



Brisbane Softball Association

MEMBERSHIP

This season the BSA experienced another small drop in playing numbers. There is no obvious reason as fees did not increase from the previous summer season, though the cost of participation is no doubt a factor.

Summer Competition:

29 Senior Women's Teams
5 x A1 Grade with a total of 87 players
6 x A2 Grade with a total of 98 players
3 x A3 Grade with a total of 40 players
4 x U17 with a total of 37 players
6 x B Grade with a total of 91 players
9 x C Grade with a total of 135 players
17 Junior Teams
4 x U15 girls with a total of 51 players
4 x U15 mixed with a total of 15 players
6 x U13 with a total of 68 players
Swing Into Softball/Tball had 25 participants

647 participants

Winter Competition:

13 Men's Teams
6 x A/B Grade with a total of 60 players
7 x C Grade with a total of 70 players

130 participants

Officials 12

Total – 789 participants

SPONSORSHIP/GRANTS

We currently do not have any major sponsors though we do have supporters who give in-kind assistance. Height 4 Hire provide equipment to help replace diamond lights during the season. We also have the challenge of having to dismantle and handover most of Downey Park playing surfaces to another sport to run their competition over winter.

Our new elevated equipment shed is yet to be started. Weather and timing have created delays. It is being constructed with the aid of grants from Brisbane City Council and State Government Disaster Recovery Program. It is hoped to have it available for the beginning of our next summer season.

We received a grant from Qld Sport and Rec that enabled us to replace our front entrance and fire exit doors. We also have installed an eSwitch to help improve and monitor light usage.

We applied for a Solar Grant to install solar panels at Downey Park but were unsuccessful.

HIGHLIGHTS

Regular competition:

- The Fixtures and Grading team worked hard to make sure our season draw took into account all weather events and representative commitments. Towards the end of the season there were also daily changes as preliminary finals needed to be played on weeknights. They also worked with clubs to minimise forfeits by promoting communication channels to access players.
- Our Grand Final day ended with an epic 10-innings battle between Minor Premiers Redsox 1 and Saints 1. Saints 1 were victorious with a 6-5 win.
- Senior Club of the Year - Panthers
- Junior Club of the Year - Saints
- President's Cup – Redsox 1

Junior Awards/BSA Rep Night

Our annual Junior Awards and Rep Night celebrates the achievements of our juniors over the past year. Each grade awards an MVP. We also present the U15 and U17 Rep teams. Despite the rain we had around 70 players and parents attend.

Senior Awards/BSA Rep Night

The 29th Annual June Spice Medal was held at Ruggers Restaurant, Albion. The outdoor atmosphere added to the celebration. This prestigious night is a chance for players to get out their best outfits and celebrate the season and their achievements. Invited guests, officials, supporters and players all enjoyed the meal, the comradery and the well-deserved recognition of the players that were judged as the top performers in each grade. This year's June Spice Medalist was Jessica Torpey. The BSA also recognised Dave Waller as the Volunteer of the Year. Planning is under way for next year's 30th June Spice Medal celebration.

Representative Teams

Brisbane nominated teams to compete in the Girls and Boys U15, Girls U17, Women's U19, Women's and Men's State Championships. A significant number of our players and officials went on to be named in State and National squads/teams.

Not only do we produce quality players, but our coaches, managers, umpires and statisticians continue to excel by participating in State, National and International tournaments.

Competitions/Carnivals

Aside from our summer and winter fixture competitions, we have hosted a number of additional competitions at Downey Park:

- Deb McColm Shield
- Play 4 A Cure Yellow Socks Softball Challenge
- Australian Defence Force National Championship
- Play 4 A Cure Slowpitch competition
- ANZAC Day competition
- QGSSSA competition
- Primary School Andrew's Cup
- U19 Women's State Championship

In conjunction with South Brisbane Softball Association, we assisted with the running of U17 Girls State Championship and the Club Classic tournament, both held at Preston Road Facility.

Our 2018 Men's season is now being held at the Preston Road facility.

PUBLICITY, PROMOTION

Coaching

BSA again put the spot light on coaching across the park from grassroots to the elite. Our hard working Coaching Co-ordinator, Michelle Waller, has been working hard to assist people getting accredited.

Scoring

2016/17 Clinics and Exams

The demand for scoring clinics within BSA seems to be cyclic. There was sufficient interest to run two Level 1 clinics with a total of 7 attendees. Several of these attendees have expressed interest in progressing to Level 2, so a clinic will be organized early in the next summer season.

Six of the seven attendees achieved Level 1 and the seventh is still working towards passing the exam.

Shakira McColl was awarded Level 3.

As part of hosting the ADF Softball Tournament, a level 1 clinic was conducted. 8 members attended and all successfully passed the exam.

2018/19 Clinics

As noted above, a Level 2 clinic is proposed for early in the next summer season. The demand for level 1 and iScore clinics will be assessed during the season.

Accredited Scorers

Keeping track of accredited scorers within BSA continues to be a difficult task as Softball Australia had a backlog of completed exam results to process. However, there has been a concerted effort by SQI Scoring Directorate and SA so the situation continues to improve. It is complicated by the fact that NOAS departed from the picture in January, 2017. Full responsibility for maintaining the register of accredited scorers now lies with Softball Australia. Progress is being made but we are still in "catch-up" mode.

In addition, communication between scorers in BSA is somewhat sporadic. There are approximately 25 active scorers. Some of these scorers have yet to receive their accreditation cards. We will continue to encourage the BSA scoring fraternity to upgrade their qualifications and accreditation levels to improve the quality of team scoring and to provide a bigger pool for BSA representative duties. This philosophy has continued to work well. Aided by the fact that there are only single BSA women's/girls' teams in U17 and U19, only two statisticians have been appointed to more than one BSA representative team for the 2018 championships, although one appointment is still to be made.

BSA Hosted Championships

BSA once again hosted the Australian Defence Forces Tournament in December 2017. Scoring assistance was requested by the organizers and was provided by Deb Moloney, Ros Caldwell, Joy Leach, Shirley Millar, Fiona Goffer, Jason Collins and Chris Bailey. It was a thoroughly enjoyable event. We provided two scorers per game allowing for live iScorecasting.

BSA hosted the U17 Girls' State Championship in September 2017 at South Brisbane. Shakira McColl filled the recorder role for BSA and Chris Bailey appointed by SQI as the Scoring Committee Representative.

BSA also hosted the U19 Women's State Championship at Downey Park. Peter Collie was the recorder and Jason Collins attended in a training capacity to learn the role of SQI Scoring Committee representative. Chris Bailey was the Scoring Committee representative. The tournaments went very well – so well that BSA have applied for and been granted the U15 Boys' State Championship to be held at South Brisbane in May, 2018.

Newsletters

The QSA Scoring Committee newsletter was circulated to as many interested parties as possible by email.

Representative Scoring

Chris Bailey was fortunate enough to continue as statistician for the Queensland Heat which competed in the Gilley's Shield in Perth in January 2018. Chris was very happy to be appointed as statistician for the Aussie Spirit who competed for the Japan Cup in Takasaki, Japan in August 2017.

Jason Collins was appointed as statistician for the Queensland U17 Girls team. Wendy Harries, Deb Moloney and Kim North were re-appointed to Queensland U15 teams, Wendy and Kim to the boys and Deb to the girls.

Pick-up Scorers

Once again, BSA scorers were able to assist less well staffed DA's by acting as pick-up scorers at state championships.

In 2017, Deb Moloney scored for Mt Isa/Redcliffe and Peter Collie scored for Hervey Bay/Maryborough for the U17 Boys. Shakira McColl scored for Suncoast Hinterland for the U15 Girls.

Providing pick-up scorers for other DA's has a considerable benefit for BSA. Our scorers gain invaluable championship experience and BSA adds to its reputation as being ready, willing and able to help other associations.



Brisbane Softball Association

Official Scoring

The U23 Women's and Men's National Championships and the Friendship Series were held at Redlands in July, 2017. Fiona Goffer, Deb Moloney and Wendy Harries all contributed as part of the official scoring panel.

Umpiring

Once again another successful year for the umpires of the BSUA.

New level 1's were obtained by the following people: Jamie Mitchell, Isabelle De Looze, Adam Lock and Haydan Dobe

BSA Club Competitions:

Number of games umpired:

2017 BSA Men's Winter Comp – 162 games,

2017-18 BSA Women's Summer Comp – 483 games

State Championships:

Qld Cup - Open Men's: Jamie Harries, Janelle Hicks, Ron Trow, Steve Bickerton, Kylie Knight, Yvonne Kahler (PT)

Qld Cup - Open Women's: Yvonne Kahler (Plate on Open Women's GF), Helen Strauss, Jamie Harries, Kylie Knight, Steve Bickerton

U19 Women's: Yvonne Kahler (UIC), Janelle Hicks (Assessor), Jamie Harries (Assessor), Kylie Knight (GF Plate), Ian Goodman, Kylie Knight.

U17 Girls: Yvonne Kahler (UIC), Jamie Harries (Assessor), Ron Trow, Kylie Knight, Ian Goodman,

U15 Girls: Ian Goodman, Kerri O'Brien

U15 Boys: Janelle Hicks (Assessor) (GF Plate)

Other events where BSUA umpires assisted:

Club Classic and Australian Uni Games

World Masters Games – 6 BSUA umpire travelled to Auckland World Masters Games – Helen Strauss, Yvonne Kahler, Ron Trow, Ian Goodman, Steve Bickerton and Kerri O'Brien.

Umpires also assisted at Redlands, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Caboolture.

Nationals Representation:

Ron Trow - U23 Nationals and Friendship Series, U17 Girls

Janelle Hicks - Gilley's Shield, U23 Nationals (GF base) Asia Pacific Cup.

Kylie Knight - U17 Girls

Steve Bickerton: Friendship Series

BSUA umpires also volunteer to assist with scrimmage games for national teams pre-tournament games.

Brisbane would like to acknowledge the support of the umpires from outside of BSA who provide us with the opportunity to cover more games and occasionally work three umpire systems on games other than the A1 comp. Those people are Vicki Oostenbrink, David Casey, Norelle Thomas, Nikki and Chayce Wong, Charlie Ratahi, Stephen Gutteridge and Dale Kaimaona. Thanks for your support.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

2017/18 season has been another busy one for Brisbane. Development highlights included the Swing into Softball and Diamond Development Programs, Deb McColm Shield, U15 Regional Academy Program, coach accreditation support and distribution and reporting on player/parent survey.

Swing into Softball

The SIS program was available again this year. Those that participated showed improved skill development by the end of the program. The second half of the season saw participants move up to a T-ball styled game format so they experienced a "higher level" of softball in a friendly environment. Many thanks must go to the club coaches who were involved for their support and enthusiasm.

Diamond Development Program

The Diamond Development Program aimed to capture those players not old enough for under 15 selection and provide them with additional development opportunities to keep them engaged. This team participated in the Deb McColm Shield as a culmination of the program with other Brisbane U15 teams and invited associations and was again successful.

Under 15 Development

Our Fixtures & Grading team has been working closely with the Development team to provide the best competition possible. We have modified rules to promote participation and skill development across under-age competitions.

This year Brisbane introduced an U15 mixed competition. There weren't enough boys for a single gender competition. This way the boys still get to play and the girls could opt-in to experience a different type of competition. At the same time we maintained dedicated U15 Girls and U17 Girls competitions.

We provided a development pathway through recognition of players to benefit from dual registration to U17 competition.

The U15 representative program fielded two girls and one boys teams. All teams were successful in developing player skills with the regional academy conducted during the program. Additional regional academy sessions were offered to any players who were unsuccessful in obtaining a position in a Brisbane U17 or U19 team.

FACILITIES

Brisbane currently maintain 3 facilities: Downey Park, O'Callaghan Park (Zillmere), Preston Road (Carina). Preston Road was added under a Right of Use agreement with South Brisbane Softball Association.

Downey Park has:

- 2 skinned diamonds under lights
- 8 senior diamonds
- 6 junior diamonds

Other facilities include:

- Canteen and BBQ
- Bar and "pig pen" area
- Mobile food cart (servicing our outer diamonds)
- Grandstand
- Umpire's Room
- Queensland Heat Gym and Administration room
- Hall for hire
- BSA Administration area and Board Room
- Representative Team Administration Room
- Events Administration area

We also offer a batting cage facility to clubs, teams and individuals on a hire basis.

The on-site Leading Edge Pro Shop continues to prove successful, providing softball equipment and clothing services to players and officials.

O'Callaghan Park has:

- 2 skinned diamonds
- 1 senior grassed diamond
- 1 junior grassed diamond

Other facilities at Zillmere include:

- Umpire's Room
- Canteen / Bar
- Equipment container

Preston Road has:

- 1 skinned diamond
- 7 senior grassed diamonds
- 3 junior grassed diamonds

Other facilities at Carina include:

- Office/Umpire's Room
- Canteen / Bar
- Equipment containers

FUTURE PLANS

We are working hard to continue to develop our skinned diamonds and make our grassed surfaces the best they can be. Because we share the playing surfaces, this is a challenge, but we are working closely with our co-tenant Brisbane Hockey at Downey Park to make our surfaces as safe as possible for both sports.

Downey Park is built on a flood plain. Our priority at present is to flood-proof our facilities to avoid once and for all the significant and costly damage caused by the regular deluges. This will be costly but the investment will pay for itself in the long run by safeguarding our expensive equipment.

Preston Road will become our "second home". We are working with South Brisbane Softball Association and Brisbane City Council to formally take over the lease for those grounds. They also will need flood-proofing as best we can, so is a long term investment.

Eventually we will relinquish the Zillmere grounds. This will enable another sport to better utilise that facility.

Like all associations we are concerned about numbers and we will continue working with our clubs to have a collective effort to recruit and retain players and officials in coming years. Importantly, we need to continue to recognise and accommodate the non-traditional forms of softball. Having a low cost, low level social competition that is held at a time that attracts people will continue to be supported by the BSA.



Caboolture Softball Association

GROUNDS & FACILITIES: (a)

The facility at the Dances Road Sports Complex provides appropriate, sufficient & an accessible public sports facility which has a positive influence on personal & community participation in the sport of softball & other physical activities. The access to a quality softball competition & recreation facility that is supported by the Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC), the governing body of softball - Softball Qld Inc (SQI) & the Caboolture Sports Club Ltd (CSCL) infrastructure, is a major factor in the sport of softball's capacity to meet current user demand and plan for future growth.

The facility operates with:

- Camera/video monitor security system
- 2 laned batting cage building/solar heat extraction panels/7 external storage rooms for hire
- 2 full skinned diamonds under lights
- 3 skinned infield diamonds (1 under lights)
- 5 grass based/grass outfields
- Fully renovated canteen/cold room & bar areas (air conditioned)
- Fully renovated administration office (air conditioned)
- Fully renovated umpires room/conference area (air conditioned)
- 2 fully renovated meeting/board room (air conditioned)
- Female & male amenities with 3 shower cubicles
- 1 x medical room
- Training equipment & uniform rooms
- Fully equipped groundsman shed
- 2 tractors/blowers/lawn mowers

Facility usage:

- Yearly 22 week competition x 15 affiliated clubs (Saturdays 8.00am - 6.30pm)
- Host Venue - State Championships (on successful nomination / selection)
- North Coast Regional Softball Academy (NCRSA) training sessions (fortnightly)
- Primary School Gala Days (on request, yearly)
- Secondary School -Interschool competition (on request, yearly)
- SQI State Teams - training sessions (on request, yearly)
- CSSA Rep Teams (training sessions (Jan - December yearly)
- 15 x affiliated clubs for training sessions on weekly basis throughout competition season
- 4 x affiliated clubs for training sessions on weekly basis "off season"
- Specialists Coaching Clinics - Junior Development (on request, yearly)

GROUNDS & FACILITY: (b)

The MBRC maintain the fields and facility as per the set guidelines for Management and Operation of Sporting Facilities & Reserves. The Management Committee of CSSA acknowledge & accept the requirement under the said Guidelines. The Management Committee of CSSA agree for the employed Groundsperson/s to conduct regular maintenance to the facility:

- Water/soaking/dragging of deco diamonds
- Deco diamonds maintained
- Deco inserts maintained
- Levels and grass edges trimmed
- When Council mow, clipped grass or clumps of grass must be vacuumed
- Poison around fences, dam and areas as required
- Repair fences (as required)
- Sport field line marking
- Tools & Machinery equipment & storage areas to be cleaned & maintained
- General maintenance of the facility, so as games & training can be played safely by members
- Preparation of diamonds prior to Saturday on fixtures
- Litter collection & bins cleaned & placed to all diamonds
- Complex hosed & blown on regular basis
- All rubbish cleaned up for the Monday bin pick up
- Report any identified maintenance issue or similar concerns

With excessive rain the clay and loam in the deco can wash out and will need replacing. This is a visual assumption and should be reported to the President.

Maintenance / Building Modifications 2017:

Request for justification of the projects to MBRC & to the CSCL to infrastructure funds for the request to approval for alterations/renovations , capital improvements and major equipment to the Dances Road Complex:

- Renovations to Umpire & CSSA Administration Office
- Commencement - Batting Cage Building
- Purchase - sweeper for Tractor
- Upgrade bulbs to field lights on Dia 1 & 2
- Instalment of Security cameras

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

North Coast Regional Softball Academy (NCRSA):

A range of potential junior players are identified for the opportunity to trial for the Academy Squad (athletes are Under 13 - U17 both male and female). Trial dates scheduled to undertake testing. Test scores in conjunction with game knowledge, attitude & motivation are considered:

- This program involves a 12 month commitment from selected athletes.
- CSSA & SQI directly overview the participants in the planning & implementation of program
- Participants agree to terms & conditions for selection.
- Commit to undertake extra training (personal) as well as squad academy training days.
- Abide by Code of Conduct.
- Athletes & coaches have exposure to a professional approach to player development assessment and specialist coaching.
- Further testing & skill assessment is undertaken.
- Assessment provided that will allow athletes and coaches to recognise & develop strategies for improving knowledge, skills and ability to play the game at the highest level.
- Athletes and coaches are provided with proper skill technique, suggestions & guidance to assist with improvements.

Pitching & Catching Development Clinic - Presenter David Metekingi

David Metekingi has been playing softball for 34 years. He has represented Queensland since 1991 & Australia from 2004 - 2010. He was a member of the World Championship winning Aussie Steelers in 2009 and has since been inducted into the Softball Australia Hall of Fame as a member of that winning team. He retired from the international scene in 2010 and national competition in 2016. David has been coaching at club level for 15 years and since retiring has focused on passing his knowledge on to the junior players.

Coaches Clinic - 2017 (13 attended)

Working with Coaches to identify where your athletes skill level is at, and implement training programs for improved performances. CSSA give them tools to monitor development

Pitching Clinic - 2017 - Juniors (15 attended)

Teaching the Pitchers what it takes to get to the top, CSSA looks at ways to immediately improve their mechanics, increase speed, movement & efficiency, and set goals.

Catching Clinic - 2017 - Juniors (15 attended)

Catchers are the brains on the field, so besides teaching them the core skills it takes to play for Qld, CSSA works with them on how to best control the game.

Hitters Clinic - 2017 - Juniors (20 attended)

Athletes learn the techniques taught at the Qld Level, 2 strike adjustment, Running Bunts, Slap Hitting.

Participation (a):

SIGN ON / COME & TRY DAY - March 2017 (50 attended)

Clubs & Management take advantage of a Sign On Day where existing members & new members Sign On and also 'come and try' with a BBQ at the completion of day's events.

Meet & Greet - Aussie Spirit Team - May 2017

Several athletes & team coach of the Australian Aussie Spirit Team came to the Dances Road Complex for an opportunity to show CSSA members their training regime. An opportunity to also have the Australian players assist & mingle within the junior clubs training sessions prior to their mornings games.

Real Men Wear Pink - June 2017

CSSA registered with the National Breast Cancer Foundation for the REAL MEN WEAR PINK weekend 12-18 June, to raise funds for a life changing research NBCF. Advertising the event as a FUN & EASY way to raise funds, all you had to do was donate and wear PINK for a PRICE. Groundsmen, players, umpires, coaches, spectators, line markings, canteen, coffee van, toilets & offices did not escape the colour PINK. Check out CSSA face book page for the 'sea of pink' from the early morning dew to late afternoon dusk. \$600 was collected and forwarded on to the NBCF.

Sporting School - Program:

SQI & CSSA work alongside each other to assist in the involvement with the Sporting School Program with 7 schools in and around the Caboolture area. CSSA continues to supply accredited coaches to conduct the Sporting School Program.

3.2.1 - Best & Fairest - 2017

An end of year presentation is awarded for a '3.2.1. Best & Fairest' for the U13, U15 & U17 players. Gift Vouchers are donated by Leading Edge to all the recognised players.

Modified Tee Ball & Rookie Ball & U13 games

2017 CSSA maintained the modified games format throughout the Tee Ball & Rookie Ball & U13 teams. The modified games provide a more 'ability based' competition with participants having fun & showing improved skills by the end of the season. Many thanks must go to the club coaches & CSSA Junior Development Committee for their support & enthusiasm.

Tee Ball & Rookie Ball - You're a Star

Tee Ball & Rookie Ball players are registered in the "You're a Star" program. They receive a prize (lucky dip) every time their booklet shows 4 stars in a row.

Club Statistics 2017

Total participants (Junior Male)	Tee Ball, Rookie Ball, U13, U15 or U17 grades	80
Total participants (Junior Female)	Tee Ball, Rookie Ball, U13, U15 or U17 grades	70
Total participants (Senior Male)	Mens A grade or Mens B grade	106
Total participants (Senior Female)	Womens A, Womens B1 or Women B2 grade	175
Number of Teams		47
Number of Volunteers (Non Players must be reg'd)		32
Estimated total volunteer hours (2017)		

PARTICIPATION (b)

CSSA values the contribution that members of the softball community make to the sport of softball at Caboolture. It is important to recognise this contribution and also the achievements of athletes, coaches, scorers, umpires, administrators and other volunteers make

Major Milestones:

CSSA SERVICE AWARDS : Recognition awarded to 10 | 15 | 20 years

- **BRUCE CHALLENGOR** - 20 Consecutive Years - (President CSSA & Life Member)
Bruce Challenor was recognised for his commitment to make a difference, to make a change & with his enthusiasm & drive for CSSA helping in the grand scheme of things. He shows a spirit that reflects a positive attitude, not just with a smile, but in the amount of effort & energy he puts forth. Some of his ventures have been challenging, requiring interaction with a wide variety of people, pushing him to think of new ways and to try out a skill together working as a team. Team work and all the qualities that make for good team work are essential. These include patience, listening skills, knowing when to contribute and when to hold back & compassion.
- **PAUL McBAIN** - 20 Consecutive Years (Angels delegate, coach, scorer & player)
- **CHERYL McGILL** - 20 Consecutive Years (Registered player & scorer)
- **ROBERT MURPHY** - 20 Consecutive Years (CSSA Vice President & Life Member)
- **NATASHA SZATHMARY** - 10 Consecutive Years (registered player)

CSSA SERVICE AWARDS - Life Membership

Life Membership may be conferred upon any person who has rendered distinguished and meritorious service in a voluntary capacity within CSSA as an Executive Committee Member, Management Committee Member or Official in any Representative Team over a period of not less than seven consecutive years

- **ANDREA HOUSE**
- **TRACY LAVIS**

SOFTBALL AUSTRALIA SERVICE AWARD: (This award determined by the Softball Australia Directors)

This award is presented to any person (player or non player) in recognition of at least 10 years noteworthy service to Softball in Australia

- **BILL BUCKLEY**

COACH OF THE YEAR:

SQI may confer an award, to be known as the Softball Queensland Coach of the Year Award, to an individual who, in a voluntary capacity, has made a significant contribution to the success of a team and/or individual athletes that they have coached or been the major cause for an increased standard of coaching Softball. The nominee's achievements for the year must have been of such a standard of excellence and achieved in an arena sufficiently competitive to warrant them being the recipient of the award. Factors to consider in completing nominations include:

- success of the team and/or athletes that they have coached
- level of coaching i.e. regional, state, national or international
- achievements over the period
- significance of achievements; and
- contribution to the development of coaches or coaching

- **ANDREA HOUSE**

2017 CSSA JUNIOR UMPIRE & SENIOR UMPIRE of the YEAR

CSSA may confer awards, to be known as Junior Umpire of the Year & Senior Umpire of the Year. The nominees must:

- be a current umpire in the year of nomination who consistently demonstrates a high level of officiating skill, contributing to umpire development as an instructor, examiner, mentor or program designer.
- be an umpire role model and one who presents a positive public image of umpiring and the role of umpire.

- **CLOE TRUIN** - Junior Umpire of the Year
- **RON YARDLEY** - Senior Umpire of the Year

2017 SQI BRONZE SERVICE AWARD -

Service rendered over a period of not less than five (5) consecutive years. (Playing does not constitute service to the game for the purpose of this award)

- **GEORGIA FERGUSSON**
- **LEANNE SELLENS**

2017 SQI SILVER SERVICE AWARD

Service rendered over a period of not less than ten (10) years

- **NICKI ENDICOTT-DAVIES** · **TRACY LAVIS** · **ROBYN BARNWELL**
- **MANDY WHITE** · **ANDREA HOUSE**

2017 SQI PLATINUM AWARD

Service rendered over a period of not less than twenty-five (25) years.

- **BRUCE CHALLENGOR**

Caboolture Softball Association



CSSA MEMBER	PARTICIPATION: Regional / State / National
ANDERSON Tahlia	Qld U17 Girls State Team - NSW - JAN 2017 Secondary School C 'ships - CAIRNS MARCH 2017 Qld Girls Friendship Series - JULY 2017 Successful selection from U17 - Qld U17 Girls State Team- NSW-JAN 2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Women State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
ANDERSON Liam	Qld U17 Boys State Team - ACT - JAN 2017 Qld Boys Friendship Series - JULY 2017
BROWN William	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
BURN Bryce	Qld U17 Boys State Team - ACT - JAN 2017 Qld Boys Friendship Series - JULY 2017
COTTERILL Jackson	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
COOPER Mason	Successful selection from U15- U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
FALCON-GREEN Maddy	QLD U19 WOMEN STATE TEAM - WA - JAN 2017 (Team 3rd)
FERGUSON Georgia	QLD U17 BOYS STATE TEAM (Statistician) - ACT - JAN 2017 (National winners)
GREEN Leita	SQI U15 GIRLS REGIONAL ACADEMY STATE TEAM (Fire)
KERR Charisma	QLD U23 WOMEN STATE TEAM - NSW - JULY 2017 (National winners) Successful selection - QLD U23 WOMEN STATE TEAM - 2018 - ACT JULY
HOLLY Jaiden	Successful selection from U19- Qld U23 Men State Team-R'lands -JULY2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Men State Team-NSW-JAN 2018 Successful selection from U17- Qld U17 Boys State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
HOUSE Zoe	2017 Pacific School Games - ACT - Jan 2017 Successful selection from U15 - U15 Girls Regional Academy C'ship - WA - JAN2018
LAWTON Darian	QLD SECONDARY SCHOOL C'SHIP - CAIRNS - MARCH 2017 2017 PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES - ADELAIDE - DECEMBER 2017 (Silver)
LEMM John	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
MUNRO Ethan	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
MUNRO Indy	2017 PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES - ADELAIDE - DECEMBER 2017 (Silver)
McClure Todd	SQI U15 BOYS REGIONAL STATE TEAM - BRISBANE - JAN 2017 (State Winners) Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
O'CONNOR Jacque	Qld U17 Girls State Team - NSW - JAN 2017 Secondary School C'ship - CAIRNS MARCH 2017 2017 Australian U17Girls Friendship Series - JULY 2017 2017 PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES - ADELAIDE - DECEMBER 2017 (Silver) Successful selection from U17 - Qld U17 Girls State Team- NSW-JAN 2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Women State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
RAWHITI-NOBLE Aroha	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Girls Regional Academy C'ship - WA - JAN2018
READDY Luke	Successful selection from U17- Qld U17 Boys State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
RICHTERS Billy	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
ROOKE Jacob	QLD PATRIOTS STATE TEAM - ACT - JAN 2017 (Patriots placed 2nd)
SIDEY Mitchell	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
SMITH Luke	Successful selection from U15 - U15 Boys Regional Academy S'chip-ACT JAN 2018
SULLIVAN Jessica	QLD U17 GIRLS STATE TEAM - NSW - JAN 2017 (4th) QLD U19 WOMEN STATE TEAM - WA - JAN 2017 (3rd) QLD SECONDARY SCHOOL C'SHIP - CAIRNS - MARCH 2017 QLD GIRLS FRIENDSHIP SERIES - BRIS - JULY 2017 2017 PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES - ADELAIDE - DECEMBER 2017 (Silver) Successful selection from U17 - Qld U17 Girls State Team- NSW-JAN 2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Women State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
SULLIVAN Samantha	SQI U15 GIRLS REGIONAL ACADEMY STATE TEAM (Flame team) Secondary School C'ship - CAIRNS MARCH 2017 Successful selection from U15 - U15 Girls Regional Academy C'ship - WA - JAN2018
THOMPSON Owen	QLD U19 MEN STATE TEAM - REDLANDS - JAN 2017 QLD BOYS FRIENDSHIP SERIES - JULY 2017 - REDLANDS Successful selection from U19- Qld U23 Men State Team-R'lands -JULY2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Men State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
THRAS Erin	QLD HEAT TEAM - Gilley Shield JAN 2017 (Qld Heat placed 2nd) Down Under Series - NSW - FEB 2017 AUSSIE SPIRIT TEAM - JAPAN CUP - Takasaki Japan - SEPT 2017
TOUGH Madison	Qld U17 Girls State Team - NSW - JAN 2017 Secondary School C'ship - CAIRNS MARCH 2017 Qld Girls Friendship Series - JULY 2017
VARNEY Brodie	Successful selection from U17- Qld U17 Boys State Team-NSW-JAN 2018
WHITE Cameron	Qld U17 Boys State Team - ACT - JAN 2017 Aust. Mens Friendship Series - JULY 2017 Secondary School C'ship -NSW - MARCH 2017 Successful selection from U19- Qld U23 Men State Team-NSW-JULY 2018 Successful selection from U19- Qld U19 Men State Team-NSW-JAN 2018

With submission to proof of successful selection & upon application for CSSA financial assistance, athletes & officials were approved for a monetary amount (depending on the championship) to assist with costings for State , Regional or International teams. (N.B. Financial Assistance is not permitted with school selections)



Caboolture Softball Association

Listed below are the details of CSSA Representative Teams for 2017

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP	VENUE	DATE	PLACING
U15 Girls	Suncoast Hinterland	June 2017	6th/11
Under 15 Boys	Hervey Bay	May 2017	State Runners Up
Open Women	Toowoomba	September 2017	10th/15
Under 17 Girls	South Brisbane	September 2017	State Winners
Under 17 Boys	Ipswich	September 2017	State Runners Up
Under 19 Women	Brisbane	October 2017	4th/9
Under 19 Men	Redcliffe	October 2017	4th/7
Qld Cup Men	Redlands	October 2017	5th/7

CLOSING STATEMENT:

CSSA have an enthusiastic desire and are happy to collaborate with others in the drive to succeed in making this healthy, thriving and inclusive club culture which sets them up for long term success.

Through the assistance of the Caboolture Sports Club Ltd, CSSA benefits from:

- Great work environments to encourage fun and provide social support. Through initiatives such as culture days, clinics; team sports foster friendships outside of work. This all contributes to a happy environment.
- Provision of an appropriate, sufficient & accessible public sports facility which has a positive influence on personal & community participation in sport and other physical activities.
- The atmosphere; nothing beats heading back to a relaxed, friendly and warm club room with clean & modern amenities.
- The respect from your community
- Happy, resurrecting healthy club members
- Resurrect the volunteers by offering & providing a welcoming & visual recreational aspect.

Be passionate about having more people enjoy our great Australian sporting culture. It's an investment in the community for wellness, the sporting activity is a way of getting people outside and promote the sport in the region.

A HUGE 'THANK YOU' goes out to the Caboolture Sports Club Ltd, SQI & MBRC and not to forget the CSSA Management, for all the support and the many 'thankless' hours that you all have given to the CSSA for 2017.



MEMBERSHIP

The 2017/18 season saw Softball FNQ play all fixtures on Saturdays at Walker Rd Sporting Precinct, Edmonton. We had another increase in membership. This year by 21%.

Sub-Jnr Count	23	Sub-Jnr Count	49		Sub-Jnr Count	46	
Junior Count	32	Junior Count	32		Junior Count	42	
Off Diamond Count	1	Off Diamond Count	3		Off Diamond Count	3	
Official Count	10	Official Count	14		Official Count	15	
Senior Count	82	Senior Count	73		Senior Count	101	
2015/16 Total Count	148	2016/17 Total Count	171	+15%	2017/18 Total Count	207	+21%

We have worked extremely hard to continue this growth percentage. Softball FNQ has taken advantage of many opportunities throughout the year to publicise and raise the profile of our sport in the Far North Queensland region with members recently attending TAFE Sports Expo, inclusion days, The Biggest Sign On, and others to promote our sport. We also ran an end of season Batter Up and Social 7's program. We will be running more of these during our off season.

Softball FNQ had the following breakdown of clubs, teams and grades over the summer 2017/18:

Club Team	Grade							
	Saturday DIV 1 Women	Saturday DIV 2 Women	Saturday DIV 1 Men	U17'S	U14'S	SIS	Social 7's	Batter Up
Dodgers			1					
Hawks		1			1			
Hooters		1						
Redsox	1	2	2	2	1			
Steelers	1							
Strikers	1	1		1	1			
Softball FNQ						15 players	3	8 players
Total	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	2

SPONSORSHIP AND GRANTS

Softball FNQ have been supported by local community businesses and individuals. The following is a list of businesses and individuals who have provided financial and/or in kind assistance to the association or to individual clubs throughout this season.

- Curtis Pitt MP
- Cairns Regional Council
- Cairns Spring Works & Engineering
- 5 Star Automotive
- Chris Lodge Photography
- The Cairns Post
- Leading Edge Sports
- Nine News
- AWC Images- Al Connors
- Premier Catering
- Smarter Mortgage Solutions
- Sport & Recreation



Softball FNQ have continued to promote the Good Sports Program through promoting the responsible consumption of alcohol and healthy eating at sporting fields. We recently achieved Level 3 Good Sports and Level 3 Healthy Eating status. In the Cairns Regional Council's Go Clubs program, responsible for supporting the growth and development of clubs in the region, we have reached Platinum Status. Softball FNQ remain a registered "Get Started" club which enables our members to access the Queensland Government program and associated funding aimed at tackling the child obesity epidemic.

Softball FNQ applied for and was successful in obtaining a grant under the Sport and Rec Get Going Clubs Round 6. With this we will be able to supply our volunteer umpires with some necessary protective equipment as well as extra training resources for umpires, coaches and scorers. In coaching we have 3 new Level 1's, scoring 1 new Level 2 & 1 new Level 1, umpiring two new Level 2's and 3 new Level 1 umpires with 6 still completing paperwork.

Softball FNQ continued as part of the Club Development Project and worked happily with Association Coordinator, Karen Robe until the program finished in December 2017.

HIGHLIGHTS

Softball FNQ are busy preparing to be host for the 2018 National 13-19 years Schoolgirls Softball Titles from 20th to 26th May.

NCAC Champions the DePauw Tigers touched down in Cairns to play a series of games against the FNQ Open Women in early January. The Tigers, a Division III NCAA team, were coming off a successful season where they were crowned NCAC Champions for a third consecutive year.

They are a quality team and we saw some high standard of softball played.

It was a great way to showcase the college pathway and it undoubtedly helped our local young players.

These games are huge for the local softball community and hundreds of spectators enjoyed a great night of softball.



Once again we extended our men's and women's divisions, adding extra teams to our competition in the 2017-18 season. Although only small in numbers, this continued growth is positive for our sustainability in Far North Qld.

Softball FNQ have sent teams/players to each of the following state championships.

- U15 Girls – 6th place
- U15 Boys - 9th place
- U17 Girls – 6th place & Country Champions
- U19 Women – 3rd place, President's Cup Winners & Country Champions
- Open Women – 3rd place & Country Champions



The following players were selected in Queensland and Australian teams:

- Justine Smethurst – QLD Heat and Aussie Spirit
- Jayme Reddacliff – Qld Heat and U23's
- Moe Kurihara – QLD U19 Women and U23's
- Hirari Kurihara – Qld U17 Girls
- Leah Clements & Ashlee Dennis – 2018 SQI U15 Girls Regional Academy Team
- Mia Bender, Mila Bender & Syren Letizia – 2019 SQI U15 Girls Regional Academy Squad
- Hirari Kurihara was also selected in the 2018 Qld Secondary Schoolgirls team
- Sam Ladner & Georgia Allport were TID for Secondary Schoolgirls.

Local club team Redsox Rollers took Gold at the Australian Masters in Tasmania.



This season Softball FNQ ran Fastpitch for open men and women as well as U17 and U14 divisions on a Saturday afternoon, with the Swing into Softball held on Saturday morning. The Senior Women's teams had the opportunity to play each other numerous times in the first part of the season before the teams were divided into two divisions for the semi-finals and grand finals.



FNQ Softball Association



The results for the season were:

Division	Premiers	Runners Up	Minor Premiers
Women's 1	CSWE Redsox	Steelers	CSWE Redsox
Men's Fastpitch	Redsox Red	Redsox Black	Redsox Red
Women's 2	Redsox Rollers	Hawks 1	Hawks 1
U17	5 Star Redsox	SFNQ Allsorts	5 Star Redsox
U14	Redsox Sparkies	Hawk 2	Hawks 2



Softball FNQ once again are planning to host the biannual Great Barrier Reef Masters Games from 23-26 May 2019. Registrations are opening on 22nd May 2018 with the Masters Launch and photo shoot. We are planning to host an increase on the number of teams who participated in the last Great Barrier Reef Masters as the Games grow in popularity.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Curtis Pitt, Queensland Treasurer and Minister for Sport and Recreation, continues to be our Patron and his continued support and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Softball FNQ continues to be supported by the Cairns Regional Council with Councillor for Sport & Recreation, Cathy Zeiger on hand to present our junior trophies on Grand Final day as well as officially opening the Schoolgirls National Championships.

Chris Lodge Photography and Al Connors from AWC Images also attended on Grand Final Day and took lots of high quality photos of the games and players throughout the day.

Softball FNQ attended an All Inclusion Day in September 2017 from where we signed up one new member. A few modified rules were introduced and he enjoyed his first season of softball.

Members ran a practical display at Cairns Biggest Sign On held on 10th February 2018. From here we signed members to Social 7's and Batter Up. A Sports Expo run by TAFE Far North had two Softball FNQ members attending to help promote and recruit for our sport.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Softball FNQ once again ran the Swing into Softball program over the season and it attracted 15 participants. Many of the participants of this program excitedly joined the players on Grand Final Day and showed off their new found skills in a game played just prior to the Women's Div 1 final.

The North Queensland Regional Academy which includes players from Far North Qld continues to grow with eight new members being presented with their certificate and shirt at Grand Final Presentations.

FACILITIES

Softball FNQ is working closely with Cairns Junior Baseball League to ensure our facilities are first grade as both sports wish to host many state, national and international tournaments in the future. These will help showcase the wonderful part of the world in which we live.

FUTURE

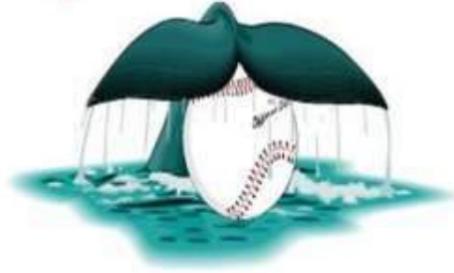
For the first time Softball FNQ will be hosting the 13 -19 year Schoolgirls National Championship from 20-26 May 2018.

Softball FNQ has been successful with their nomination and will host the U19 Women State Championship from 5th to 7th October 2018.

We hope to continue our membership growth and source more volunteers to aid in strengthening our association for a more sustainable future for softball in Far North Queensland.



Hervey Bay Softball Association Inc.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a season we have had!

This season we welcomed 3 Bundaberg clubs to join our Association which has caused some controversy. Our decision was based on the fact that we could not stand by and see 300 players walk away from the game of Softball.

Little did we know just how wonderful this format could be. We fielded teams in U12, U14, U17, B Men & Women & A Men & Women. It has been wonderful to watch friendships form, to watch such high standards of competition and we have proven that the home and away format can work - and work well. Our competition was endorsed by Softball Qld and advice received from their legal advisors allowed us to conduct fixtures in Hervey Bay and Bundaberg.

With the growth of our competition also came growth in the media coverage for our sport. The interest was initiated by the media outlets and not sought by us. We received wonderful coverage and support from all forms of media. There were not many fixture days when television and/or newspaper representatives weren't present. Our weekly draw was also telecast on our local radio station.

We were proud to host the 13-19 year old School Girls State Championship this season as well. Great softball was played and our facility held up well – apart from some bad weather – we got through the tournament and I think everyone enjoyed their time with us.

We were very happy to field an U15 girls rep team this year. It has been many years since we last sent a female rep team. We will also be nominating an U17 rep girls team.

After a very disrupted end to our season we look forward to a very successful 2018/2019 season of strong competition and great sportsmanship and friendship. We are investigating the possibility of forming a more regional competition.



Membership

This year Ipswich Softball saw an increase to 10 Clubs including a new permit club coming to join our Association bringing an Under 16 Team. We provided the following competitions with our clubs fielding teams in mixed Tee Ball, Rookie Ball, Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16, plus C Ladies, B Ladies, A Ladies, B Men, A2 Men, A Men. Overall we had 62 Teams across all these competitions.

Sponsorship/Grants

Ipswich Softball didn't actively seek grants this previous season. We did request and were successful in receiving sponsorship in the form of council funds to assist our representative teams to travel to their respective championships.

Highlights

This year we fielded representative teams within the SQI Competitions as follows

Under 15 Boys	Under 15 Girls	Under 19 Men	Under 19 Women
Under 17 Boys	Under 17 Girls	Open Men	Open Women

Ipswich had representation in the following State and Development Teams, Under 15 Boys, Under 15 Girls, Under 17 Boys, Under 19 Men, Under 23 Men, Open Men with other athletes being invited to camps and training sessions conducted under the Softball Qld banner.

Publicity, Promotion

Active publicity and promotion of our Association was undertaken through Facebook and club driven events. Our elite men's tournament, the Switch MONEYBALL, also was actively driven by Facebook and mailouts to previous and potential new teams.

Coaching

New level 1 and 2 coaches joined our coaching ranks.

Scoring

The Association is very proud of the progress of their scorers.

Local scorers provided Play by Plays on all games for the MONEYBALL Tournament. Official scorers were provided for the school's competitions held in Ipswich.

Trainee scorers were appointed to the U19 Men's team with these 2 scorers obtaining their Level 2 accreditation.

In the off-season a Level 1 clinic was conducted that saw 25 members acquire their accreditation. A further 8 members obtained their Level 1 at the start of the season.

Level 2 clinics conducted as well as an informal iScore clinic held during the season.

Our representative team scorers provide Play by Play to our members back home on all games and this is accompanied by live streaming of some of the games,

The goal for our scorers this year is to provide live streaming on the MONEYBALL tournament with some type of commentary.

A Facebook page is also in its infancy.

Umpiring

Under the leadership of Steve Durrington, with advice from Mark Toft, our Umpire Development Program is progressing well resulting in 9 newly accredited Level 1 umpires this season.

The introduction of an awards system as encouragement to our umpires saw presentations made to our Senior Umpire of the Year, Senior Green Shirt Umpire of the Year, Junior Umpire of the Year and our Junior Green Shirt Umpire of the Year.

A closed Facebook page has been set up for our umpires where Rules of the Day are published as well as other interesting scenarios put up for discussion. It has been personalised by Steve wishing all umpires who reach another 'solar orbit'.

Junior Development

Further development and structure under the West Moreton Academy and DA / Club programs, camps, clinics and school programs hopes to see our juniors progressing at an improved rate resulting in improved performance at championships.

Facilities

Ipswich has seven actively available diamonds with one other diamond slowly making progress to being playable.

Our limited grounds staff have actively been modifying and designing various aspects of our grounds to make the recreational space as user friendly as possible. The Ipswich Council have been quite supportive of any undertakings we have and actively give assistance.

New LED lighting on diamond 3 has provided the ability to conduct additional games of an evening taking our players out of the high UV in the middle of the day. Diamond 1 has also been upgraded to LED.

Future

For the future of our Association we are looking to increase participation through differing programs both based on state and national programs and programs developed internally.

Facility improvement is high on our list of projects for the coming season...



MEMBERSHIP

Softball Maryborough Inc (SMI) consists of three clubs: Incas (established 1969), Aztecs (1973), and Sparx (1981). This season, in addition to the 22 teams entered by those Clubs, Bundaberg Softball Association entered eight teams into SMI competitions for several weeks. This gave us a total of 30 teams utilising our facility this season. Even excluding the Bundaberg teams, membership numbers increased against the previous season.

SPONSORSHIP/GRANTS

SMI was successful in obtaining the following grants totalling \$74,978:

- \$2,060 from the Queensland Government through Get Going towards attending the annual conference in Brisbane;
- \$31,500 for Aztecs for a building through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund;
- \$34,000 to upgrade diamond 4 including backfill, top soil and outfield fencing;
- \$4,950 for Incas for administration equipment and marquees; and
- \$2,468 from the Fraser Coast Regional Council for security grills.

B&H Design continued to be a valuable sponsor of SMI and its clubs.



HIGHLIGHTS

The highlights for this year have included the following:

- Re-introduction of the men's competition and an interest from the men in playing in the State Championship;
- An increase in membership of 6.1%;
- The inclusion of Bundaberg teams for several weeks of the season; and
- The adoption of our new representative uniform.

SMI premiership records for 2017/18 are as follows:

GRADE	PREMIERS	MINOR PREMIERS	RUNNERS UP
A Grade Women	Aztecs Apaches	Aztecs Apaches	Sparx Hyne
B Grade Women	Aztecs Cherokees	Aztecs Amazons	Aztecs Amazons
Men	Incas Warriors	Incas Warriors	Aztecs/Sparx
Under 16	Incas Wildcats	Incas Wildcats	Aztecs Arrows
Under 14	Incas Dodgers	Incas Dodgers	Sparx Stingers
Under 12	Incas Suns	Incas Gold	Incas Gold

PUBLICITY, PROMOTION

SMI has maintained a successful long-term relationship with the Fraser Coast Chronicle with reports of games, photographs, draws and results appearing on a weekly basis.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

SMI continued to provide administrative support and leadership to the Wide Bay Regional Academy and remains committed to its ongoing success. This season SMI adopted a non-competitive approach to the Tee Ball grade with a view to increasing enjoyment and participation.

FACILITIES

The SMI complex in Searle St, Maryborough is dedicated to softball and contains four senior and three junior diamonds. SMI has established a Facility Development Plan with a vision to have the best facilities in regional Queensland. This plan will support the future development of our facility in a coordinated manner.

AWARDS

SMI Season Award Winners for the 2017/18 season were:

AWARD	AWARD WINNER
Most Potential Under 15 Female	Erin Barsby
Most Potential Under 15 Male	Lachlan Smythe
Most Potential Under 17 Female	Shelby Tobin
Most Potential Under 17 Male	Morgan Scriven
Female Softballer of the Year	Reen Paea
Male Softballer of the Year	Matthew Moore, Shawn O'Gorman and Nathan Caulley
Female Junior Softballer of the Year	Shelby Tobin
Male Junior Softballer of the Year	Morgan Scriven
Most Improved Junior Team	Aztecs/Sparx U16
Best Junior Team Performance	Incas Gold U12
Best Senior Team Performance	Aztecs Apaches
Sportsmanship Award	Melissa Tobin
SMI Award	Bev Thatcher and Melissa Tobin
A Grade Player of the GF (Margaret Hyne Trophy)	Reen Paea
Under 16 Player of the GF (Lew Moulds Memorial Trophy)	Saxon Cornwell
Men's Player of the GF (Tom Doyle Memorial Trophy)	Shawn O'Gorman
Junior Umpire of the Year	Jaiden Burrige and Jayden Stimpson

Other Awards presented were:

- Bob Girling – SAL Service Award
- Barb Hard – 5 Year SQI (Bronze) Service Award
- Kathy Burton – 10 Year SMI Service Award
- Gail Morris – 25 Year SMI Service Award

FUTURE

SMI has established the following priorities to support ongoing growth and development over the next 12 months:

- commit to further building of our junior and senior grades;
- offer more social competitions;
- establish more intercity carnival days; and
- further develop our facilities in line with our Facility Development Plan.

SMI has a proud history over the past 67 years and we look forward to a successful future.

Sheree Lehr
President



MEMBERSHIP

We are now in our off season and have completed another small but successful summer season of softball. It is wonderful to see the camaraderie between clubs, the obvious respect and friendship between clubs, coaches cheering on players from the opposing team, and the welcome and acceptance received by clubs and the Association. I am proud to be a part of our little Association and the hard work we put in all seems worth it. Noosa District Softball Association has at present 104 members across all ages, an increase from the previous year. The 7 were gained through our Come & Try Day, Batter Up Program and Facebook advertising. We had planned a concerted recruitment drive before the 2017 summer season by targeting local schools and the Batter Up Program. We will be utilizing our representative players to promote softball as a fun and rewarding sport through the large number of Independent and State Schools in our region.

Of the 104 registered players, 54 are males + 22 male Masters + 30 males who play casually. 50 are registered females + 10 female Masters + 12 senior females who play casually + 18 ladies only game players. This makes a total 106 males & 90 females.

Noosa District Softball have 3 clubs, with 27 tee-ballers, 3 x U13 Teams, 3 x U15 Teams, 2 x U17, 2 x Ladies Teams, 2 x A Grade Mens & 2 x Mixed Social Seniors Teams.

We find that softball is regarded as the second sport of choice/preference for some of our juniors and we have to work hard to compete with the 'primary' sports such as soccer, netball, rugby league and nippers in our district. Having said that, we are also pleased that many of our players now play softball all year round as they play as a Noosa team or individually in the Caboolture winter season.

SPONSORSHIP

NDSA would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support throughout our season and during the various events we conducted throughout the year:

- Noosa Council
- Richie's Bakery
- Bendigo Bank
- Leading Edge
- Pet Stock Store
- Noosa Lighting
- The Paint Place

GRANTS

Noosa Council – Sports Field Maintenance Grant -\$13 950 – successful
 Noosa Council - Community Project – Events Grant - \$2 800 – yet to be announced
 Surf Lifesaving – Training & Development - \$600 - successful
 Dept of Sports & Recreation – Lighting Project - \$116 930 - successful
 Dept of Sports & Recreation - Female Facilities Grant - \$199 946 - yet to be announced
 Dept of Sports & Recreation – Equipment Grant - \$7 265.50 - successful
 Gambling Fund Grant – Upgrade Fencing & Shade Sails - \$33 494.55 - successful
 Energex – Rewire Clubhouse - \$5000 – yet to be announced

HIGHLIGHTS

Representative Teams

- U17 Girls combined with FNQ
- U17 Boys combined with Caboolture
- U19 Girls combined with FNQ

State Representatives

- Erin Boardman – Primary School Girls
- Chloe Murray – Primary School Girls
- Tamin Lang – Primary School Girls
- Ashton Clifford – Primary School Boys
- Ethan Lewis – U15 Boys & U17 Boys
- Riley Murrphy – U17 Boys, U19 Boys & Friendship Series
- Dylan Todd – U17 Boys, U19 Boys & Friendship Series
- Charles Schefe – U17 Boys & U19 Boys
- Riki Yeomans – U17 Boys
- Alana Burr – U17 Girls
- Shinae Shakespeare – U17 Girls & U19 Girls & Secondary School Girls
- Will Todd – U19 Boys & Friendship Series
- Lewis Schefe – U19 Boys
- Shinae Gibbins – U19 Girls, U23 Women's, Friendship Series & Secondary School Girls
- Luke Thomas – Open Mens, U23 Mens & Friendship Series

National Representatives

- Ethan Lewis – U15 Boys
- Shinae Gibbins – U19 Girls Australian Team, Pan Pacific School Games, All Tournament Team School Girls, All Tournament Team U19 and U19 Tournament Pitcher
- Shinae Shakespeare – Pan Pacific School Games
- Riley Murrphy – U17 Boys & Tournament 2nd Base
- Charles Schefe – U17 Boys
- Dylan Todd – U17 Boys
- Luke Thomas – U23 Mens

Awards

Meredith Muspratt – Softball Australia Service Award
 Sue Flynn – Softball Australia Service Award
 Ashton Clifford – Noosa Softball 10 year Membership
 Richard Wakeham – Local Legend Award

Our very own Richard was nominated by one of our members and is the first to receive the local legend award since its inception. As President of our Association, Grounds Coordinator, Academy Coach, for the endless hours spent training our softball families, and for so much more, this award is well deserved.

Noosa District Softball Association would like to thank these members for their outstanding contributions to our Association and to the softball world.



Carnivals Hosted

Primary School Boys

July 2017 – U12 Regional Schoolboys

June 2017 – SCISSA (Sunshine Coast Independent Schools Sports Assoc) Gala Day

A huge thank you to our committee and volunteers for their time and effort. These events require a lot of planning and hard work in order to be successful. Once again it all came together and it is a privilege to work with such a great team.

Thank you also to a wonderful team of Noosa juniors who umpired at both carnivals and also helped with set ups and pack ups. The Association is proud of this young team for their umpiring efforts and how they conducted themselves so professionally and responsibly.

PUBLICITY & PROMOTION

Softball news continues to fight for space in our local newspapers, but with the persistence of our new Publicity Officer, managed to get stories in our local papers with photos every week. We have had fantastic coverage over our summer season. With state representatives in the Association the papers are more likely to include a story and pictures. Noosa Council publishes a Community Enews and we thank them for always including Noosa Softball. We target local schools in the lead up to our September sign on and receive some new members through this avenue. Noosa Council also asked us to participate in the Queen's Baton Relay by supplying fruit for 300 children during the Come & Try Day which was run in the afternoon before the Queen's Baton made its way through Tewantin.

We also tried a paid promotional advertisement through facebook, which was used to gain more players. Our advertising reached over 1600 people in our area and we gained new members from this.

TECHNICAL AREAS

Coaching

Thank you to Richard Wakeham for assisting with the development of new coaches in our Association. We now have 1 person working towards Level 1 qualification, 1 coach working towards their Level 2, and one working towards their Level 3.

Scoring

Kim Wakeham has been teaching several people in preparation for the Level 1 in scoring.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Noosa Council held their summer Come & Try Day. Noosa Council asked NDSA to host the Come & Try Day and supplied sandwiches and fruit for the children. The day was a success and we gained a few new members.

Combined training afternoons are offered for all players throughout the year. Our training aids were well used for fun, practical and educational sessions.

Academy and other interested players were welcome any/all afternoons for training sessions with Richard Wakeham. Richard gives his time freely to all players regardless of their club and his work is paying off as evidenced by skill improvements and state selections.

FACILITIES

We are grateful recipients of a Sports Field Maintenance Grant from Noosa Council which allows us to keep our playing fields in good condition.

Our father and son grounds team, Fred & Callum Thiess work tirelessly on all areas of the grounds to keep up appearances, to fix anything and all done with a smile. Our Association has 8 diamonds; all diamonds are grassed with diamond 1 having a skinned deco base-running track. In the near future we are planning to make our main diamond full deco.

Contractors are in the process of replacing the fences on diamonds 3 & 4. The shade sail between diamonds 3 & 4 will be replaced and a new shade sail will be installed between diamond 1 and the Clubhouse. This is all possible through our successful grant application through the Gambling Fund. Once the re-fencing is complete the installation of lights on diamond 1 will commence, thanks to another successful grant application from Dept of Sport and Recreation.



NEW INNOVATIONS

Little League has now been changed to include skill based activities prior to each game using the equipment purchased through our successful grant. These activities include developing technical aspects, agility, hand/eye coordination and basic rule knowledge. The children enjoy these activities and look forward to them each week.

FUTURE

Our Association is looking forward to a bright future in 2018 with our new Committee now in place. With a new Committee come fresh faces and new ideas. We aim to be pro-active in raising funds and formulating a Strategic Plan. I am excited about our success with grant applications and look forward to seeing the improvements coming to fruition.

Challenges

- retaining members and attracting new ones
- easing the work load on committee members
- keeping running costs down

These challenges are almost the same as last year and we are currently working on several such as, retaining and attracting members and keeping the running costs down. Easing the work load is a constant struggle but with some new faces on the committee alongside the couple of residual ones, and new people putting up their hands to help, the ease may come.

Plans

Our long term plans are still for the refurbishment of our clubhouse and gain a large undercover area. We are hoping for a positive outcome from our grant for a much needed upgrade to our amenities block.

As all softball committees know there really is no softball off-season. The work on upgrading our diamonds and facilities is constant and on-going; rep teams and masters teams are still being organised and are training; policies, procedures and rules are being up-dated; action plans and strategic plans are looked at; membership drives and recruitment planned; stocktake and audit to be done; our AGM to be organised and held; SQI AGM and Forums to plan for, attend and report on and next season to be prepared.



MEMBERSHIP:- Our membership numbers remained steady this year. We had 804 people participate in our summer season and 115 people participating in our winter season.

Our summer competition saw three men's grades and six ladies' grades. We also have five junior grades participating in our season. This was made up of twenty clubs of which there were 72 teams. We also introduced a T-Ball program for 3 to 5 year old. This season was a successful season.

SPONSORSHIP/GRANTS:- Fortunately we have our ongoing support from the Redcliffe Leagues Club, Leading Edge Sports and Moreton Bay Regional Council. We are grateful for all the support from our sponsors and we appreciate each and every one of them.

HIGHLIGHTS:- This year saw seven teams (one combined) attend state championships to represent Redcliffe Leagues Softball Association which included 53 players and 21 officials. We also have a development team that competed for the Deb McColm Shield. Both our U15 Girls and Development team won the Spirit Awards on this day. Our U17 Girls and U19 Women's teams were both runners up at State Championships and more recently our U15 Girls were awarded second due to the game being abandoned due to wet weather in the grand final. We also had two of our development players picked up to play for the Townsville Under 15 Girls Team.

We had 5 girls and 1 official in the Queensland Regional Academy teams, 3 girls in the U17 State team and 2 women, 3 men and one official in the U19 State teams, 2 women, 2 men and one official in the U23 State squads and 3 women made the Heat team and 2 men made the Patriots team. Jade Wall was named in the Aussie Spirit team and Bree-Anna Butler was named in the Aussie U19 Development team. We are very proud of our representative players as they strive towards their goals.

The Queensland Under 19 Men's State Championship was held at Redcliffe in late September/early October 2017 and the weekend was a great success. We are looking forward to the Open Women's State Championship later this year.

We also hosted school softball in the form of Sunshine Coast 10 - 12 Years Girls Carnival and also the 18 & Under Sunshine Coast Regional trials for both boys and girls. The Redcliffe school regional softball competition was also held on Fridays during school terms.

COACHING:- Continually encouraging new coaches has seen Redcliffe successful in hosting a Level 1 coaching course also a level 2 course which had 2 people attend.

SCORING:- We were able to hold a level one course which saw 6 people obtain their level 1. We also held a Level 2 course which saw 4 people start their Level 2 accreditation.

UMPIRING:- Throughout the past twelve months we have had 3 members who have started in our trainee program. The Blue Shirts program was successful in achieving all 3 new Level 1 umpires. At the recent U15 State Championship we had new Level 2 awarded. This year also saw Alan Walsh achieve his Level 6 Umpiring accreditation. A huge achievement for him.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT:- Planning is currently being undertaken to develop new programs to encourage our junior players to become more involved with the sport and we are strongly encouraging our juniors to play a bigger part within the association. We have been looking at different types of skill clinics and also different programs and hope to implement them in the upcoming months. We are currently running a pitching and catching weekly training session.

FACILITIES:- We have now installed air-conditioning in our Umpire's room. We have raised the levels on our two deco diamonds to help alleviate the issues we have with water pooling and the Moreton Bay Regional Council has resurfaced part of the diamond to level the field out.

NEW INNOVATIONS:- We are always looking for new ways to encourage participation. We started a Babes T-Ball program this year for the three to five year old to learn softball skills. We hope to continue this in the future.

FUTURE:- Some of our fences are in need of repair and additional fencing is being investigated at present. Our club house is in need of a revamp to better utilize space and to allow for expansion. Plans will be sort so budgets can be set for work to begin.

THANK YOU:- It would be remiss of us not to recognize the devotion of our management committee, sub-committees and all volunteers who assisted in some way or another over the past 12 months. Without these dedicated people it would be impossible to grow, develop and sustain our Softball community in Redcliffe. A huge THANKYOU goes to all of these people.

Thank you to SQI for their continued support and direction setting for this wonderful sport that we are all involved in.



Development Team at the Deb McColm Shield



The 2017 season was another good year, however it felt very disjointed with disruptions to the season due to the World Masters Games in NZ, the changes of dates for the Under 15 State Championships and the number of wet weather days.

Once again, a special “thank you” must go to the Clubs & their Committees for assisting in ensuring that the season ran smoothly and with very little drama.

A huge thank you goes to the RSA Management Committee – Kym Carsburg, Te Rina Lee (resigned 15/8/17) & Nikki VandeGriendt for all the support and many hours that they have given to the Association. We thoroughly enjoyed working with you all and your efforts improved Redlands Softball for the better.

The Redlands Softball 2017 competition was played with five Redlands clubs & two permit clubs, supplying 55 teams, a decrease of 5 teams from last year. This year’s break down of membership shows that participation has decreased slightly in both junior and senior grades. We need to continue to take steps to increase our membership across the board, and this must be a combined effort from the entire Association.

2017 Trophy Holders	
Grade	Grand Final
Under 13 Mixed	Sharks R
Under 15 Mixed – A	Brothers
Under 15 Mixed - B	Sharks W
Under 17 Mixed	Sharks B
C Women	Wildcats
C Men	Sharks
B Women	Mariners
B Men	Sharks
A-Res Women	Scorpions B
A-Res Men	Sharks
A Women	Scorpions
A Men	Scorpions
Club Champions:	Scorpions

2017 again saw Redland Softball Association field 10 teams in the State Championships, winning 2 premierships and runners-up in 4 tournaments. Another successful year for Redlands Softball Association – congratulations to all.

Team	Result
Under 15 Girls	Runners Up
Under 15 Boys	State Champions
Under 17 Girls	7 th Overall
Under 17 Boys	State Champions
Under 19 Women	5 th Overall
Under 19 Men	Runners Up
Senior Women - Green	Runners Up
Senior Women - Red	4 th Overall
Senior Men - Green	Runners Up
Senior Men - Red	Runners Up – Presidents Cup

Our excellent results in the state titles again translated into a very significant number of players and officials gaining state representation, with a number of these players also gaining selection in national squads and in national teams.

2018 Queensland Teams/Squad

Under 15 Girls	Stephanie Blackman, Shannon King, Hayley Matthews, Matisse SORBELLO, Coby VandeGriendt, Kiara Watson
Under 15 Boys	Kynan Molander, Caleb Montgomery, Kylan Pearce, Harrison Smythe
Under 17 Boys	Ashlee Goffer, Byron Humble, Kynan Molander, Keenan Smith, Caleb VandeGriendt, Edda Cailotto
Under 19 Girls	Tamieka Whitefield
Under 19 Men	Shannon Goffer, Keenan Smith
Under 23 Women	Samantha Hodgman, Rebecca McEachern, Alisha Prybyszczuk, Dorinda Stone, Tegan Trindle, Tia Waters, Tamieka Whitefield
Under 23 Men	Isaac Caloiero-Smith, Ashlee Goffer, Brandon Goffer, Shannon Goffer, Tyrell Priestley, James Purcell, Julian Scott Davies
QLD Heat Squad	Georgia Blair, Nicole Boughton, Rebecca McEachern, Alisha Prybyszczuk, Tara Speakman, Dorinda Stone, Tegan Trindle, Tia Waters, Stacey Webber, Tamieka Whitefield.
QLD Patriots	Andrew Blackshaw, Josh DeSimone, Shaun Goffer, Danny Kronk, Marshall Kronk, Ryan Merriman, Jason Nathan, Adam Pearce, Tyrell Priestley, James Purcell, Sean Francis

2017 Australian Team/Squads

Junior Spirit	Tia Waters, Tamieka Whitefield
Aussie Spirit	Georgia Blair
Junior Steelers	Keenan Smith
Aussie Steelers	Julian Jemmott, Ryan Merriman



Redlands Softball Association

2017/18 Umpire Accreditations

Level 1 Accreditation Jasmyn Bochow, Joel Bochow, Khye Chamberlain-Clark, Hayley Mathews, Matisse Sorbello, Annie Turner, Lachlan Turner
Level 2 Accreditation Joel, Bochow, Lachlan Turner, Matisse Sorbello, Hayley Matthews

2017/18 Coaching Accreditations

Level 1 Accreditation Scott Collins, Elle Stewart, Brett Wilkie, Callum Turner, David Turner, Kerry McCracken, Wayne Molander, Sarah Weeks
Level 2 Accreditation Karen Sala, Jeremy Jemmott, Chris MacRae, Dorinda Stone

2017 Scoring Accreditations

Level 1 Accreditation Monique Van Moolenbroek, Scott Collins, Louise Taurariki, Belinda Allport, Erin Sargeson
Level 2 Accreditation Tamara Green, Alison Sorbello
Level 2 Refresher Faye Fraser, Rikki Bochow, Kym Carsburg

Softball Qld Awards

Service Awards:- Edda Cailotto

Projects and events undertaken during the 2017/18 season include:-

- Completed all requirements on dugouts to be compliant with RCC requirements
- Hosting of the 2017 Combined U23 National Championship
- Hosting of the 2017 Friendship Series
- Hosting of the 2017 Primary School Girls State Championship
- Hosting of the 2017 Senior Men's State Championship
- Hosting of the 2018 Japanese Corporate Softball Tournament
- Hosting of the 2017 SQI State Camp
- Level 1 Coaching Course
- Level 1 Scoring Course
- Level 2 Coaching Course
- Level 2 Scoring Course
- Green Shirt Umpiring Program
- Oz Pitch Competition
- Super Hero Day
- Purchase of a coffee machine & frappe equipment

Special thanks to:

- Norelle Thomas (Umpiring Director), Ngaire Houston & Sean Francis (Scoring Directors), and Nikkie Molander (Coaching) for their work during the 2017 season. The work that these members have done in their Technical Directorate is often overlooked, however, their work is invaluable to the smooth running and future of our Association. You have done a great job.
- Adele Watson (Administrator) and Maria Caterson & Shane King (Head Coaches), who did a fantastic job running this program, as well as the coaches/players who came along each week. The continued success of the Redlands Academy in developing our junior players by the enhancement of their playing skills is a priority as this may assist them in achieving selection in the Redlands Representative teams and possibly go further within the sport.
- The many members and volunteers who generously gave up their time to assist at the working bee prior to the Nationals, and to our volunteers who helped out on the Grounds Crews at all the events we hosted.
- Our volunteer Bar Convenor, Rose Beauchamp, who generally gave up her time each week to man the bar for us.
- Our staff members thank you for the work that you performed. Your efforts greatly assisted in the running of our Association.

Membership

In 2018, RDSA's season commenced at the beginning of March. This year we have been able to offer A, B and C Grade Women, A, B and C Grade Men. U17, U15, U13 and Tee Ball mixed competitions. In addition to the three new competition levels we added in 2017, we have been able to increase our capacity in 2018 by offering an additional grade within the Women's competition.

Participation numbers from the 2017 season was 321 to the 2018 season having 345 people actively involved with Softball in Rockhampton. These are preliminary numbers as it is customary in RDSA for a further influx of registrations to occur after week 8.

Therefore at present RDSA is experiencing another growth rate of 7.5%. Which will take our association to a 28.3% growth rate since committing to the goal of growing our region by 5% by 2020.

Gender	Junior	Sub Junior	Senior	Officials	TOTAL
MALE	33	41	82	10	166
FEMALE	31	32	97	19	179
	64	73	179	29	345

RDSA continued our attendance at the Health and Sports Expo in 2018, utilising this as one of our major promotion events. This was incredibly popular, and all clubs were involved and directly benefited from people in attendance. Our online presence has also assisted to increase our exposure to the public which has resulted in increase in participation and membership rates.

Sponsorship/Grants

RDSA were successful in gaining a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund totalling \$35000. These funds are being allocated towards: Home run fence for Diamond 2.

- Concreting to secure grandstands.
- Concreting to upgrade dugouts.
- Re-fencing of old diamonds.
- Resurfacing of diamonds.
- Equipment for Regional Academy.
- Shade structures with logo's.
- Signage, banners and marketing stands.

Brad Hof committed to donating \$5333.44 from **Capricorn Coast Sand and Soil** towards additional materials required to resurface diamonds in addition to the funding received through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. Brad Hof through Capricorn Coast Sand and Soil have been a long term sponsor of Rockhampton and Districts Softball Association, therefore, RDSA offered his current x4 employees who play softball free membership for the 2018 season.

Leading Edge Sports have come on board as a major sponsor of Rockhampton and Districts Softball Association, their signage will be taking the centre location and double sided on our second home run fence. With sponsorship in excess of \$3000 and the capacity to facilitate the Leading Edge Pop Up Shop throughout our season has been an appreciated boost to our season.

Crouch Concreting - have gone above and beyond for us over the last 3 years, recently laying down a brand-new road into our parking area and up towards our shed for ease of access and getting equipment in and out of shed. All materials, equipment and labour were provided for free. Crouch Concreting is also leading the project for the construction of the second home run fence.

RDSA have also received support from the following organisations: -

Cheap Talk – provided major discounts to supply entertainment on grand final night in 2017.

Purcell Driveshafts – provided us access to the bar trailer for grand final night in 2017.

CQU – have provided us with a new printer for the office and lockers for umpires.

Mr Chippendale – has provided us with tree loping services for free.

MB Design CQ – has provided us with specialist graphic design artwork, flyers and facebook postings for free in 2018, lifting our online profile substantially.

Various local businesses provided vouchers and products to go towards our multidraw. These donations were greatly appreciated.

Highlights

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTING THE MOST TO UMPIRING FOR 2017

Amazing Achievement RDSA – Congratulations to all volunteers!!



Congratulations to Tia Waters.

Tia is one of our home grown leading young women who represented Australia in Florida in 2017. Most RDSA members were streaming games at home and cheering on Tia and her team. Tia has also been working alongside some of the young ladies coming through in RDSA to assist build their capabilities within the game. These sessions have assisted to build the confidence level of many of the young ladies in our association.

**U15 Girls – April 2017 (postponed due to cyclone)
COUNTRY CHAMPIONS!!**

Ipswich Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 5th

Coach: Kylie Coombe
Assistant Coach: Matthew Harrison
Technical Assistant Coach: Merv Downing
Manager: Kylie Coombe
Scorer: Kellie Pengelly



U17 Boys – 16th – 18th September 2017

Ipswich Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 7th

Coach: Darryl Duke
Assistant Coach: Shane Crouch
Manager: Amanda Crouch
Scorer: Leanne Harvey

U15 Boys – April 2017 (postponed due to cyclone)

Rockhampton Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 6th

Coach: Louie Cox
Assistant Coach: Darryl Duke
Manager: Amanda Crouch & Shane Crouch
Scorer: Tracy Wright



U17 Girls 16th – 18th September 2017

South Brisbane Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 9th

Coach: Liahni Truscott
Assistant Coach: Mikayla Olive & Greg Bell
Manager: Tracy and Alan Olive
Scorer: Tania Fanning

U19 Women – 29th September – 1st October 2017

Brisbane Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 9th

Coach: Liahni Truscott
Assistant Coach: Kellie Sharp
Manager: Alan and Tracy Olive
Scorer: Tracy Wright



U19 Men – 29th September – 1st October 2017

Redcliffe Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 7th

Coach: Shane Wallace
Assistant Coach: Shane Crouch & John Nairn
Manager: Amanda Crouch & Leonie Gillett
Scorer: Leanne Harvey

Open Men – 13th – 15th October 2017

Redlands Softball Association Host

Qld Cup Men's Team
Rockhampton Placing 4th
Coach: Louie Cox
Assistant Coach: Daniel Cox
Manager: Jaimi Woodland
Scorer: Krystal Fullelove

Presidents Cup Team
Rockhampton Placing 7th
Coach: Sheryl Preston
Assistant Coach: Shane Wallace
Scorer: Tracy Wright

Open Women – 2nd – 4th September 2017

Toowoomba Softball Association Host
Rockhampton Placing 15th

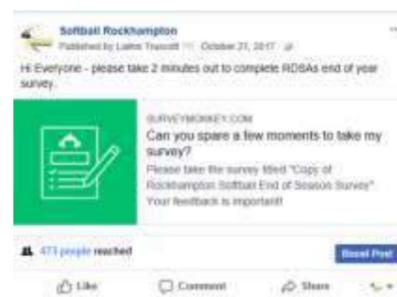
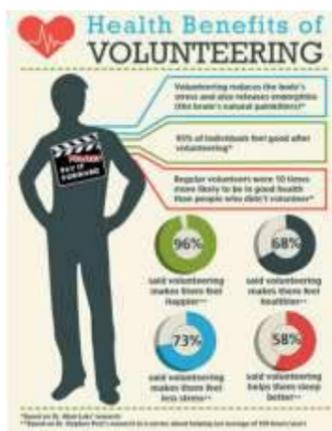
Coach: Greg Bell
Assistant Coach: Sheryl Preston
Manager: Kylie Crouch
Scorer: Tracy Wright

Publicity, Promotion

The RDSA publicity officer, Colleen Russell has received an outstanding amount of support from the local media bodies again this year. With coverage on a weekly basis, the 2017 and 2018 Representative and Association's Season has had a large amount of time in the spotlight across television, radio and the paper.

RDSA are increasing our online presence and image:

In conjunction with Graphic Artist from MB Designs CQ, RDSA have been working on increasing our online profile and professional image. Implementing opportunities such as promoting information which our members may find interesting through to electronically sharing our coverage in the media.



RDSA for the past 2 years have also completed an end of year survey. Results have indicated that members have increased in satisfaction over this period. We believe this has resulted from taking this information and implementing actions which have had outcomes that members can visually see is a direct result of the committee listening to our members.

MB Designs CQ has brought RDSA into the modern era with some great designs which has boosted our participation rates. We have averaged 15+ members at each working bee thus far, our views on posts put up by Matt Bell have over doubled that of previous posts. Realistically when the what you are reading is this visually appealing its hard to say no.



A major fundraiser was conducted throughout our season. This has been put towards our goals in developing our associations and facilities. Glen Giles winner of the major prize for a \$5000 cruise voucher was clearly over the moon to have his name drawn. Hope he has a great trip planned.

Technical Areas

In 2018 we have all our Technical Coordinator positions filled:

- ⇒ Umpiring – Gary Wright
- ⇒ Scoring – Tracy Wright
- ⇒ Coaching – Tracey Holt

Coaching

RDSA had three coaches represent Queensland as Assistant Coaches for the Qld U15 National Development Teams. This has been wonderful for our association as these coaches lead our regional academy and have brought all this knowledge and experience back with them to increase the skills and capacity for our juniors.

We had one coach achieve a Level 4 accreditation for coaching. This was a fantastic achievement, Congratulations Kylie!!

RDSA facilitated a level 1 and level 2 coaching course with 15 participants in each. Positive feedback was received across the board with each participant learning new skills and committing to implementing within their clubs.

We also have multiple people who have undertaken or are in the process of completing their level 3 coaching accreditation:

- ⇒ Liahni Truscott
- ⇒ Bernard (Louie) Cox
- ⇒ Darryl Duke
- ⇒ Danny O'Keefe
- ⇒ Greg Bell
- ⇒ Daniel Cox

Scoring

One level 1 scoring clinic was held in Rockhampton in October 2017. This was able to output an additional x10 level 1 scorers which will be invaluable during the season.

Umpiring x2 members received Level 2 umpiring.

RDSA implemented a 'Red Shirt' program which commenced with our 2017 season and has continued within our 2018 season in order to increase the capacity, development opportunities and security for our trainee umpires on the Diamonds.

Multiple training sessions have been facilitated, mentoring partnerships are developing between experienced and trainee umpires and a positive atmosphere for our umpires coming through has already begun to form.

These umpires have been outfitted with a red shirt which has been designed to reflect the 'blue's' outfit, made specifically for our program by B & H designs owner Bev Thatcher, also from Maryborough Softball Association.

The umpires who completed the Red Shirt Program in 2017 are now umpiring as blues on a weekly basis within the 2018 season. This has alleviated the pressure from clubs and assisted to increase our official membership base within the association. These blues are now assisting the new recruits into the Red Shirt Program who at the end of the season will sit their level 1 exams.

The continuation of the Rules of the Month are often seen within our monthly newsletters and focused on points of interest from members.

Rule of the Month

Rule 3 – Equipment

A. MASKS
All catchers must wear masks, throat protector & helmet.
(NOTE: Catchers/other members of the defensive team, must wear a mask, throat protector and helmet when receiving warm-up pitches from the pitcher's plate or in the warm-up area. If the pitcher catching the pitch will not wear the mask, he must be replaced by a person who will do so.)

B. BODY PROTECTORS
All catchers in face pitch (soft and junior) must wear a body protector.

C. SHIN GUARDS
Soft and junior catchers must wear shin guards while on defense that will offer protection to the shins.

This means –

- ✓ A pitcher cannot turn to another player on the field and roll their arm over in the attempt to warm up whilst waiting for the catcher.
- ✓ A catcher cannot have their face mask on the ground whilst warming up or taking warm up pitches. Face mask must be on!
- ✓ If you are mucking around on diamonds and practicing, you must at minimum be wearing a face mask. Juniors as per RDSA Ground Rules need to be in full gear 100% of the time.



Rule of the Month

Rule 6 – Pitching Effect of an Illegal Delivery

The below are the basic key focus points which make a pitch legal:

A. – 30'

B. – Both feet MUST remain in CONTACT with the pitcher's plate before the start of the pitch.

C. – The PITCH FOOT must remain in contact with the pitcher's plate at all times before the forward step, leg or foot.

D. – In the act of delivering the ball, the pitcher may take one step with the non-pitch (stepping foot) simultaneous with the release of the ball. The step must be forward toward the batter and within the 61.0cm (24inch) length of the pitcher's plate.

The effect on Rule 6 sections 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, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.



Junior Development

CQ Regional Academy

Sheryl Preston (Administrator) and Selena Knott (Head Coach) commenced in these roles on a 2-year appointment. They have taken the young athletes back to the basic skill development of softball, focusing on their techniques of throwing, fielding and batting, including a session for Pitchers and catchers. They include a lot of education and provision of information about the rules; improving their game knowledge and development of their tactical understanding. Whilst the athletes are required to do their fitness regime outside of training, the academy has included more fitness and stretching routines into their weekly session to help increase this component.



This year the academy covered the areas of infield defence, positional fundamentals, outfield skills, base running, batting and bunting, through to catching and pitching, to increase the participants skill level. Attendance was stable throughout the season, with between 10-15 players attending the Monday sessions from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. When sessions were not able to be played due to rain etc., the Meeting room was utilised to review rule knowledge; goal setting; decision making and strategy.

In 2017, Sheryl and Selena have incorporated club coaches to assist drive the training sessions and improve on the skill development of not only the players but coaches. This will assist to drive development across our association to incorporate not only those players who attend academy sessions, but all junior players holistically.

Whilst out of season for additional fitness, the academy young athletes partnered with OzTag and entered our RDSA Diamond Steelers team into the competition. This team were runners up for their division. This was a great achievement since many had never played this game before.

Battery Sessions with SQI

Softball Queensland kicked off their pilot program to deliver battery clinics around the state in Rockhampton on the 11th November 2017. 14 of Rockhampton's up and coming athletes along with Gladstone, Mackay and Bundaberg attendees learnt new skills from highly skilled and qualified Queensland coaches.

This clinic will be coming back to Rockhampton in 2018 to be more inclusive to various age groups and a wider group of participants.

Batting Clinic for U17, U19 and Open Women

Leading up to attendance at the state championships the U17, U19 and Open Women's teams all came together to attend a batting session facilitated by specialist batting coach Steven Gehrman.

Facilities

Rockhampton District Softball Association have five (5) operational diamonds at present and access to another six (6) temporary diamonds if required by a carnival. Diamond 1 is completely lit for night games.

RDSA has one home run fence finished and is in the process of having the second erected. This will be completed before our RDSA grand final, which will create a great atmosphere for the day with all games being able to be played on diamonds which are fully fenced. It will also be a fantastic addition for the Open Men's Carnival Rocky is hosting in 2018.

Shane Crouch from Crouch Concreting has completed our new driveway, this has made driving into the grounds a smoother ride and has received many complements for being achieved before Open Men's carnival.

The grounds committee has had the diamonds resurfaced prior to the season commencement. Cap Coast Sand and Soil did an amazing job to get the diamonds in a playable state for the season.

New Innovations



New Process for uniform designing:

RDSA has always had difficulty surrounding uniform designs based on our primary colours we have for our association, often rep players have ended up hot and at one carnival in 2017 we had to remove the undershirt due to the heat stress it was causing on players. Therefore, this year we have opened this process for selection of uniforms out to our members. Designs were submitted and the top 6 were put up onto facebook for voting. A winning design has been selected and new uniforms will come into place for our U17 and up teams for 2018. The winning design came from a long term representative player and coach Louie Cox.

Future & Challenges

The start of the RDSA 2018 season was rocked with the passing of one of our long-standing members who had been playing with Frenchville Scorpions and Easy Riders Masters Team for the past 20 years. The following Saturday at the grounds demonstrated what each individual member truly means – Every player, in every team, in every time slot, from TeeBall through to A Men's completed a minute's silence to honour our team mate, friend and Softball family member. Demonstrating that Softball is a true family sport, which illustrates respect and love to the highest degree within sport.

Volunteerism and participation again has increased within RDSA. This continues to come from listening and acting on ideas submitted to the committee. Allowing members to drive the growth of our association. Due to this positive change, the future has immense opportunities and possibilities.

What is coming for RDSA:

- ⇒ A second home run fence about to be completed.
- ⇒ School Girls Championships in September 2018.
- ⇒ Open Men's Championships in October 2018.
- ⇒ Partnership prospering with AFL in Rockhampton.
- ⇒ Netting and shading more sitting areas before the end of the 2018 season.
- ⇒ Utilising our partnership with The Development Academy to obtain further skills and qualifications for our members and enhance our volunteering capacity.
- ⇒ New marketing and recruitment merchandise and props.
- ⇒ Reconstruction of dugouts.
- ⇒ MORE CLINICS for the juniors and let's throw a few in for coaches!
- ⇒ A strong committee focused on continuous improvement and delivering outcomes.





MEMBERSHIP

The 2017-18 season has again seen a decline in the overall numbers of registrations for TSA.

We have maintained the 5 clubs with teams in U9, U11, U13, U15 & U17 being a combined boys/girls competition; B Grade, A2 and A Women and Senior (A Grade) Men.

17/18 AWARDS

Premiers

U13 – Devils, U15 – Devils, U17 – Devils, B Women – All Stars, A2 Women – All Stars
A Women – Dodgers / All Stars, A Men – Dodgers

Association Awards

Junior Female Player of the Year	Aleesha Masters
Junior Male Player of the Year	Lincoln Walk
Senior Female Player of the Year	Jaz Lucas
Senior Male Player of the Year	Lincoln Walk
Kennedy Shield – Junior Female Most Potential	Lilly Watts
Holley Shield – Junior Male Most Potential	Nathan Simpson
Mark Toft Trophy - Junior Umpire of the Year	Clare Doherty
Lyn Lange Trophy - Umpire of the Year	Rohan Doherty
Anne Thompson Trophy - Coach of the Year	Carl Harvey
Most Successful Rep Coach of the Year	Jayke Reynolds
Judy "Scorer" Nielsen Memorial Trophy - Scorer of the Year	Rod Murphy
Pat Teys - Vounteer of the Year	Julie Moore
Junior Club Champions	Warriors
Senior Club Champions	Warriors

SPONSORSHIP/GRANTS

Congratulations and thanks to Deb Prouten for her successful grant applications on behalf of TSA.

Gambling Community Benefit Fund	\$34,900.00
Shading, Marketing Items, Playing & Grounds Equipment	
Get Going Clubs	\$7,500.00
Accreditations, First Aid, ACM & Forum attendances, Ground signs	
Keith and Anne Beer	\$5,000.00
Major Sponsor of new TSA Representative Playing Shirts (Juniors and Seniors)	
McDonalds Vouchers and TSA stickers for all Junior members	

Representative Teams

TSA have been amply represented at each State Championship. We have had some teams where we have picked up players from another DA. Still working on improving players ability and team success in all grades.

State/National Representatives

Congratulations to Nicholas Murphy (U17 B), Lincoln Walk (U17B and U19M), Monique Smith (U19W) and Nic Moore (U23M) for their representation as players in Queensland teams.

Congratulations to Deb Prouten (U19M), Kirsty Prouten (U15G), Jayke Reynolds (U15B) and Chris Edards (U23M) for their representation as officials in Queensland teams.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Our thanks to The Toowoomba Chronicle and WIN TV for their ongoing support of Toowoomba Softball. We also thank Julie Cooper for her action photography which she has made available to members. TSA will be involved with the Regional Sport EXPO, displaying at the Toowoomba Royal Show over the three days of the Show. Marketing bags and Come and Try stalls were set up. Many thanks to the large number of members that came out and helped over these days. Special thanks to all our junior players that gave their time. Sport and Rec were so impressed that we had junior players running our batting and throwing target stalls. Many thanks again for the continued support from Leading Edge Sports who attended our grounds at least once a month with gear. Thanks to Vanochino Mobile Coffee and 4 Events for supplying our endless coffee during our fixture days. To Lisa at Krush Design a special thank you for our new flyers and your continued support of Junior Softball in our Community.

Toowoomba Softball Association



JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Congratulations and thanks to Kirsty Prouten and Jayke Reynolds for all their work with the Academy. The number of kids attending each week is fantastic and we can already see the improvement in their skills. Thanks to BSA in running the Deb McColm Memorial Shield. Our teams had a great time and will definitely be returning. A great way to help develop our kids. We also held a Skills Day for our U9 – U17 guided by specialist coaches in each age group. Our Super Hero Day was again at a huge hit along with Santa's annual visit.

SCHOOL SPORT

TSA has a number of players that represent the game of Softball through the school system in both Junior and Senior softball not only regional representation in Darling Downs but also at the QLD School Sport level. Congratulations on the DD U19 Boys winning the State Championships this year.



NEW INNOVATIONS

- Indoor Softball April – June. Something new to get the word SOFTBALL out there. Slow Pitch with modified rules for Indoor. We currently have 6 teams playing. Of the 50 players playing half of them don't play outdoor softball and are already talking about playing Summer Softball. Jazzy Cats / Around the Bases / Goodies / Gotcha / Happy Meals / Golden Arches

FUTURE

Challenges

- Implementation of online registration program but believe things will be better next year.
- Winter sports starting earlier and earlier each year. Players leaving to play winter sports instead of finishing what they have committed to first in their Summer sport

Plans

- Increase and maintain members
- Increase accredited coaches, scorers and umpires
- More softball even in the off season
- Slow Pitch Comp – Aug to Sept. Corporate Teams
- Re-fencing of all diamonds including 6ft home run fences (big talks with TRC and TTA)
- Shades covering our grand stands on diamonds





MEMBERSHIP

A slight increase has been seen in our 2018 season with 3 new home teams added to the competition. This is a pleasing result and has been well received by members. They're always happy to have more teams to play, increasing the diversity and variety of games each week.

REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS

For a relatively small association, Wynnum has been well represented at both state and national levels with players selected in the QLD U23 Women, QLD Patriots, a state team head coach and national team manager.

HIGHLIGHTS

In our 2017 season, our men's competition joined with Brisbane Softball Association men, with our home clubs playing fortnightly at Wynnum and alternate weeks at Zillmere. This arrangement was a great success with the current 2018 season seeing both associations playing home and away at each other's fields – more teams to play, higher engagement of members and a great relationship for both associations.

Our Open Women won the Presidents Cup and our Open Men finished 3rd in their respective state championships.

The Wynnum Hit Out Masters Tournament was run in September with this always being a highlight of our year. An increase in teams this year added to the overall success of the event with positive feedback received from those who participated.

UMPIRING

During this year, additional to both state and national softball appointments, our umpiring coordinator, David Casey was appointed to three international championships; the Canada Cup, Japan Cup and Asia Pacific Cup.

FUTURE - CHALLENGES & PLANS

Upgrades

Brisbane City Council has presented us with a very exciting plan for our fields. After many meetings, local stakeholder input and approval levels, a new layout for our park which includes better diamond placement, conduit for lighting, new canteen/umpiring/changeroom building and sealed car park has been presented. This plan is in its final stages of approval, and whilst it won't happen overnight, it is promising for us to see there are some exciting changes to come in the next couple of years.

Membership

Whilst we still have a low membership we are seeing improvement which is pleasing. Our biggest challenge is juniors. We have tried and tested many ways to increase junior numbers with little success. However it is always front of mind and we will continue to strive to have junior games at our fields again.

A special mention to our hard working and dedicated volunteers who give tirelessly to ensure our fields are ready for play, canteen is stocked and our administration is in order. We have a small number of volunteers and without them we would simply not exist.

