

MWDDBA

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

Annual Report
2023/2024

74th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6:30PM – AQUATIC CLUBHOUSE

AGENDA

1. Determination of Quorum
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of minutes of the MWDBA Annual General meeting held on Saturday 6th May 2023
4. President's Address
5. Presentation and Adoption of Annual Report
6. Presentation and Adoption of Financial Report
7. Appointment of RL SMSF Audits as the Association's Auditor
8. Nominations for Life Membership
9. Appointment of Director Positions
10. General Business

LIFE MEMBERS

Steve Green Snr	(D) before Inc	Gina Doubleday	(D) 1997
George Gunston	(D) before Inc	Denis Houghton	1997
Graham Howlett	before Inc	Denice Conyard	1999
Dave Sneddon	(D) 1963	Marie Markham	1999
Laurie Barnes	(D) 1965	Bob Clark	2000
Bob Hourigan	(D) 1967	Ralph Warne	2000
Col Houghton	(D) 1968	Robert Clark	2001
Brian Cubitt	(D) 1975	Paul Harradine	2003
John Ardill	(D) 1977	Jeff Bertram	2004
Greg Moon	1981	Paul Goodsell	2005
Graham Howlett	1981	Jim Riley	2005
Gene McClarty	(D) 1982	Michael O'Neill	2005
David White	1984	Ric Jackson	2006
Lindsay Doubleday	(D) 1994	Brent Goodwin	2007
Fred Dennis	1994	Nick O'Flaherty	2007
Chris Maitland	1994	Ray Zorn	2008
Tom O'Connell	1994	Gordon Blinkhorne	(D) 2008
Bill Hardman	(D) 1995	Peter Edmunds	2009
Judy Hardman	1995	Tom Organ	2009
Rose Houghton	(D) 1996	Terry Mahy	2012
Lincoln McClatchie	(D) 1996	Fran Inkster	2015
Noel Middlemiss	1996	Simon Lowde	2019
Steve Green	1996	Noel Markham	2020
Ian Coltram	1996	PJ Patterson	2023
Bev Coltram	1997	David Gledhill	2023

Minutes of the 73rd Annual General Meeting of MWDBA

Held on 6th May 2023 at MWDBA Clubhouse, Aquatic Drive, Frenchs Forest, NSW, 2086

- 1. Meeting opened at 6.50pm**
- 2. Present**

Quorum achieved – Attendance Register saved to MWDBA Google Drive AGM 2023 folder

- 3. Apologies**

Hannah Vaughan

- 4. Confirmation of previous AGM minutes**

Motion to accept the minutes of the 2022 AGM

Moved: Jeff Bertram

Seconded: John Hughes

Carried

- 5. President's Address**

President thanks to life members for their presence.

Minute silence for life members who passed away this year: Bill Hardman & Gordon Blinkhorne, as well as the recent passing of Jim Gagen.

Thanks to current board members for their contribution to Manly Baseball.

Thanks to Mark Lowe.

Thanks to Mike O'Neill who is stepping down from the board this year.

Apologies for omission of Sienna Gledhill in Annual Report for NSW representation. Report will be amended.

Thanks to his Presidents family for their support

- 6. Presentation & adoption of Annual Report**

Motion to accept the Annual Report

Moved: Matt Eisenhauer

Seconded: David Gledhill

- 7. Presentation & Adoption of Financial report**

Please ask Carly if you have any questions

Thank you to Luke Mallam for reducing marketing costs

Thanks to Vicki Quinlan and Simon Lowde

Infrastructure fund \$80000 earning interest. All areas looking healthy.

Motion to accept the Financial Report

Moved: Joe Weller

Seconded: Simon Lowde

8. Appointment of Auditor

RL SMSF Audits to be appointed as the Association's Auditor for 2022/23.

Moved: Michelle Camphius

Seconded: John Farrant

9. Nominations for Life membership

Nomination for life membership: PJ Patterson and David Gledhill.

Both PJ and Dave were elected as life members.

10. Election of Office Bearers

All Board positions were vacated and John Bertram was appointed to manage the election and board appointment process. Josie Rossello was appointed as the Returning Officer for the elections.

President:

Members were asked to submit their ballot papers. Tally recorded.

Brook Russell was appointed as MWDBA President

Treasurer:

Carly Clarke was the only nomination and was elected unopposed

Secretary:

Members were asked to submit their ballot papers. Tally recorded.

Renee Phegan was appointed as MWDBA Secretary

11. Special Resolution Business

Joe Weller informed the members of the motions.

Question to clarify that information would be communicated from the board to clubs in a timely manner to allow enough time for discussion before voting was affirmed.

Members were asked to vote on the motions by show of hands.

Motion 1: Amending the voting rights of members

Moved: Carly Clark

Carried: Joe Weller

(1 Nay vote, all other votes yes)

Motion 2: Amending the composition of the MWDBA Board

Moved: Luke Mallam

Carried: John Farrant

(unanimously)

12. Appointment of General Directors

Eight members stood for election for 6 General Director positions. A ballot was conducted and the following members were appointed:

- David Gledhill
- Melissa Bristow
- Joe Weller
- Luke Mallam

- Sam Casper-Richardson
- Hannah Vaughan

13. General Business

John Bertram asked the members to thank Josie Rossello for her work as returning officer and declared the Annual General Meeting closed.

14. Meeting closed at 8.07pm

RSA BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

1 = Present at Meeting

<u>Date of meeting</u>	Brook Russell	Renee Phegan	Carly Clarke	Joe Weller	Sam Casper-Richardson	David Gledhill	Hannah Vaughan	Luke Mallam	Melissa Bristow
May No Meeting									
June 5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
July 17	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
August 7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1
September 4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
October 19	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
November 21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
December 11	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1
January No Meeting									
February 5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
March 7	1	1	1	1			1	1	1
April 8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1
May 6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Meetings Attended	11	11	10	11	10	10	10	9	11



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Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Congratulations to the Sub-Committees and Clubs on another successful year.

Manly Eagles Baseball Club has a successful first season as a club with 2nd Grade and Under 18's reaching the State League finals series. Congratulations to 2nd Grade on the minor premiership, unfortunately it did not translate in the final series. Under 18's outstanding season was capped off with a grand final win to become 2023/24 Champions.

The recent State League presentation night saw the following Manly players and officials recognised for their performance and service:

Tom Newbold selected as Outfielder in the 1st Grade All Star lineup.

Ashley Roberts awarded Most Valuable Player for 2nd Grade. His 3rd MVP award in a row.

Luke Donaghey awarded Most Valuable Player for U18's and Hitter of the Year. Luke was also named MVP at the recent National School Boys Titles as a member of the NSW team which took out the National Title. Luke was also selected in the All-Australian School Boys team.

Lyn Donald was awarded Scorer of the Year for her role as the Chief Scorer for the Women's Team.

Well done to the MEBC committee, players and officials on a great season of baseball.

The Minor League competition had another strong season across all competitions. As I stated in my last year's President's Report, the importance of the Minor League competition cannot be understated. It is a vehicle to keep graduating junior players in baseball, introduce new adult players to baseball and give baseballers of all ages a great competition to continue with their baseball career. Personally, one of the most satisfying sights is seeing baseball played for the pleasure of the game on the weekends and weeknights.

Congratulations to all of those that participated in the competitions and the winners of those competitions.

Congratulations to Minor League Committee, and all those hard-working volunteers that maintained the grounds and produced an exceptional cadre of competitions.

The Junior Competition had another exceptional season, players numbers were strong, which is a tribute to the club committees. The Committee and the Clubs produce a quality competition with great players, supported by their families. Junior baseball has always been a sport that the whole family can participate in and contribute to, and this is evident in the Manly Junior Competition. I enjoyed my visits to all other club grounds during the season, seeing kids on the diamond, parents and carers coaching or working in the

canteen or scoring or umpiring the games. More importantly, I always enjoyed the cheering and enthusiasm for the safe hit, the great pitch or the play made regardless of the team on the field or in the batting box.

Congratulations to President, Jayson Page, the Junior Competition Committee, the Club Presidents, their committees, and volunteers for great season of baseball. Congratulations to all the division winners. Well done to Manly Seaside Baseball Club, President Mark Gibson, Committee and volunteers on a great Junior Competition Finals.

The Junior Representative Program is continuing to be a strong component of the Association.

The Program had a strong start prior to Christmas entering 5 team in the Sydney Cup and Association Cup. Congratulations to the U14 Sydney Cup squad making the finals and the U12 Association Cup squad winning the competition.

The Rookies Cup program had a strong representation again this season with 4 teams entered in the competition, which should provide a strong bedrock of players to continue in the Representative Program. Congratulations to Alicia Gereaux, Chilli Hanlon, Emilia Arkhult, Kali Hanrahan and Zoe Mallam on being selection in the 2024 NSW Little League girls team participating in the National Titles.

Manly has great success in the recent State Titles with the Little League Division 2 Maroon team and Junior League Maroon team both being crown State Champions. Good Luck to both teams at the National Titles.

Well done to the Representative Committee on fielding quality teams and managing the program.

Thank you to the Manly Warringah Baseball Umpires for your continued commitment to Manly Baseball. The games could not be played without those committed umpires that we see week in and week out. Thank you for your commitment to the development of junior umpires. The Committee looks forward to a continued partnership with you. I would encourage all players young and old to consider the other participation component of baseball and join the Manly Warringah Baseball Umpires, it is a great way to contribute to the game.

I want to thank the Manly Warringah Baseball Association Committee. The way the Committee worked together this season is to be commended. The meetings and all the communications in between were collaborative and productive. I am proud of the way the members used their own personal skill set to enhance and improve the performance of the Association.

A new Constitution was adopted by Manly this year which means a change in the structure of the Board. The new make up of the Committee bringing the representatives of the 5 clubs and sub-committees onto the Board.

Personally, I want to thank the members of 2023-24 Board for their work and commitment to Manly baseball and I wish those well that are not returning to the Board for the coming year.

Finally, to all the players, families, committees, volunteers, scorers, umpires, grounds keepers, canteen staff and everyone involved in Manly Baseball, I want to simply say thank you.

I encourage everyone that is involved in Manly Baseball, who does not already volunteer your time to do so in some manner, no matter how large or small that contribution may be.

I also encourage you all to consider roles in Club Committees and Manly Baseball Committees. No sport can operate without passionate Committee members who undertake the roles to provide enjoyment in the sport of Baseball.

Yours in Baseball,
Brook Russell
President



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Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

**ANNUAL TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Annual Treasurer's Report

Fiscal Year - March 2024

INTRODUCTION

The 2023-24 season was very successful year with growth in numbers across Juniors, Reps, and Minor League. Additionally, both Juniors and Minors were able to complete nearly all scheduled rounds over the summer season.

My focus as Treasurer is to ensure a financially strong and durable sporting association and to improve our infrastructure, hence providing more playing opportunities for all players. MWDBA continues to focus on the following strategies:

- The fiscal management of each playing entity, ensuring they are contributing to the overall wellbeing of the association.
- Continuing to grow our player numbers through marketing and promotion.
- Reinvesting in the game, particularly through infrastructure development providing more playing opportunities for the growing number of players.

This season juniors had 709 players and completed 16 rounds plus 3 finals rounds. Minor League had 562 total players and for summer played 13 rounds plus 2 rounds for finals. Junior Reps held their winter development program with 85 players, had 95 players in development teams from Sept-Dec and 74 players across 6 All Stars teams from Feb-April.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- An Infrastructure fund totalling \$80,925 was established for Minor League last financial year. This will be used for major infrastructure projects including the upgrade of Aquatic Reserve. This account earned over \$3k in interest income last year and additional contributions of \$13k taking the total amount to over \$97k.
- MWDBA approved the replacement of netting for the Aquatic batting cages. The new netting should be installed in May or June and will improve the safety and quality of our facilities.
- Uniform inventory has been reduced very significantly over the past 3 years. As of March 2024, current uniform inventory for the association was only \$1k, down significantly from \$32k back in March 2020. We continue to encourage players to purchase inventory direct from suppliers thus reducing the administrative workload and, also the significant uniform write-off costs experienced in previous years.
- MWDBA applied for 2 sporting/community grants thanks to the help of Mel Bristow. We have received a local sports grant totalling \$3,635.50 for the upgrade of netting at Rat Park. We have also applied for a grant totalling \$6,611 for nets at Aquatic Reserve. We will find out the outcome of the grant for Aquatic reserve later this month and if accepted, both grants would be paid out in the next financial year.

FINANCIALS

MWDBA financials are a combined set of accounts reflecting all the activities of MWDBA which includes Juniors, Junior Representatives, and Minor League. The Juniors competition had 709 players this year and had 16 rounds between September to March. Minor League had 562 players across 4 competitions - Winter, Summer, Masters, and Family and Friends (which was introduced this year).

Junior Representatives consisted of 3 seasons – winter development, Sydney and Association Cup and All Stars (State Championships). Junior Reps also have 3 teams that will be competing in National Championships in late May/early June.

RESULTS

MWDBA’s total revenues for 2024 were \$164k, which was down on the previous year due to the removal of Manly Eagles Baseball Club as a playing group under MWDBA. Profits were \$12k noting that \$14.3k was spent on infrastructure improvements for the replacement of netting at the Aquatic batting cages. Last year profits were around \$20k for MWDBA after the deconsolidation of MEBC which occurred in April 2023.

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

MWDBA	2024 Total	2023 Total	Variance	Change
Revenues	\$163,565	\$249,250	(\$85,685)	-34%
Costs	\$121,735	\$179,590	(\$57,855)	-32%
Gross Profit	\$41,830	\$69,660	(\$27,830)	-40%
Other Expenses	\$19,953	\$27,946	(\$7,993)	-29%
Infrastructure spend	\$14,289			
Interest income	\$4,425	\$736		
Net profit	\$12,013	\$42,451	(\$30,438)	-72%

MWDBA income has been simplified significantly after the reaffiliation of MEBC. MWDBA’s only source of revenue now is from club and player registration fees. Our revenue is down year on year as previously we also benefited from revenue from MEBC (canteen income, sponsorship & donations, and player camps). However, similarly our expenses have been simplified as well with the main costs being competition registration fees, umpires and council ground levies.

Overall revenue across MWDBA (excluding MEBC) was similar year on year. As an association we have been working hard to cut costs where possible as well as reduce inventory which has historically resulted in significant write-offs of unused uniforms. This leaves us with more funds to spend on infrastructure and growth.

ASSETS

Assets mainly consist of cash and cash equivalents as well as a small amount of equipment and uniforms. Note that uniform inventory has been reduced significantly over the past 3 years. Uniform inventory was \$32.4k as of 31 March 2020 and is now down to \$1k as of March 2024. We’ll continue to reduce this to zero as players order directly from suppliers, hence reducing the workload around inventory and the significant write-offs we faced over the years prior to 2023.

For the \$7k listed under trade debtors this mainly represents invoices sent out at the very end of March for council ground levies and ground lights once the summer season finished.

LIABILITES

Liabilities consist of accruals/accounts payable. Key accrued amounts/accounts payable represent the AGM volunteer event, audit fees, umpiring fees for State Titles, and costs for the netting upgrade at Aquatic reserve.

EQUITY

Total Equity as of March 2024 was \$170k of which retained earnings was \$158k and current year's surplus \$12k. Of this balance, it is predominately made up of a cash balance and term deposit which together total \$172k.

PERFORMANCE

In summary, the overall net profit for the association was \$12k, noting that the association spent \$14k to upgrade the cages at Aquatic. Before this expense underlying profit was \$26k.

PLANNING

The two key challenges that MWDBA continues to face are providing adequate grounds and growing player numbers. Over the past 12 months some progress has been made on plans to provide adequate grounds for the future. MWDBA has set up an infrastructure fund to prepare for these challenges and support the improvement of our current grounds.

i. Grounds:

The use and demand of our sports fields in Northern Beaches is forever increasing and the Northern Beaches Council is actively looking to improve sports ground use.

The investment in North Narrabeen Reserve (Rat Park) has been completed with new state of the art baseball grounds.

Northern Beaches Council has pledged to refurbish Aquatic's baseball grounds with a focus on improved drainage, targeted for 2024-25. Additionally, there are plans to submit a development application for ground lights for fields A2-A5, as well as Rat Park 1. MWDBA plans to contribute to the project for ground lights via Infrastructure funding and grant applications.

ii. Playing Numbers:

Player numbers in MWDBA juniors rebounded in 2021 but dropped of significantly in 2022. COVID restrictions prevented clubs from being able to hold their usual try baseball days in July and August 2021 and all four clubs were down in terms of playing numbers year on year. Player numbers rebounded for the 2023-2024 season, but this was mainly a result of growth in one club - Forest, while Warringah and Seaside numbers remain steady and Pittwater numbers are in decline.

Juniors by Club	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Var 2024:23	CARG 2018:24
Seasiders	136	130	151	158	135	147	147	0%	1%
Warringah	114	90	50	85	77	91	92	1%	-4%
Forest	193	204	214	253	229	256	331	29%	9%
Pittwater	156	168	174	205	152	164	139	-15%	-2%
North Sydney	153	184							
Dragons	24								
North Shore			26						
TOTAL	776	776	615	701	593	658	709	8%	-1%

Senior playing numbers had a very good year in 2021-22 with the transition of Juniors to Seniors continuing to improve, plus many parents of junior players signing up to play themselves. However, the wet weather in winter 2022 hurt playing numbers for the 2023 year with numbers across all competitions down year on year. Numbers were up again in 2024 with a 17% increase year on year.

Minor League	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Var 2024:23	CARG 2018:24
Winter	250	257	258	273	304	226	253	12%	0%
Summer	100	111	133	172	210	174	193	11%	12%
Masters	47	47	47	76	69	80	73	-9%	8%
							43		
TOTAL	397	415	438	521	583	480	562	17%	6%

*Aquatic unplayable - 62 refunds

iii. Coaching & player retention

We are well supported by eager and qualified coaches across most clubs and the rep program. The baseball community is incredibly grateful for the time and effort that they commit to the sport.

We will continue to look at ways of supporting our coaches and ensuring that infrastructure and equipment is available to support their efforts.

While we are progressing with these challenges, I look forward to the support of MWDBA and the baseball community as we promote and improve Baseball in this region.

Many thanks

Carly Clarke
MWDBA Treasurer

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

Combined Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
Revenues		
Club and Player Registration	\$156,450	\$182,028
Uniform sales	\$7,115	\$3,066
Presentations	\$0	\$1,840
Coaching Activities	\$0	\$16,858
Canteen	\$0	\$26,773
Sponsorship & Donations	\$0	\$18,486
Other income	\$0	\$200
Revenues	\$163,565	\$249,250
Costs		
Club and Player Registration	\$28,758	\$67,340
Uniform costs	\$13,621	\$14,050
Presentations	\$9,879	\$9,864
Coaches fees	\$8,210	\$11,027
Canteen Purchases	\$0	\$16,256
Other COGS	\$3,431	\$1,066
Ground Fees and Equipment	\$57,836	\$59,989
Total Costs	\$121,735	\$179,591
Gross Profit	\$41,830	\$69,660
General Expenses		
Administrative expense	\$13,081	\$8,774
Finance Costs	\$86	\$1,241
Advertising & Marketing	\$6,786	\$17,930
Expenses	\$19,953	\$27,946
Infrastructure Improvements	\$14,289	
Operating Profit	\$7,588	\$41,714
Interest Income	\$4,425	\$736
Interest Expense	\$0	\$0
Total Other Expenses	\$4,425	\$736
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$12,013	\$42,451

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$172,324	\$184,744
Trade Debtors / Prepayments	\$7,235	\$695
Clubhouse Equipment		
Playing Equipment	\$1,724	\$5,449
Other Assets		
Uniforms at cost	\$1,095	\$8,508
Total Assets	\$182,378	\$199,363
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors and other accruals	\$12,588	\$19,921
Other deposits		
Total Liabilities	\$12,588	\$19,921
	\$169,791	\$179,443
Net Assets	\$169,791	\$179,443
Member's Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$157,778	\$136,992
Current Year Earnings	\$12,013	\$42,451
Total Equity	\$169,791	\$179,443

Combined Statement of Cashflows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
Receipts from Customers	\$162,244	\$260,202
Payments to Suppliers	(\$161,499)	(\$189,887)
Other Operating Cash Flows	(\$2,724)	(\$4,169)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(\$1,980)	\$66,147
Proceeds from the Sale of Equipment	\$3,724	\$4,169
Payment for Equipment	\$0	(\$8,173)
Other Cash from Investment	\$7,024	\$3,854
Net Cash from Investing Activities	\$10,748	(\$151)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities	(\$21,549)	(\$25,181)
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(\$12,780)	\$40,815
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the start of Period	\$184,744	\$143,930
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(\$12,780)	\$40,815
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of Period	\$171,964	\$184,744



MWDDBA

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

**JUNIOR COMPETITION COMMITTEE
REPORT**

2023-24 JUNIOR COMPETITION COMMITTEE REPORT

Executive Committee:

Jayson Page (Pittwater) Chairman
Julie Hogan (Pittwater) Secretary
David Gledhill (Manly Seaside) Competition Convener

Board Members:

Owen Harris (Forest)
Mark Gibson (Manly Seaside)
Colin Rossello (Pittwater)
Matt Eisenhauer (Warringah)

Firstly, I would like to thank the Junior Competition Committee (JCC) for their outstanding work in administering junior baseball in the Manly Warringah District. The Committee continue to dedicate a significant amount of their time to baseball, both as representatives of Manly Baseball and their own clubs.

The Competition was run across all age groups from U8 Teeball to Senior League with a total of 56 teams participating from all four clubs.

- U8 Teeball 5 teams
- U9 Teeball 7 teams
- LL Zooka 11 teams
- LL Minors 8 teams
- LL Majors 10 teams
- Intermediate League 4 teams
- Junior League 6 teams
- Senior League 5 teams

The 2023-2024 Junior Competition had 709 player registrations (up from 704 in 2022-23) with the following breakdown by Club:

- Forest Baseball Club 331 players
- Manly Seaside Baseball Club 147 players
- Pittwater Baseball Club 139 players
- Warringah Baseball Club 92 players

The 2023-24 season saw the return cross-club play on Saturday mornings for U8 Teeball. The other cross-club Saturday morning competitions include U9 Teeball, Zooka, Little League Minors, Little League Majors and Junior League.

On Wednesday nights Manly Juniors hosted the Intermediate League competition at Aquatic. The Intermediate competition gives the opportunity for the kids to play on teams with players from other Clubs. This was another great season that also provides the players the opportunity to watch some great baseball and support Manly First Grade when they are at home on Wednesday nights.

The Friday night Senior League Competition saw five teams participating from all four Clubs. Pittwater and Warringah worked together to create a combined squad, the Renegades. I would like to congratulate the Senior League players who have completed their Junior Baseball careers and hope they continue with baseball in the Manly Senior Competitions.

We are always looking to improve the Manly Junior Competition. Three key areas for future focus have been identified by the JCC – collaboratively working as One-Manly to increase new player registrations and player retention; partnering with Manly Umpires to increase numbers and ongoing education, as well as coach development opportunities. In order to gain further insight on areas for improvement / changes the JCC will be putting out a survey to all Manly Junior families in May.

Congratulations to the following teams for being Minor Premiers at the conclusion of the Competition Rounds:

- LL Zooka Forest Phillies
- LL Minor Forest Cubs
- LL Major Pittwater Barracuda
- Intermediate League Diamondbacks
- Junior League Forest Athletics
- Senior League Forest Giants

Congratulations to the Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers, Scorers, Pitch Counters, and the families involved with the Minor Premier teams.

Manly Seaside Baseball Club hosted the Finals series. Congratulations to Mark Gibson and the Manly Seaside on running a successful final series. The Manly Seaside did an excellent job throughout the Finals series. John Fisher is a beautiful spot along the water-front for baseball.

Grand Final day brought sunshine and great baseball. The opening ceremony was held to start the day with teams, officials, and spectators gathered. The ceremony included the Australian National Anthem by local singer, Toby Nunn; Welcome to Country by local Elder, Uncle Allen Madden; and the ceremonial first pitch thrown by Manly Sea Eagles legend, Steve “Beaver” Menzies (who also played for the Manly Seaside as a junior!).

Congratulations to the following teams that are the 2023-24 Manly Junior Champions in the respective divisions:

- LL Zooka Forest Phillies
- LL Minor Forest Cubs
- LL Major Pittwater Barracudas
- Intermediate League Dodgers
- Junior League Forest Athletics
- Senior League Forest Giants

Congratulations to all the Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers, Scorers, Pitch Counters, and the families involved with the Championship teams.

Congratulations to the Minor League and State League competitions on their respective seasons.

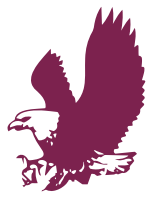
On behalf of the Manly Warringah Junior Baseball Committee, I thank the Manly Warringah District Baseball Association Committee, the Minor League Competition Committee and the State League Competition Committee, and the Manly Warringah Baseball Umpires Association for their support of the Manly Warringah Junior Competition, as coaches, mentors, umpires, parents, and supporters.

Congratulations to the clubs, their teams, team officials and importantly the parents for supporting the Manly Warringah Baseball Junior Competition by allowing their children to participate in this year's competition.

After spending the past few years on the JCC, as both delegate and the Chairman, I want to personally thank everyone who has been directly involved with the JCC during this time. This incredible group of people have been a model of partnership and collaboration always keeping the kids as the primary focus to work through some especially difficult challenges.

It is my hope that Manly Warringah Baseball continues to prosper and that kids keep playing and enjoying the game of baseball.

Jayson Page
Chairman
on behalf of the Manly Warringah Junior Competition Committee



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Manly Warringah District Baseball Association

**JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE
COMMITTEE REPORT**



MWDBA Jnr Reps – Committee Report 2024

The 2023/24 season saw Manly Junior Reps have the most successful year ever, both on and off the field.

The return of the winter development program saw 85 participants take part in a 6 week program focusing on baseball fundamentals. The program was supported by a number of experienced coaches and offered some of our ageing out Senior League players an opportunity to share their skills with younger players. This led to Dan Baker becoming one of the Assistant Coaches for the LL Minors White All Star team. We would strongly encourage any SL players ageing out this year to consider being part of the program in the future.

We entered 4 teams into the Greenies tournament over the October long weekend. Teams faced some quality opposition and received valuable experience against strong pitching and hitting. The minors team went undefeated and won their division.

Manly entered 5 teams in Sydney Cup and Association Cup, proudly represented in the U16, U14 and U12 age groups. Players and coaches were able to develop their skills and gain experience against quality teams in each age group. The U14 Sydney Cup side and U12 Association Cup side both made the final. Our young team came away with a finals win. We encourage any players who would like to be part of the All Star program to be involved in the development season. During this time we were also able to run a development squad for the U12 age group (many of which formed the Manly White LL Minor team in All Stars) who trained and played scrimmages against other associations. Special thanks to the coaches for providing this valuable experience.

February brought the Rookies Cup where Manly fielded four teams. All four teams performed well and continued to build on the strong performance from the previous year. Manly Maroon winning division one for the second year. Of the 48 Rookies who participated, for many of them this was their first experience in the Junior Reps program and it was exciting to see so many talented players starting their baseball journey. It was also the first time coaching and being an EO for many of the teams, we appreciate the time and effort from all those involved.

The 2024 All Star season saw two teams crowned State Champions. The LL Minor Manly Maroon team dominated Div II at State Championships going through the tournament undefeated. Not to be outdone, the JL Manly Maroon side also went through undefeated to be crowned State Champions! Both teams will be heading to Nationals (Minors in Blacktown, JL in Lismore) and we wish them the best of luck. This year also saw Manly enter more teams in State Championships, helping to grow our player base and allow more exposure to high quality baseball. LL Minors White, LL Majors, JL White and SL all put in a strong performance with some outstanding individual plays along with some amazing team moments.

All of these achievements are not done in isolation, but with the combined effort of the Manly community. We saw the joy players and families had in our social BBQ's and hat presentation. Our aim as a committee is to build the Manly community so we are a force to be reckoned with. In saying that, there are many people who devoted an extraordinary amount of time and effort into the program. A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all the coaches and assistant coaches who without we

would not have a program. To the EO's, scorers, pitch counters and grounds crew we are so thankful and appreciate your expertise. Finally, thank you to the families who get the kids to games and training on time (and don't ask too often if it's shorts or pants!).

Upon reflection, the committee has worked hard to provide many amazing opportunities for development and competition with the assistance of our dedicated volunteers this season. We will continue to strive towards improvement and providing players, families and volunteers a positive experience in the Junior Rep Program.

The Junior Rep Committee

Carly Clarke (Treasurer and all around amazing admin)

Sam Casper- Richardson (Social media and all rounder)

Kate Murray (Uniform, equipment and catering coordinator)

Paul Phegan (Coaching Coordinator and technical advisor)

Renee Phegan (Secretary)



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**MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE
REPORT**

MINOR LEAGUE REPORT 2023-2024

Each year, when I reflect back, I am always amazed and pleased to see the contribution that Minor League brings to MWDBA and baseball in general. Over the last 12 months, Minor League put on a Winter competition, Summer 2023/24 and Autumn 2024 Masters Tournaments. In addition, this financial year we trialed a 6 week "Family & Friends" social competition in October, in an effort to introduce even more first time players to Baseball. None of this could have been achieved without the incredible support of Joe Weller (VP Minor League) and the rest of the Minor League Committee (Andrew Turner and Michelle Camphuis) and our Senior coordinators, Matt Eisenhauer (Warringah), Paul Lidgard (Seasiders), Andrew Logue (Forest) and Parrish Castaing (Pittwater).

After a number of years on the committee, Paul and Parrish have decided to step down from their roles and I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for everything that they have brought to their roles and this committee. At the same time, we extend a very warm welcome to David Tuckwell (VP Winter), Chris Augustyn and Mark Bernardo (senior Coordinators for Seasiders and Pittwater respectively).

Our baseball diamonds continue to be impacted by the weather and lack of drainage but despite these challenges (particularly over the winter months), the ability of Minor League to continue to get the show on the road is due to the dedication in particular of our grounds crew, coordinated by Joe Weller. The hours that are spent preparing the fields each week is unprecedented and we are all extremely grateful. This includes a second shout out to the grounds crew at Rat Park, Garry Coggan, Andrew White and Parrish Castaing. Without these additional fields, many weekends of baseball would have been lost.

Our senior coordinators help us to have a closer association with the clubs and we continue to strive to ensure that senior baseball is highlighted as an important component within these clubs, providing a pathway for graduating juniors and family participation. With 562 registered players this year, Minor League makes up 42% of MWDBA and is a vital base of the financial stability of the Association.

Our seasons would not be possible without the support of our Manly umpires. We were fortunate to have Cheryl Amir as our umpire coordinator who continues in the role to find umpires to plate and field as many games as possible each week, and importantly had the blues officiate our GF's. On behalf of the whole of Minor League, a very big THANK YOU Cheryl and all our BLUES. Umpiring is a critical part of the game, and it continues to be a focus for us to encourage our players to become accredited.

Winter 2023

Coming off a very wet 2022, where we joined focus with PCBL, 2023 saw ML run a 15 round home competition across 3 grades (1st, 3rd and 4th grade), with 253 players. 19 teams in total, 6 Teams in 1st Grade, 6 teams in 3rd Grade and 7 teams in 4th grade, including, for the first time, an all ladies team, the Forest Chicks. It is pleasing to see the increasing number of female participants, many of whom went on to join the MEBC Ladies team in the summer.

Grade Winners:

1st Grade:

Winners: Forest Mavericks

Runners Up: Pittwater Marlins

3rd Grade:

Winners: Seasiders Lynx

Runners up: Forest Fighters

4th Grade:

Winners: Seaside Hornets

Runners up: Pittwater Dodgers

Summer 2023/2024

Summer 2023/24 numbers bounced back encouragingly over 2022/23 and ranking only behind the record 2021/22 season, with 14 teams (193 players) participating across 2 grades.

Starting with even teams numbers, Warringah Redbacks 2 were regraded to 2nd Grade after round 6 to have us finish with 5 teams in 1st grade and 9 2nd grade teams.

1st Grade:

Winners: Warringah Redbacks

Runners Up: Forest Renegades

2nd Grade:

Winners: Forest Smokies

Runners Up: Forest Trash Pandas

Autumn Masters 2024 (Over 35's)

Our Summer/Autumn Masters competition under the summer lights continues to be a popular event on the ML calendar. This competition was once again played on Monday and Wednesday evenings on Aquatic 1 with the eskies and BBQs keeping the players at the grounds long past time of game. This 6 team (73 player) competition for Over 35's is a 10-week competition culminating in a 1st v 2nd GF at the end.

The 2024 season was a resounding success with teams getting 8 rounds (rain getting us on 2 occasions). The GF was an all Forest affair.

Winners: Forest Sea Dogs

Runners Up: Forest Owls

Our Future:

There is never any down time in Minor League. The more extreme weather conditions (or more importantly RAIN) continues to impact us more and more. The 2024 winter season, having just commenced, has already seen 3 wash out rounds (and we are only in Round 5). Our struggles with field conditions and lack of drainage impacts our ability to play, long after the rain has stopped. The availability of fields with suitable lighting prevents us expanding into the evenings and continued shortage of umpires are still high on the Agenda. Despite these challenges, ML remain committed to our strategic priorities of Participation, Umpiring, Facilities and Engagement.

Helen Wyatt

Minor League President 2024



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**INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

MWDBA INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AGM REPORT 2023/24

The MWDBA Infrastructure Committee (MIC) was formed by the MWDBA Board in August 2021 with a charter to:

- Identify, prepare and keep updated a list of infrastructure requirements for the ongoing development of the sport of baseball within the Association
- Liaise with and lobby Northern Beaches Council (NBC) and the State Government to gain the appropriate funding resources for the delivery of that infrastructure.

The Committee comprises of one delegate from each of Forest, Pittwater, Seaside, Warringah and Manly Eagles baseball clubs.

The MIC has continued to jointly work with NBC on the agreed priority major projects over the last 12 months, being:

1. Recapping, drainage and releveling of Aquatic Diamond 2, 3, 4 & 5
2. Game quality lighting of Aquatic Diamond 2 & 3

for which \$1.5m has been set aside in the 2024/25 council budget.

The attached timetable for delivery gives the detail and shows the magnitude of the task, which will see us lose the use of those fields for the best part of a year, commencing from our next summer season. After nearly 3 years of planning work, it is definitely exciting to think we are getting close to seeing our visions for Aquatic put into action.

It must be noted that the delivery of the lighting component was 100% dependent on being successful with our NSW State Government grant application, which unfortunately was formally rejected last week. Despite this disappointing setback, we will continue working with Council on alternative funding and the project is officially listed in NBC's Master Plan for the 2024-28 period.

Additionally the MIC has requested NBC to address the poor drainage on Aquatic 1, which is as a result of silting up of the existing herringbone drains that run underneath the grass surface. This involves installing new drains and extending them into the persistent problem areas, particularly in the 3rd base vicinity. That work was originally due to be completed in 2023, but delays with getting the relevant contractor engaged has pushed the work out into this year. Once commenced, it should be a relatively quick task.

Similarly, we have been battling to get new nets into the Aquatic batting cages since July 2023. After an exhaustive search for a cost effective and reliable supplier, we now have an installation date of late May, with the \$14,000 cost funded by MWDBA.

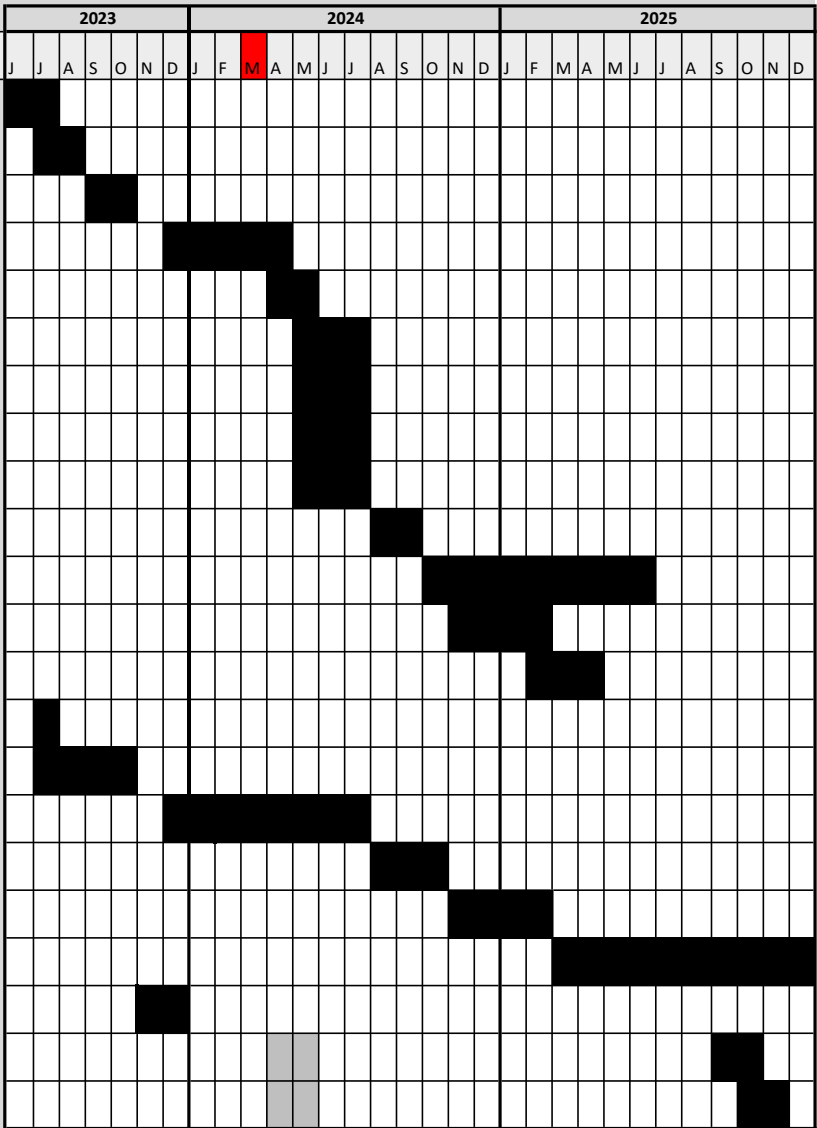
Finally, MIC is working closely with NBC (and Pittwater BC) on the Plan of Management for Rat Park, which is currently open for public comment. Council has included all the elements on our wish-list to continue to improve this facility for baseball over the next decade, including game lighting for the main field (Field 5) and improved back fences on fields 3 & 4.

We look forward to bringing further good news to our baseball stakeholders over the coming year.

Joe Weller

Aquatic Reserve renewal and lighting works, timetable for delivery

Field	Project	Stage	Description	start	finish	Status
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	Survey	Jun-23	Jul-23	Complete
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	Modelling volume earthworks design calculations	Jul-23	Aug-23	Complete
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	QS	Sep-23	Oct-23	Complete
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	Prepare REF for entire project including approval to construct	Dec-23	Apr-24	In progress
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	Outcome of lighting grant application	Apr-24	May-24	In progress
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Design	REF community engagement including lighting and approval to construct	May-24	Jul-24	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Procurement	RFQ procure regrading and turfing works.	May-24	Jul-24	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Procurement	RFQ procure design and construct for irrigation works.	May-24	Jul-24	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Procurement	RFQ procure design and construct for fencing works.	May-24	Jul-24	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Procurement	RFQ evaluation reports and decision to proceed	Aug-24	Sep-24	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Delivery	RFQ construction earthworks	Oct-24	Jun-25	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Delivery	RFQ construction irrigation works	Nov-24	Feb-25	
Field 2345	Field renewal works	Delivery	RFQ construction fencing works	Feb-25	Apr-25	
Field 2345	Lighting works	Planning	Preliminary lighting concept design performance review and QS	Jul-23	Jul-23	Complete
Field 2345	Lighting works	Planning	Lighting design brief for community engagement for approval	Jul-23	Oct-23	Complete
Field 2345	Lighting works	Planning	Consultants reports for; Town planning, survey, contaminated land, geotechnical, environmental, electrical supply	Dec-23	Jul-24	In progress
Field 2345	Lighting works	Procurement	RFT lighting procurement	Aug-24	Oct-24	
Field 2345	Lighting works	Procurement	RFT and Council report and decision	Nov-24	Feb-25	
Field 2345	Lighting works	Delivery	RFT construction lighting	Mar-25	Dec-25	
Field 1	Drainage	Investigations	drainage faults	Nov-23	Dec-23	Complete
Field 1	Drainage	Procurement	Minor drainage work	Sep-25	Oct-25	
Field 1	Drainage	Delivery	Minor drainage work additions to persistent wet areas	Oct-25	Nov-25	





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Thank You

www.manlybaseball.com.au info@manlybaseball.com.au