



SWBL Annual Report 2023



Acknowledgment of Country

Sydney Women's Baseball League acknowledges and celebrates that our games are played on the land of the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We honour this privilege and responsibility with respect, humility and curiosity. We appreciate the wisdom, diversity and innovation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of seeing and being, and their elders past and present. Always was. Always will be.



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President's Report from Holly Creenaune

2023 was a huge season for SWBL. We welcomed 59 new players, with many even stepping up to pitch and catch for the first time. Some people also played their 20th and 25th seasons in the League! We welcomed a new team - The Cubs - who brought energy, enthusiasm, and immediate competition, coached by Loz James and coordinated by Laura Barbat.

The League held several training sessions at the start of the season, including at the batting cages, with strong attendance from across teams, and lots of skill sharing in batting and fielding. We're hoping to do this again in 2024, as well as more focused skills sessions on pitching and umpiring.

It was a big year for SWBL social events! The Meet and Greet kicked off the year, and was followed by the SWBL Pool Comp won by Hannah from the Saints! We had our first SWBL Bowling and Flanno Night at Manhattan Bowl, with the Angels taking out the comp.

The level of competition on the diamond went from strength to strength, with many incredibly close games week after week. Congratulations to The Angels who won the 2023 Premiership and were also Minor Premiers. The Lifers dominated the Rookies in the ACON All Stars Game, and the League's biggest trophy went to the Devils for taking out the annual Boat Race back to back.

In addition to great baseball, this season was about community. Players across teams connected at the Golden Barley on Sundays. The Stealers boasted the League's youngest and oldest player, with almost 50 years between them. We baked up a storm to fundraise for surgeries for our fellow players who needed our support. It's this that made the SWBL community great this year. Thank you.

A heartfelt thanks to the 2023 Committee, and particularly to Loz for doing a lot of field coordination, Jo and Laura who did the bulk of BBQ purchasing all season, and Jess who led SWBL's social media and newsletter. A special thank you to Claire Gorman for taking photos for many games, and Jacqui Brooks for doing the statistics for the season.

Finally, a huge thanks to coaches and coordinators who keep teams together and organised, welcome and support new players, and make the games and team duties happen. Every single player truly contributes to making SWBL happen, and is stronger than ever after 28 awesome years.



Financial Report from Loz James and Jacqui Brooks

This year set an important benchmark for SWBL financial sustainability. After the impact of covid, half seasons and the reduction in overheads, this season demonstrated that the league can operate self-sufficiently, returning an \$18,592 profit.

Major income streams were from registration fees (which remain amongst the lowest in team sports), sponsorship from our fantastic sponsor, the Golden Barley, and the support of our SWBL community through the eating of snags, consumption of beverages and buying of tickets for the meat raffle.

Social events including Meet and Great, Flanno and Bowls Night, Pool Comp, the AGM and Weekly Sundays at the Golden Barley continue to be well supported and attended by members.

We continued to invest in the game and league development through free training sessions, insurance coverage, ground bookings and new equipment.

With net assets of \$65,250, the league is now in a strong position to further give back to the SWBL community. Subsidised registration fees and social events may be considered by the new committee with opportunities to invest further in league development sessions and equipment. Half of this continues to be allocated to the SWBL special fund, in case of major necessary expenses (for example, if we need to buy a van again or move grounds or face a major disruptive event like a pandemic).

Combined efforts across our BBQ and meat raffles generated a healthy income stream for the League. Thanks to all the league volunteers who flipped snags, sold raffle tickets and helped set up and pack down each week.

In 2024, we're planning to review our income and expenditure, to see where the League can spend more on skill development, social events, and explore reduced registration. We're also looking to finally implement registration and update our cashless payment system.

The Financial Statement below covers the period of 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023, in line with the financial year under SWBL Constitution.



2022-23 Financial Report

Income & Expense Statement	FY2022	FY2023
Operating Income		
Registration Fees	\$ 11,680	\$ 21,175
Sponsorship (Acon)	\$ 2,000	-
Sponsorship (GBH)	\$ 4,700	\$ 4,700
BBQ and Meat Raffle	\$ 15,789	\$ 18,499
Social	\$ 1,890	\$ 6,850
Merchandise	\$ 2,140	-
Total Operating Income	\$ 38,199	\$ 51,224
Non-operating income		
Gain on disposal of van*	\$ 13,166	-
Interest	\$ 23	\$ 374
Total Non-Operating Income	\$ 13,189	\$ 374
Total Income	\$ 51,388	\$ 51,598
Expenses		
BBQ	\$ 4,440	\$ 6,383
Meat Raffle	\$ 2,550	\$ 2,700
Members' Draw	\$ 1,950	\$ 1,700
Ground hire	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,092
Equipment	\$ 3,691	\$ 2,767
Batting Cages	\$ 900	\$ 500
Insurance QBE	\$ 1,505	-
Insurance Public Liability	\$ 1,722	\$ 2,144
Personal Accident Insurance	\$ 2,137	\$ 2,285
Website/mailbox	\$ 329	-
Social Events	\$ 1,803	\$ 10,880
Fair Day	\$ 799	\$ 370
Merchandise	\$ 4,029	-
Vehicle expenses	\$ 2,620	-
Bank fees	\$ 135	\$ 190
Miscellaneous	\$ 300	\$ 575
Depreciation of assets (van)	\$ 1,866	-
Tyro Fees	\$ 266	\$ 420
Total Expenses	\$ 33,242	\$ 33,006
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 18,146	\$ 18,592
Balance Sheet		
Assets		
Cash at Bank @ end FY	\$ 50,784	\$ 69,320
Petty Cash	\$ 754	\$ 2,105
Accounts Receivable (presentation night)	\$ 1,295	\$ 1,000
Total Assets	\$ 52,833	\$ 72,425
Liabilities		
Account Payable - Presentation Night	\$ 8,085	\$ 7,175
Total Liabilities	\$ 8,085	\$ 7,175
Net Assets	\$ 44,748	\$ 65,250

The 2023 SWBL Committee

The people behind our operations and governance

It takes a village to make this organisation what it is. Thanks to our 2023 SWBL Committee!

President: Holly Creenaune

Vice Presidents: Collie Patterson & Jacqui Brooks

Secretary: Lisa O'Sullivan

Treasurer: Lauren James

Grounds & Equipment: Kylie Whittam & Janna Richert

Publicity: Jess Stagg

Social: Asma Ahmed

General members: Nicole Skyllas-Vosta; Brenda DeWit; Charlie Rose; Ruth Lindsay; Amy Ryan; Jo Sperring; Laura Barbat; and Marsha White.



+ A shout-out to ALL the people who gave their time and energy to our community in so many ways. We see you, friends.

The Scorers' Creed

by Lyn Doherty and Janet Horton

In blazing sun
or freezing rain,
the scorers smile
through every game.

We track the stats
and next at bat.
Bums perched, eyes fixed...
can't stop and chat.

We're ready when
the umpires shout...
'How many balls,
strikes, runs or out?'

We may not bat,
or catch, or run.
We love the game,
drawn, lost or won.

And though first base
is ours no more.
We play with pride,
and always score!

SWBL Life Membership

Life Membership is awarded after 10 years playing in the League, or at least 7 years playing with a bonus year added for service on the SWBL Committee. A very warm welcome to all our new SWBL Life Members. You're joining a terrific crew of brilliant players and champion human beings.



Olivia Liu (2023)
Holly Creenaune (2023)
Randi Irwin (2023)
Shae McLean (2023)
Alice Lindeman (2023)
Jane Tsai (2023)
Aileen Leddy
Lee Griffin
Allyson Witten
Lena Caruso
Amy Shaw
Lisa O'Sullivan
Anne Condren
Loretta Cosgrove
Belinda Evernden
Maggie Jenkins
Benita McFadzen
Mandi Barno
Cathy Saunders
Mary Brewer
Cheryl Bernard
Max Costello
Chloe Mulheron
Mel Garrett

Collie Patterson
Mel Murphy
Elizabeth Haines
Michelle Link
Ellen Young
Nadine Brown
Hayley Lockett
Nadine Lutherborrow
Hetty Ashton
Narelle MacDonald
Jackie Mills
Natalie Espinosa
Jacqui Brooks
Natalie Krikowa
Jacquie Walden
Oriel Webster
Janna Richert
Pete Anderson
Jenny Gunther
Pip Marks
Jordana Blank
Rochelle Peen
Jude Hartnett
Robynne Taylor

Karlie Wise
Roz Vanderzwet
Kate Howe
Sarah Marsden
Kelly Griffith
Shelley Tinworth
Ken Douglass
Simone Roco
Kylie Jordon
Stacy Warren
Lara Sabaddin
Lauren James
Tracey Lambert
Warner Ward
Annemarie Manning
Davina Pye
Mel D'arcy
Claire Gorman
Stacy Speer
Kate Gardiner
Vanessa Braddon
Jo Sperring
Lyn Doherty
Mellissa Tallon
Jenenne McKe

History of SWBL

Meet our premiers through the years



2023 The Angels (pictured)	2012 Shamrock Players	2004 Stealers
2022 The Angels	2011 Stealers	2003 Stealers
2019 Shamrock Players	2010 Stealers	2002 UNSW
2018 Shamrock Players	2009 Devils	2001 Sydney University
2017 Shamrock Players	2008 Pool A Stealers	2000 Buzz
2016 Saints	2008 Pool B Saints	1999 Sydney University
2015 Shamrock Players	2007 Saints	1998 Stealers
2014 Stealers	2006 Saints	1997 Erskineville
2013 Shamrock Players	2005 Players	1996 Sydney University
		1995 Newtown

Thanks for an awesome year

League documents and info here: www.swbl.org | info@swbl.org

Connect with us over here: [Instagram](#): @SydneyWomensBaseballLeague | [Facebook](#)

