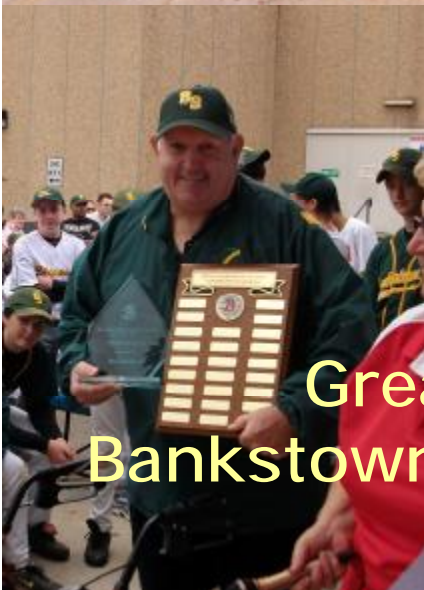


# Bankstown **Sports** **BASEBALL CLUB**



***BDBA Club Champions  
2010/2011***

# Autographs



Great moments for Bankstown Sports Baseball Club 2010/2011



# Presidents Report

Our 2010-2011 season has come to an end with great results to our wonderful club. I would like to take this time to thank our dedicated committee. So many things happen at each and every game, training session and meeting that there is always someone behind the scene making sure every part runs smoothly. This is usually achieved by one or more members of our committee. To this committee I say a huge THANK YOU!

Thank you also to our coaches, assistant coaches, managers, scorers, umpires, canteen helpers and ground staff. Without these necessary tasks being done there would not be any game to watch and support.

## **To the Bankstown Sports Club**

During the course of the season, many people come up to me and say how lucky we are to have the support of the Bankstown Sports Club. You know what! They are right. So let me give a big Thank you to the Club and its committee for their never ending support. To all the over 18 members/parents of members of the Bankstown Sports Baseball Club please if you haven't already done so, join the Bankstown Sports Club and show your thanks for their great support. The cost is minimal considering the benefits received.

## **To Dick Phillips**

Your support and assistance throughout each year as Patron of this wonderful baseball club is so appreciated. Your love of our great game shows in your dedication and commitment to me, our committee and the players themselves. For all this I say a huge "THANK YOU"!

## **To the Parents:**

"Mum, have you seen my box?" "Dad, did you put my glove somewhere?" "Where are my baseball shoes – I know I put them away?" How familiar does this sound?

As parents of children playing sport we all know what it is like, how time consuming and how special we feel at games. For all your dedication and patience getting them to the game and training on time; I give a heartfelt thanks. To those who also put their hand up to help out wherever possible – canteen, coaching, umpiring, pitch counting, scoring and so many different areas; please remember without this help the club could not survive so again Thank You.



# Presidents Report

## Events of 2010-2011

Our annual Bunnings barbecue held at the Bankstown Airport store was again a huge success with many helpers. Hope to see you all at the next one.

In November we held our first ever Trivia night. Stacey McKenzie did a great job organizing everything for this wonderful night and from all accounts was a huge success. Well done Stacey.

To the All Important Teams

U7's	Premiers – non competitive
U8's	6th
U9's	Premiers
U10's	Runners Up
U12's	7th
U14's	Premiers
U17's	Premiers

Wow! Doesn't that look impressive? Well done to everyone, and with that came the **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**. This is a very great accolade to us.

So many of our club members made representative teams (both male and female). As club president I feel so very proud of you all.

I feel the future of the Bankstown Sports Baseball Club is heading in the right direction. It is again pleasing to see parents and junior players taking roles within the club to help at either the field or games.

As you are all aware I could talk all night but I will just need to say that our Annual General Meeting is coming up, so please check your emails in the coming week for further details.

Yours in Baseball

Bruce Anderson



# Secretary & Treasurers Report

Wow! What a great year, in last year's book I wrote look out 2010-2011 here we come and we did. Fantastic results by all teams with 4 teams in the finals, U9s U14 & U17s winning the Grand Final and our U10 as runner up.

The commitment and dedication from every team and coaching staff was outstanding.

We would like to thank everyone who helped in the canteen, at the Bunnings BBQ's and around the field, without you guys we would not be able to have players on the fields and also to our committee who work tirelessly throughout the year never complaining. Thanks to Lynda Sexton for her continued support and for looking after the weekly team result co-ordinating.

Fundraising, what a great year and thanks to Stacey Mackenzie for organising our first Trivia Night what a success, we all had such a great time.

To all our members, for choosing Bankstown Sports Baseball Club as your club, a special thank you from us all.

Our thanks to the Bankstown District Sports Club and Directors for their ongoing support advice and help over the year. A special thank you to Betty Watson, for all your help again this year you are an inspiration to us all.

Finally we would like to wish you all our best for the upcoming year.

Diane Richardson, Melinda Hoy, Leslie Westerweller & Dianne Simpson

## Our Committee 2010 - 2011

President	Bruce Anderson	Canteen Co-ordinators	Dianne Simpson
Vice-President	John Richardson		Diane Richardson
Secretary	Diane Richardson	Grounds People	Bruce Anderson
Asst Secretary	Melinda Hoy		John Richardson
Treasurer	Leslie Westerweller	Sports Club Delegates	Bruce Anderson
Registrar	Diane Richardson		Diane Richardson
Recorder	Lynda Sexton		
Child Protection	Stacey MacKenzie		
	Paris Richardson		
Equipment Officer	Jody Trostel		
Publicity	Melinda Hoy		
Fund Raising	Stacey MacKenzie		
Assoc Delegates	Bruce Anderson		
	Diane Richardson		
	Dianne Simpson		



# Representative

## Rookies

Curtis Flemming  
Alyssa Trostel

## U12 State Cup

Ismail Adra  
Ron Radford— Pitch Coach

## U12 Development

Dion Morely  
Paul Muir—Coach  
David Muir—A/Coach

## U14 State Cup

Alexander Richardson  
Jaiden Flemming  
Luke De Sousa  
Scott Westerweller  
Lachlan Anderson

## U16 State Cup

Zac Anderson  
Tyler McCosker

## NSW U12 Talent in Progress

### (T.I.P) Team

### Little League

Ismail Adra

## NSW U14 Talent in Progress

### (T.I.P) Team

Alexander Richardson  
Jaiden Flemming

## NSW U12 Little League Team

### Bankstown

Ismail Adra

## JAG U13 Girls Series

Daina MacKenzie  
Alyssa Trostel

## JAG U9 Girl Series

Chelsea MacKenzie

## BDBA Awards

### Meritorious Award

Ron Radford

## T-Ball Coach of the Year 10/11

Alexander Richardson  
Jaiden Flemming

## Rookie Umpire Award

Zac Anderson

## U14 State Cup MVP

Alexander Richardson

## U14 State Cup Coach Award

Jaiden Flemming

## U12 State Cup Coach Award

Ismail Adra



# Awards

## **Geof Sharpe Memorial Award**

Bruce Anderson

## **Watson Family Award**

Flemming-Hoy Family

## **Scorer of the Year**

Jody Trostel

## **Volunteer of the Year**

Stacey MacKenzie

## **Team Awards**

U7 Coach Award	Mike Jiang & Blake Rackham
U7 Batting Award	Kye Jedrzejczyk & Mustafa Mohammed
U8 Coach Award	Antonio Mira
U8 Batting Award	Brandon Tangaroa
U9 Coach Award	Dylan Cowin
U9 Batting Award	Liam Merriam
U10 Coach Award	Mathew Munro
U10 Batting Award	Alyssa Trostel
U12 Coach Award	Anthony Evensen
U12 Batting Award	Ismail Adra
U14 Coach Award	Daina MacKenzie
U14 Batting Award	Jaiden Flemming
U17 Coach Award	Dylan Curran
U17 Batting award	Tyler McCosker





# Awards

## **5Yr Award**

Scott Westerweller  
Leslie Westerweller  
Rui De Sousa  
Alyssa Trostel  
Jody Trostel  
Michael Napoli

## **10Yr Award**

Dianne Simpson  
Liam Sexton

## **Coach Medal Awards**

Paris Richardson	Level 0
Lachlan Anderson	Level 0
Zac Anderson	Level 0
Jamie Merriam	Level 0



# Life Members

Laurie Hubbert	Deceased
Jim Kelly	1982/1983
Dave Callanan	1983/1984
Betty Watson	1990/1991
Graham Gardiner	1997/1998
Peter Hawkes	1997/1998
Steve Eurell	2004/2005
Anthony Luck	2004/5005
Paul Muir	2008/2009
Dick Phillips	2008/2009
Bruce Anderson	2009/2010



# The Watson Family Award

Eurell Family	1999/2000
Gauci Family	2000/2001
Luck Family	2001/2002
Field Family	2002/2003
Sloan Family	2003/2004
Sexton Family	2004/2005
Muir Family	2005/2006
Keen Family	2006/2007
Anderson Family	2007/2008
Westerweller Family	2008/2009
Richardson Family	2009/2010
Flemming-Hoy Family	2010/2011



# Geof Sharpe Memorial Award

Glenn Hubbert	1982/1983
Dianne Howard	1983/1984
Diane Blain	1984/1985
Betty Watson	1985/1986
Diane & Glenn Felkin	1986/1987
Margaret Callanan	1987/1988
Gordon Hollis	1988/1989
Ian Cunningham	1989/1990
Graham Gardiner	1990/1991
Shane King	1991/1992
Peter Hawkes	1982/1993
Geof Sharpe	1993/1994
Mark King	1994/1995
Margaret Gardiner	1995/1996
Anne McLaughlin	1996/1997
Alan Sinclair	1997/1998
Kyron Tari	1998/1999
Tony Luck	1999/2000
Steve Eurell	2000/2001
Shane Sloan	2002/2003
Graham Field	2003/2004
Paul Muir	2004/2005
Lynda Sexton	2005/2006
Graham Field	2006/2007
Dianne Simpson	2007/2008
Diane Richardson	2008/2009
Ron Radford	2009/2010
Bruce Anderson	2010/2011



# Under 5 Pirates Mini League



**Coaches:** Paris Richardson & Melinda Hoy

**Players:**

Christian Heim

Indiana Hrouda-Watson

Anthony Hawa

Danial Mira

John Wichman

Tea Mucenski

Benjamin Hawa

Jordan Prenter

Nicholas MacKenzie

Annabelle Rackham

Christiano Mira

Stephanie Arraj

This year we started our very first U5 mini league squad and Paris and I had so much fun with the kids. As this was our first year, we were a little unsure about what skills we should start off with, but we were delighted with the co-operation and enthusiasm that the kids showed, that we needn't have worried. We mainly concentrated on co-ordination and some basic baseball skills. The kids learnt more about baseball than they realize. Next season we are hoping to do it again and have additional equipment and training ideas to help bring all the kids along. We hope to see you all there again.

Thanks so much for your support.

Melinda & Paris



# Under 7 Mets



**Coach** – Alexander Richardson & Jaiden Flemming

**Manager** – Paris Richardson

**Scorer** – Joanne Mucenski & Bernadette Arraj

Firstly, we would like to say a big thank to our parents, without their help we wouldn't have had the opportunity to coach this great bunch of kids, they helped score, coach, organise (juggle) and get us to training and games every week.

Secondly, what a fantastic season we had, every player tried their best every week, was full of enthusiasm and always had a smile on their face. We thoroughly enjoyed this season and hope to come back next season when you start playing competitive ball.

This season, while we were officially non competitive, we know that we were the Premiers. We had one loss, one draw and the rest were wins. How good is that!

**Blake Rackham**— always tried his hardest and never let the team down. Blake would always turn up on time and put in 100%. He is turning out to be a great 3rd baseman.

**Tyrone Aropa**— was a great little hitter who hit many big hits and when throwing the ball always managed to get it on target. What an arm!



# Under 7 Mets

**Darren Lawson**— his batting improved tremendously towards the end of the season and he was starting to get some big hits.

**Rachel Munro**—another player who put in 100% every game. Rachel ran the bases very quickly and was always alert and ready for the next play.

**Mustafa Mohammed**— was very consistent with his batting, but always wanted to smash it! With experience he will learn control and develop into a great batter.

**Kye Jedrzejczyk**—another very consistent batter. Kye would always hit to the gaps and try and advance anyone on base.

**Taiki Arita**—One of the fastest in the team and a very reliable base hitter. Due to his speed he always got onto base.

**Hana Arita**—just as quick as her brother, Hanna would always put in 100% when running the bases and never was afraid of the ball.

**Luke Arraj**—our biggest chatterbox but always tried his best. Towards the end of the season his skills developed and he was playing good baseball.

**Alexzander Mucenski**— put in 100% week in week out and would always take the game very seriously. His batting was strong and he was also very quick around the bases.

**Liam Arraj**—he was always happy to be at baseball and tried his best every week. His base running improved as did his throwing.

**Mike Jiang**—his batting improved and so did his concentration during the game. Mike was enthusiastic and always wanted to be there.

In closing, thank you to all the parents of the players who got the kids to training and to games on time. Your support of us was fantastic. Thank you to everyone who scored and to Paris for helping so much on game days.

Jaiden & Alex

# Under 8 Dodgers



**Coach** – Mathew Roper

**Assistant Coach** – Lachlan Anderson & Neil Roper

**Manager** – Jacki Tangaroa

**Scorer** – Sue Roper

The 2010/11 season was a successful one for the U/8s. It was a large learning curve for myself in particular as it was my return to anything baseball in over 8 years. We started off the season really well with 3 quick wins and then had 3 fairly decent losses that sent us back to the drawing board to change our plans. With the change starting to take shape we struggled in the middle season games before storming home in our last 8 games to draw with the undefeated league leaders and have 4 games that were decided by only one run, 2 of those games coming against the team coming 2<sup>nd</sup>. By the end of the season, every team in the league knew we would push them right to the very end.





# Under 8 Dodgers

The skill that this team not only learned but also put into practise in game situations was well above their years and as a coach I could not be more proud of their development throughout the year.

**Antonio Mira:** Improved out of sight during the year, not only with his fielding but also with his hitting. Always listened and gave 100%

**George Showah:** A speed demon who did a great job while base running and was an important member of the infield.

**Brandon Tangaroa:** Batted an astounding 84 hits from 90 at bats (29 of those for extra bases). Developed his hitting midyear to pick gaps at will. The corner stone of the infield at 3<sup>rd</sup> base.

**Brandon Gruinger:** His hitting developed very late in the season which assisted the team in our mighty charge. Was our most enthusiastic fielder always wanting the ball to come to him.

**Anthony Arraj:** Developed his hitting during the year in such a way that he became a key part of the line up. Was a part of the mid season change which saw him roaming the outfield taking catches and stopping runners.

**Christopher Tannous:** Was identified early as the team's first baseman and began to enjoy his spot. His right side hitting was a great asset to the lower order.

**Michael Tannous:** Made leftfield his own and was a regular number 9 with his combination of speed and placement. Scored the team plenty of runs and saved just as many too.

**Liam Roper:** If there was a DH in teeball, then Liam would be my man. Liam could not have cared if he ever fielded but loved his time at bat. Did what his father never did in over 25 yrs of baseball and hit for a cycle.



# Under 8 Dodgers

**Steven Marinos:** Another speed demon who we acquired mid season that strengthened the teams depth both with his hitting and his fielding. The only player I can recall in baseball history to pull out his own loose tooth while fielding.

**Zac Gruinger:** As a coach, I could not have been more proud of Zac this year. Playing his first game in round 9 after leg surgery, Zac started the year not being able to run and ended the year hitting the ball and scoring runs at will.

I hope you all had an enjoyable year and learnt the importance of teamwork and teammate. I hope to see you all again next year to build on the foundation that we started this year.

To my assistant Lachlan, thank you for your assistance at training and on game day, I hope what you learnt from me will be somewhat useful to you. How can we ever forget 10 U/8's running onto your field to give you a Christmas present? To Jacki and her team of managers that help me yell at the kids on the bench each game, thank you for helping me create some sort of order, and To Sue, who came out of scoring retirement to help with her grandsons team, I thank you. To Neil and Alex for umpiring all of our home games I thank you also

To all the parents that supported not only the kids, but also myself, I would like to thank you. Our year had plenty of ups and downs and without your support it would not have been possible.

Coach – Mathew Roper



# Under 9 Red Sox



**Coach** – Jamie Merriam

**Assistant Coach** – Daina MacKenzie & Adam Simpson

**Manager** – Stacey MacKenzie

**Scorer** – Christina Dupont

Having never coached ANY sport before, I was hesitant to take on such a great responsibility. I would like to firstly say thanks to my team-parents who trusted their children in my care. When I would use discipline, you allowed me to do so knowing that I had the children's best interest at heart. And finding the time to make it to training religiously was appreciated more than you know. I know first hand how time strapped we all are.

Its never been a secret that I am out there to win - and winning felt good. But none of it would have been possible without the kids. Shouting instructions from the sideline is one thing, but the ultimate challenge lays with each individual child.

The thing I am proud of the most from coaching this season is the confidence EVERY child on my team has gained from this experience. I believe that a child's life is enriched each time they gain a little confidence. From the children I met back in September to the children they have become now, I am comfortable in knowing that each of my children on my team gained more than just a championship trophy.



# Under 9 Red Sox

Parents you should be proud, kids you should know how lucky you are to have parents who dedicate their lives to you and what you want to do. A big thanks to my manager Stacey, assistant coach Daina and Adam for helping out when he could. The success of this season would not have been possible without our team work together.

## Liam Merriam

One of our most experienced players on the team, his passion for the game is unmatched. Liam proved week after week he has the skills and knowledge. Liam was voted MVP and Silver Slugger by his team mates, and I would have to agree.

## Josh Merriam

The youngest - and one of the fastest - on the team, Josh always guaranteed to make the other teams sweat. As they all underestimated him, he would run right past them to 1st, 2nd, 3rd then home and leave them wondering 'what just happened'. His huge hits and glove skills to make the outs at first is why his team mates voted him Gold Glove award winner.

## Dylan Cowin

My brilliant 1st baseman. No-one was ever going to get past his base without a fight. At times he would stretch out like rubber to make an out - whilst always remembering to leave his foot on base. Dylan was my safety net and was one of the biggest reasons we won so many games and the big one the "Championship". That's why I've given him the "Grand Final MVP" - well deserved.

## Chelsea MacKenzie

Our 'clean up' girl always came though for the team. Just when we thought an inning was over, Chelsea would hit a bomb and make the competition run out to get the ball. Chelsea was another sure handed infielder who's skills and knowledge helped us finish on top.

## Jordan Reid

My co-rookie of the year, Jordan has come so far this season. With his wonderful personality, quick thinking and super fast wheels, he grasped the game and played with all his heart. Jordan was so easy to teach because he listened and did everything I asked of him and it showed in every game. Always a clutch hitter and a joy to coach.

## Ralph Karabellas-Pereira

My little fire-cracker. Ralph had the biggest personality on the team - without him the dugout would be silent. He was by far the best team-mate and whilst he didn't always enjoy it, he was a fantastic right fielder, he always backed up first. Ralph's big hits in the semi and grand finals were key to our championship.

## Lazareth Baran

My other co-rookie of the year. Being his first year, Laz has excelled in this game. Laz put in 100% effort and dedication. When Laz got hold of a pitch - kaboom. Never missing a training session and doing extra training with his dad. I'm so happy to have had the opportunity to coach him because he loves baseball and it shows.



# Under 9 Red Sox

Christian Fermanov

Christians batting always amazed me. Just when I would pray for a big hit to get someone home, Christian would be up and would deliver and deliver huge. I could always rely on him to get on base and get someone home. Christian was the key to our semi-final when we were down and he turned the table by hitting a double and sending 2 runners home.

Laura Fermanov

Laura's batting ability always took my breath away. She is a silent achiever - but never to be underestimated. Laura managed to make it on base almost every time she was up to bat just when we needed her the most. Her beautiful smile and personality was a pleasure to have on the team. My "miss dependable" award.

Chris Predic

Chris's reliability made my life easy as a coach, as I could rely on him to play ANY position when required. His catching and throwing skills improved so much since last year. His confidence just sky rocketed after every practice and game. Whenever Chris got up to bat I would only look on base to see how many runs he was going to get home with his hit. Chris is my "most improved player" by a mile. An absolute pleasure to coach.

Antoine Dupont

Antoine has an infectious smile and happiness to be doing anything, he always made me and everyone smile. Even though he seemed bored at times he can hit and hit "BIG", he had some monster hits and because he can run as well, he was always a game changer. He also gets my award for "Taken one for the team", he was always getting hit with the ball or taking big damage for the good of the team, and took it with a smile as well. An absolute champion.

Coach Jamie

# Under 10 Yankees



**Coach** - Bruce Anderson  
**A/Coach**—Rui De Sousa  
**Manager** – Jody Trostel  
**Scorer** – Jody Trostel

The Under 10's had a very “topsy turvy” season filled with some wonderful results and some really shameful ones.

During the season we had instability with players coming and going, which unfortunately upsets the continuity of the team. We also had only 6 or so players turning up to training which sometimes left us with more coaches than players. In all sport codes – the more you train the more you will learn.

All that aside, we managed to finish 4<sup>th</sup> by end of season. Then something happened – we put into practice what we had been learning all season. WOW!

Semi final 1 – we won against Chipping Norton  
Semi final 2 – we won against East Hills

Then we faced the undefeated Mustangs in the Grand Final. We lead 3-0 for 80% of the game only to fall 4-3 in (believe it or not) “the last innings”. Well done team!!!



# Under 10 Yankees

## Now, the players.

Curtis Flemming:	A confident player. Well prepared and focused but needs to remember that time is his friend and he will pitch well.
Raeshah Mohammed:	First year player who caught for us in the final series. Nothing was a problem for her.
Michael Barry:	Played 1 <sup>st</sup> base most of the season for us, played strong considering it was his first season.
Rebecca Barry:	Again, another first year player who showed determination to play as well as she could in a couple of positions. Well done.
Matthew Munro:	Played consistently throughout the season and can pitch really well.
Brendon Ah-Hen:	Our shortstop all season except the main game (grand final); being in New Zealand really made it difficult to get there. Brendan closed shortstop down all season.
Alyssa Trostel:	Well played all season. Grew in stature and pitched well.
Dylan Ward:	Our starting pitcher. Played well all season – a job well done.

In the grand final we could only field seven (7) players, so I would really like to thank Liam Merriam and Chelsea MacKenzie for literally stepping up to the plate and helping us out.

A successful team like ours has many behind the scene helpers and here I need to thank:

Frank Trostel:	Assistant Coach
Rui De Sousa:	Assistant Coach
Jodie Trostel:	Manager/Scorer
Tim Barry:	Trainer/Helper
Ron Radford:	Pitching Coach

Without the tireless effort of all the above people, you would not have been able to witness such a great team achieve so much in one season.

There is another group of people without whom the team could not play at all – the parents/caregivers. To them I say THANK YOU for getting them out of bed, making sure they have all their gear including drinks, driving them to the field to train or play and generally supporting them no matter what the result. I am sure they really appreciate it although many wouldn't know how to show it yet.

A great year for everyone involved.

Yours in Baseball

Bruce Anderson

# Under 12 Cardinals



**Coach** - Paul Muir

**Assistant Coach**— Robert Westerweller & Greg Morley

**Pitch Coach**—Ron Radford

**Manager** – Helen Evensen

**Scorer** – Helen Evensen

This was an unusual but highly enjoyable season.

Unusual because we started out with 12 players but due to various reasons we finished with the bare minimum 9. Of these 9 players, 3 had never played the game before. However, we had some really fun times especially in the last few training sessions when we started playing a lot of different games that emphasized the skills of baseball.

Notwithstanding the little obstacles that were continually sent our way, this team of fine young gentlemen exceeded all expectations & finished in a highly commendable 6th position (in a 12 team competition). In a season where Bankstown Sports was the premier club it would be easy to overlook the contributions of this team. I know that the Executive Committee were very pleased with your efforts & the contribution that this team made in ensuring that Sporties were rightly crowned Club Champions. Well done guys.



A stylized black and white icon of a baseball with stitching, positioned to the left of the title. Three horizontal lines of varying lengths extend from the top right of the baseball, suggesting motion or speed.

# Under 12 Cardinals

Matt, Kevin & Lucas were our newcomers & by seasons end were finally coming to grips with this great game of ours. Matt's hitting was a highlight as were the fielding efforts of Kevin & Lucas.

Our representative players Ismail & Dion were great leaders. Dion in his hitting & Ismail in all facets of the game. Both of these kids have natural talent & with a lot of hard work & a little luck will go far in this game. Our pitchers Anthony E & Anthony C were the backbone of this team. It is a daunting experience when pitching to some of the Districts best power hitters but these guys were always the first to grab the ball when asked to pitch. Great stuff!

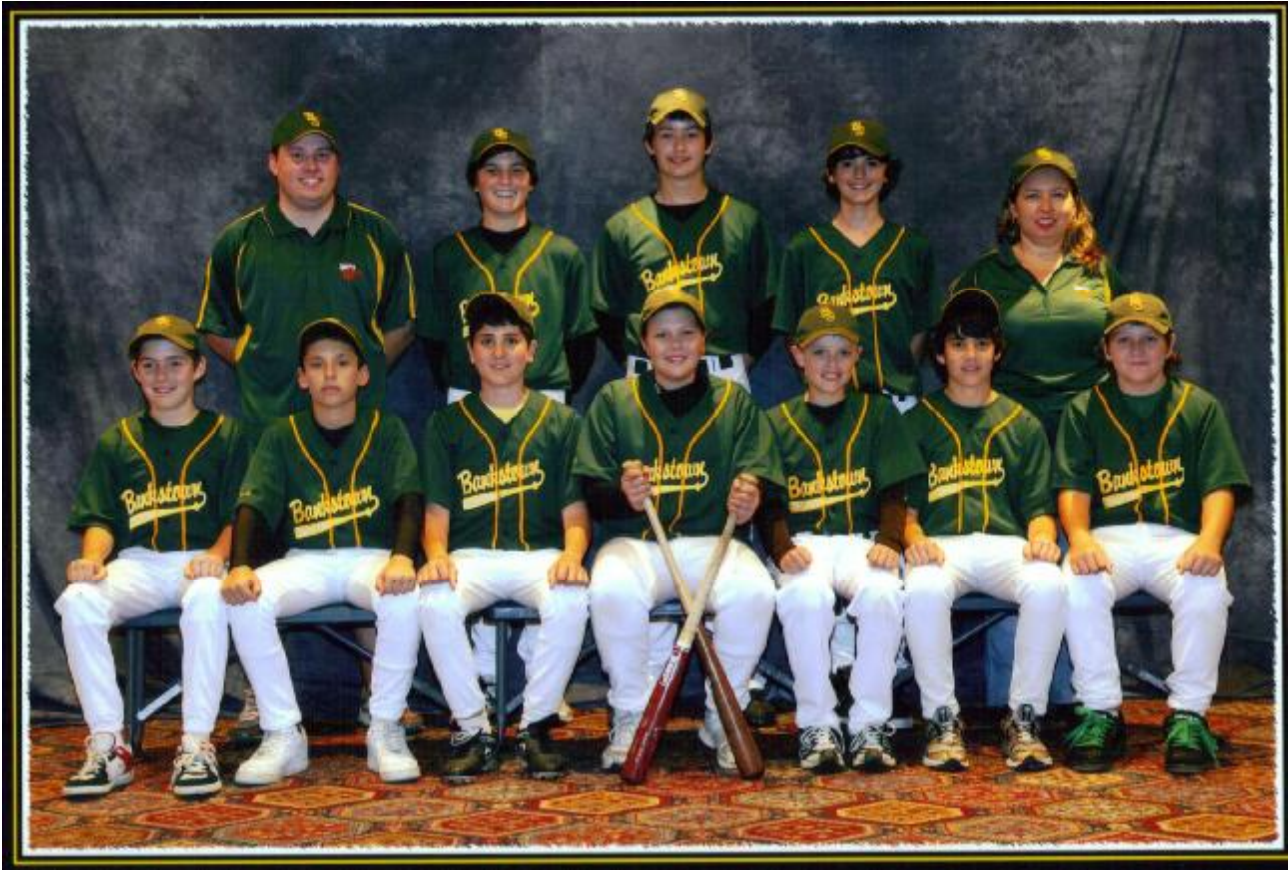
Sarkis continued with the great form that he produced last year & was a very reliable player for us fielding in many different positions & making some great hits. Michael was our awesome catcher. He is absolutely fearless & was a rock for us behind the dish.

A big thank you to Rob my co coach. Rob has the ability to talk to the kids rather than at the kids. As a result, the boys learnt a lot from Rob this year. Thanks Rob for your help this year. Thanks also to Ron Radford who I'm proud to call my friend. Ron will always come down to the park to assist when asked & the boys learn a lot from Ron's experience & wisdom (as do I). Thanks Ron.

Finally thank you to all the parents in particular our Manager Helen Evensen, Greg Morley & Sam Adra.

Cheers Paul

# Under 14 Marlins



**Coach** - David Muir

**Assistant Coach**—John Richardson

**Pitch Coach**—Ron Radford

**Manager** – Maria De Sousa

**Scorer** – Sue Anderson

So concludes another season of Marlin baseball and I can't be prouder as a coach with the achievements this team obtained this season. Minor Premiers and Premiers, the best offensive and defensive team in the competition and the icing on the cake, earning the Bankstown's district spot in the U14 champions of champions tournament.

At the start of the year I had people from other clubs telling me how this team should easily win the competition and my response all the time was "we'll see what happens". Up until Round 10, I believed them, but round 10 yielded our first loss of the season and a wake up call that we were beatable. However, things got back on track until round 17 where I and the many spectators in attendance witnessed one of the best junior pitching duels I've ever seen. The final score was 1-1 with all 4 pitchers pitching over 60% of strikes.



# Under 14 Marlins

We closed out the regular season with 2 very dominate performances which was a good sign leading into the playoffs. In week 1 of the playoffs we were down 6-0 after half an inning and to the credit of this team we fought back to be 6-6 after 2 innings, but couldn't muster a second comeback. The proudest thing for me as a coach this season was the way we responded, we played our toughest opponent in the semi and we could have rolled over and died, but we fought and responded well to what happened the week before and "Earned" our spot in the grand final where the rest is history.

I would like to thank the following people for their contributions to the team this year, Maria (Manager), Leslie and Sue (Scorers), John (Assistant Coach) and Ron (Pitching Coach). I would also like to thank all parents for driving their kids to training and games. I would also like to thank all parents from our club and other clubs for watching our games this season, I hope we put on a decent show and entertained you. Also I would like to thank my mum for driving me to training.

Onto the players, I would like to personally thank each and every one of you guys, you made this year a lot of fun and it was very enjoyable to coach you. I hope you had as much fun as I did and I hope you gained a lot of knowledge about the game of baseball and techniques which you can use for the rest of your playing days

Luke – the leadoff man, Luke gave us a triple threat at the top of the line-up, someone who could hit for power, run the bases well and someone who could steal at least 2-3 bases per game. Had a solid defensive season and had quality outings pitching when his number was called

Jaiden – The ace of our pitching staff and started every game when not restricted, the sign of a good starting pitcher is one who can give his team a lead or one who can keep his team close to pounce late, and every start in which Jaiden pitched he either gave us a lead or kept us in the game

Alex – Moved back to 3<sup>rd</sup> base this season and provided very solid defence, but this year the biggest improvement in Alex's game was his hitting, hit at least 4 HRs during the season and during the Semi Final he drove in 5 RBIs and earned the Save. Alex puts the time in to master the fundamentals and is now reaping the rewards; you have a bright future in this sport

Scott – Quiet an interesting season Scotty had, at times struggled with the bat as catchers do (but did hit 1 HR), but made up for it with outstanding defensive play gunning down runners all season long, he also stepped up by going out to visit with his pitchers to calm them down and talk tactics when the opposition was getting the upper hand, a great attribute for any catcher to have.



# Under 14 Marlins

Daina – It was a shame you injured your elbow toward the end of the season, but even with the injury you were by far the most consistent player in this team, week in week out, you provided this team with solid defensive at 1<sup>st</sup> base and at least 1 hit per game, and during the rep season you stepped up as our starting pitcher. All the effort you put in at your training sessions is starting to pay off and you're becoming one really talented baseball player who could go a long way in this sport

Michael – Well last year Michael was the hit man, this year he dished out revenge hitting 3 batters in the 1 game he pitched (LOL), but in all seriousness Michael's batting tremendously improved this year becoming a solid hitter strengthening the lower half of our line-up and with his solid out-fielding was a real contributor to the team.

Lachlan – A very reliable outfielder who patrols the outfield barking out instructions to his other outfielders which is a good attribute to possess. Lachlan also has a very disciplined approach at the plate, week in week out providing at bats of more than 5 pitches, which in the days of a pitch count are quality 'at bat' to have

Frankie – A solid season considering all the new information which Frankie was taught, he handled himself well and asked questions. Frankie really started to improve his batting and fielding as the season went on, and with continued application and effort at training the consistency will come

Morgan – Had a successful year, timely hitting in the 9 hole which for our team is a crucial position in turning over the line-up to the top again and solid defence at 2nd base summed up Morgan's first year in the 14s, also caught the odd game as well and did a really good job behind the plate.

Nathan – I hoped you enjoy your first season of baseball. Nathan's attitude towards learning the game was excellent, constantly asking questions which could improve his game, stick with it next season Nathan keep asking questions and keep practising at home and consistency will come.

With this final paragraph ends this report, and with that I hope everyone comes back next year, for those coming up with me to the 16s prepare, because we have a lot of new tricks and skills to learn. For those staying in the 14s enjoy it and use what I've taught you and pass it onto the younger guys coming up, if any of you guys have a question about baseball and you see me around don't hesitate to ask, I'm here to help.

David

# Under 17 Diamondbacks



**Coach** - Bruce Anderson  
**Assistant Coach**—Lynda Sexton  
**Manager** – Dianne Simpson  
**Scorer** – Leslie Westerweller

The 2010/11 season marked the fourth for this combined venture and what a remarkable combination it has been. Four seasons, 3 minor premierships, 4 grand finals, 3 premierships and 1 Champion of Champions trophy. Few teams can boast such success.

In many ways this season was our most accomplished. A win/loss record of 15 and 2 with 1 draw (86%) and a run differential of 108 illustrates just how far ahead of the opposition we were – second finished 10 percentage points and 53 runs behind. From a coaching perspective one of the most valuable attributes of this team has always been it's ability to maintain pressure on an opposition and to never panic. With such an abundance of talent in the side it is always just a matter of waiting, working hard on the simple things and then taking the opportunities when they arrive.

The Grand Final this season was a great example of this approach and reflected the big game experience this side has developed over the last four seasons.



# Under 17 Diamondbacks

In fact the GF was the epitome of the essence of this team:

- At the end of 2 innings we were down 5-1 and it should have been worse but for Tyler's determination and fighting spirit on the mound as the opposition certainly came out very hard after us from the start. In spite of his obvious disappointment Tyler was still able to remain in the game as one of the leading hitters.
- Liam has been one of the leaders of this team from behind the plate all season and did a tremendous job once again in keeping everyone cool and on track. Apart from his own superb individual performance, his leadership was very evident in the batter's box by doing whatever was necessary to advance runners or to get on base.
- Garry quietly goes about his business then explodes with something wonderful just when it is needed. In spite of his impatience to do the "special thing" every single time his talent and ever growing experience managed to shut the opposition down from the mound while his bat kept us in the hunt throughout the game.
- Adam was the unsung leader during this GF and throughout the season. Whether it be playing one of three positions or executing the perfect bunt when asked, Adam proved his versatility and talent time and again. Undoubtedly had he been asked to catch at some stage in the GF he would have said "yes coach" and then excelled in that position as well.
- Harry (also affectionately known as Robert) played a great finals series. His maturity showed on several occasions in the quality and effectiveness of his work both in the field and with the bat – all the time under the watchful and biting gaze of the opposition bench.
- Robbie's versatility was invaluable during the GF and all season. Being able to move him from short stop and call on his pitching to shut down and frustrate an opposition with momentum in the crucial middle part of the game was a game winner.
- Mason showed what sheer raw talent can do and he can do it all as displayed during the GF – running down flies in the open spaces of left field, hitting in runs at crucial times, running bases (though he still runs them like a softballer). Easy to coach that sort of talent – just point where and let it happen.
- Dylan made the play of the season and turned the game our way – will anyone ever forget it! Again a natural athlete that can thrill with his ability and uncanny reading of a game. I have always maintained that with Dylan playing well at the top of the order the team plays well behind him. The GF was no exception.



# Under 17 Diamondbacks

- The toughest position in baseball is to start any game on the bench. You have to maintain your focus each and every innings and be ready to jump into the action at a moments notice whenever the coach asks. Joshua, Michael, Zac and Ryan did just that during the GF and did so without any question or complaints. I deeply admire each of them for this resolute commitment to their team. When asked each of them immediately responded and fulfilled their roles perfectly. Although presented with limited opportunities during the GF their individual talents and contributions were a considerable part of our overall success this season. This can also be said of Jake who, unfortunately, was not able to attend the GF due to illness but whose season contribution was acknowledged and remembered during the ceremonies.

Overall a wonderful effort by some wonderfully talented athletes and a fitting conclusion for those players who have now concluded their junior careers – Adam, Robbie and Liam – players who have served and represented their club with distinction for many years. Congratulations.

My thanks to my co-coach Bruce Anderson, our tireless manager Di Simpson, our scorer Sue Anderson and our jack of all trades Leslie Westerweller. Special thanks also to Linda Sexton for standing in when required.

Stephen Neville