



CARLINGFORD BASEBALL CLUB INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

2008-2009

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MINUTES OF 2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CARLINGFORD BASEBALL CLUB INC
West Pennant Hills Community Centre
Sunday 6th April 2008

In attendance:

Andrew Borg, Ross O'Shannassy, David Perger, Robyn Gosper, Bill Fowler, Sharon Fowler, Sharon Murray, Kerri O'Shannassy, Kareha Naarataran, Meredith Donkin, Charles Agee, Deidre Potter, Neil Roach, Jo-Ann Raper, Bill Pollock, Carol Barton, Donna Wearne, S & J Carpenter, R & C Russell, Kim Lamont, Peter Woodbury, James Hunt, John Butt, Calvin Lin, David Robinson, Catherine Robinson, Johanna Conroy, T Mendham, Patrick Fazzino, Rob Morgan, Dave Morgan, Annette Pearsall, Joanne Stewart, Andrew Stewart, Brad Mountford, Wayne Gorton, Danielle Gorton, W Pearsall, Alison Mountford, Kerry Tremaine, Garry Butler, Melanie Michalos.

Apologies:

John Gibbons, Brad Clark, Dave Aiston.

The meeting opened at 2.10pm. The president welcomed members, life members and all attending.

The minutes of AGM 2007 were taken as read.

Motion that the minutes be accepted as published and amended.

Moved: Ross O'Shannassy. Seconded: Steve Gosper..... carried

Presidents Report was read by Andrew Borg as published.

Andrew Borg congratulated the club on a wonderful season despite having so many washed out games throughout the year.

He commented on the success we had as a club with 11 competitive teams registered and 6 making it to the finals.

3 Teams made it into semi – finals 12/3's 14/3's 17/3's

10 Cubs finished in 1st position on the competition ladder.

2 Teams winning Grand Finals 17/2's & Koala League.

Also 3 senior teams made it to Grand Finals and E grade and H Grade Black were eventual winners.

Well done to all teams.

Andrew touched on the Little league competition for next year and said he will try to communicate changes as soon as he finds out about them.

Andrew congratulated Carol Barton for her effort in being Junior Co-Ordinator. He said it was the most important and demanding job. He said our growth and success can be put down to Carol's determination and commitment in creating the right environment for juniors to play in.

Andrew thanked Brad Clark for stepping into the role of Seniors Co-Ordinator when it became vacant at the start of the season. He noted that Brad was a Carlingford junior and is now playing and helping run the E grade side with Russell Briggs which is made up of ex junior players from Carlingford. In previous years these players would have had to move to other clubs to play with players their own age. Well done Brad.

Andrew thanked Robyn and Steve Gosper for their help throughout the year, especially in cleaning the canteen after numerous attempts of someone trying to burn it down.

Andrew thanked the principal from Muirfield High School (Steve Billington) for his co-operation and commitment to our club. The school has come to the party with a 50/50 contribution to the costs in doing the drainage work which was completed at Muirfield in the xmas holidays by Dave Aiston and Graeme Hall. A job well done by these two to give up their time in their own holidays.

A very special thank you and goodbye to Dave Aiston. Dave is stepping down from his roles as groundsman and equipment officer next year. The club would like to thank him for his contribution, efforts and enthusiasm he has shown over the past years.

Andrew mentioned about a past player (Adam Spencer) who played his junior years up to the under 16's with Carlingford, has just been signed by Chicago Cubs. Adam will start there next year after he completes year 12. The club wishes him the best of luck.

Motion that the President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Peter Woodbury Seconded: Warren Pearsall

Secretaries Report as published.

Motion that the Secretaries Report be accepted.

Moved: David Perger Seconded: Warren Pearsall

Sharon Murray read the treasurer's report.
Gross takings approximately \$50,000.
Deficit \$4,000 due to spending on uniforms etc.
Figures are yet to be audited. Closed off at 31/3/08 and will be audited ASAP.

Motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Ross O'Shannassy Seconded: Patrick Fazzone

Dave Perger presented the registrar's report.
Registrations are up from last year. Main increase due to girls registering.
Up by 41 children to last year.
The club this was the 3rd largest in the Hills district.

Motion that the Registrars Report be accepted.

Moved: Steve Gosper Seconded: John Butt

Canteen Report. Taken as read.

Moved: Ross O'Shannassy Seconded: John Butt

Carol Barton presented the Junior Co-Ordinators Report.
Great year seeing the club increase in teams.
A special thank you to the Coaches and Managers especially the ones that keep coming back.
Thanks for the time and effort you put into your teams each week. We appreciate it.
Carol emphasized the importance of having fun as well as learning new skills. If the children don't enjoy their training etc, they are less likely to come back next season.

Motion that the Junior Co-Ordinator's Report be accepted.

Moved: John Butt Seconded: Peter Woodbury

Seniors report. Taken as read.

Moved: Dave Morgan Seconded: Bill Fowler

Groundsman Report. Taken as read.

Moved: Dave Perger Seconded: Steve Gosper

Other committee members who did not publish reports were invited to make brief comments on their roles.

The President declared all committee positions vacant for 2008 and asked Garry Butler to act as the returning officer.

Garry assumed the chair and thanked the outgoing committee for their efforts and a job well done.

Election of the new committee followed.(see following page). There were a few positions unfilled including Tee ball teams co-ordinator, grounds officer, umpire development officer and coaching development officer.

Motion that the unfilled positions be considered at the first meeting.

Moved: Bill Fowler Seconded: Warren Pearsall

After the election, The president Andrew Borg resumed the chair. Andrew thanked Garry for acting as the returning officer.

Noted that the Audited report be made available on the website.

Motion that the President and Treasurer be given authority to sign annual return on behalf of the club.

Moved Ross O'Shannassy Seconded: Steve Gosper

Meeting Closed 3.35pm

2008/2009 COMMITTEE ELECTION

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconders	Accepted	Elected
President	Andrew Borg	Peter Woodbury	Patrick Fazzino	Accepted	Yes
Vice President	Ross O'Shannassy	John Butt	Warren Pearsall	Accepted	Yes
Secretary	Robyn Gosper	Carol Barton	David Perger		
Treasurer	John Butt	Ross O'Shannassy	Steve Gosper	Accepted	Yes
Junior Teams Coordinator	Carol Barton	Robyn Morgan	Dave Morgan	Accepted	Yes
Tee-ball Teams Coordinator	No nominations				
Senior Teams Coordinator	Brad Clark	Mark Highfield	Ross O'Shannassy	Accepted	Yes
Senior Grounds Officer	No nominations				
Co-Grounds Officer	Garry Butler	Ross O'Shannassy	Warren Pearsall	Accepted	Yes
Co-Grounds Officer	Neil Roach	Ross O'Shannassy	Warren Pearsall	Accepted	Yes
Equipment Officer	Brad Mountford	Ross O'Shannassy	Carol Barton	Accepted	Yes
Canteen Manager	Robyn Gosper	Carol Barton	Bill Fowler	Accepted	Yes
Uniform Manager	Steve Gosper	Dave Morgan	Warren Pearsall	Accepted	Yes
Social Committee	No nominations				
Umpire Development Officer	No nominations				
Coaching Development Officer	Neil Roach	Andrew Borg	Ross O'Shannassy	Accepted	Yes
Registrar	David Perger	Steve Gosper	Ross O'Shannassy	Accepted	Yes
Junior Teams Recorder	Robyn Gosper	Bill Fowler	Peter Woodbury	Accepted	Yes
Koala League Representative	No nominations				
SML Delegate – senior	Brad Clark	David Perger	John Butt	Accepted	Yes
SML Delegate – alternate	Ross O'Shannassy	Andrew Borg	Brad Clark	Accepted	Yes
Hills Delegate Junior	Mark Power	Andrew Borg	Carol Barton	Accepted	Yes
Hills Delegate Junior Alternate	Andrew Borg	Warren Pearsall	Carol Barton	Accepted	Yes
Public Officer	Patrick Fazzino	Peter Woodbury	Warren Pearsall	Accepted	Yes
Auditor	Bill Hedi	John Butt	David Perger	Accepted	Yes

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This past year has been a successful and rewarding one for the club.

Despite the weather playing its usual havoc at the back end of the Summer season, everything else went pretty much to plan.

The first discussions of the new committee each year usually involves the preparations for the upcoming Summer Junior and Senior Seasons. This year it was no different.

From the first Try Baseball day through to the Junior and Seniors Finals, and our first All Stars v Legends and Coaches v Committee games it has been a tremendous season.

The success of the latter will hopefully see this turn into an annual event.

A major initiative has been to train and utilise our older junior players as umpires at Club games. With 12 players from u14's and u17's helping out, we were able to supply 1 or 2 umpires to almost every junior game after the Christmas break.

This programme will continue next year with additional umpires. The benefits to the club have included reduced stress on coaches, managers and parents, an improved quality of umpiring, less disputes and an much heightened respect for umpires.

The initiative has been controversial in that we have chosen to pay our umpires according to their qualifications and the level of game they umpire, but this is counterbalanced by being only club in the Association to have 1 or 2 qualified umpires at every game. Other clubs are currently reviewing our success with a view to duplicating the programme into their own clubs.

In my view, the most important and demanding position within the Club is the Junior Teams Co-ordinator. This is a stressful and thankless job which involves constantly juggling teams and players, and Carol Barton, as always, been terrific this year,. Our growth and success can be put down to Carol's determination and commitment to creating the right environment for juniors to play in. Friendship, fun and learning skills are the pillars Carol has built into the Junior Club. Without juniors, we will not have seniors, and the longer we can keep our junior players in the club, the greater the chance of transferring them over to the senior ranks. From here, the cycle starts again. Well done Carol!!!

Equally as important has been the contribution of Brad Clark our Senior Teams Co-ordinator. Brad has been a breath of fresh air within our committee and has already made a major contribution with his enthusiasm and initiatives.

We have witnessed another super human effort from Robyn Gosper who was both Club Secretary and Canteen Manager for the year. Thankfully we have not had any fires or serious vandalism during this year.

Our redevelopment of Muirfield High School's baseball diamond continued this year. The diamond's running track and home plate have been cut and resurfaced. A big thank you to Dave Aiston and the rest of the Christmas Eve volunteers for their help here.

A very special thank you and goodbye (again) to Dave Aiston. Dave has been our Grounds Manager and Equipment Officer over several years and has contributed above and beyond anyone's measure of what would have been expected. Dave was supposed to retire as Grounds Manager last year, but took it on to help out again. His experience and guidance has been priceless. Thanks for everything, Dave!

On a final note, it is always pleasing to hear of ex Carlo kids doing well. It was terrific to hear that Mark Trau and Travis McDonald were selected to play in the NSW u18's team this year. We wish them every success in the future.

Externally, we would like to thank the organising committees for Hills Junior Baseball Association and Sydney Metro Baseball League. Without these people putting in hundreds of volunteer hours per season, we would not have competitions for our children and ourselves to play in.

In conclusion, I would like to thank those people who, even though they were not on the committee, still contributed throughout the year. These were the people who kept score, did their canteen duty, base coached or just helped out at training. Thank you - you are the heart and soul of the club.

Andrew Borg
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I can't believe another season is over already. I hope everyone enjoyed their year and will return again next season.

I noticed this year more help and involvement on the field with many parents getting in and lending a hand on game day especially. This is great to see as many hands make light work and makes a coaches and managers job a whole lot easier.

It's always nice to come down to the ground and see happy faces on both the children and parent's .

All coaches and managers have done an excellent job with some great results coming from their time and effort they have put in to training our children.

We again had another disrupted season due to several weekends being washed out and extreme temperatures also cancelling a round. Overall I feel the season went very well and all teams should be commended for holding up the Carlo spirit by playing fair and having a good time.

I have enjoyed being Secretary and working with a great fun committee.

Robyn Gosper
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for the 2008/09 baseball season. We have again finished the year in a sound financial position while accomplishing the goals set by the committee at the start of the year.

Despite ever increasing costs, the committee, mindful of providing affordable membership, was able to maintain membership fees for both junior & senior members at close to last year's rates.

Income and Expenditure

The club finished the year with an operating deficit of \$448.82 (\$4,780.30 deficit - 2007/08). The majority of the income was received from registration fees, canteen sales and the sale of uniforms, jackets, socks and caps. The variance in registration fees is due mainly to the timing of the receipt of fees for the respective seniors winter seasons.

Whilst interest rates have continued to tumble, over the year our term deposit has returned an average rate of 6.9% which is very competitive in today's markets. This rate is not expected to be maintained throughout 2009/10; the average returns expected for 2009/10 will be closer to 4%.

The canteen has again operated profitably generating a net surplus of \$3000 (\$1,802 – 2007/08) for the year. The practice introduced last year, to have a part-time paid staff to manage the canteen of Saturday mornings has significantly assisted the outcome with a more efficiently run operation.

Uniform sales were on par with last year reflecting the ongoing popularity of the players/supporters jacket and other branded merchandise.

Overall, expenses were in line with expectations and on the whole less than last year. Major expenditure is in the area of affiliation fees, clothing & uniforms, equipment and grounds.

Contrary to the significant year on year increases experienced in prior years, the increases in affiliation fees this appear to be stabilising. This trend may be only short lived and will need to be monitored and taken into account when reviewing next year's fee structure.

With the drought finally broken, our hard-working ground crew continue to work miracles ensuring all diamonds are presented in top class condition throughout the season. As outlined in last year's report, the improvements to the Muirfield diamond have continued with all works nearing completion. Overall, expenditure on grounds is down on last year.

The implementation of our junior umpire development program and the practice of the Association to now appoint independent umpires to most senior games have seen a significant increase this year in umpiring fees and umpiring development costs. The junior umpire development program has developed a core team of junior umpires enabling the club to appoint umpires to most home games this year. In addition to relieving the pressures on teams having to find umpires, it has provided an opportunity for some of our older juniors to be able to reinvest some of their skills back into the club.

Sundry expenses include items such as hire of our PO Box, statutory incorporation costs and stationery.

Assets and Liabilities

The club has no material liabilities. Assets include ground marking and maintenance equipment, 3 pitching machines, uniforms and club clothing, baseball equipment such as bases, balls, bats, helmets, catching and umpiring protective gear as well as canteen hardware such as fridges, BBQ and utensils. As many of these items have a life expectancy of less than 3 years, it is of little benefit to try and accurately calculate the net asset position of the club.

John Butt
Treasurer

CARLINGFORD BASEBALL CLUB INC.
UNAUDITED INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

	2009	2008
Income		
Registrations - Junior	17,420.000	18,624.00
- Senior	11,910.00	15,390.00
Canteen Takings	7,605.54	7,620.77
Uniform Sales	3,114.00	4,784.00
Photo Commission	259.60	267.43
Donations	220.00	180.00
Interest Received	1,554.14	619.28
Sundry	0.00	1,043.55
	42,083.28	48,549.03
 Expenditure		
Affiliation Fees	11,091.00	12,293.10
Bank Charges	503.00	435.40
Christmas Party	2,441.21	1,500.00
Clothing & Uniforms	9,574.36	14,374.73
Canteen Goods	4,600.78	5,818.38
Equipment Purchases	4,870.54	5,781.49
Ground Expenses	3,019.73	6,798.18
Printing, Postage & Phone	218.95	1,992.99
Trophies/Badges	1,753.30	1,572.70
Electricity	775.46	863.82
Mobile Phone	34.83	65.18
Player/ Coach Incentives	0.00	875.00
Umpiring Fees	1,980.00	320.00
Sundry Expenses	362.19	638.36
Try Baseball Program	563.75	0.00
Umpiring / Coaching Training	743.00	0.00
	42,532.10	53,329.33
 Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year	 (448.82)	 (4,780.30)

CARLINGFORD BASEBALL CLUB INC.

**UNAUDITED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2009**

	2009	2008
Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	33,798.53	38,578.83
Add: Surplus/ (Deficiency) for the year	(448.82)	(4,780.30)
Closing Balance	33,349.71 =====	33,798.53 =====

Represented by:

Current Assets

Cash at Bank	9,425.85	11,678.23
Term Deposits	23,923.86	22,379.56
Cash on Hand	0.00	(259.26)
	33,349.71 =====	33,798.53 =====

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Registrations for the 2008-2009 Season were significantly less than those of last year. As a result, Carlingford fielded two less Junior teams but were able to field one extra Senior team. Comparative numbers for Carlingford for this season and last were:

	Current Season	Previous Season	Movement
Junior registrations	136	155	19 ▼
Junior teams	12	14	2 ▼
Senior registrations (Summer)	49	50	1 ▼
Senior teams (Summer)	4	4	0
Senior registrations (Winter)	42	35	7 ▲
Senior teams (Winter)	3	3	0

The breakdown by age group (previous year in brackets) was:

Age Group	Players	Move	Old	New	Females	Move	Teams	Move
Under 7	26 (22)	4 ▲	5	21	11 (9)	2 ▲		
Under 8	9 (24)	15 ▼	3	6	4 (10)	6 ▼	3 (4)	1 ▼
Under 10	46 (33)	13 ▲	27	19	10 (3)	7 ▲	4 (3)	1 ▲
Under 12	13 (33)	20 ▼	9	4	1 (7)	6 ▼	1 (3)	2 ▼
Under 14	30 (23)	7 ▲	27	3	3 (2)	1 ▲	3 (2)	1 ▲
Under 17 (16)	12 (21)	9 ▼	9	3	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	1 ▼
Total Juniors	136 (155)	19 ▼	80	56	29 (31)	2 ▼	12 (14)	2 ▼
Seniors (combined)	80 (79)	1 ▲	69	11	1 (0)	1 ▲	8 (7)	1 ▲
Total	216 (240)	24 ▼	149	67	30 (31)	1 ▼	20 (21)	1 ▼

In summary:

- U7 & U8 age groups – numbers down by 11, 27 new players, 1 less team fielded
- U10 age group – numbers up by 13, 19 new players, 1 more team fielded
- U12 age group – numbers down by 20, 4 new players, 2 less teams fielded
- U14 age group – numbers up by 7, 3 new players, 1 more team fielded
- U17 age group – numbers down by 9, 3 new players, 1 less team fielded
- All juniors – 80 players were retained (59%), 56 players were new (41%)

The increase in the U7, U8, and U10 age groups can, once again, be attributed to the success of the Try Baseball days.

In the Seniors competition, total numbers were up slightly on last year. In the Winter competition, Carlingford was able to field a father and son's team (in H Grade), while in the Summer competition, Carlingford fielded a D Grade team – offering U17 players a great opportunity to continue improving their baseball skills in the senior ranks.

Across the Hills Association, the total number of teams decreased by 6, compared to last year. This goes against an upward trend that has been underway for a number of years. The strongest growth was seen in the U10 age groups. Unfortunately, there were also drops in each of the other age groups. The numbers of teams in each junior age group in Hills, compared to the previous two seasons, were as follows:

Age Group	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007
Under 8	21	25	23
Under 10	26	23	22
Under 12	24	25	26
Under 14	17	19	17
Under 17	14	16	19
Total	102	108	107

By Club, the number of teams making up the competition breaks down as follows (last season's totals in brackets). The clubs are ranked in order of size. NOTE: Carlingford has moved back into third place behind Castle Hill and Baulkham Hills.

Club	U/8	U/10	U/12	U/14	U/17	Total	Move
Castle Hill	6	4	4	2	2	18 (16)	2 ▲
Baulkham Hills	2	3	3	3	2	13 (13)	0
Carlingford	3	4	1	3	1	12 (14)	2 ▼
Kellyville	2	3	3	2	1	11 (13)	2 ▼
Winston Hills	2	3	2	2	2	11 (12)	1 ▼
Rouse Hill	3	3	2	2		10 (7)	3 ▲
Schofields	1	1	2	1	2	7 (7)	0
Hawkesbury	1		2	1	1	5 (5)	0
Oakville	1	1	2		1	5 (6)	1 ▼
Quakers Hill		3	1		1	5 (4)	1 ▲
Kings Langley		1	2	1		4 (7)	3 ▼
Blacktown					1	1 (2)	1 ▼
Others							
Total	21 (25)	26 (23)	24 (25)	17 (19)	14 (16)	102 (108)	6 ▼

This year, Rouse Hill and Castle Hill had significant increases in team numbers, while Kings Langley, Carlingford, and Kellyville had significant decreases in team numbers,.

As has been the case for many years, I believe it is fair to say that Carlingford's recruitment process, utilizing the Try Baseball days and targeting newsletters in the local schools, has been very successful – recruiting 41% of juniors. However, there is still the ongoing challenge of retaining existing players, especially as they move into high school, as well as out of the Junior age groups.

David Perger
Registrar

CANTEEN REPORT

The canteen had another up and down year with a rather wet season washing out at least 4 games during the year. This does not help when most of the weeks were going to be our busiest ones.

Other than that the canteen provided a service to the club and spectator's and kept prices down compared to some other clubs.

I would like to thank Sasha Ryan for helping out in the canteen each Saturday, as it is nice to be able to go and watch my own son's games and know that someone is in charge of the overseeing of the canteen each week.

A big thankyou to the managers and parents who helped out each week barbequing and serving in the canteen without you we would not be able to provide this service.

Robyn Gosper
Canteen Manager

JUNIOR TEAMS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Carlingford Baseball Club had twelve teams in the Junior Competition this season. There were three U8 teams, four U10, one U12, three U14 and one U17 team. The number was down slightly from last year mainly due to one U17 team moving into the Senior Competition and the consolidation of teams with most fielding 12 players.

We did not have any teams win their competitions this season however all teams were very competitive and all should be proud of their efforts.

During the season I managed to see all teams play and it was pleasing to see both the players and their parents enjoying themselves.

We had four of our players in Hills Reps teams this season, and Hills are also working with several U10 players who have shown the potential to become representative players.

With Baseball being a complex game with many rules we had quite a few Coaches (and not just our Club) struggling to understand all the rules. Unfortunately each year there are Rule breaches made throughout the Association due to the amount of rules, however it is important for Coaches, Managers and parents to try to learn certainly the most basic ones.

I would like to thank all Coaches and Managers for their support and help during the season.

I would also like to thank Stuart Bysouth for taking on the role of Tee-ball Co-ordinator this year. He did an amazing job with the U8's and by all reports everyone had an extremely happy season.

U10 Redsox

This team did extremely well in placing 5th their first year in U10's , with all players either moving up from U8's or never having played before. With the team remaining in U10's next season they will be a force to be reckoned with. Thank you to **Charles Agee** for Coaching and to **Janine Girvan** for Managing (being new to the Club and being thrown into the deep end and doing a great job).

U10 Cubs

Another predominately new team this year, with the majority never having played before. They may have placed 8th in the competition but some good players were unearthed from this team and all will have benefitted from this season and will be much stronger next year. Thank you to **Garry Butler** for Coaching (Garry is a Life Member and has been with the Club for quite a few years and it was great to be able to recruit him to Coach). Also thank you to **Michelle Federer** for Managing (another new parent to the Club who gave up her time to ensure a successful season).

U10 Braves

The Braves were a team that had mixed results this year and were a better team than the end result showed having placed 6th in the competition. This is very encouraging when you consider that most of these players were infact only 8 years old, and were playing in a competition with players a year older. There are some very good players in this team and hopefully next year this will show them even higher in the results as many of the team will remain in U10's. Many thanks to **Bill Fowler** for coaching once again and to **Janice Chapman** for Managing.

U10 Cardinals

The team did well this year placing 3rd in a very tough Competition which they should be proud of. This is another team with some very good players and next year combined with the U10 Braves should make a successful transition into the U11 competition. Thank you to **Neil Roach** for Coaching (another old timer) and to **Nicole Lawson** for Managing once again. Neil and Nicole have worked well together for several years now ensuring their team are happy and successful.

U12 Cubs

The Cubs had a successful season making it to finals this year and coming 3rd in the competition. Most of this team are first year U12's with some players never having played before so they should be proud of their efforts and will be a strong team next year. As the season went on this team improved and improved. Thank you to **Brad Mountford** for Coaching again and also **Kerrie Tremaine** for Managing (another partnership that works well ensuring the team's success).

U14 Redsox

The team had a successful season and were very competitive making the finals series. They also are another team with most players remaining in U14's and will be definitely stronger next year. Thank you to **David Hutchings** (and his family) for Coaching and to **Margo Buckingham** for Managing.

U14 Cubs

The team probably didn't have the success they deserved this year placing 8th, however they are another team that the majority of players are in their first year of U14's and they will be a much wiser and stronger team next year. Thank you to **Bill Hedi** for Coaching and to **Richard Roose** for assisting and also to **Jane Carpenter** for Managing.

U14 Braves

The Braves had a successful season making the finals and coming 3rd in the competition. Their competition was a combined 1st/2nd Division team and their results against the 1st Div teams showed they were very competitive. With the majority of the players remaining in U14's this team can expect even better results next year. Thank you to **Andrew Borg** for Coaching the team (even though he did not have a child playing in the team) and to **Ross O'Shannassy** for Managing.

U17 Cubs

This was a very mixed team with half the team being first year U17's and they did not do as well as they would have liked after being placed in Division 2 after the first round and placing 5th in the competition. Some players struggled to adjust to the faster pace in U17's but will be much stronger and wiser next season. Thank you to **Steve Gosper** for Coaching and to **Dave Morgan** for helping out and to **Bill Pollock** for Managing.

Carol Barton
Junior Co-ordinator

TEEBALL REPORT

Well, what a fantastic, fun-filled season the Teeballers have had in 08/09. This year saw a 'changing of the guard' as a number of experienced coaches and players made the transition from U8s to U10s, from the previous season.

Registrations were initially down on prior year, with the Club fielding 3 teams, compared with 4 in 07/08. This was primarily due to the larger number of kids at the top of the age scale making the move up to Under 10s from last year. Inflow of new registrations at the younger end (5-6 yo) was strong and consistent with previous seasons.

By season's end there were 36 players across 3 teams. There was a mid-season spurt in numbers that saw registrations swell so that we could almost have fielded 4 teams. These late registrations are more than partly attributable to the positive feedback from parents/players early in the season which encouraged young friends and siblings to want to join the party.

We also retained a number of experienced coaches and managers, who ably supported and guided new incoming volunteers. By season's end we looked to have built a solid base of coaching and team management experience upon which to drive forward into season 09/10.

Highlights of the season were always the Carlo vs Carlo games at home. The relaxed atmosphere at these games was enjoyed by all, and the kids really looked forward to playing against each other. Observers at these games have commented that it was obvious that players and parents alike got enjoyment out of the Teeball experience at Carlingford.

The Teeball years will see children and families come and go as they experiment with different sports and pastimes, in these developmental years. The Club recognizes this and we look to provide an environment that teaches kids skills that will stand them in good stead as they grow. As well as age appropriate baseball skills, we work to encourage an atmosphere where the focus is on having fun, learning the importance of teamwork and, most importantly, what good sportsmanship is all about.

In the latter half of the season we saw the introduction of a Club appointed Junior Umpire roster. I'm sure all will agree that, whilst still in it's infancy, this is a tremendous initiative that will quickly develop into a cornerstone of our Club, with positive benefits for all involved.

We also acknowledge and respect that the majority of our Teeballers and their families may not come from a baseball/softball background. We see this as a positive way of getting new ideas and perspectives about how we can build a Club that is open to all.

In that light, we are always looking at ways of improving what do as a Club, particularly in the Teeball arena, and would welcome any feedback from Parents as to what we might do in the future to keep the Teeball experience a positive and rewarding one for you and your children.

On a final note, any Club will only be as successful as it's Members, volunteers, players and supporters make it. This is most obvious in the Teeball environment where everybody is new and inexperienced and generally where we need the most help. I want to personally thank Jo, Janelle, John B and Gary, Steve, Nicole and Mel for their tremendous efforts in coaching and managing the teams this season, and I look forward to sharing next season with you all.

Stuart Bysouth
Tee-ball Co-ordinator

SENIOR TEAMS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Carlingford Baseball Club fielded 3 teams in the Winter 2008 competition and 4 teams in the Summer 2008-2009 competition.

One again, we had a new team in summer made up of ex-juniors and this time they took out the trophy at the end of the season. They banded together to play a very competitive season, with the best outcome possible. Their improvement throughout the season was nothing short of amazing. With two other teams making the finals as well made another great season for the club.

We're continuing to build the bridge for our younger players coming up through the club, as well as creating a structure for future senior players to progress through to the higher grades.

We certainly don't expect to be fielding Major league teams but we need and want to provide a place for our ex-juniors (regardless of their ability) to continue playing baseball in the Carlo Spirit.

At the end of the season, we staged a couple of exhibition matches. The Committee v the Coaches and the All-Stars v Legends. We staged these games to thank everyone who had helped out with the club in the past year, as well as trying to keep in touch with those who had played for Carlingford in the past and gone on to play in the Sydney Major League, for NSW and for Australia. It was a great day and will hopefully become an annual event.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the rest of the committee for their support over this, my second year, as Seniors Co-Ordinator, and in particular to thank the players and managers for their patience and encouragement

Brad Clark
Senior Teams Co-ordinator

GROUNDSMAN'S REPORT

Thank you to all of the helpers who helped us get all of the diamonds ready for the start of the season.

Also, thank you to all of the teams and parents for setting up and packing away all of the equipment during the season.

Muirfield has further improved over the Christmas Break in preparation for the Winter Senior Season. Thank you to people who came down and busted their back to help us do this.

I would like to thank all of the members of the committee for the season 2008/2009 for all of their support during the season.

Dave Aiston
Grounds Manager

2008-09 HONOUR ROLL

Championship Teams

Seniors F

Representative Players

Victor Woo - Hills u14 SJC,
Evan Power - Hills u14 AC
Mika Zammit – Hills North Little League

Playing Service Awards

Juniors - 10 years

Tom Gosper
Tom Butt

Juniors - 5 years

Hugh Buckingham
Victor Woo

LIFE MEMBERS

Bob Bruce
Gary Butler
Brian Cashmore
Gail Cashmore
Matthew Cashmore
Duncan Coles
Ian Cummerford
Craig Cusbert
Tom Cusbert
David Downey
Gary Essenstam
John Gibbins

Wendy Gold
Elaine Hadden
Col Handel
Carol Harris
John Harris
Jack Henry
Mark Highfield
Alan Hunt
Greg Klein
Ed McCue
Dianne Starling
Bill Webster

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Grounds

Murray Farm Reserve
Murray Farm Road
Carlingford

Muirfield High School
Barclay Road
North Rocks

Upjohn Park
Kirby St
Dundas