

BASES LOADED



MANCHESTER SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Volume 29 Issue 6 30-31 May 2023 Number 498



This week's games

TUESDAY

Division 3

Screwballs 5W @ Thunder III 1W
(pitch 3, ump Arrevillagas)

Sluggababes 2W @ Bandidos 5W
(1, P Fagan)

Stingers 2W @ Seagulls 1W (6,
Warren)

Interdivisional

Tiggers 2L @ Barflies 1L (4, F Fagan)

Division 4

Enforcers 2L @ Swingers 1L (7,
Hung)

Raiders 6L @ Thunder IV 5L (2,
Hugill)

WEDNESDAY

Division 1

Mayhem 1L @ Meerkats 1L (C,
Strayer)

Sharks 2L @ Greensox 4L (A, Somers)

Speeders 4L @ Camels 1W (D,
Goff)

Thunder 9W @ Mavericks 7W (B,
Green)

Travelling Dodgers rest

Division 2

Bats 1W @ Dodgers 4W (E, P
Fagan)

Camels II 1L @ Tigers 1W (H,
Creelman)

Hackers 6L @ Freeze 6L (F, Davies)

Titans 1W @ Thunder II 1L (G)
Mavericks II rest

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Injury darkens bright day

May brought itself to a close with two beautifully sunny evenings and plenty more runs, though one game was abandoned due to a serious injury.

Greensox and **Mavericks** met for the 73rd edition of the league's most played fixture, and Mavs extended their series lead to 37½-35½ with a 13-9 win in which they were always in control. **Thunder** remain half a game back, maintaining their perfect record with a 17-9 defeat of newly promoted **Meerkats**. The 'kats took a 5-4 lead in the 1st, but were thereafter restricted

to just four more runs.

Travelling Dodgers move up to 3rd with a forfeit following the serious injury to **Speeders'** Duncan Jones (see report on page 3). The division's fourth game was the closest of the evening:

Sharks took an early lead but **Camels** quickly responded, to leave it tied at 8-8 after two. Over the next two innings the sea-dogs bit again and led 15-9. Cue the Camels comeback. Tight defence allowed only one run in the final three innings, while eight runs were scored to secure a 17-16 win.

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Registering a transfer

A failure to correctly register a transfer briefly caused an Exec huddle last week as a captain informed the league of a transfer four and a half hours too late.

The correct procedure for registering a transfer, as stated in the Captains'

Handbook, is as follows:

Players wishing to change teams ("transfer") during the season may do so as long as the League Secretary is notified by 6.30 pm on the day on which the player wishes to play for

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Contributions should be sent to review@manchester-softball.co.uk.

Birthdays

Week beginning May 29th

Tuesday Caroline Drake (Tigers)

Wednesday Raphael Andrews (Tiggers), Alyssa Jones (Meerkats), Dave Warren (Mayhem)

Thursday Michael Elsy (Mayhem)

Friday Zoe Conway (Titans)

Sunday Amber Frost (Bats), Rebekka Platt (Swingers), Kellie Whitaker (Thunder)

Serious injury disrupts Speeders game

A serious injury to Speeders short stop Duncan Jones led to the abandonment and forfeit of their game against Travelling Dodgers last week.

Speeders started the game one short in any case. In the 3rd inning, Jones suffered an injury. He struggled through the 4th but could not continue after that. So Speeders had to forfeit due to lack of players.

A trip to A&E revealed a broken fibula, so it is hardly surprising that he could not continue to play.

On this day ...

31st May 1995 saw the second ever edition of the *Review*, and the first to go out under that name. In a first ever match report for the Mavericks-Funsters game, Jerry

Seabridge reported that "Steve Kellet's batting and fielding has improved to the point where he must be rated as one of the top players in the league." It's a long way down, Steve!



The issue of 31st May 2000 had match reports for eight of the 11 games played, in several cases written by both sides. Those were the days.

Fast forward to 2017, and Volume 23 issue 5 reported how the previous games had all been preceded by a minute's silence for victims of the terrorist attack at the

Manchester Arena (photo, above). In league play, Camels II and Speeders had a tight game in Division 2, including a mad 5th inning where both teams scored ten runs, final score 24-23. In Division 1, newly promoted Meerkats were finding life tough, with a fifth loss in five, this time 22-7 to Mavericks.

League rules state that if a team has less than nine players available, the game is forfeited and a score of 20-0 is recorded unless the deficit is more than 20 at the time of forfeit, but Speeders still get the point for fielding a

team (albeit one short even from the start), and Chris Lennon's home run still counts towards the trophy.

We wish Duncan a speedy recovery.

Match reports

Speeders put up good fight until injury halts game

SPEEDERS (5 1 1 0 7) 0
TR DODGERS (10 1 4 0 15) 20

Pitch H, Umpire Jonny Creelman;
 Game forfeited: insufficient players

SPEEDERS Chris Lennon (2B), Emma Bennett (LF), Adam Fa-loona (CL), Christine Hunter (1B), Duncan Jones (SS), Liz Liyon (RF), Warren Osbourne (CR), Carolyn Barratt (C), Jeremy Fothergill (P), auto out
 HR Lennon

TRAVELLING DODGERS Sam Steele (LF), Rach Shkurko (CR), Luke Martins (SS), Nat Leyland (CL), Jonny Huck (RF), Katie Jessop (1B), George Swann (3B), Miranda Currie (C), Matthew Bell (P), Jessie Abbott (2B)

The Speeders have not been looking forward to our season in Division 1, and it will just be the one, but so far we have managed to put up reasonable performances. The last game, short as it was, highlights this. Mid-afternoon Wednesday I had a team of ten, which suddenly became eight. Fortunately, two of our girls managed to make themselves available, so back to ten. Just before the game it was back to nine due to last-minute car problems. So we started a game, that on paper we would probably lose to a “mercy”, with an automatic out. With maybe a brave, or wild, plan we left 3rd base empty and kept a full outfield.

As home team we opened up the batting and on this occasion it did not let us down. The first inning finished 5-10 to the TDs. Leaving 3rd open seemed to be working although it did make base running slightly easier for the opposition. The 2nd inning was much tighter with both teams only scoring a run apiece. The 3rd was also close with a run to us and four to the TDs. But it was the 3rd inning that was also our eventual downfall. Duncan Jones had made a daring run from 1st to 3rd, finishing with a slide. Dry ground caused him to turn his ankle and he hobbled off, replaced by a runner. Inning 4 started and a combination of the auto out and unfortunate batting resulted in no runs for us. In a bit of pain Duncan took over pitching duties in the hope he could battle through the pain. Perhaps due to the change of pitching, or our good fielding returning, we held the TDs to zero runs. At this point Duncan was still in considerable pain so rather than take a risk we had to forfeit the game due to lack of players. So after 4 innings, with the score at a very respectful 7-15 (not reflected in the results) we withdrew.

It turns out in the end this

was the correct thing to do. Still in considerable pain, a trip to A&E revealed that Duncan had broken his fibula (a clean break and not just a fracture). So sadly we did not find out if we could have taken the TDs to 7 innings but everyone contributed to a great team display.

Duncan expressed his frustration for choosing to wear “soft ground studs when it was so hard. Especially since I had them with me. Silly mistake with big consequences.”

Jeremy Fothergill
 (additional reporting by
 Bases Loaded)

MVPs Hunter, Jones (SPE),
 Leyland, Steele (TDS)

Screwballs spot Barflies 9, respond in kind

BARFLIES 9 0 1 2 3 15
SCREWBALLS 5 1 5 15 4 30

RAR, Pitch 2, Umpire Adam Hugill

BARFLIES Aleck Aspinall (CL), Laura Howarth (C), Chris Radford (3B), Jade Shaw (LF), Chris Smith (P), Daisy Lord (RF), Ebby Hassan (SS), Mandy Ashton (SS), Mike Cooney (CR), Hayley-Jane Sims (2B)

HR Aspinall

SCREWBALLS Emma Swarsbrick (3B), Zac Morris (1B), Rachel Loggenberg (C), Dan Strayer (CL), Nicola McKenna (LF), Milan Nechvátal (SS), Hannay Tillyard (2B), John Reeves (P) (sub AJ Hoysted), Carola Guevara (RF), Isaac Howard (CR)
 HRs Nechvátal, Strayer

So what is the number of



the day from the Screwballs' 30-15 comeback win over the Barflies in MSL interdivisional Play Tuesday at Parrs Wood?

Is it 5? Namely, five wins in five tries for the Pink and Blue Wrecking Crew, now including a key victory against the top side in Division 4?

Perhaps 9, as in the impressive number of runs Barflies hung on the scoreboard in the top of the 1st inning. Nine runs, to be sure, that caused a sizeable early hole the Screwballs needed to dig out of.

Or is it a multiple of 5? Specifically 15, the number of runs that the Screwballs pushed across in the bottom of the 4th to take the lead for good.

Whatever number you choose, 5 is hard to beat. That's how many innings it took to cram so much compelling softball in.

The visiting Barflies (3-2) were flying high coming into Tuesday thanks to a 48-run output the previous week, and the hits kept on coming to start the night. It was an inning spearheaded by a long opposite field homer by Aleck Aspinall, one of several two-out run-scoring tallies. Aspinall now has six homers in 2023 to lead the Maroon Platoon and rank among the best in both Divisions 3 and 4.

Despite this, the Screwballs (5-0) got back on their

front foot with five runs of their own in the home half of the 1st. Consequently, a seesaw battle ensued through the early innings as eventual Screwball LBH MVP Dan Strayer took over pitching duties for the Pink and Blue. Screwballs pulled to within 9-6 through two innings, and took the lead 11-10 after three. But the Maroon Platoon remained game, reeling off a two-spot to regain the lead by a single run in the 4th. Backed by truly superb relay throws and a pair of magnificent performances from SBH MVP Mandy Ashton at 1st and LBH MVP Chris Radford, the Barflies seemed destined to be neck and neck with the Pink and Blue to the finish. Yet the Screwballs tallied 19 of the final 22 runs, including a decisive 15-run 4th inning that gave them the lead for good, and the final four runs in the 5th that made the run-ahead rule victory official. Screwballs shortstop Milan Nechvátal's early season power surge continues, as he belted his fourth homer of the season. Strayer accounted for his third homer of 2023 in the 4th inning, one of his four hits that accounted for 8 RBIs. 3rd base Emma Swarsbrick had a career day, tallying five hits and driving in six runs for the Pink and Blue from the leadoff spot. Rookie small-ball MVP Nicola McKenna barely missed out on her first homer of the season

amidst a four-hit day of her own, as each Screwball batter tallied multiple hits as part of a 42-hit day. Zak Morris garnered five hits and drove in three runs, whilst hard hitting Isaac Howard banged out five hits of his own. Carola Guevara García, Rachel Loggenberg, Hannah Tillyard and AJ Hoysted all drove in two runs apiece.

NEXT UP: The Barflies supply the bases and plates Tuesday in another interdivisional square-dance against Tiggers at Pitch 4 at the Parrs Wood High School complex. The Barflies remain top of Division IV, and have just three more contests against Division 3 competition this season. Meanwhile, the visiting Screwballs try to keep pace with undefeated Bandidos at the top of Division 3 with a divisional matchup against Thunder III at Pitch 3. Three games separate these teams in Division 3, as Thunder III sit at 2-3 despite having a run differential of +16 and the closest contest to date against Bandidos. *Dan Strayer*

Turning the screw

Match reports following defeats are far shorter than those after a win, so you can thank the Screwballs for not having to make your way through a maroon-coloured essay after tonight's game!

Spirits were high in the
⇒ *Continued on page 6*

maroon warriors' camp after a couple of good results, and the mood remained upbeat after a nine-run 1st inning. Unfortunately things then went down from there, and sharply.

After a strong opening salvo, we couldn't get our bats going with any consistency. In contrast, the Screwballs found gap after gap (after gap!) and put in a strong hitting performance from the top of the order to the bottom. A 15-run 4th inning put the game to bed.

Positives for the 'Flies were a couple of nice relay plays from the outfield into 3rd and home to tag out two Baller runners, some nice hits from Daisy Lord who improves game on game, another strong pitching performance from Chris Smith and another HR from Aleck Aspinall. Mandy Ashton made some great plays yet again at 1B with her glove (and both legs—hope the bruises were worth it!) and rightly took home the SBH MVP.

The Screwballs showed why they've got a 100% record tonight—and we showed why we don't! Well done Screwballs—a thoroughly deserved win.

As the great philosopher Steven Gerrard once said, we go again.

Chris Radford

MVPs Ashton, Radford (BFL), McKenna, Strayer (SCR)

Bandidos win walk-fest... eventually

RAIDERS	3	0	6	2	1	0	12
BANDIDOS	3	1	1	5	1	2	27

RAR, Pitch 3, Umpire Arthur Hung

RAIDERS Mark Crannage (CR), Nat Wood (1B), Mike Spiers (CL), Kerry Brown (LF), Luke Crannage (SS), Mel Kittles (3B), Alex Wall (2B), Amy Jerdin (RF), Jon Pearson (C), Claire Simcox (P)

HRs L Crannage, Pearson, M Crannage (GS)

BANDIDOS Adam Morrison (CR), Jane Langford (1B), Jason Kneen (SS), Carol Ann Costello (3B), Liam Morrison (2B), Helen Parr (CL), Jacob Arnison (LF), Rachael Moss (RF), Nacho Sánchez (P), Kate Davidson (C), Harry Somers (EP), Donna Brierley (EP)
HR L Morrison

You've heard of walking football, and perhaps even walking cricket? Well this was walking softball, with fully one in three of Bandidos' plate appearances ending in a base-on-balls as first Claire Simcox then relief pitcher Jon Pearson just couldn't find their line and length. And perhaps it was something in the air, as Bandido pitcher Nacho Sánchez also walked a few more than he usually does. All this meant expectations that a game between the leaders, boasting a 4-0 record, against the joint bottom team on 0-4 might be over quickly were slowly dashed, and this was the last game to end, at least north of the river. Raiders got off to a bright start but the result was never really in doubt after the Mexicans hit 11 in their second turn, though Raiders immediately replied with six runs, four of

which off Mark Crannage's grand slam. Raiders have plenty of big hitters, and show some good fielding skills, for example when short stop Luke Crannage took a brilliant running catch in 3rd base foul-ball territory, though unfortunately his momentum took him dead (actually almost into the long-jump pit) for a "catch-and-carry", so they should be winning more games in my opinion. Anyway, Bandidos kept far more than their noses in front, leading by ten or so mainly through sensible base running. Leading batters were three SBHs all averaging 1.000: Jane Langford, well deserved MVP with five runs from five plate appearances, and three RBIs, as well as a solid mitt at 1B, former Renegade and Greensock Helen Parr, whom we have coaxed out of retirement, with four hits out of four and four RBIs, and Kate Davidson, improving weekly, with a walk, three singles and two RBIs. As the gloom gathered, and the blu slowly lost the will to live (good job Arthur by the way, that must have been hard work), Bandidos finally got the run home that took their total to 15 greater than the Raiders' on a dropped infield fly which allowed an alert Langford to scamper home from 3rd.

El Niño

MVPs Wood, M Crannage (RAI), Langford, L Morrison (BND)

Injury darkens bright day *(Continued from page 2)*

In Division 2 the top two met for the first time ever, with **Dodgers** securing a resounding “mercy” win in four innings over **Camels II**, who slip to 4th place. **Hackers** are 0-4 after losing to **Mavericks II**, but it was a tight affair. Hackers scored eight in the 3rd to take a 9-3 lead, and although Mavs steadily reduced the deficit they were still behind by one going into the 7th. There they managed a 7-run bat-around and then defended to steal the win by 19-17. **Tigers** moved up to 3rd with a 28-5 “slaughter” of

Thunder II while winless **Freeze** again looked slightly out of their depth against **Titans**, losing 4-19.

With five of Tuesday’s six games interdivisional there was no change in Division 4 as all five games went to form, and all five Div 4 teams faced defeat. **Barflies** were actually leading against **Screwballs** until a 15-run 4th inning flipped it around. And **Swingers** more or less held their own against **Sluggababes** for half the game, until the babes slowly pulled away to win 19-12. **Seagulls** steadily out-

scored **Enforcers** inning by inning to win 30-18, not quite RAR but close, while **Raiders**, always trailing **Bandidos** by about ten after an 11-run 2nd inning, lasted six innings before losing 27-12. The **Thunderby** was pretty one-sided, the **IIIs** leading 25-1 before a **IV** rally of sorts saw them score nine in the bottom of the 4th. A pair of donuts left the score in RAR territory after five innings. Tuesday’s other game was the all-Div 3 meeting of **Tiggers** and **Stingers**, which saw the latter take and defend an early lead to come out 20-11 winners.

Registering a transfer *(Continued from page 2)*

their new team. Notification of transfer should be confirmed by all three parties: the player, the team transferred from, and the team transferred to.

In this case the secretary received a message from the player’s new captain at the same time as the team sheet was submitted, after 11pm on the Wednesday. The message sug-

gested that the player’s former team, as well as the umpire and opponents had all approved the transfer, though the email had not been cc’d either to the old captain, nor even to the player himself. The umpire’s or opponent’s approval is not needed for a transferred player to play.

Correct procedure is important to ensure fairness and transparency. Transfer requests should be acknowledged by the

player themselves to confirm that it is what they want. As it happens, all parties were aware: the player’s former captain was even playing as a guest, as it happens. Only the League Secretary was left out of the loop!

A proposal is being considered to treat transfers the same as initial registration from next year, so that players wishing to transfer simply re-register on-line for their new team.

NSL 2023 Preview Part 2

Last week we previewed the prospects of Manchester-based teams in NSL Divisions 1 and 2. We complete the round up with a preview of our NSKL 3 teams, and a brief report on how the first weekend of NSL play went for all of them.

Meerkats

Captain: Sonia Hine
Highest finish: 3rd in NSL 3, 2022
Tenure: 1 season (joined NSL3 in 2022)

Meerkats joined NSL3 last year. They won the cup finals on weekends 1 and 2 and just missed out on promotion by 1 point! They aim to be NSL3 champions this year. Captain Sonia Hine describes the tough competition.

“Some people think NSL3 teams won’t be as competitive, but the fact is, it was hard to get into NSL. If you weren’t already in NSL1 or 2, there was no way of getting in. So when NSL3 was introduced, some very strong teams were able to enter. We even had players who watched our games say that we would have given some of the NSL2 teams a good run for their money.”

Farnham Park has great facilities, which Sonia says makes for a good softball experience.

“It’s a great level of play and they have increased the amount of dirt fields, which is a completely new experience if you’ve never played on it before, mainly for the infielders. It’s good to have proper dug outs too, shade you from the sun, hang all your bats on the fence. It’s exciting.”

Sharks

Captain: Stephen Shearer
Highest finish: 6th in NSL 3, 2022
Tenure: 1 season (joined NSL3 in 2022)

Newbies to NSL last year, Sharks finished a modest 6th. Captain Stephen Shearer has his eyes on promotion.

“Our expectation is to push for the top two for promotion. We need to be tougher as they have expanded NSL3 from eight to 12 teams and there are some strong teams that have joined.”

Shearer sees the tough competition as the league’s highlight.

“Possibly the structure [is the best bit]. You know the opponents and fixtures well in advance. Although it’s three tournaments, there are also league points at stake. It’s very tough and the standard is very good. Most teams are comfortable as good Div 1 teams and above that standard.”

Tempest 2

Abbie de Zwart

Captains: Annie Downes, Dave Warren, Andrew Bogie
Highest finish: N/A
Tenure: New entry for this season!

Tempest 2 are a new entry for 2023. Co-captains Annie Downes and Andrew Bogie tell us about the team’s creation and hopes for the season.

“Manchester Tempest was formed by our chairman Mark “Griff” Griffin in 2017, following on from a very short-lived Rec team formed from Thunder’s then-fourth and fifth teams, Drizzcanes. Assembling a team of competitive players from across the MSL, we competed in the Diamond Series at Farnham Park, initially at the lower level, then adding a higher level team, which went on to enter NSL in 2018. In 2022, “Big Tempest” got promotion to NSL1 after a few years of narrow misses. Tempest 2 continued to play Diamond Series events, and the natural progression was to enter NSL3 – when the division expanded from eight to 12 teams for the 2023 season, Griff took the opportunity to enter.

“We have put together a squad of players who have played for a variety of teams in the Manchester

Softball League in Divisions 1 and 2, for our first season in the competition. We want the squad to gel quickly and to consolidate our position in the competition. Meerkats had a very good season last year, only just missing out on promotion, which gives us something to aim for as a first-time team from Manchester. But since we were playing as a team for the first time on 20-21 May, we will be very satisfied with playing competitive and enjoyable softball.”

“Tempest 2 is a great way to involve MSL players that want to test themselves against good teams from around the country, but whose regular league teams – for a variety of reasons – do not enter the national events generally held in Farnham Royal. One thing that is new for this season is a striking new jersey, designed by our players Dave and George in conjunction with the Baseball Outlet. We’ll look forward to our kit reveal at 9am on 20 May.”

They go on to describe the NSL experience and what makes it great.

“All tournaments have specific differing levels of competition, and the NSL structure is simply the higher echelons of UK coded slow pitch softball. As such, there are a few differences, like much tighter uniform rules: we all have

to wear the same jersey and the same colour of legwear (amusingly, the guidelines particularly note – correctly – that black and navy blue are two different colours). Also, the league is contested over three weekends of round-robins; each individual tournament’s final stages decide the weekend competition, but do not affect league standings. Other than these slight differences, the playing experience is quite similar to other softball weekenders, such as the MSL’s own tournaments in April and July/August. They are great for getting to know more people and playing with and against people from elsewhere in the country that you normally wouldn’t come across.

“The NSL perhaps has a better national spread than most tournaments. It’s always good to play at the country’s premier purpose-built baseball and softball facility, with its four (soon to be five) fenced fields and dirt diamonds. But as always, the best bit of any softball tournament is spending a weekend playing our sport and socializing with a great group of people on and off the field.”

Weekend 1 results

As the NSL got off to a start ten days ago, Meerkats had the best weekend of the Manchester teams,

going 6-1 to lead Division 3. In the same division Tempest 2, new to this level of play, did reasonably well with a 3½-3½ record that puts them in 7th place. Sharks, on 2-5 are 10th.

Travelling Dodgers are the highest placed MSL team, achieving 7th place in NSL1 on 3½-3½.

Newly promoted Tempest and Camels both “struggled a bit” according to the BSF report, Camels sitting 9th with a 2-5 record while Tempest managed only one win, and prop up the standings.

In NSL2 where only one team represents Manchester, Mavericks similarly had a shaky start, ending in 9th place with a 2-5 record.

The NSL weekends traditionally include knockout games at the end of the weekend, which don’t count towards the standings. Meerkats came close to rounding off a great weekend, but lost 16-17 in their final to Storm, who are hot on their heels in the league, just ½ a game behind.

League play continues over a further three weekends over the summer.

Alex Hall Memorial Tournament

The 19th Alex Hall Memorial Tournament will take place this Saturday at ParrsWood, though organizers fear that it may be the last in its traditional form.

The one-off competition where players sign up as individuals and are assigned to colour-coded teams attracted only enough players for four teams this year, with relatively few Division 1 or 2 players participating. The softball calendar has been steadily expanding the last few years, and perhaps there is no longer room for a less-than-serious event like AH. Co-organizer Kate Shearer stated that “There is an issue around how much people drink and personally I feel that is outweighing all the good things about the tournament. When I’ve spoken to people about signing up they have specifically mentioned they had an issue with people who drank too much last year. It’s such a shame.”

There is still clearly an appetite for helping the cancer charity the tournament was set up to

support—at one point there were more raffle prizes than participants signed up—so perhaps going forward, with next year the 20th year since it all began, some new ideas may be tried.

Meanwhile, the teams and schedule for this Saturday have been announced. Games will get under way at 9.30am. The competition format is simple: the four teams will play a round robin, with one-hour timed games at 9.30, 10.45 then, following a long break for picnic lunch and the usual Alex Hall games and competitions, a third game at 1.30, semi-finals at 2.45 then the grand final at 4.00.

The Alex Hall staples of fancy dress, colour-coded picnic and jokers to buy back the last play will all be in place, and as long as players can keep the boozing within moderation, a splendid time is guaranteed for all.

Even if not playing, you are welcome to come and support the event, buy raffle tickets, or participate in the lunch-time competitions.

YELLOW TEAM

Gina Amos
Ian Caird
Arthur F C Hung (co-captain)
Gurarjun Grewal
Colin McKie
Hayley McTear
Leo Pearn
Georgina Pugh (captain)
Michael Spiers
Racheal Wake
Charlie Whalley

BLUE TEAM

Carolyn Barratt
Nathan Barratt (captain)
Conor Battersby (co-captain)
Laura Carrigher
Dave Gittins
Matthew Green
David Grice
Amy Power
Emma Simpson
Drew Stanton

WHITE TEAM

Dilan Bastiampillai
Sarah Douglas
Fliss Fagan (captain)
Claire Holden
Bryony James
Philip Kirby
Kalpesh Mankanji
Michael Mia
Harry Somers
Dave Warren

RED TEAM

Sarah Cassin
Chris Drayton
Zachary Gaunt
Hollie Glennie (captain)
AJ Hoysted
Nic McKenna
Catherine Millan
Claire Simcox
Dan Strayer
Sonny Trusswell
Andy Whatmore
Sam Whatmore

UMPIRES

Al Green, Vicky Green, Simon Hepburn

All in the family home runs

An occasional feature on these pages is lists of all-in-the family home runs, where siblings, parent and offspring, or couples have both hit homers in the same game (or occasionally on the same day but in different games).

Last week we saw our first parent-and-offspring pair, as **Mark and Luke Crannage** both got round trips for the Raiders (dad's was a slammer). There was also a pair, not in the same game, not even the same evening, as **Luis Arre-villagas Jr** got a homer for Thunder III in the Thunderby, then papa got two the following night against the Meerkats.

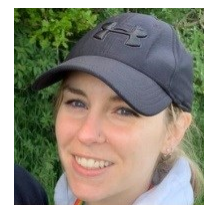
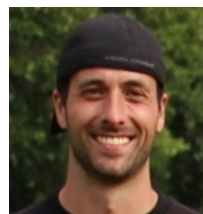
Sibling rivalry has produced the goods three times already this year, with **Adam and Liam Morrison** doubling up for the Bandidos twice (their 7th and 8th times all told, four more than any other sibling pair since records began), while **Brad and Kris Hadwin** both homered for Thunder a couple of weeks ago, something they have done on two previous occasions.

Last week's MVPs

CAM	Katie Flanagan (RF), Tom Atkinson (P)
GRX	<i>Suzanne Donovan (BAT)</i> (RF), Tatsu Yoshi (SS)
MAV	Leanne Cracknell (LF), <i>Chris Gresty (MV2)</i> (SS)
MHM	rested
MKT	Kate Barlow (3B), Rory Gibson (LF)
SHA	Rebecca Ebo (LF), Karthik Manjunath (CR)
SPE	Star Christine Hunter (1B), Duncan Jones (SS)
TDS	Nat Leyland (CL), Sam Steele (LF)
THU	Kim Hannessen (CL), Luis Arrevillagas (2B)
BAT	rested
CM2	Nicola Booth (1B), James Wooderson (CL)
DOD	Abbie Thwaite (RF), Chris Mannion (CL)
FRZ	Laurie Salfred-Ingham (SS), Mark Hayward (P)
HAC	Grace Mills (LF), Darren Corner (SS)
MV2	Ali Marrs (1B), Wesley Ng (sub)
TH2	Bryony James (P), Ed Woodcock (3B)
TIG	Teresa Kokocinska (1B), Steph Karayannis (LF)
TTN	Zoe Conway (3B), Richard Taylor (SS)
BND	Jane Langford (1B), Liam Morrison (2B)
SCR	Nicola McKenna (LF), Dan Strayer (CL)
SGL	Samuyl Rahmen (3B), Charlie Whalley (P)
SLG	Eleanor Harris (LF), Joe Wright (SS)
STG	Nikki Bradshaw (1B), Danny Casey Wright (SS)
TGG	Becky Crawford (2B), Harry Schulte (LF)
TH3	Lauren Pritchard (LF), Michael Mia (P)
BFL	Mandy Ashton (1B), Chris Radford (3B)
ENF	Lisa Williams (2B), Simon Granger (LF)
RAI	Nat Wood (1B), Mark Crannage (CR)
SWI	Molly Vankotrik (3B), Pete Gordon (LF)
TH4	Kelly Brookshaw (1B), Graham Hartley (SS)

Note: names are reproduced here exactly as submitted on the scoresheets.

Couples home runs is much trickier to tabulate. Of course when a couple have the same name that's easy enough, but many married couples keep their own names, so it is hard to know whether they are a couple. And for couples who are not legally spliced, who is to say how long they have to be together, or under what circumstances, before they "count" as a couple (not to mention same-sex couples). A good example was pointed out to me just last week (thanks Simon Sharp), although it's not a same-day couples



home run pair. On opening day **Stéphane Karayannis** (pictured above left) hit a grand slam for the Tigers. Two weeks later his partner, Tigger **Natasha Wicikowski** (pictured above right) hit a slammer (they are getting married this summer, so I'm told). Partner grand slams, even if spread over two weeks, are surely worth noting.

Home runs

Division 1

SBH

1—Sherry Kenyon (MAV), Jacqueline Ng (CAM), Su OBrien (SHA)

LBH

6—Tom Russell (THU)

4—Joe Grantham (THU)

3—Dan Downes (TDS), Ant Garcia (MHM)

2—Luis Arreivillagas (THU), Keith Altena (MKT), Carlos dos Ramos (MKT), Brad Hadwin (THU), Kris Hadwin (THU), Andy Lott (CAM), Karthik Manjunath (SHA), George Stamets (SHA)

1—Tom Atkinson (CAM), Nathan Barratt (MHM), Gurarjun Grewal (GRX), Tatsuyoshi Hikawa (GRX), Paul Kidley (GRX), Chris Lennon (SPE), Mike Lott (THU), Colin Luke Martin* (TDS), McKie (CAM), Pete Nightingale (MAV), Laurence Pearmain* (MAV), Andy Rawson (GRX), Darren Shaw (MKT), Igor von Orel Bronte (MKT)

Division 2

SBH

2—Faye Dunlop (MV2)

1—Suzanne Donovan (BAT), Bryony James (TH2), Grace Mills (HAC), Abbie Thwaite (DOD)

LBH

7—Stéphane Karayannis* (TIG)

6—Chris Mannion (DOD)

4—Wes Ng (MV2)

3—Dave Martin Baez (MV2), Cameron Waddelow (BAT)

2—Harry Bell (HAC), Darren Corner (HAC), Ed Covington (TIG), Elieser Doronsoro* (DOD), Jeff Fong (MV2), Chris Gresty* (MV2), Mark Heyward (FRZ), Oliver Potts (CM2), Luis Rodriguez (DOD), Simon Sharp (TIG), James Wooderson (CM2)

1—Sam Baker (TTN), Alex Bates (BAT), Andrew Bogie (TH2), David Dyson (DOD), Jeivo Gomez (TH2), Dan Hocking (TTN), Steve Howard (DOD), Lee Kendrick-Walker (DOD), Ian Mills (HAC), Leo Pearn (CAM), Sean Rafter (HAC), Brian Slusarek (DOD), Richard Taylor (TTN), Richard Thompson (TIG)

Division 3

SBH

2—Nikki Bradshaw (STG)

1—Tanya Lochery (BND), Samiyah Rahman (SGL), Natasha Wicikowski* (TGG)

LBH

10—Mike Mia (TH3)

9—Ross Birch (BND)

7—Liam Morrison (BND)

6—

5—AJ Hoysted (SCR), Jason Kneen (BND), Kristian Stokwicz (STG), Joe Wright* (SLG)

4—Anthony Henderson (SGL), Milan Nechvátal (SCR)

3—Carl Emsley (SGL), Dan Strayer (SCR), Jimmy Warren (TH3), Charlie Whalley (SGL), James Wright (TGG)

2—Naveed Ahmed (SCR), Danny Casey-Wright (STG), Tom Childs (TH3), Dean Cull (TH3), David Grice (SGL), Antoon Lemmers (SLG), Zac Morris (SCR), Adam Morrison (BND), Josh Normie (STG), James Tanner (SLG), Alex Wardle (SLG)

1—Luis Allen Arreivillagas (TH3), Dilan Bastiampillai (TH3), Mark Fox (STG), John Reeves (SCR), Nacho Sánchez (BND), Harry Schulte (TGG), Nick Sims (STG), Mat Tanner (SLG)

Division 4

SBH

1—Rhianne Boag (SWI), Claire Holden (BFL), Atiyah Malik (TH4), Jade Shaw (BFL)

LBH

6—Aleck Aspinall* (BFL) *(pictured)*

5—Luke Crannage (RAI)

4—Dave Dean (BFL), Chris Newhall (ENF)

3—Ben Leeks (SWI), Mike Spiers (RAI)

2—Alex Hartley (SWI), Jon Pearson (RAI), Chris Radford (BFL), Simon Ronksley (TH4), Chris Smith (BFL)

1—Mike Cooney (BFL), Phil Cosgrove (TH4), Mark Crannage* (RAI), Bryn Davies (ENF), Simon Grainger*

(ENF), Ebby Hassan (BFL), Ed Roberts (SWI), Andy Whatmore (ENF), Jordan Wilcock (ENF)
* grand slam



Transfers

Louise Gape Tigers to Tiggers

Hector Martinez Bats to Greensox

Next week's fixtures 6/7 June

Division 1

Mayhem @ Mavericks (pitch H, umpire Creelman) Last meeting 17 August 2022, Mavericks won 21-19 and lead 8-5 in all meetings.

Speeders @ Greensox (G, P Fagan) Last meeting 5 May 2010, Greensox won 16-3 and have won all but one of their 14 meetings

Thunder @ Sharks (pitch E, umpire Davies) Last meeting 20 July 2022, Thunder won 30-13 and have won both their official meetings, as well as their unofficial game in 2020.

Travelling Dodgers @ Camels (F, Wallace) Last meeting 13 July 2022, TDs won a close game 7-6. Their all-time series is also close, this win giving the Dodgers a 6-5 lead. Meerkats rest

Division 2

Mavericks II @ Dodgers (A, Somers) Last meeting 28 August 2019 (Division 1), Dodgers won 6-3 completing the double in the junior Mavs' only top flight season..

Tigers @ Titans (B, Caird) Last meeting 3 August 2022, Titans won 19-16 to tie the all-time record at 1-1.

Camels II @ Bats (C, Strayer) Last meeting 11

August 2021, Camels won 6-4 and elad 10-3 in all meetings.

Thunder II @ Hackers (D, Green) Last meeting 23 June 2021, Thunder won 15-12 and lead 10-4 in all meetings.

Freeze rest

Division 3

Stingers @ Bandidos (4, Carruthers) Last meeting 10 August 2021, Bandidos won 23-8 and have won all three encounters.

Interdivisional

Barflies @ Thunder III (7, Hugill) Last meeting 31 July 2018 (Division 4), Hurricanes as they were then known won 13-9 and lead 6-2 in all meetings.

Raiders @ Seagulls (6, Warren) Only previous meeting 20 July 2021 (Division 4), Seagulls won 25-5.

Screwballs @ Thunder IV (1, Warren) Last meeting 21 June 2022 (Division 4), Screwballs won 22-21 to complete the double.

Sluggababes @ Enforcers (2, F Fagan) First ever meeting.

Swingers @ Tiggers (3, Sharp) Last meeting 5 July 2022 (Division 4) Swingers won 28-15, a first win in four attempts.

Results (continued from page 14)

Interdivisional

BARFLIES 9 0 1 2 3 15
SCREWBALLS 5 1 5 15 4 30
 RAR, Pitch 2, Umpire Paul Fagan
 HRs **BFL** Aleck Aspinall; **SCR** Mi-lan Nechvátal, Dan Strayer

SWINGERS 5 3 1 1 1 10 12
SLUGGABABES 5 1 0 6 2 5 x 19
 Pitch 4, Umpire Adam Hugill
 HRs **SLG** Joe Wright 3 (1GS), James Tanner 2

RAIDERS 3 0 6 2 10 12
BANDIDOS 3 1 1 5 1 2 5 27
 RAR, Pitch 3, Umpire Arthur Hung
 HRs **RAI** Luke Crannage, Jon Pearson, **Mark Crannage** (GS); **BND** Liam Morrison

SEAGULLS 5 3 5 4 5 1 7 30
ENFORCERS 3 3 3 1 3 5 0 18
 Pitch 6, Umpire Mike Goff
 HRs **SGL** Ant Henderson, Carl Emsley, Charlie Whalley, Samiya Rahman

THUNDER III 6 5 13 1 0 25
THUNDER IV 1 0 0 9 0 10
 RAR, Pitch 1, Umpire Luis Arrevil-lagas
 HRs **TH3** Michael Mia 3, Jimmy Warren, Tomm Childs 2, Dean Cull, Luis Allen Arrevillagas; **TH4** Simon Ronksley, Tia Malik

Guests

UP/SAME

Suzanne Donovan (BAT) GRX v MAV

Chris Gresty (MV2) MAV (2nd) v GRX

Anthony Garcia Reyes (MHM) MAV v GRX

Beryl Jones (BAT) GRX v MAV

Lisa Williams (ENF) HAC (2nd) v MV2

DOWN

Abbie de Zwart (HAC) SWI v SLG

Caroline Drake (TIG) SLG v SWI

Jack Hoban (HAC) STG v TGG
 Emma Miller (TH2) TH3 v TH4

Laurie Salfred-Ingham (FRZ) TH4 v TH3

Bailey Saunders (TIG) ENF (3rd) v SGL

Results and Standings

Played 23/24 May

Standings Week 5

Division 1

GREENSOX 0 0 2 3 0 1 3 **9**
MAVERICKS 4 1 3 4 0 1 x **13**

Pitch F, Umpire Paul Fagan

SHARKS 5 3 3 4 0 1 0 **16**

CAMELS 2 6 1 0 3 4 1 **17**

Pitch E, Umpire Gemma Wallace
 HRs **SHA** George Stamets, Karthik Manjunash; **CAM** Andy Lott, Tom Atkinson

SPEEDERS (5 1 1 0 7) **0**

TR DODGERS (10 1 4 0 15) **20**

Pitch H, Umpire Jonny Creelman;
 Game forfeited: insufficient players available after injury
 HR **SPE** Chris Lennon

THUNDER 4 4 1 2 0 4 2 **17**

MEERKATS 5 0 1 2 0 0 1 **9**

Pitch G, Umpire Mike Davies
 HRs **THU** Tom Russell, Luis Arre-villagas 2, Joe Grantham, Bradley Hadwin; **MKT** Carlos dos Ramos

Division 2

DODGERS 2 3 3 5 7 **20**

CAMELS II 0 0 1 0 1 **2**

RAR, Pitch F, Umpire Dave Wareham

HRs **DOD** Chris Mannion 2, Steve Howard, Elieser Doronsoro

FREEZE 1 2 1 0 0 0 **4**

TITANS 7 3 0 3 2 4 **19**

RAR, Pitch C, Umpire Harry Somers

HR **TTN** Richard Taylor

MAVERICKS II 3 0 0 2 5 2 7 **19**

HACKERS 0 1 8 1 2 1 4 **17**

Pitch B, Umpire Ian Caird
 HRs **MV2** Dave Martin Baez 2, Wesley Ng 2; **HAC** Darren Corner, Grace Mills

TIGERS 4 4 7 13 **28**

THUNDER II 4 0 1 0 **5**

RAR, Pitch A, Umpire Dan Strayer
 HRs **TIG** Steph Karayannis 3, Simon Sharp

Division 3

TIGGERS 5 0 2 0 0 4 0 **11**

STINGERS 8 0 7 2 3 0 x **20**

Pitch 7, Umpire Simon Sharp
 HRs **STG** Nikki Bradshaw, Mark Fox

⇒ Continued on page 13

P W T L F RS RC Pts% GB

Division 1

► Mavericks	5	5	0	0	0	78	43	1.00	-
► Thunder	4	4	0	0	0	78	52	1.00	½
▲ TrDodgers	5	3	0	2	0	68	56	.733	2
▼ Meerkats	4	2	0	2	0	48	49	.667	2½
▼ Mayhem	4	2	0	2	0	53	63	.667	2½
▲ Camels	5	2	0	3	0	75	79	.600	3
▼ Sharks	4	1	0	3	0	53	48	.500	3½
► Speeders	3	0	0	3	0	9	56	.333	4
► Greensox	4	0	0	4	0	49	65	.333	4½

Division 2

► Dodgers	4	4	0	0	0	97	36	1.00	-
▲ Mavericks II	5	4	0	1	0	91	51	.867	½
▲ Tigers	4	3	0	1	0	73	38	.833	1
▼ Camels II	4	3	0	1	0	71	63	.833	1
▲ Bats	4	2	0	2	0	76	70	.667	2
▲ Titans	5	2	0	3	0	76	73	.600	2½
▼ Thunder II	5	2	0	3	0	57	88	.600	2½
► Hackers	4	0	0	4	0	48	88	.333	4
► Freeze	5	0	0	5	0	42	124	.333	4½

Division 3

► Bandidos	5	5	0	0	0	12	40	1.00	-
► Screwballs	5	5	0	0	0	12	78	1.00	-
► Stingers	5	4	0	1	0	11	89	.867	1
▲ Slugg'babes	5	3	0	2	0	10	96	.733	2
▲ Seagulls	5	3	0	2	0	11	106	.733	2
▼ Tiggers	5	2	0	3	0	78	96	.600	3
► Thunder III	5	2	0	3	0	11	97	.600	3

Division 4

► Barflies	5	3	0	2	0	13	132	.733	-
► Enforcers	5	2	0	3	0	84	89	.600	1
► Swingers	5	1	0	4	0	66	121	.467	2
► Thunder IV	5	0	0	5	0	62	114	.333	3
► Raiders	5	0	0	5	0	71	131	.333	3