



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY 1ST APRIL 2023

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President's Report

As we conclude another year of softball it has been our busiest year for some time. In our first year without Covid interruptions we certainly packed in plenty of games and made up for lost time. It was fantastic to see the Raiders colours out in force, on diamonds from Waverley to Werribee; from the Gold Coast to Launceston and Melbourne to Shepparton and not just on Saturdays, we played every day of the week.

We entered 3 senior teams in the summer competition at Waverley and 3 junior teams in the South Eastern Metro League. Our Open 2 team made finals for the first time in a while and won their semi-final, earning the right to play again on the Sunday but falling short of a spot in the Grand Final. It's pleasing to see a high standard of softball and the great combination of the younger generation working with our more experienced players to produce excellent results. Our two Open 4 teams continued their success of the last few years with Black falling short of finals by 1 game and Red winning their semi to progress to the Grand Final. As our only team left in finals I look forward to seeing plenty of support for Open 4 Red on the sidelines on GF Day.

Our junior teams were also extremely successful, with U18 Girls and U12s missing out on finals by the narrowest of margins and U15 Boys progressing to a semi-final in their most successful season since joining SEMR. Even more pleasing is the skills development, teamwork, listening to coaches and confidence of our juniors and I look forward to seeing them continue their softball, whether they play competitively or for fun.

Although we were not able to enter Open 1 or Open 3 teams, we had many players representing other clubs. We are very close to regaining our presence in those grades and the committee and coaches will continue to work hard to get us back to full capacity.

Outside of the Summer competition our teams and successes were many and varied. We entered a team in Waverley's inaugural Wednesday Night competition and won the Grand Final. We also took Gold in the Werribee Memorial Shield in October and Silver in a tightly fought Grand Final in the Melbourne Winter Competition.

Our Masters participation continues to shine; it's one of the best things about our sport that there is no limit to participation and we can continue playing for as long as we want to. In the past year we entered teams in the Waverley Easter Tournament, Victorian Masters at Shepparton, Pan Pacs on the Gold Coast and Launceston Masters. Medals abounded and much fun was had. Thank you to our Masters Sub Committee (Anna Dreher, Jacqui Parker, Kay Williams and Mary-Anne Tyler) who not only organised multiple tournaments but also created a process to help us manage future tournaments.

Congratulations to all the Raiders players who were selected to represent Victoria and Waverley Association. We have the honour of a Victorian Titan in our club in Cate Caldwell who not only gives her all on the diamond but also generously shares her time and knowledge, particularly with our juniors. Congratulations also to Mackenzie and Baden who represented Victoria at the U12 School Sports Australia tournament and to Mili who was Waverley team manager at the recent Open State Championships. And still ahead, Charlotte and Storm will represent Waverley in the U18 State Championship, with Rosie as Team Scorer. Our statisticians were also out in force at State and National Championships as team and tournament statisticians. Well done to Alli, Rosie and Chris for their statistician appointments.

Coach Judi ran the first of the new Home Run Heroes programs introducing school aged kids to our game, ably supported by George and Jason. We had lower numbers than expected but the enthusiasm and encouragement of the coaches more than compensated and we welcomed Izzy to the U12s team. We will look to run this program again in the lead up to our summer season so please spread the word about how

much fun softball can be and encourage your friends to join in. These programs are crucial to grow our sport and our junior teams.

We all know how important coaches are for developing skills and providing encouragement. We are so lucky to have such amazing coaches for our junior and senior teams and I thank them for the incredible amount of time they volunteer every week.

We started the season with no umpires so thanks to those who covered our umpiring duties, in Anna D, Stuart, Cate, Mary-Anne and Natasha. With supportive parents and development by the Waverley umpiring crew, we added Finton, Joe and Hamish early in the season and then Oscar, Jason and Andreas. Thank you to all our green shirts and we hope you continue your umpiring careers.

Thanks to Alli, Kay, Joy, Alisha and the Michelles for keeping score all season. My fellow statisticians were busy studying and re-accrediting, with Mary-Anne, Joy and Alli reaccrediting to Levels 1, 2 and 5, while Lory attained her Level 1 and Rosie and I achieved Level 4. Special thanks to Alli who is always so generous in sharing her knowledge with the rest of us.

A reminder to everyone that Raiders has a Development Fund, thanks to generous donations. The fund helps cover costs associated with accreditation for playing, coaching, umpiring and scoring so if you are interested in enhancing your skills in these areas please reach out to the committee. As usual we would not be able to field so many teams without the huge number of volunteers who share their time and efforts to support the club through coaching, umpiring, scoring, grounds work and other tasks. A big thank you to everyone who helped keep the club and competitions running by fulfilling rostered duties with a smile or pitching in when needed. We were well represented on the volunteer roster at U16 National Champs by Mili, Jacqui, Mary-Anne and Kate. The Greens also took all our fantastic photos. The club and association rely on volunteers and we appreciate all assistance. I am extremely grateful for the work and support of the committee. They are a fantastic bunch of smart and capable women who work tirelessly for the good of the club. Everyone wore multiple hats and, among other things, Joy kept us all in uniforms and compiled this report; Kay fulfilled registrar duties, managed our equipment and took care of our line markings; Rachel fulfilled treasurer duties on top of coaching 2 teams; Anna C compiled committee minutes and newsletters; Anna D managed the duty roster; Mok kept our website up to date; Mary-Anne updated our socials and Jacqui submitted numerous grant applications, successfully securing funds to provide sunscreen for our teams.

Softball does not stop at the end of summer anymore. There are Junior State Championships in April, another Waverley Wednesday night competition, potential Waverley Winter Saturdays and Junior Teeball, and the Melbourne Winter season at Fawkner Park. Keep an eye on our website, socials and newsletters for any updates.

It's an honour to be part of a club with over 30 years of history and a large and diverse membership across multiple age groups and levels of participation which truly embodies our philosophy of softball for everyone. I look forward to seeing you all next season.

Jackie Campbell
President

2022/23 Raiders Committee

Executive committee

President		Jackie Campbell
Secretary		Anna Chmiel
Treasurer		Rachel Lennox
Registrar		Kay Williams

General committee

-  Anna Dreher
-  Winnie Mok
-  Jacqui Parker
-  Mary-Anne Tyler
-  Joy Votersen

Representative players and officials

Congratulations to the following players and officials for their inclusion as representative players and/or officials for the 2022/2023 season:

2022 U23 Men's Nationals

Allison Pendlebury – Victorian Team Statistician

2022 School Sports Australia Championships

Mackenzie Ritter – Victorian Girls Team

Baden Vandenberg – Victorian Boys Team

2023 U18 Girls Nationals

Rosie Hawkins – Victorian Team Statistician

2023 Open Women's National Championships

Cate Caldwell – Victorian Titans Team

2023 U16 Girls and Boys Nationals

Allison Pendlebury, Rosie Hawkins, Chris Trengove, Jackie Campbell – Official Statisticians

2023 U23 Men's Nationals

Allison Pendlebury – Victorian Team Statistician

Jackie Campbell – Official Statistician

2023 Victorian State Championships

Charlotte Delos, Storm Searle - Waverley U18 Team

Rosie Hawkins – Waverley U18 Team Statistician

Mili Cohen – Waverley Open Women Team Manager

Allison Pendlebury – GEMSA Team Statistician

Treasurer's Report

I now present the financial report of the Eastern Raiders Softball Club for the financial year ending 28 February 2023.

The Club's closing cashbook balance as at 28 February was \$11,997.55 of which was \$1,053.71 related to the Masters bank account which is to be used to receive funds on behalf of players for payment of Masters tournament expenses. Therefore, the net cash balance for the Club is \$10,943.84.

Club Fees (including uniform purchases) for this financial year amounted to \$4,396. The ERSC Fees on the Statement of Receipts and Payments reflects the net amount received by the Club, and subsequently there were no significant outgoings for WSA & SV Fees.

The Eastern Raiders Softball Club started the year with \$9,721.93 in the bank and therefore there was a surplus of cash for the year of \$1,222 (excluding the master's reimbursement account). Given the change to Revolutionise Sport, the most substantial outgoings are the fees payable to Melbourne Softball Association and uniform purchases. We also have around \$4,025 worth of uniform stock on hand at the end of the financial year.

We received two grant payments totalling \$566.60 from the Victorian Government for First Aid Kits and Sunscreen thanks to the great work of Jacqueline Parker and her grant submissions. These grants are required to be used for first aid kits and sunscreen and we purchased the first aid kits during the 2023 financial year. The sunscreen will be purchased prior to the commencement of next season.

If any club members would be interested in obtaining their accreditations or have any ideas for any other development opportunities, the Club has funds available in the development fund and would love to continue to support and assist Club members with their accreditations.

I would like to thank the committee for their ongoing support during the year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable season and I look forward to contributing to the Club again in 2023/24.

Rachel Lennox

Treasurer

Financial Statements

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Period Ended 28 February 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Opening Cash Book Balance at 1 March	9,721.93	5,548.22
Receipts		
ERSC Fees	4,395.85	6,472.77
Uniform Sales	1,740.80	1,356.00
Fundraising	1,053.71	-
Grants	566.60	4,000.00
Sponsorship	300.00	-
Competition Prizes	600.00	600.00
Sundry Receipts	3.77	-
Total Receipts	8,060.73	12,428.77
Payments		
WSA & VSA Fees		36.50
Other Associations	1,300.00	4,150.00
AGM Expenses	656.85	312.98
Uniform Purchases	2653.00	2,195.50
Equipment Purchases	62.40	883.35
Trophies (previous season)	415.80	487.30
Development Fund expenses	231.06	188.00
Sundry Payments	466.00	1.43
Total Payments	5,785.11	8,255.06
Surplus/(Deficit)	2,275.62	4,173.71
Closing Cash Book Balance at the end of February	11,997.55	9,721.93

Bank Account Reconciliation

Balance as per Bank Statement dated 28 February 2023	11,997.55
Less: Unpresented Cheques	0.00
Plus: Receipts not yet credited to Account	0.00
Balance as per ERSC Cash Book at 28 February 2023	11,997.55

Additional Information

Balance as per ERSC Cash Book at 28 February 2023	11,997.55
Plus: Anticipated Receipts relating to the 2022-23 Season	
Outstanding Fees/Uniform	
Less: Anticipated Payments relating to the 2022-23 Season	
Trophies	500.00
Consumer Affairs (annual statement fee)	55.00
AGM & Presentations	500.00
Uniform & Equipment Purchases	1,053.71
Operating Funds	9,888.84

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Committee of Management: Eastern Raiders Softball Club Inc.

Scope

I have audited the accompanying financial report, comprising of a Statement of Receipts and Payments, for the year ended 28 February 2023.

The committee of Management of Eastern Raiders Softball Club Inc. are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

The financial report was prepared for the benefit of the committee and its members and the purpose identified above. I do not accept responsibility or use to any other person for the content of the financial report.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the Eastern Raiders Softball Club Inc. presents fairly in accordance with Accounting standards for the financial year ended 28th February 2023.



Tim Stillwell CA
Date 21 March 2023

Life Members

1997 Bert Donaldson (dec.)
1997 Colin Thomas (dec.)
1997 Dot Taylor
1998 Liz Baker (dec.)
1998 Marie Baker
2001 Heather Raditsis
2001 Jacinta Poole
2001 John Hollingsworth
2001 Kathy Sharp
2001 Rosie Hawkins
2002 Allison Pendlebury
2002 Jenny Baker
2002 Kerry Trevethan
2003 Rodger Trevethan
2003 Susie Heggie
2004 Freya Carlson
2004 Jennifer Guinane
2004 Marilyn Bouwmeester (Heggie)
2004 Sue Donaldson
2006 Judith Liddell
2009 Barb Trengove
2009 Chris Trengove
2011 Claire Shelvey
2011 Mary-Anne Tyler
2012 Sue Arnett
2013 Anna Chmiel
2015 Geraldine Grisold
2018 Loretta Stefanopoulos
2018 Rachel Lennox
2020 Mili Cohen
2020 Natasha Shelvey

Team Reports

Masters

Victorian Master Shepparton

11th to 13th June 2022



Team: Claire Shelvey, Jacqui Parker, Joy Votersen, Anna Chmiel, Stacey Eason, Annette (Chucky) Phillips, Mary-Anne Tyler, Michelle Kelly, Jackie Campbell, Maree Crabtree, Vic Brown, Winnie Mok, Judith Liddell

Coach: Kay Williams

Assistant Coach: Nelly Andrews

Scorers: Loretta Stefanopoulos, Jill Williams

Another great weekend away with one team entered. We were entered into a very competitive B grade which challenged us, but we held our own and our wily ways caught the younger ones out every now and then and some great softball was played. The team finished 4th and played off for bronze. Unfortunately, Tassie Relics were too good, and we went down 11-9 in a tight game.

Pan Pacific Masters – Gold Coast

5th to 12th November 2022



Players from all over Australia represented Raiders at the Pan Pacific Masters Games. After 5 grading games in 3 days the team progressed to the regular competition and another 4 days of games. We had players put their bodies on the line taking catches left right and centre, some big hits with a couple of home runs and people playing positions they don't normally play. It was so good to see everyone give it their all and take it all in their stride.

We walk away with a few injuries but have had the best time with our old and new friends coming together to play this little game called Softball.....

We would like to thank everyone who played, Coached and our umpire Nikki.

Launceston Softball Masters Tasmania

11th to 13th March 2023



Team: Judith Liddell, Anna Dreher, Anna Chmiel, Jacqui Parker, Jenny Scholtz, Annette (Chucky) Phillips, Mary-Anne Tyler, Jackie Campbell, Sharon Scallion, Caz Scholtz, Mary Smith

Coaches: Jill Williams & Jacqui Parker

Scorer: Kay Williams

Manager: Jo Grubb

This year saw us enter 1 team with a fun weekend and some great softball being played. Tassie put on some great weather, and we made sure we visited plenty of local restaurants in between games. Raiders played 7 games for the weekend, finishing 4th in the rounds and playing for gold in B Grade. Unfortunately, we went down to a string tassie team and came away with silver. Another successful tournament with some great softball played by all.

Open 2



2022/2023 players: Lory Stefanopoulos, Mili Cohen, Sarah Wickens, Charlotte Delos, Elise Cramer, Cindy Ritter, Caitlin Caldwell, Vicky McKenzie, Maddie Grbac, Sienna Nicholls, Tamsyn Fairweather, Courtney Maihi, Alisha Gray (not pictured), Courtney Guy (not pictured)

Coaches: Mili Cohen & Cate Caldwell

Scorers: Allison Pendlebury & Joy Votersen

Season 2022-2023 has seen some change in our O2 playing roster. With our Bruisers 'cousins' deciding to enter a team we lost a few players that had been regulars across the last few seasons, however we were fortunate to gain some new faces and welcome more of the younger generation into the Raiders Open2 fold.

After a wet season start, we finally got going with our players new and experienced, with a few early wins thanks to aggressive offence and some solid defence.

With our stalwart outfielders Lory Stefanopoulos (centre field) and Elise Kramer (left field) generally at the top of the batting order, the short game combined with a bit of speed in the legs helped us get the early jump in a few games and pleasingly we've maintained focus on our offensive play which is critical in the higher grades. Lory and Elise can play both the short and hitting game and both have done so consistently through the season. Thanks to Lory for being flexible with the multiple changes in batting order line up and to Elise for always approaching the lead off position with a smile and determination to make an impact. Both players are long standing members of Raiders and part of the foundation of our O2 team.

Cindy Ritter and Vicky McKenzie took on a lot of the pitching and catching duties this season and I thank them for this. I *think* both have enjoyed their time this season and despite the aches and pains associated with being 'experienced' 😊, both players have stepped up and done a remarkably good job when called upon. Good to see Vicky giving it a decent crack in the batter's box... just remember that the further it's hit the less running is required!

We welcome some northerners this season – Cate Caldwell and Sarah Wickens. Both have starred on the Open 1 live stream this year, Cate generally at 1st base and Sarah 2nd base and pitching for Syndal. Both players are highly experienced with excellent skills on and off the diamond and have been pivotal in the success we've enjoyed this year. Big thanks to Cate for assuming the Assistant Coach role and helping me

out a heap – it's greatly appreciated, and the impact Cate has had on all our players has been a very positive one. Thanks also to Sarah for playing just about anywhere she's asked and partnering with Cindy in the pitching stakes, it's awesome to have more than 1 pitcher in a team and to have 2 of the quality we had is indeed rare these days. Congratulations to Cate for wearing the big V with Titans back in January, you did yourself, our team, our club and the Waverley Association proud and we loved watching you in action – here's hoping we see you and other Raiders on that stage again.

A big thank you to our under 18 'juniors' who participated this year in O2 – Maddie, Alisha, Tamsyn, Charlotte and Sienna. All have contributed extremely well and the most pleasing element of coaching is seeing the younger generation step up and have a go. The aggressive batting, base running and approach on the diamond is so good to see and a testament to the skills these young players have. I look forward to all these players continuing with Raiders to further develop those skills and give the older generation something to think about! Big welcome to Charlotte Delos – her first season with Raiders has been enormously successful and can't wait to see this young talent develop over the next few seasons. Always nice to find players willing to give a few positions a go, Charlotte has played both 1st and 3rd base this season solidly.

Our 2 Courtneys – thank you both. Flexible with diamond positions, capable in the batter's box and always with a smile. Great to have you in our team and club and your contributions this season certainly have been recognised. We look forward to seeing you back in the black and red next season and ready to go hard.

Last but not least – Alison and Joy. We are fortunate at Raiders to have several highly credentialed statisticians and both these ladies have done a fine job for our O2 side this season. Alison was the scorer for the inaugural Eastern Raiders senior 'A' Grade team some 23 years ago, and while there were no iPad and fancy technology back then, her attention to all detail and deft moves with the coloured pens was extraordinary then, as it most certainly is now. She is a highly regarded member of the Softball Australia community, and Raiders is extremely fortunate to have somebody of her calibre at our club. Thank you to both these awesome club people, we hope you join us again next season.

I write this prior to finals kicking off and for the first time in many years, ERSC O2 has finished in the top 4 of the pool, therefore we head into a semi-final shortly. Win, lose or draw I am proud of the way this team has conducted itself all season – the spirit in which the game is played is remembered far longer than any result and as our sport looks to reinvent itself in Victoria and Australia, I encourage our players young and old continue to step onto the diamond with a positive attitude, respect the competition and enjoy the experience.

Onto season 2023-2024, can't wait to see you all back for another go.

Mili Cohen

ERSC O2 Coach

Open 4 Red



2022/2023 players: Emily Hilliard, Lauren Doolan, Mary-Anne Tyler, Rachel Lennox, Winnie Mok, Georgia McGregor, Justine Giorgio

Not in Picture: Amber Hallam, Caz Scholtz, Doreen Hart, Ellen Goh, Megan Green, Natasha Shelvey

Coach: Rachel Lennox

Scorer: Kay Williams

Open 4 Raiders Red started off the season well and we ended the season at the top of the ladder as minor premiers. We played excellent softball throughout the season, and could not be knocked off top spot with 3 weeks to go. We won the semi-final to make the grand final and we hope that we have finished the season off with a great grand final win.

The team was very consistent and ended up with 162 runs for and 97 against with the best percentage in Open 4A. All players worked well as a team, and we found our groove early.

Amber and Doreen were excellent with the bat and in the outfield, Caz was a fantastic team player and was willing to play in any position, however we ultimately decided she was a superstar at short-stop.

Megan, Emily, Tash and Mok were very reliable. Tash had another strong pitching season and Emily provided fantastic support to her behind the plate. Megan liked to stretch the arms of first base and was solid at 3rd, and Mok is always ready to go with her helmet on in the dugout even though she isn't up to bat.

We welcomed Georgia in the middle of the season and enjoyed her youthfulness and enthusiasm. Mary-Anne was the ultimate utility and played in nearly every position, except pitcher. Lauren and Justine had some fantastic hits and Ellen has continued to grow and improve as a player.

Thanks to Kay for scoring and filling in for one game when we needed her (and smashing it).

Thanks for a great season and I'm looking forward to doing it all again next season.

Rachel Lennox

Open 4 Black



2022/2023 players: Anna Chmiel, Anna Dreher, Jackie Campbell, Jacqui Parker, Jessica Jensen, Judith Liddell, Annette Phillips, Claire Shelvey, Michelle Laycock, Michelle Lukaczynski, Sarah Keall Kroenert, Veronica Odeke, Joy Votersen

Coaches: Sarah Keall Kroenert, Anna Chmiel

The 2022/23 season was one of ups and downs for our Open 4A Black team. We started with a few injuries and struggled to keep a consistent team but, as always, we had a bunch of fun. We had the regular pair with Anna C pitching and Annette (Chucky) catching. Just before Christmas we welcomed Joy and Anna D back from injury and saw success at our night games getting a few wins on the board. We often welcomed a fill-in from the red team which was greatly appreciated. Shell (Michelle Laycock) and Luka (Michelle Lukaczynski) led our team in the batting stats, getting safely on base 75% of the time. Occasionally we saw JP (Jacqui Parker) and Judi step into the pitching role and Judi, Jess and Luka catching role when Chucky was absent. We called upon Jackie Campbell for the intricate rules of the game when something odd occurred (which seemed to happen often for us).

There were a few highlights to the season.

- We saw our first ever snatch catch, which was more than entertaining.
- It was a common sight to see Vee (Veronica) sliding to base and stealing just about every base with her stealth speed (which we all admire and are secretly jealous of).
- Anna C smoked the field with our only home run, right near the end of the season (there was no pitcher speed up invoked and she had to run ALL the bases).
- Our ultimate highlight came in our very last game. With many injuries and other commitments, we were down to 7 players. Playing against Falcons, we went without our regular pitcher and catcher, however, the combo of JP and Luka smashed it. JP took several catches and Luka jumped up to grab one from the catcher's box. We set up with Vee playing a short right field and deep 2nd base. If anyone can cover that much ground, then it's gotta be Vee. Shell had us covered in left and centre field. That left Anna D, Jackie and Sarah covering the infield. We kept the Falcons to only 2 runs for the entire game! It became tricky batting with 2 automatic outs, but we managed to smash it at the bat and score 6 runs to win the game!!!

What a great season with a whole bunch of dead-set, no fuss, full-fun legends.

Sarah and Anna

Under 18 Girls



2022/2023 players: Charlotte Delos, Gemma Constable, Maddie Grbac, Alisha Gray, Ella Tucker, Frances Scott-Mackereth, Tamsyn Fairweather, Sienna Nicholls, Storm Searle, Darshi Govender

Coaches: Cate Caldwell, Rachel Lennox and Lory Stefanopoulos

Scorer: Joy Votersen

As season 2022 ended, there was fear as to whether Raiders would field another U18 side in 2023 due to players ageing out, and no prospects of younger players to join the ranks just yet. Thankfully, we were given permission to keep some players and we were lucky enough to gain some new faces.

Rachel and Lory returned as coaches, welcoming Cate with a stellar softball resume and much knowledge and energy to share.

We welcomed Charlotte and Gemma, two pitchers with additional infield talents. Char was our big voice in the field when not pitching, with Gem our cool and calm player in any position. Sienna was a handy pickup as a catcher, a big ball of energy who also spent time in the outfield. Storm showed great interest in learning first base and was fearless in the batting box. Frances returned as a full-time player, who despite reservations, was thrown into catch at times and as always was versatile in the field. We were saddened to lose Frances to injury late in the season.

It was great to welcome back Ella and Tamsyn, who both had a break from pitching thanks to our new additions. Tamsyn solidified her position as a great centrefielder, and found her batting groove this season! Ella was versatile as always, and late in the season proved her catching abilities are firmly intact. Darshi remained our speedy leadoff batter, with plenty of hard hits fielded at short stop. Alisha stretched for those throws to first and worked on flattening her swing to create some great hits. Maddie was solid at second base and always ready to field those bunts at first. We promise we won't make you catch again!

Joy was our scorer who never let us down with her expertise. It was also fantastic to have the support of many parents, who came to assist with training, cheer us on during games, and provided help wherever required. It sadly was another familiar tale of playing without sufficient numbers, which we believe let us down towards the end of the season. We hope to see many familiar faces in the coming season, with some fiery competitiveness from the get-go.

Thanks for the laughs, team. We had a blast!

Lory, Rach & Cate

Under 15 Boys



2022/2023 players: *Back Row:* Joe Guimmarra, Finton McIntyre, Alex Venus, Fergus McIntyre, Frances Scott-Mackereth; *Front Row:* Ben Hart, Baden Vandenberg, Jason Papadopoulos, Ryan Fox, George Papadopoulos; *Kneeling:* Ben Gray

Coach: Judi Liddell

Scorer: Alicia Gray

This season I had the privilege to coach the Under 15 team. This group of teenagers has been developing together for the past few seasons and have really improved and shown how much they have improved. Of 12 games this season we won 7 and lost 5 but when losing only ever lost by a few runs. We ended up second on the ladder but finals didn't quite go our way and we bowed out in the semi-final. Thank you to the great crew of parents that support us each week and thank you to Alicia Gray for scoring for us.

Let me introduce to some amazing players.

Joe Guimmarra may be our quietest player but he always tries super hard to do everything the coach says. This year we saw Joe's batting become a consistent force to be reckoned with. His stance is the most relaxed in the competition and he surprises everyone with his hits to outfield. His base running has also improved, surprising even the coach, with stealing bases.

Fergus McIntyre also came back this season with a bit more muscle and punch to his batting. Fergus is a great player because of the questions he asks and the way he listens and tries everything the coach asks. His base running is amazing as his super long legs make easy work of the base to base distance. Fergus is one of those well-rounded players who can play any position, or at least willing to give it a go.

Jason Papadopoulos was one of our main pitchers this season. At only 12 he disguises his impact on the game with his size, until set in motion where he impressed most opposition with his determination. Well done to Jason who pitched us through the finals and did a great job.

Alex Venus is new to softball and yet managed to hit home runs, including for the opposition. Alex has also shown a lot of skill in catching and always supports and has encouraging words for his team mates. It is

exciting for a coach to plan to have players on base for Alex to bring home. Well done to Alex for doing everything asked of him and more.

George Papadopoulos is the self-appointed team captain. He has an enthusiastic approach to the game, a mature way to approach a tough opposition, and a large voice to call the plays. George has been our main catcher and I have seen great improvement with the way he is pinging off the throws to get the outs. I can have George as my start off batter every time, because of the way he approaches the game, fully committed and ready to get the show on the road.

Ben Gray has had a great season on the team. His batting has improved out of sight, well as long as they are not tempting him with the high ones. Ben also showed an interest in becoming a pitcher, practised, and showed a lot of power and potential on the mound. Well done to Ben for pitching this season. Ben's enthusiasm to steal meant that he threw himself into his batting game and impressed the other teams and brought home the runs for us.

Finton McIntyre came back to softball after a season off and showed just how much he had to offer. His batting is showing some of that emerging power, he has grown in maturity to face the bumps, and his willingness to try anything the coach says means he is a valuable player for the team. I look forward to seeing how much we can push Finton to do in the future, including pitching and home runs to come.

Ben Hart had his first season in under 15s this season and competed with Jo for the quietest player! Ben was facing players sometimes twice his size. His resilience and recovery on some nasty bumps meant the whole team respected how tough he was. Ben has a great throw and an asset in the field in whatever position he was put. I look forward to what Ben can do next.

Ryan Fox joined the team and has practised like mad to improve his skills. Everyone on the team has commented on how he has improved and were proud to have him on the team. He hit a crucial outfield hit in our last home and away game which lifted the team spirit and brought them all back up to get out there and hit and fight on. Ryan's enthusiasm to try means that he could improve as a fielder and get the job done. Well done Ryan on a great season.

Frances Scott-Mackereth joined our team as a fill-in and added a depth of skill to the team at the start of the season. Frances consistently batted well to get on base and was a great base runner. A natural sportsperson with the drive to attack the ball, we wish Frances all the best in wherever sport takes her.

Baden Vandenberg has joined our team and easily become the noisiest member of the team. At only 12 he was the youngest, but willing to do what he could in any position. Running onto the diamond one day and making an immediate crucial out without blinking an eye was typical of his style. Baden pitched, played 3rd base, got good hits off and showed how much potential he has to offer in future seasons. A special thanks also to Baden's family, his Grandad and mum for doing pitching clinics and his dad and sister for assisting with coaching on the diamond.

Keep playing, keep training, keep having fun. Softball is the greatest team sport in the world and this team shows just how special they are every single week.

Coach Judi

Under 12



2022/2023 Players: Archer Cann, Jayla Chung, Olivia Chung, Sammy Lukaczynski-Laycock, Charlotte McLennan, Mackenzie Ritter, Olga Rotondo, Isabelle Sundaram, Lucas Walton, Oscar Walton

Coaches: Cindy, George & Jackie

Scorer: Michelle & Michelle

Raiders U12s welcomed 4 new players this season (Charlotte, Izzy, Olivia and Jayla), joining our 6 veterans of the game (Mackenzie, Sammy, Archer, Olga, Oscar and Lucas).

We had lots of fun on the diamond, and we learned and developed our softball skills, particularly our batting which improved significantly across the season, and it was pleasing to see all the players hitting strongly and getting some great hits by the end of the season. It was great to see the players listening to the coaches and being aware of the plays as they ran the bases and always looking for the opportunity to steal an extra base. Everyone also tried a variety of positions in the field and enhanced their knowledge, learning to back each other up and look for the outs. The cheering on the benches was always loud and supportive and kept us in a lot of games. We finished just out of finals contention on percentage with 6 wins out of 12 which is fantastic. Congratulations to all our players on a successful season.

Mackenzie was our reliable lead off pitcher and strong batter who always knew the plays and encouraged everyone to help the team to improve.

Oscar was our regular catcher and leadoff batter who always worked hard and had some great hits, bringing in lots of runs.

Lucas always played with high energy, paid attention to the plays and charged for the ball and was keen to try new positions.

Charlotte was our regular 1st or 2nd baser who always wanted the ball and finished the season with strong batting.

Sammy pitched solidly throughout the season, batted strongly and ran the bases fast; she is a great team player and kept us going with her never give up attitude.

Izzy was a very consistent batter and played lots of positions, running the bases hard and always listening to the coaches.

Olivia started the season strongly and was a great 3rd base but unfortunately after her arm injury couldn't finish the season. She still supported the team and was number 1 in our cheer squad.

Jayla was reliable in her favourite position of 3rd base and had some great outs there, she also batted consistently and ran the bases fast.

Olga was one of our regular and reliable catchers, also playing multiple positions in the field. She had some fantastic hits which brought in lots of runs.

Archer was one of our fastest base runners, always looking for extra bases. He was one of our regular pitchers and a great all-round fielder and batter.

Thanks to our scorers Michelle and Michelle and to Lee for the pitching coaching. And special thanks to all the parents for getting the players to games and practice, helping us get helmets on, supplying drinks and food and encouragement and cheers. We hope to see everyone back next season to do it all again.

Cindy, George and Jackie.

U12 Carnival - Northern Districts



In December our U12s participated in the Super Softball Carnival at Northern Districts Softball Association in Mill Park. With a full day of softball our kids had a fantastic day, everyone tried different fielding positions and we saw some great hits and base running. We all learned new things, met the Victorian Titans, including our very own Cate, and we saw the Aussie Steeler's World Cup Trophy. Huge thanks to our umpire Finton, all the parents and helpers, and softball Victoria for a very successful day.

Winter Competition



Players: Lena Zhan, Veronica Odeke, Lily Bell-Tanner, Lory Stefanopoulos, Steph Marsh, Miki Harris, Kassie Bookless, Elise Cramer, Caitlin Caldwell, Teraize Bonner, Doreen Nhon, Vicky McKenzie, Steph Lauren, Dana Katz

Coaches: Lory Stefanopoulos & Steph Marsh

Scorer: Matt Tanner

We entered 1 team in MSAs Winter Competition and competed strongly in A Grade all season. We welcomed friends from other clubs and associations and came together well as a team under the guidance of Lory and Steph. We kept up the wins through the finals and faced an experienced Bruisers team in the GF, going down 3-1. The last 3 digs were tightly fought, and we were coming back but walked away with Silver.

Women's Night Competition



Team: Vicky McKenzie, Kay Williams, Emily Hilliard, Mary-Anne Tyler, Sarah Keall Kroenert, Annette (Chucky) Phillips, Doreen Hart, Jess Chomley, Lory Stefanopoulos, Veronica Odeke, Cate Caldwell

Scorer: Allison Pendlebury

Coach: Stuart McKenzie

We entered 1 team into the inaugural Waverley Softball Association Women's Night Comp. The team we entered consisted of players aged 25 years or older.

What a fun competition. Our team consisted of players from all divisions with different levels of experience and boy did it work! We had an amazing season with Eastern Raiders coming away with an amazing grand final win against Monash Magic.

Special thanks to our fill ins, Caz, Jackie C and Shaz. Also, a big thank you to Alli for scoring.

Stuart & Vicky McKenzie

Memorial Shield 2022



Over a wet and chilly weekend in September 2022 a Raiders team wandered over to Werribee for the two-day Memorial Shield Tournament. Beanies and Raiders hoodies were well used over the weekend with everyone trying to stay warm and dry. The team was made up of Open 1, Open 2 and Open 4 players. Whilst these players were of different ages and skill sets, everyone played to their own strength and ability. There was plenty of great batting, spectacular fielding, and high-five encouragement all around.

This superstar team made it into the Grand Final on the Sunday. However, just prior to the game, the approaching rain came in sideways hard and fast, creating deep, muddy puddles and making the diamonds unplayable. Finishing top of the ladder, Raiders were awarded the Werribee Softball Association Heather O'Keeffe C-Grade Winners trophy. Lots of happy hugs and congratulations were shared within the dugout with players trying to stay dry. Ten minutes later the sun was shining, the medals and trophy were collected, and team photos taken. Everyone commented on what a crazy weekend of weather it had been, but a wonderful weekend on the diamond with new and existing softball sisters.

Several members of the team opted to stay the weekend at local accommodation which was a great way to bond with teammates over dinner and dessert (yes - there was cheesecake involved for these 'elite' athletes).

Thank you to Claire Shelvey and Mili Cohen for coaching. Thank you to Kay Williams for scoring. Thank you to Angela Post (from Tasmania) for being our nominated umpire extraordinaire. Thank you to the players for attending and contributing to Raiders success.

Grand Final got washed out, rain and dark clouds cleared, and then the sun shone down on medal presentation and celebrations!!

2021/2022 AGM Minutes & Attendance

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 2nd April 2022

Minutes

Meeting started 12:20pm

Chair: Rosie Hawkins

1. Attendance and Apologies

- Attendance noted in attached attendance log
- Apologies received from Rosie Grimm, Allison Pendelbury, Mary-Anne Tyler, Justine Georgio, Giummarra Family, Kay Williams, Rockstro Family, Alisha Gray

2. Previous AGM Minutes

- Passed, no issues arising; Moved by Claire Shelvey, Seconded by Jacqui Parker

3. President's Report

- 3 teams in WSA comp plus 3 in SEMR
- Open 4 Black and Red in Grand Final with Black winning 3-2
- Celebrated the new Junior recruits who joined through our Fully Loaded T-Ball program
- We celebrate Raiders who represented Waverley and Victorian State teams as players and officials
- We gave thanks to all coaches and supporting club officials

Thanks to those who have supported the club in the last year:

- Judith Liddell, Sarah-Lee Jobson, Maddi Grbac, Darshi Govender, Alisha Gray and George Papadopoulos – For running/assisting with Fully Loaded T-Ball
- Anna Dreher – For organising the Duty Roster
- Winnie Mok – For developing the new website and catering for AGM
- Rachel Lennox, Kay Williams, Jackie Campbell and Winnie Mok for overseeing the transition to the new registration system Revolutionise Sport
- Coaches, umpires and scorers
- Rachel Lennox – For her many years as treasurer being U18 coach and Open 4 Black Coach
- Anna Dreher – For the creation of the Masters Sub-Committee
- Anna Chmiel – For taking committee minutes in the absence of a club secretary
- Joy Votersen – For handling Uniforms
- Kate Green – Photography
- Dennis Grbac – Helping with duties
- Michelle Laycock – Getting our community grant of \$1500
- Committee members

4. Treasurer's Report

- \$9,822 in bank
- \$6473 from club fees and uniforms
- \$4800 worth of uniforms in stock
- Grants – Metro Trains; \$1500, COVID Survival total; \$3500
- No questions arising.

Moved by Judith Liddell, Seconded by Emilia Cohen

5. Service Awards

- Trevethan Junior Service Award presented by Rachel Lennox to Alisha Gray
- On Diamond Award presented by Claire Shelvey to Judith Liddell
- Club Service Award presented by Jackie Campbell to Winnie Mok

6. Election of Office Bearers

All positions declared vacant

- President – Jackie Campbell, nominated by Rachel Lennox, Seconded by Anna Chmiel. ***Elected***
- Vice President – No nominations received. ***Vacant***
- Treasurer – Rachel Lennox, nominated by Anna Chmiel, seconded by Jackie Campbell, ***Elected***
- Secretary – Anna Chmiel, nominated by Alia Djajamihardja, Seconded by Jackie Campbell. ***Elected***
- Registrar – Kay Williams, nominated by Jackie Campbell, Seconded by Judith Liddell. ***Elected***
- General Committee –

Mary-Anne Tyler – Nominated by Jackie Campbell, Seconded by Rachel Lennox. ***Elected.***

Alia Djajamihardja – Nominated by Anna Chmiel, Seconded by Rachel Lennox. ***Elected.***

Anna Dreher – Nominated by Rachel Lennox. Seconded by Jackie Campbell. ***Elected.***

Winnie Mok – Nominated by Anna Chmiel, Seconded by Rachel Lennox. ***Elected.***

Jacqui Parker- Nominated by Mili Cohen, Seconded by Anna Dreher. ***Elected.***

Joy Votersen – Nominated by Jackie Campbell, Seconded by Anna Dreher. ***Elected***

7. Any Other Business

- Gave our thanks and appreciation to Rosie Hawkins for supporting the club through her time as president.

Meeting Closed 12:58 pm

Attendance List

Name	Present	Apology
Rachel Lennox	✓	
Anna Chmiel	✓	
Camille Chmiel	✓	
Anna Dreher	✓	
Rosie Hawkins	✓	
Jackie Campbell	✓	
Alia Djajamihardja	✓	
Winnie Mok	✓	
Elaine Lim	✓	
Kerry Trevethan	✓	
Melita Gimmarra	✓	
Joe Gimmara	✓	
Fergus, Finton and Megan McIntyre	✓	
Rafti Gaylard	✓	
Doreen Hart	✓	
Sarah Lee, Ekira and Ahmed	✓	
Ellen Goh	✓	
Ella Tucker	✓	
Michelle Lukaczynski	✓	
Michelle Laycock	✓	
Samantha Lukaczynski-Laycock	✓	
Charlotte Lukaczynski-Laycock	✓	
Natasha Shelvey	✓	
Claire Shelvey	✓	
Mackenzie Ritter	✓	
Mili Cohen	✓	
Dan S	✓	
Frances S	✓	
Darshi Govender	✓	

Name	Present	Apology
Caz Schultz	✓	
Jacqui Parker	✓	
Veronica Odeke	✓	
Josephine Hart	✓	
Jude Hart	✓	
Benjamin Hart	✓	
Amelia Hart	✓	
Isabelle Hart	✓	
Emily Hilliard	✓	
Lory Stefanopoulos	✓	
Dimitra Otis	✓	
Sheryl Ecker	✓	
Gianluigi Roromao	✓	
Andreas Ocga Greta	✓	
Jane Takao	✓	
Amarni Tuamoheloa	✓	
Judith Liddell	✓	
Mick Kranenburg	✓	
Joy Votersen	✓	
Maddy Grbac	✓	
Rosie Grimm		X
Allison Pendlebury		X
Mary-Anne Tyler		X
Justine Giorgio		X
Giummarra Family		X
Kay Williams		X
Rockstro Family		X
Alisha Gray		X
Total 57	49	8