



THE SAINT

Issue 10 – 2010

CELEBRATING 130 Years

13th January 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome back everyone, a new year, a new decade. Season 2009 has delivered us some great highlights so far, from all teams. Let's see what we can produce in the run home to the playoffs..... ED

DIVISION 2 FIRSTS

St.Kilda 2 was defeated by Werribee 5

No Report

Won 10 – Lost 5

Keips

DIVISION 2 RESERVES

St.Kilda 7 defeated Werribee 6

Hits: 2 - Stu. 1 - Sharpy (inc 3B), Bell (inc 2B), Deevo (inc 2B), Weiny, Pete O'

Highlights: The Saints reserves came up big in a weekend win over Werribee, which entered the game sporting an enviable win-loss record and a potent offense. It was a game to remember - after all it's not every day you get to see Mike Sharp puking behind 2nd base. Repeatedly. His illness required Ben Muldoon, fresh off the disabled list, to join the fray and he contributed with a couple of excellent scoops to complete double plays.



Of the 3 DPs pulled off by the Saints Defense, 2 rate a mention. Jon Bell's catch and throw to 1st to end the inning and Devo's bases loaded play where he stepped on the bag at 3rd and threw to 1st to end the threat. At the plate the offense was evenly distributed with Sharpie scoring Bell and Weiny on a triple before watering the outfield lawn with his peculiar mix of Candadian relish. Devo also added 2 RBIs, the last of which drove in the insurance run in the bottom of the 5th that would hold up as the game winner. Nice job for Devo in his last at bat before going off to France to find a wife. He said his main requirement is that she must cook a perfect omelette and explain to him the difference between french fries and hot chips. All the best Devo. On the hill Pete O'Sullivan was spotless through 4 but in the 5th it got interesting with the Giants plating 4 runs to make the score 6-5 in favour of the Saints. Pete wisely switched to his off-speed stuff in the last and showed guts in weathering the storm to get his first W of the season. Jon Bell came in for the 6th to earn the save, but not after allowing a run to make things interesting before striking out the last batter on a wicked slider, blood blisters be damned. Finally, thanks to Disco Stu who came back early from a bad back to fortify the infield and played excellent SS all day as well as hammering 2 hits, 1 of which drove in a run. Sharpy too gave us all he had, with onions leftover for the worms. Let's hope the win pushes the Sainters upwards in the 2nd half where they kick off against Port Melbourne on 17th Jan, at Port.

Won 6 – Lost 5 – Draw 1

D.W

DIVISION 2 THIRDS

St.Kilda 9 was defeated by Werribee 11

Hits: 2 - Silvera, Ansley, Elton (inc 2B). 1 - Millen, Hanton, Heard, Crockenberg, Ramirez.

Highlights: Missing some of our big bats, it might be expected that the 3s could struggle. Instead, against one of the division's stingiest, good, disciplined work at the plate was our greatest strength for the day. Our defence however, was found wanting. Werribee was able to take advantage of a shuffled setup's struggles holding runners to deliver a 2 run loss, ending the winning streak which has sent the 3s to the break inside the top 4. Scoop O'Halloran's yeoman like persistence was of especial note on a day where Werribee's hitting had a definite flavour of just beyond the glove, just in the gap, just enough. Our patience in the batter's box was also exemplary, claiming 6 walks for the day. Highlighted by a clinical return to baseball for Brendan Hanton (1 for 2 with a pair of walks) and Sea Ainsley (2 for 3 with a walk, a stolen base and 3 runs scored) we gave ourselves runners and then left them hanging. Also deserving of credit the mental toughness of this side which never gave up until the game was called, scoring 3 in the top of the 6th to bring us tantalisingly close. Tied 3-3 after two, the game was decided in the 3rd and 4th innings as a pair of St Kilda errors were turned into four unearned runs to go along with another 2 setup with their aggressive stealing - a deficit we couldn't recover. Werribee took our measure and stole at will from big leads, ensuring every hit scored runs, and eventually not needing their half of the 6th inning. The thirds can take some lessons from this game, Werribee claimed 15 deserved runners, and St Kilda 18, keeping in mind Werribee didn't need their half of the final inning. Predictably, with the offensive 101s that close, the result boiled down to execution. We were comprehensively outrun, with Werribee collecting 8 stolen bases for the single runner they lost trying.

We were also unable to punish Werribee fielding mistakes. 10 St Kilda runners left on base to their 4, and combined with Werribee scoring 4 unearned runs to 0 while committing less errors in a close loss tells us that this game was there to be won. This team can compete with anyone.

For now, we need a new win streak.

Won 8 – Lost 4

Geoff

DIVISION 2 FOURTHS

St.Kilda 17 defeated Berwick 0

Hits: 3 - SeanO (inc 2B), Tony (inc 2B). 2 - Robbie (inc 3B). 1 - Duncan, Luke.

Pitching: Drew 5Inn 6H 3K 2BB OER

Highlights: Last game before the xmas break and an important one for us against a struggling Werribee outfit. A game of many highlights and a couple of 'firsts'. Number 1 'first', a big welcome from all to the team and the club to Mark Greasley (Grease), recently cleared, for his first game in St.Kilda colours. An excellent hitting display from all, although our baserunning left a lot to be desired at times. A flawless effort in the field was surpassed by drew's great performance on the mound, continuing his dominance over the last few weeks. Scoring runs in every inning was key, and we were able to achieve that, hitting standouts for the day were, SeanO and Tony with 3 apiece and Robbie O with 2 and creating havoc on the basepaths, whilst everyone made a significant contribution at some point in the box. Number 2 'first', evoking the new 15+ runs ahead after 5 innings rule, certainly a first for me too!! An extremely important win for us as we have the bye first up in Jan, some favourable results that round will ensure an opportunity to make a serious run at the four. I'm looking forward to it.....

Won 4 – Lost 5 – Draw 3

SeanO



DIVISION 4 RED

St.Kilda Red 23 defeated by Blackburn A 6

Hits: 4 - Corey, Nathan. 3 - Yugo (2B), Gabor, 2 - Alistair (2B), Lordy (2B), Matt W, 1 - Matt B.

Highlights: The old cliché finally happened for the reds this week: "A great team effort". One error for the whole game in the field. Corey pitched a complete game for the win. Only 6 hits for the 4 innings work is a sign of things to come for him, and all this after being heart punched by a crushed line drive up the middle from their second hitter of the day. Nice to see him get back up there and on with the job. Our hitting was the difference today. We were not up there for free passes as their starting pitcher throwing to 35 batters with only 2 walks shows. 8 of our starting 9 got hits and everyone got on base. The hitting line shows some people had a really good day with Nathan McLeod leading the way with 4 from 4! Yugo was very good behind the plate and Lordy and Buzz dove around the infield like mad men. Highlight of the day came from Josh Kinal's slide into third on a walk from Matt when there was already a runner on one as well. Apparently 3rd base coach called "down" so he dually obeyed and the slide had to have gone at least 7 or 8 cm.... Well done team.

Won 5 – Lost 5 – Drew 1

Lordy



DIVISION 4 BLACK

St.Kilda Black 0 was defeated by Carrum Downs 20

No Report

Won 4 – Lost 7 – Drew 1

Neil



WOMEN'S DIVISION 3

St.Kilda 11 defeated by Doncaster 16

No Report

Won 1 – Lost 11

Sea



WHO SAID THAT ????????

"The biggest thrill a ballplayer can have is when your son takes after you. That happened when my Bobby was in his championship Little League game. He really showed me something. Struck out three times. Made an error that lost the game. Parents were throwing things at our car and swearing at us as we drove off. Gosh, I was proud."

Answer on page 4

SAINTS HISTORY

THE WORLD'S A CHANGING 1960 - 1969

The early part of the 1960's were a turbulent time, St.Kilda baseball it seemed reflected the times, five head coaches in the first 6 years of the decade combined with a serious lack of pitching and experience disrupted the teams and the on field performance suffered. In 1963, the club was rezoned into 'B' grade, the first time since the inception of organised baseball in Victoria that a St.Kilda team would not be in the senior division and hasn't been ever since. The club was again relegated to 'C' grade at the start of the 1966 season after several seasons of poor performance, but the Club was able to obtain the services of John Rogers as head coach, a position he would hold for the next 11 seasons. John immediately went about reversing the downward spiral and by the end of the decade, the firsts were very competitive, the seconds and thirds had both won a flag, the junior programme was very strong and heavy recruiting saw names such as Rod Murray, Jack Macak, Graeme Carr, Peter Kelly, George Murray and Ray Newman all firmly entrenched within the club. Things were looking up as the seventies approached.....



SAINTS TRAINING 2010

Training is now in full swing with sessions on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Special Wednesday sessions with Adam Franks will be advised. Thursday night training also is Selection night with food provided afterwards from Club Sponsor 'Topolinos Pizza'. So get down and take some BP, shag some flies and work on your grounders. And afterwards why not treat yourself to a frosty Beveridge from the club bar affectionately known as '3rd BASE' – Your Last stop before home.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2009/10*

Membership fees are now due and payable to Luke Richards (Treasurer) or your Team Manager. Fees can also be paid by direct Deposit. See Website for details.



Standings after Round 12

	Won	Lost	Draw	Position
Firsts	10	5	0	5th
Seconds	6	5	1	9th
Thirds	8	4	0	4th
Fourths	4	5	3	5th
Red	5	5	1	5th
Black	4	7	1	7th
Women's	1	11	0	11th

Answer to 'WHO SAID THAT'

Bob Uecker Sports Illustrated 1980

Full colour version of this publication and full Match Reports can be found online at www.stkildabaseball.org.au
Thanks to Neil Bennett and Vicki Hanson for supplying photographs

Next Game – 18th/19th January 2010

FIRSTS/SECONDS

v
Pt Melbourne
Away - 3.30/1pm
Sunday

THIRDS/FOURTHS

v
Pt Melbourne
Home - 1pm 3rds only
Sunday

ST.KILDA BLACK

v
Melton
Home – TBD

ST.KILDA RED

v
Carrum Downs
Home – TBD

WOMEN'S

v
Melbourne
Away – 2.00pm
Saturday