 3)

inning as they scored 7 and kept Mayhem down to just 4. Moving into the 4th inning the normal Manchester weather arrived with golfball-sized hail stones and driving rain. The umpire almost called for a time delay but then the clouds parted and we carried on through. Following this the scores levelled out as both teams defences came out on top for the last three innings only yielding a total of 9 runs.

Highlights have to be the impressive form of rookie outfielder Stephen Woods who smashed 3 home runs from 4 plate appearances taking his season's tally to 6 and clearly deserving of his second MVP of the season. With his speed in the outfield and his partnership with the ever reliable commanding presence of Paul Colton as his centre field partner this is proving a strong foundation for the team to carry on this winning streak at present.

Our female MVP for the game went to another rookie in Mish Ireland: with 5 put outs on 1st base she showed some excellent glove work in the testing conditions. This must have been a close-run affair with our right fielder Sarah Nickson who, barring a fielder's choice, would have taken her personal run of 1.000 OBPs to a fourth game in succession. Sarah is proving why she bats up the order with a season high of .872 OBP which puts her in second place in the team season stats to date.

From the Sharks website
MVPs: Ireland, Woods (SHA), Tong Beddows (MM2)

ACCUMULATION LEAGUE TABLE

Pos	Chg	Team	This Wk	Tot Pts
1	–	Designated Drinkers	44	285
2	–	Scruffy's Blue Jays	67	282
3	↑2	The Rays	70	221
4	↓1	Jawsome	43	220
5	↓1	Watt's Up	47	218
6	–	Sarah Marks	67	215½
7	–	Joey's Giants	35	181½
8	–	Captain Brody's Bunch	39	174
9	↑2	Podnabs	36	149
10	↑2	Chris Newham	36	140
11	↓2	Late Winner	19	138½
12	↓2	Shark's All Stars	28	137
13	–	Isotopes	28	126½
14	↑1	Ace of Jades	34	126
15	↓1	Lily's Legends	26	121½
16	–	Rob Reckless	29	109

Preview: This week's games

Division 1

Dodgers at Greensox (5, BMcG) *Last meeting 6 August 2014, Greensox won 20-18 and lead 37-11.* This will be

the 49th playing of the league's 3rd most-played fixture. The Greensox have dominated in recent years, winning the last 16 meetings, since the Dodgers' last win on opening day in 2009.

Lions at Thunder (4, IW) *Last meeting 6 August 2014, Lions won 18-13, and lead 9½-3½.*



By the vagueries of multiple head-to-heads, Thunder have risen to 2nd place after their slaughter of Mayhem last week, while Lions were losing to the Mavs. But Lions haven't lost consecutive games since May 2013 when defeat by the Outlaws was followed by a loss to Greensox. This match-up should be a good indicator of the two teams' potential to challenge the champions, who have already beaten both this season.

Mavericks at Mayhem (6, MD) *Last meeting 20 August 2014, Mavs won 15-1, to make it 3 out of 3.*

Meerkats at Outlaws (3, DW) *First ever meeting.*

Division 2

Lightning at Bullfrogs (2, TLF) *Last meeting 14 August 2013 (POD), Lightning won 15-11 and lead 4-2.*

Mutineers at Camels (7, AG) *Last meeting 6 August 2014, Mutineers won 12-10, but trail 7-9 overall*

Outlaws II at Speeders (9, HS) *Last meeting 20 August 2014, Outlaws won 10-3, extending their all-time lead to 7½-3½.*

Division 3

Camels II at Mayhem II (7, LA) *Last meeting 12 August 2014, Camel won 16-15 to take a 3½-2½ lead.*

Enforcers at Bats (8, MG) *First ever meeting.*

Hurricanes at Pirates (6, BA) *Last meeting 6 August 2013, Hurricanes won 21-5 (6 inns), their 5th win in 5 meetings.*

Having battled the Storm last week, Pirates get more weather as they renew their so-far winless battle with the Canes. Current form suggests that may soon change.

Storm at Sharks (9, AK) *First ever meeting.* And what an exciting prospect it is: both teams are hot on the heels of Camels II, with one loss each. Expect a high-scoring game from two teams that have so far scored 195 runs between them.

Division 4

Barflies at Wildcats (4, AG) *Last meeting 2 July 2013, Wildcats won 20-9 (4 ½ inns, timed game) to make it 2 wins in 2.*

Drizzle at Freeze (3, TS) *First ever meeting* between the only MSL teams with a 'Z' (or two) in their name.

Moorkats at Hackers (1, AR) *First ever meeting.*

Phoenix at Colt 45s (2, IC) *Last meeting 29 July 2014, Phoenix won 17-16, their third win in 3 in 4.*

Last week's MVPs

Barflies Hayley Jane Sims, Paul Warburton

Bats Beryl Jones, Jerry Seabridge

Bullfrogs Emma Bennett, Adam Faloona

Camels Fliss Fagan, Nam Tran

Camels II Lynne Howells, Dave Dean

Dodgers Ali Marrs, Tyler Lappage

Drizzle Heather Blythe, Andrew Bogie

Enforcers Katie Flanagan, Brad Flanagan

Freeze Martine Knight, Ollie Geener

Greensox Linda March, Nathan Gulam

Hackers Ella Mills, Daniel Johansson

Hurricanes Jodie Mundy, Gio Santoro

Lightning Alexa Martinez, Tom Munro

Lions Jade Shaw, Adam Roberts

Mavericks Jan Bradley (MV2), Wendell Jones

Mavs II Isla Gemmel, Lubo Durisin

Mayhem Lucy Shettock, Steven Shearer (SHA)

Mayhem II Steven Beddows, Jocelyn Tong

Meerkats Mike Lott, Ann Gledson

Moorkats Siobhan O'Sh, Dan Strosneider

Mutineers Natasha Mioth, Gary Moors

Outlaws Nancy Bennett, Pete Buckley

Phoenix Natasha Hopkins, Ben Hughes

Pirates Natalie Robinson, Shane Coyles

Sharks Mish Ireland, Stephen Woods

Speeders Kate Barlow, Pete O'Hare

Storm Charlotte Green, Adam Barratt

Thunder Sian Payne, Tom Russell

Tigers Emma Miller, Sam Taylor

Wildcats Helen Cooke, Michael Miah

As usual, all names are reproduced exactly as they appear on the scoresheets



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Home runs

Division 1 Female

3 - Kath Mullins (GRX, *pictured*)

2 - Nancy Bennett (OUT), Ellie Buckley (OUT), Areej Elmaazi (THU, 1GS)

1 - Andrea Dee (MAV), Natalie Leyland (GRX), Linni Mitchell (MHM, GS),

Vic O'Farrell (GRX), Sian Payne (THU), Jade Shaw (LIO)



Division 1 Male

3 - Nathan Gulam (GRX), Danny Gunn (GRX), Paul Kidley (GRX)

2 - Luis Arrevillagas (THU), Charles Everitt (LIO), Shane Stark (GRX)

1 - Melvin Beltre (DOD), Pete Buckley (OUT), Dave Collins (OUT), Elieser Dorronsoro (MAV), Anthony Garcia (MHM), Benkei Johnson (THU), Tyler Lappage (DOD), Dave Leverton (THU), Andi Marshall (MHM), Gordon Milson (LIO), Pete Nightingale (MAV), Andy Rawson (GRX), Mark Sanders (GRX), Ed Watkinson (LIO)

Division 2 Female

1 - Kate Barlow (SPE), Jacquelyn Choudhury (OU2), Liz Lyon (OU2), Becci Wadeson (LIG)

Division 2 Male

7 - Tom Atkinson (CAM, 1GS)

6 - Adam Faloona (BUL)

3 - Mike Gaskell (TIG), Gary Moors (MUT), Chris Thompson (OU2)

2 - Jo Grantham (MUT), Ali Halls-worth (MUT), Duncan Jones (MUT), Steve Kellett (BUL), Chris Lennon (SPE, 1GS), Nick Money (SPE), Zac Rayson (SPE), Jonny Reuben (BUL)

1 - Steve Bennett (LIG), Ed Covington (TIG), Jeremy Fothergill (BUL), Richard Goar (OU2), Mark Humphreys (CAM)

Division 3 Female

2 - Sue O'Brien (PIR)

1 - Lynne Howells (CM2), Caroline Jones (MM2), Natalie Robinson (PIR), Jocelyn Tong (MM2)

Division 3 Male

8 - Ross Birch (STO)

6 - Richard Sarver (STO)

4 - Liam Harris (SHA), Gavin Whitaker (STO), Stephen Woods (SHA)

3 - David Dean (CM2), Dave Griffiths (HUR), James Ridgway (ENF), John Taylor (STO)

2 - Alan Davis (CM2), Brad Flanagan (ENF), Phil Longfield (SHA), Graeme Nickson (SHA), Stephen Shearer (SHA), Ian Williams (PIR)

1 - Rob Alger (SHA), Adam Barratt (STO), Nathan Barratt (STO), Mark Brennan (MM2), Paul Colton (SHA), Simon Grainger (ENF), Dave Harper (HUR), Julian Jones (CM2), Lewis Le Fevre (MM2), Carl McCarthy (HUR), Giovanni Santoro (HUR), Gareth Young (BAT)

Division 4 Female

2 - Michelle Fisher (PHX)

1 - Jan Bradley (MV2), Natasha Hopkins (PHX), Martine Knight (FRZ), Lisa Weaver (MK2)

Division 4 Male

6 - Phil Cosgrove (COL), Ian Mills (HAC, 1GS)

5 - Aleck Aspinall (MK2, 1GS), Darren Corner (HAC), Dan Strosnider (MK2)

4 - Brad Hadwin (DRZ)

3 - Sam Gardiner (MV2), Andy Gardner (MV2)

2 - Chris Gresty (MV2), Tony La Fave (WCT), Michael Miah (WCT), Ian Yates (PHX)

1 - Mike Cooney (BFL), Lubo Durisin (MV2), Mike Humphries (MK2), Daniel Johansson (HAC), Lee McCarthy (COL), Ian Radford (HAC), Simon Ronksley (PHX), Peter Rushton (HAC), Paul Warburton (BFL), Peter Wilkinson (FRZ)

(Continued from page 10)

Division 4

BARFLIES 0 3 5 0 0 0 8
DRIZZLE 5 3 5 0 0 4 x 17

Ump: Jeremy Fothergill; Pitch 8

HRs BFL Mike Cooney
DRZ Brad Hadwin 2

HACKERS 0 2 0 4 2 11 19
PHOENIX 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Ump: Pete Nightingale; Pitch 9; RAR

HRs HAC Peter Rushton, Darren Corner

FREEZE 0 1 0 0 0 1
MAVERICKS II 7 5 3 1 x 16

Ump: Mike Goff; Pitch 8; RAR

HRs MV2 Lubo Durisin, Sam Gardiner, Andrew Gardner 2

WILDCATS 0 0 0 7 0 6 0 13
MOORKATS 2 0 3 5 0 0 2 12

Ump: Ange Killion; Pitch 7

HRs WCT Michael Miah
MK2 Dan Strosnider

Statto's corner

IN Divisions 1 and 3 there are four and three teams tied on the same records and so ordered "on head-to-heads". For those who are interested, this is how the calculation works.

In Division 1, looking at the games played so far between Lions, Thunder, Dodgers and Mavs, Thunder have played only one game in which they beat the Dodgers. So unbeaten in the mini-league, they are top. The next three have all beaten each other in a vicious circle: Mavs beat Lions 11-7, Lions beat Dodgers 7-4, Dodgers beat Mavs 12-8. If we look at the aggregate scores in these three games, we get Dodgers +1, Mavs 0, Lions -1. So that determines the order on the next page.

In Division 3 it is simpler: Enforcers have beaten Pirates, and Pirates have beaten Mayhem II.

And that's how we do it!

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Results and standings

Week 5 - 19/20 May

Division 1

GREENSOX 7 1 1 0 5 3 6 23
OUTLAWS 0 1 0 2 2 3 0 8

Ump: Tony La Fave; Pitch 4
 HRs **GRX** Shane Stark, Kat Mullins 3, Nathan Gulam 2; **OUT** Pete Buckley, Nancy Bennett, Dave Collins

MAVERICKS 5 1 0 3 1 1 0 11
LIONS 0 1 0 4 1 0 1 7

Ump: Alan Green; Pitch 3

MAYHEM 13 0 2 2 0 0 1 18
DODGERS 9 3 3 0 3 3 x 21

Ump: Brendan MacGubhann; Pitch 2

THUNDER 14 4 3 2 23
MEERKATS 0 0 0 1 1

Ump: Ian Williams; Pitch 7
 HRs **THU** Luis Arrevillagas, Benkei Johnson

Division 2

CAMELS 0 1 2 1 2 1 1 8
BULLFROGS 4 4 0 3 2 1 x 14

Ump: Mike Davies; Pitch 9
 HRs **CAM** Tom Atkinson
BUL Adam Faloon

SPEEDERS 1 7 2 2 0 2 7 21
MUTINEERS 3 0 0 1 6 0 2 12

Ump: Harry Somers; Pitch 6
 HRs **MUT** Gary Moors, Joe Grantham 2

TIGERS 0 3 0 2 0 1 1 1 8
LIGHTNING 2 1 4 0 0 0 0 7

Ump: David Dean; Pitch 5

Division 3

BATS 3 2 0 1 0 0 1 7
CAMELS II 3 1 4 2 3 7 x 20

Ump: Ian Caird; Pitch 6
 HRs **CM2** Dave Dean, Lynne Howells

HURRICANES 0 0 0 1 5 0 6
ENFORCERS 2 4 3 1 7 4 21

Ump: Charles Everitt; Pitch 4; RAR
 HRs **HUR** Dave Harper; **ENF** Beth Herbert (OU2, GS), Simon Grainger, James Ridgeway

PIRATES 2 3 0 1 0 4 0 10
STORM 4 5 5 4 0 3 x 21

Ump: Adam Roberts; Pitch 3
 HRs **PIR** Natalie Robinson, Jonny Huck (MKT); **STO** Ross Birch 2, Richard Sarver

SHARKS 4 1 7 2 3 0 1 18
MAYHEM II 4 1 4 0 2 0 2 13

Ump: Al Green; Pitch 2
 HRs **SHA** Stephen Woods 3, Rob Alger
MM2 Jocelyn Tong, Caroline Jones

	P	W	T	L	F	RS	RC	Pct	GB
Division 1									
▶ Greensox	5	5	0	0	0	109	53	1.000	-
▲ Thunder	5	3	0	2	0	75	43	.600	2
▶ Dodgers	5	3	0	2	0	52	52	.600	2
▲ Mavericks	5	3	0	2	0	65	53	.600	2
▼ Lions	5	3	0	2	0	42	34	.600	2
▶ Outlaws	5	2	0	3	0	53	58	.400	3
▶ Meerkats	5	1	0	4	0	37	99	.200	4
▶ Mayhem	5	0	0	5	0	42	83	.000	5
Positions 2-5 based on head-to-heads									
Division 2									
▲ Bullfrogs	5	4	0	1	0	96	64	.800	-
▲ Speeders	4	3	0	1	0	76	66	.750	½
▼ Mutineers	4	3	0	1	0	60	41	.750	½
▼ Camels	4	2	0	2	0	59	67	.500	1½
▶ Lightning	4	1	0	3	0	35	46	.250	2½
▶ Outlaws II	4	1	0	3	0	56	65	.250	2½
▶ Tigers	5	1	0	4	0	51	84	.200	3
Speeders above Mutineers on head-to-head									
Division 3									
▶ Camels II	5	5	0	0	0	81	58	1.000	-
▶ Storm	5	4	0	1	0	107	47	.800	1
▶ Sharks	5	4	0	1	0	88	64	.800	1
▲ Enforcers	5	2	0	3	0	78	83	.400	3
▼ Pirates	5	2	0	3	0	71	70	.400	3
▼ Mayhem II	5	2	0	3	0	76	80	.400	3
▶ Bats	5	1	0	3	1	36	87	.200	4½
▶ Hurricanes	5	0	0	5	0	48	96	.000	5
Enforcers, Pirates and Mayhem II ordered on head-to-heads									
Division 4									
▶ Mavericks	5	5	0	0	0	112	41	1.000	-
▶ Hackers	4	4	0	0	0	89	31	1.000	½
▶ Moorkats	4	3	0	1	0	82	45	.750	1½
▶ Phoenix	4	2	0	2	0	42	48	.500	2½
▶ Colt 45s	4	2	0	2	0	66	53	.500	2½
▶ Wildcats	4	2	0	2	0	51	66	.500	2½
▶ Drizzle	5	2	0	3	0	68	98	.400	3
▶ Freeze	5	0	0	5	0	21	113	.000	5
▶ Barflies	5	0	0	5	0	80	116	.000	5