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This week's games

TUESDAY

Division 3

Bandidos 1L @ Sluggababes 1L (pitch 6, umpire Carruthers) Thunder III 2W @ Stingers 1L (7, Hung)

Screwballs 1W @ Seagulls 2W (1, F Fagan)

Interdivisional

Fireballs 1W @ Tiggers 5L (8, Goff)

Division 4

Thunder IV 14L @ Raiders 6L (2, Warren)
Barflies 1W @ Swingers 2W (3,

Barflies 1W @ Swingers 2W (3 Arrevillagas)

WEDNESDAY

Division 1

Camels 2W @ Sharks 1W (D, Hung)

Mavericks 1L @ Greensox 5L (C, Warren)

Meerkats 1W @ Thunder 6W (J, P Fagan)

Travelling Dodgers 2L @ Speeders 1W (B, Wallace)

Mayhem rest

Division 2

Camels II 2W @ Dodgers 11W (F) Titans 2W @ Freeze 13L (E, Green) Hackers 6L @ Mavericks II 1L (H,

Thunder II 1W @ Tigers 1L (G, Caird)

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An eventful week: Barflies up, Screwballs close in, Dodgers now the only unbeaten team, Camels blow title race open

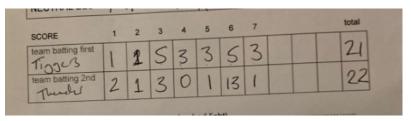
In Division 4, despite not playing, Barflies confirmed their promotion and participation in the end-of-season three-game play-off for the title (actually we could have said this last week), though the race to be their opponents is still hot, with even the 4th-placed Raiders still mathematically in the hunt. They unfortunately suffered the season's first shutout at the hands of **Phoenix Fire**balls whose ten-run 2ndinning bat-around saw them on the way to a fiveinning "slaughter". The division's other game was slightly less one-sided, as **Thunder IV** did at least take the **Swingers** to the full seven innings, keeping a clean sheet however in only one of them.

In the big game of the day, **Screwballs** completed the double over their nearest rivals the **Stingers** to get one hand on the Division 3 trophy. Thanks to head-to-heads, they would now have to lose two of their remaining

⇒ Continued on page 4

Another incorrect scoresheet

Tiggers and Thunder III captains co-signed a scoresheet showing Thunder to have won 22 -21 although the inningby-inning scores suggest a 21-21 tie. Thunder actually scored four in the 3rd inning. As was the case two weeks ago, both teams have been issued an official warning.



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Birthdays

Week beginning July 24th

Monday Ian Blease (Mavericks), Holly Smith (Tigers)

Tuesday Jordan Colton (Mayhem)

Wednesday Keely Congleton (Dodgers), Annie Downes (Travelling Dodgers)

Thursday Matthew Bell (Travelling Dodgers), Zak Morris (Screwballs)

Friday Paul Kidley (Greensox), Martine Knight (Mayhem), Craig Lawson (Camels II), Peter reeves (Screwballs)

Saturday Nikita Shkurko (Travelling Dodgers), Sam Steele (Travelling Dodgers)

Sunday Nick Baker (Titans), Tomm Childs (Thunder III), Kris Hadwin (Thunder), James Wright (Tiggers)

JULY 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

On this day ...

Results from 25th July 2001 include the Mavericks 64-5 defeat of the Runners, which remains the joint highest winning margin ever, and fuelled a debate about using run difference rather than runs conceded in the standings, as well as being a catalyst in the introduction of the (variously named) "mercy" rule (currently "run-ahead rule").

Bases Loaded volume 18 issue 15 on this date in 2012 carried an article suggesting that if a home team opted to bat first (for reasons other than late arrival of players). "Someone on the home team has got it into their head that it would simply be better to bat first, a and then, hopefully, defend a lead. Now while this may be an appropriate strategy in some other sports, I have never heard it suggested that to do so in softball is anything other than misguided madness" (emphasis added). Recent strategy for the England cricket team has also been to

favour batting last so as to chase down a lead. And to be fair, opting to bat first has in more recent years only occurred when a player is late arriving. So people seem to have got the message.

Back in 2012 Greensox topped the Division 1 standings, with Mavericks one game behind. The Playoff Division was in use, and after five games had Lightning and Mutineers in 1st and 2nd places, both teams having dropped out of Division1, with Camels, up from Div 2, in 3rd place. Those three earned promotion at the end of the season. Speeders topped the remainder of Division 2 with a 7-6 record, while Mayhem were 14 games into what would turn out to be a 20-game perfect season in Division 3, still an MSL record. In Division 4, Barflies, who had only entered the league four weeks earlier, narrowly lost, though they had picked up their first ever win against Phoenix (the second of now three unrelated teams to have chosen that name) the previous week.

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An eventful week

(Continued from page 2) four games to, well, screw it up. The cocktailers raced into a lead with a nine-run opening frame, and although Stingers retaliated and took a brief lead with a similar score in the bottom of the 3rd, Screwballs hit back with a third niner immediately, to lead by five. In the final three innings the scoring subsided a bit, both sides more or less matching the other, with Screwballs winning the game in the end by a margin of six. Tiggers were involved in another close game, though totalling less than half the 91 runs of a month ago: after a cagey start, they were tied on Thunder III 7-7 after three innings, and were ten runs ahead after 51/2 innings. But the rumblers suddenly exploded, scoring 13 to take a narrow lead which Tiggers then equalled. But the IIIs had home advantage and got the one run needed in the bottom of the 7th to win 22-21. Seagulls had two big innings in the 3rd and 4th to give them a win over Sluggababes. But they still trail Thunder III, and have a tough assignment this week against the Screwballs.

The Division 2 leading

Dodgers maintained their unbeaten record, now the only one in the league, with a narrow win over Tigers. Leading 2-1 after three innings, they saw the Tigers flex their claws as the big cats smashed in 12 runs. But that only served as a wakeup call, as the Dodgers restricted their opponents to just three more runs while batting round the order in both the following innings to win 19-16. Titans handed Mavericks II a loss after a close opening three frames, outscoring them in the second half of the game to win 21-16. But there was nothing close about Freeze's encounter with Thunder II, who scored eight and 13 in the opening two rounds before easing off to win 23-3 in four. And Bats scored 15 and managed four shutouts before **Hackers** got their only run of the game in this 41st edition of the most played fixture between founder members, last year a close rivalry but not so in Division 2.

In Division 1, **Greensox** suffered the season's second shut-out, 24 hours after Raiders set the example. **Meerkats** were the beneficiaries. It is only the Sox's second shutout in their long history, the previous one being in a record low-scoring 0-2 defeat to

the Outlaws in 2013. They have dished out five shutouts in the past, and are one of only nine teams to have experienced a shutout from both sides. Elsewhere, reigning champions Travelling Dodgers were leading the **Sharks** for most of the game, though never by many, until the bottom of the 6th when the seadogs took a three-run lead which they successfully defended in the 7th to win 13-11. Thunder beat Mayhem

fairly comfortably, scoring steadily and shutting the Mossley crew out in all but two innings. But we keep the big story 'til last, as the Mavericks' unbeaten run came to an end against Camels. Trailing 3-5 after three, Camels shut up shop, dishing out the donuts before taking the lead in the 5th and consolidating in the 6th to blow the title chase wide open. Thunder are now just a half-game back, with the pair meeting next week: assuming comparable results in this week's games. a Thunder win next week will see them go top: the race to regain the shield looks like going to the

wire.

Match report

Seagullsshitonslugs

SLUGGABABES 2 1 1 1 0 1 1 **7 SEAGULLS** 3 0 6 6 0 0 x **15** Pitch 7, Umpire Adam Hugill

SLUGGABABES Alex Wardle (CL), Eleanor Harris (3B) (sub Rachael Wake), Joe Wright (SS), Emma beall (LF), Tim Roberts (P), Farrah Bennett (2B), Johan lemmers (1B), Georgina Pugh (RF), Mat tanner (CR), Rachel Scaldwell (C) SEAGULLS Jo Griffin (LF), Anthony Henderson (2B), Sam Rahman (1B), Carl Emsley (SS), Becky Cowley (RF), Ian Caird (CL), Cindy Chong (3B), Dave Gittins (CR), Abbie de Zwart (HAC) (C), Jai Bhagdev (P) HRS Emsley 2

On a soggy day the rain gods grudgingly granted an interval in the thunder showers for the duration of this game. Sadly, Sluggababes' offence remained a bit wet. The laridae, in contrast, managed to string hits together to produce two sixrun efforts in the middle innings—which they backed up with solid fielding to seal their victory.

For les limaces, Emma
Beall's good work with bat
and glove saw her named
the small-ball MVP. Surviving multiple assassination
attempts by Ian
'Comebacker' Caird, and
despite surrendering a couple of long balls to hardhitting Carl Emsley, the
pitcher received the other
one. He edged out Mat Tanner who fielded well in right
centre and Ralf Bennett,
dogged in his ball retrieving.

Two-out Tim MVPs Bennett, Roberts (SLG), Rahman, Emsley (SGL)

North West Series

Warm rain for the final North West Series tournament.

The final event of the three-series North West Series for 2023 took place under the muchloved Manchester rain on Saturday 22 July. While the WBSC Women's Fastpitch Softball World Cup tookplace in Valencia in 34 degree heat, brave Northern English teams played a one-day slowpitch softball tournament under unstoppable rain.

27 timed games were played on Saturday from 9am to 6pm, with plenty of quality plays and fun had under the gazebos during the rest periods, with teams and players from Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and nearby towns taking part.

Both top spots in each category were claimed by Manchester teams: Spittin' Camels (Comp) and

Luis Arrevillagas

Bats (Rec).

The weekend brought to a close the threetournament series organised by BSUK, in which nearly one hundred softball games were played over three weekends in Manchester, with 17 teams competing in total from as far away as Leeds and London.

Luis Arrevillagas commented "These tournaments provide a great opportunity for experienced and novice players to compete at a good level but also to try new learnt skills in a friendly environment. The oneday tournaments are particularly popular with those players that have other weekend commitments. We can't wait to see these events growing in the years to come."

The final standings for the whole series saw





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GB U-18s at the European Championships

We talked to 15-yearold GB player Luis Allan Arrevillagas about his recent trip to Czechia with the GB U-18s for the fastpitch European Championships.

So this was your first tournament. How were you feeling going out there?

Nervous. Very nervous.

Tell us about the journey.

I travelled to Prague Airport from London Heathrow on Saturday 1st July. We went as a team and wore our navy shorts and red GB hoodies. As soon as we arrived we got on a coach and had a 11/2 hour trip through the countryside to a town called Tabor and a smaller town called Sezimovo Ústí, where the field was located. We dropped off the U16s at their hotel and carried on to ours. Once we arrived we walked to see the field for the first time as a team. The location of Tabor was spectacular, the towns and shops were so clean and every view you got was so unique. The field was in a mini valley and had a swimming pool about 100 metres away. During our week

Abbie de Zwart talks to Luis Allan Arrevillagas the weather was fantastic, were a good strong team.

ence a lot better.

Your first game on the
Monday was against
the hosts Czechia,

which was a tough

one!

which made the experi-

It was a very tough one. They just sort of went together. Everything they do is perfect. They play well together as a team. They were really good.

How did it feel stepping out onto the diamond for the first time?

I was nervous, obviously. It was a really nice field, everything was kept perfectly. Obviously, nerves everywhere, but yeah, as a team I think it was nervous but exciting at the same time.

GB were "mercied" 15-0 by the hosts but this did not deter them for the following day for their two games against Israel and Denmark.

And your next game was against Israel?

They're still really, really good. Their pitcher wasn't that fast, but he had a lot of movement when he was pitching. Yeah they were a good strong team. They batted well against us. They were tough.

We were able to watch your games which were streamed back here in Manchester and saw your team mate Danny Casey-Wright get a grand slam.

Yeah, when he came in everyone was like, so happy. Everyone was buzzing because it was one of the first ones. So, everyone was so happy for him, because obviously he started off quite low, getting nervous, as all of us were really. And then when he hit that he was just so happy, he was smiling all day after that.

And your next game was against Denmark.

All those guys are huge from Denmark. They were really big, big batters. They weren't so strong in the infield. I think we beat them on that side.

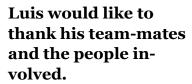
Team GB's third day of the tournament pitted them against Croatia with a brilliant 20-9 result.

We beat Croatia. They were one of the lowest

teams there. They didn't have an U16s team so it was mixed. They had some weaker players and some stronger players. They had some good batters. They had a lot of different pitchers. They had to move them around. We liked to bat against them because

You think nerves got the better of everyone?

I think so, yes. Obviously Denmark, just the second time around, were still a really strong team. It was close. I think if we had had a little bit more luck we should have won that really. But, it was tough. My batting and fielding was good. I wasn't supposed to play the Denmark game but, I played outfield, centre field. I caught, I think, two or three. And yeah, I played well in outfield. I think I could have done better batting. I had fun batting, but I think I need to be a bit stronger next time.



I can't thank the coaches and managers enough for organising this and supplying kits and equipment for the whole trip. Every single one of my team-mates was so amazing and I loved spending the week with them. A special shout out to the Buxtons who flew over from Australia to play with us. Two of the funniest people I've ever met. We met lots of people from other nations and made friends with them, and are hoping to see them in the future. Thank you so much to all the GB squad and the coaches.

The next championship is not for another two years and in the meantime our GB U18s and U16s Luis Arrevillagas, Danny Casey-Wright, Rory Casey-Wright and Ben Acton, will be continuing to train,



their pitches weren't great. So we could hit a lot. Also they were quite an inexperienced team. They went home early.

On the Saturday you got to the Bronze final against Demark.

The bronze medal game, yes. We were very nervous. We were glad to have won against Croatia, and then we got to the bronze medal game. We were really happy that we got there. But then, obviously, nervous.

It was close, very close.

The U-18s finished fourth out of five: a great start for a first tournament for most of the team members.

I think for breaking records for GB youth teams and winning games and putting one run on the Czechs and then getting so close to beating Denmark, it was a really good experience.

How do you feel your personal performance was overall?

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A long read: Guest rules—time for change?

In issue #11 two weeks ago, Paul Fagan wrote about how the guest rules were being exploited in a way that some players found "unfair", with teams appearing to use the guest rules to gain an advantage rather than "in an emergency" as they have always been intended.

Particularly controversial, and an aspect of the rule that we are regularly asked about, and which is also widely misunderstood is whether it is legal to use a guest when you have a rostered player available.

Let us be clear that at the present moment, the guest rules say simply that you can have up to two guests, and say nothing about availability of rostered players.

There appear to be two main issues, not unconnected, but which it may be useful to list separately.

- 1. Use of guests of a too high playing standard to strengthen a team, especially in a significant fielding position.
- 2. Use of a guest when there appear to be sufficient rostered players available.

Paul Fagan, Harry Somers

So, accepting that these are genuine misgivings, how do we address them?

Regarding the first problem, it is fairly clear that classifying a player's skill level according to the division in which they regularly play is only a very rough measure, but there is really no alternative unless we have a committee rating every single player in the league, like some kind of real-life FIFA card game.

A more practical solution would be to reduce the "playing down" gap to just one division, so that Div 1 players can only guest in Div 2, and Div 3 teams can no longer have Div 1 players as guests. But that rule would put Division 4 teams in a difficult situation, since their guest pool would only be Division 3 teams, who play on the same night. Perhaps an exception could be made. (Let's not open the can of worms that is "change the playing nights" just now!)

The issue of guests playing in a position where they can influence the game too significantly may be easier to solve. We already require them to bat low down in the order, which has only a limited effect.

Perhaps we could limit the number of home runs they are allowed to score. In the field, when the guest rules were first introduced, it was agreed that a guest could play pitcher. This was because less experienced teams often lacked someone who could pitch consistently, and we all know what kind of a game results when one team can't get the ball over the plate. So you could get a guest to pitch. This problem seems to be less acute these days: most teams now have a pitcher, and if they don't they need to train one (or more). If they don't have one or two players who can pitch they shouldn't be in our league. Harsh but true. So we could say guests can only play catcher or right field. There would have to be an exception if you have two guests of the same BH size as each other and as the pitcher: they can't play catcher, so they would have to play somewhere else. Perhaps 1st base, as the next least influential position. **Or** perhaps the opposing captain could choose

where they play!

Even more radical would be to reduce the number of guests allowed to just one!

The second issue is a bit more tricky. Banning guests if you have a rostered player available begs the question of what "available" means. A player may be injured, or cannot play for all sorts of other reasons, though in an emergency can take the field or stand at the plate and take three strikes, just to avoid a forfeit. We can't have a (admittedly simple) rule outlawing guests if you have rostered players pitch side. We don't want to have players obliged to bring a doctor's note to prove they are injured. But having a guest when a player is evidently available, because they come on as a sub later in the game, is a very bad look. And it can be prevented by a simple suggested rule change: a sub cannot be used if you have a (same BH size) guest in the line-up, except in the case of genuine injury. The sub can come on for the guest, but not for anyone else. Who judges whether an injury is genuine might be tricky, but the rule would go some way towards addressing the issue, which is to prevent "ringers".

Last week's MVPs

CAM Sarah Cassin (3B), Adam Hugill (SS)

Nikki Bradshaw (STG) (3B), Tatsu Yoshi (SS) Sherry Kenyon (CR), Craig Brooks (CL) GRX

MAV Karin Tange (1B), Dave Warren (P) MHM

Amy Miller (CL), Igor von Orel Bronte (2B) **MKT**

Hayley Hulme (1B), Mike Hulme (SS) SHA

SPE

Georg Macy (2B), Dan Downes (SS) TDS

THU Sian Payne (3B), Tom Russell (SS)

Avery Yin Chong (CL), Cam Waddelow (SS) BAT

CM₂ rested

DOD Alexa Martinez (CL), Elieser Doronsoro Mendoza (2B)

Malyn Wainright (3B), Drew Stanton (SS) FRZ Abbie De-Zwart (1B), Daniel Johansson (P) HAC

MV2 Charlotte Lee (2B), Dave Martin Baez (3B) Bryony James (P), David Eaton (2B) TH2

Simon Sharp (P), Bailey Saunders (C) TIG Izzy Rendell (CR), Sam Baker (CL) TTN

rested **BND**

Nicola McKenna (LF), Milan (SS) SCR

SGL Sam Rahman (1B), Carl Emsley (SS)

Emma Bennett (2B), Tim Roberts (P) Nikki Bradshaw (EP), Jack Rains (RF) SLG **STG**

Lynsey Taylor (2B), Harry Schult (CL) TGG

Nikki Corliss (2B), Jimmy Warren (CL) TH3

BFL

PFB Rebecca Stevens (2B), Andy Whatmore (1B)

RAI Amy Jerdin (3B), Luke Crannage (SS)

Rhianne Boag (2B), Ben Leeks (SS) **SWI**

Kelly Brookshaw (1B), Phil Cosgrove (SS) TH4 Note: names are reproduced here exactly as submitted on the

scoresheets.

Guests

DOWN

Abbie de Zwart (Hackers) for Seagulls v Sluggababes Jenny Douglas (Camels) for Hackers (2nd) v Bats Caeroline Drake (Tigers) for Tiggers v Thunder III Christian Frost (Bats) for Fireballs v Raiders Priti Mehta (Bats) for Swingers (2nd) v Thunder IV Leonie Mumford (Thunder III) for Thunder IV v Swingers Natasha Wicikowski (Tigers) for Tiggers v Thunder III

UP

Nicola Booth (Camels II) for Camels v Mavericks Nikki Bradshaw (Stingers) for Greensox v Meerkats Hollie Glennie (Seagulls) for Greensox v Meerkats Jo Griffin (Seagulls) for Sharks v Travelling Dodgers Page 10 Bases Loaded

Home runs—Leading hitters

Division 1

SBH

2—Emma Agostini (MHM), Maddy Gresty (MAV), Nat Leyland (TDS), Amy Miller (MKT) 1—Tanya Burton (GRX), Sarah Cassin (CAM), Rebecca Ebo (SHA), Celine Frederic (GRX), Beth Jarratt (THU), Katie Jessop (TDS), Sherry Kenyon (MAV), Martine Knight (MHM), Linni Mitchell (MHM), Jacqueline Ng (CAM), Su OBrien (SHA), Rachel Shkurko (TDS)

LBH

9—Joe Grantham (THU)

8—Keith Altena (MKT), Kris Hadwin* (THU), Tom Russell (THU)

7—Dan Downes (TDS), Oscar Marenco (TDS)

6—Anthony Garcia Reyes (MHM), Adam Hugill (CAM), Andy Lott (CAM)

5—Tom Atkinson (CAM), Carlos dos Ramos (MKT), Karthik Manjunath (SHA)

4—Gurarjun Grewal (GRX), Tatsuyoshi Hikawa (GRX), Luke Martin* (TDS), Pete Nightingale (MAV), Darren Shaw (MKT), George Stamets (SHA)

3—Luis Arrevillagas (THU), Craig Brooks* (MAV), Jordan Colton (MHM), Danny Gunn (MAV), Brad Hadwin (THU), Igor von Orel Bronte (MKT) 2—Baljit Ahluwalia* (MAV), Nathan Barratt (MHM), Ian Blease (MAV), Paul Kidley (GRX), Chris Lennon* (SPE), Dave Leverton (THU), Colin McKie (CAM), Laurence Pearmain* (MAV), Andy Rawson (GRX), Jack Scholes (CAM)

Division 2

SBH

5-Grace Mills (HAC)

3-Keely Congleton (DOD), Lisa Jepson (DOD)

2—Faye Dunlop (MV2), Bryony James (TH2), Kate Winfield (TTN)

1—Sara Alwagfi (TIG), Nicola Booth (CM2), Suzanne Donovan (BAT), Lynsey O'Farrell (MV2), Laurie Salfred-Ingham (FRZ), Abbie Thwaite (DOD), Carla Zuill (BAT)

LBH

11—Stéphane Karayannis** (TIG), Chris Mannion* (DOD)

10—Cameron Waddelow* (BAT), James Wooderson** (CM2)

8-Dave Martin Baez (MV2)

7—Sam Baker (TTN), Wes Ng (MV2), Luis Rodriguez (DOD)

6—Conor Battersby*(CM2), Harry Bell (HAC), Jeivo Gomez (TH2), Simon Sharp (TIG)

5—Steve Bartlett (TH2), Elieser Doronsoro* (DOD), Ian Williams (MV2)

4—Andrew Bogie* (TH2), Craig Lawson (CM2), Oliver Potts (CM2), Brian Slusarek (DOD)

3—Alex Bates (BAT), Ed Covington (TIG), David Dyson (DOD), Richard Goar (TIG), Chris Gresty*

(MV2), Dan Jarman (CM2), Sean Rafter (HAC), Drew Stanton (FRZ), Jon Taylor (TH2), Richard Taylor (TTN) 2—Conor Battersby (CM2), Darren Corner (HAC), Jeff Fong (MV2), Mark Heyward (FRZ), Benji Pearce (TH2), Leo Pearn (CM2), Oli Sharpe (TIG), Alex Mills (HAC), Ed Woodcock (TH2)

Division 3

SBH

6-Nikki Bradshaw (STG)

3-Nicola McKenna (SCR)

2—Loz Birch (BND), Samiya Rahman (SGL), Amy Sykes* (STG), Natasha Wicikowski* (TGG)

1—Gina Amos (SGL), Emma Beall (SLG), Ellie Hotchkiss

(STG), Tanya Lochery (BND), Amy Somers (TH3), Lynsey Taylor (TGG), Hannah Tillyard (SCR), Rachael Wake (SLG)

LBH

17—Mike Mia (TH3) (pictured)

16-Ross Birch (BND)

13-Liam Morrison (BND)

12—Carl Emsley (SGL), AJ Hoysted (SCR), Dan Strayer (SCR)

11—Charlie Whalley* (SGL), Joe Wright* (SLG)

10-Kristian Stokwisz (STG), James Tanner (SLG)

7—Anthony Henderson (SGL)

6—Jason Kneen* (BND), Milan Nechvátal (SCR), Nick Sims (STG), James Wright (TGG)

5—Dilan Bastiampillai (TH3), Danny Casey-Wright (STG), Dean Cull (TH3), David Grice (SGL), Harry Schulte (TGG), Jimmy Warren (TH3)

4-Alex Wardle* (SLG)

3—Naveed Ahmed (SCR), Tomm Childs (TH3), Lewis Le Fevre (TH3), Zac Morris* (SCR), Josh Normie (STG), Mat Tanner (SLG)

2—Jacob Arnison (BND), Luis Allan Arrevillagas (TH3), Rory Casey-Wright (STG), Mark Fox (STG), Josh Kehoe (TGG), Antoon Lemmers (SLG), Adam Morrison (BND)

Division 4

SBH

3—Daisy Lord* (BFL), Jade Shaw (BFL)

2-Atiyah Malik (TH4)

1—Rhianne Boag (SWI), Kelly Brookshaw (TH4), Kerry Brown (RAI), Hannah Ebbitt (PFB), Claire Holden (BFL)

LBH

11—Aleck Aspinall* (BFL)

9-Luke Crannage (RAI)

8-Ben Leeks (SWI)

7— Chris Smith* (BFL)

6—Ebby Hassan* (BFL), Chris Newhall (ENF/PFB)

5—Dave Dean (BFL), Simon Ronksley (TH4), Jordan Wilcock (ENF/PFB)

4-Chris Radford (BFL)

 \Rightarrow Continued opposite

Next week's fixtures 1/2 August

Apology: Pitches and umpires for Divisions 1 and 2 in last week's *Next week's fix-tures* were mostly wrong, the result of an editing mishap.

Next week sees the return fixtures in Divisions 1 and 2 of games played May 31.

Division 1

Camels @ Speeders (pitch E, umpire Caird) Camels won the previous game 20-1, and lead 13-3 in all meetings, or 14-3 including a game in 2020.

Greensox @ Sharks (G) Earlier this season Greensox won 17-15 to make it 3-1 in all meetings.

Mavericks @ Thunder (F, Green) The first rotation game was their 30th meeting, and saw Mavericks win 23-21, Thunder's only defeat so far this season. Mavs lead 18-12 overall.

Meerkats @ Mayhem (H, Creelman) Previously Mayhem won 21-11, and lead 8-4 in all meetings.

3—Mark Crannage* (RAI), Bryn Dab=vies (ENF/PFB), Alex Hartley (SWI), Ross Jubber (RAI), Ben Rocca (SWI), Mike Spiers (RAI)

2—Ben Acton (TH4), Mike Cooney (BFL), Pete Gordon (SWI), Simon Grainger* (ENF), Kalpesh Makanji (BFL), Ade Ngang* (PFB), Jon Pearson (RAI), Richard Valentine* (RAI), Sam Webb (SWI) Travelling Dodgers rest

Division 2

Dodgers @ **Bats** (D, P Fagan) Dodgers won their first meeting this century 26-10, to make it eight out of eight all-time.

Tigers @ Camels II (C, Goff) In May Camels won 28-9 to take a 2-1 lead in all meetings.

Freeze @ Hackers (B, Wallace) In their earlier meeting Hackers won 49-25, a 13-run 7th inning giving them what looks like, but wasn't, a "mercy" win. This was only Hackers' second win in six meetings.

Thunder II @ Titans (J, Somers) Thunder won 25-22 to make it ten out of ten all-time.

Mavericks II rest

Division 3

Thunder III @ Bandidos (1, Sharp) Last meeting 9 May, Bandidos won 19-15, their third win in three meetings.

Screwballs @ Sluggababes (2, F Fagan) Last meeting 27 June, Screwballs won 28-10, their first win in four attempts.

Seagulls @ Tiggers (7, Arrevillagas) Last meeting 4 July, Seagulls won 15-12, to make it two out

Results (continued from page 12)

Division 3

SCREWBALLS 9 0 1 9 2 0 2 23 STINGERS 4 0 9 1 1 0 2 17 Pitch 3, Umpire Paul Fagan HRs SCR Nic, Dan 2; STG Nick Simms, Danny Casey W 2

SLUGGABABES 2 1 1 1 0 1 1 **7 SEAGULLS** 3 0 6 6 0 0 x **15**Pitch 7, Umpire Adam Hugill
HRs **SGL** Carl Emsley 2

TIGGERS 1 1 5 3 3 5 3 21
THUNDER III 2 1 3 0 1 13 1 22
Pitch 6, Umpire Mike Goff
HRs TGG Josh Kehoe; TH3 Michael
Mia 2, Jimmy Warren 2

Division 4

FIREBALLS 110344 21
RAIDERS 00000
RAR, Pitch 1, Umpire Dave Warren
HR PFB Bryn Davies

SWINGERS 5 0 3 4 5 2 3 **22 THUNDER IV** 1 0 0 2 1 3 2 **9**Pitch 2, Umpire Simon Sharp
HRs **SWI** Ben Leeks 3, Sam Webb
2. Ben Rocca

of two all-time.

Stingers rest

Division 4

Raiders @ Barflies (3, P Fagan) These two last met on opening day, 25 April, with Barflies winning 32-22, to give them a 2-1 lead in all meetings.

Fireballs @ Thunder IV (6, Carruthers) It was also opening day when these two last met, with a 22-6 win for the Enforcers, as Fireballs were then known. They have met eight times in all, with Thunder IV (previously Colts) winning five of them.

Swingers rest

^{*} grand slam

Results and Standings

Played 18/19 July

Division 1

CAMELS 2 0 1 0 4 3 0 10
MAVERICKS 1 4 0 0 0 0 0 5
Pitch H, Umpire Jonny Creelman
HRs CAM Adam Hugill, Andy
Lott

MAYHEM 0 0 1 0 0 4 0 5
THUNDER 1 1 4 3 5 3 x 17
Pitch F, Umpire Dan Strayer
HRs MHM Tom Munro, Benkei
Johnson: THU Kris Hadwin 2

MEERKATS 3 2 3 2 6 16
GREENSOX 0 0 0 0 0
RAR, Pitch G, Umpire Al Green
HRs MKT Igor von Orel Bronte,
Amy Miller

TR DODGERS 0 3 4 1 2 0 111
SHARKS 1 3 0 3 2 4 x 13
Pitch E, Umpire lan Caird
HR TDS Dan Downes

Division 2

BATS 2 7 3 1 2 6 21 HACKERS 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 RAR, Pitch C, Umpire Fliss Fagan HR BAT Cam Waddelow

FREEZE 0 2 1 0 3
THUNDER II 8 13 1 1 23
RAR, Pitch D, Umpire Jeremy
Fothergill

HRs **FRZ** Drew Stanton; **TH2** Bryony James, Jon Taylor, Andrew Bogie 2, Benji Pearce

MAVERICKS II 4 4 1 2 2 0 316 TITANS 1 7 2 4 3 4 x 21 Pitch B, Umpire Paul Fagan HRs MV2 Steve Kellett, Ian Williams; TTN Sam Baker, Kate Winfield

TIGERS 0 0 1 12 1 1 1 1 16 DODGERS 2 0 0 2 8 7 x 19 Pitch J, Umpire Gemma Wallace HRs TIG Simon Sharp 2, Stéphane Karyannis; DOD Chris Mannion

 \Rightarrow Continued on page 11

With only three games to go in Div 4, Barflies are guaranteed promotion. New this year however is a best-of-three play-off against the 2nd-paced team for the title. The bottom three play a further round-robin.

Standings Week 13

	P	W	Т	L	F	RS	RC	Pts	GB	
Division 1										
► Mavericks	12	11	0	1	0	204	138	.944	-	
►Thunder	11	10	0	1	0	217	107	.939	1/2	
▲ Camels	12	7	0	5	0	184	156	.722	4	
▼ Mayhem	12	6	0	6	0	189	145	.667	5	
► TrDodgers	11	5	0	6	0	124	151	.636	5½	
► Sharks	11	4	0	7	0	130	143	.576	6½	
▶ Meerkats	11	4	0	7	0	157	147	.576	6½	
► Speeders	10	2	0	8	0	65	193	.467	8	
▶ Greensox	10	1	0	9	0	103	193	.400	9	
Division 2										
▶ Dodgers	11	11	0	0	0	256	118	1.00	-	
► Camels II	11	9	0	2	0	213	139	.879	2	
►Tigers	11	7	0	4	0	201	152	.758	4	
▲ Thunder II	12	7	0	5	0	185	182	.722	41/2	
▲ Bats	12	6	0	6	0	213	195	.667	5½	
▼ Mavericks II	12	6	0	6	0	227	167	.667	5½	
▶Titans	12	5	0	7	0	183	204	.611	6½	
► Hackers	11	1	0	10	0	129	239	.394	10	
►Freeze	12	0	0	12	0	105	316	.333	11½	
Bats above Mavericks II on head-to-head										
			Div	/isior	1 3					
▶Screwballs	13	12	0	1	0	325	201	.949	-	
Stingers	13	11	0	2	0	299	215	.897	1	
▶ Bandidos	12	9	0	3	0	269	163	.833	2½	
►Slg'babes	13	8	0	5	0	252	263	.744	4	
► Thunder III	13	7	0	6	0	295	258	.692	5	
► Seagulls	12	6	0	6	0	240	238	.667	5½	
►Tiggers	12	3	0	9	0	216	265	.500	81/2	
Division 4										
►Barflies (P)	12	9	0	3	0	318	228	.833	-	
► Swingers	13	5	0	7	1	181	264	.564	4 ⁵ / ₆	
►Fireballs	12	4	0	7	1	193	206	.528	5⅓	
▶Raiders	12	1	0	11	0	182	298	.389	8	
►Thunder IV	13	0	0	13	0	160	331	.333	9½	