



# THE SAINT

Issue 5 - 2010

CELEBRATING 130 Years

18<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## DIVISION 2 FIRSTS

St.Kilda 9 defeated Waverley 5

**No Report**

Won 5 – Lost 2

Keips

## DIVISION 2 RESERVES

St.Kilda 6 defeated Waverley 4

**Highlights:**

Won 3 – Lost 4

Weiny

## DIVISION 2 THIRDS

St.Kilda 11 defeated Waverley 6

**Hits:** 3 - Sharpels (inc 2B, HR), Millen (inc 3B). 2 - Heard (inc 2 x 2B), Marek, Aldridge. 1 - Elton, Sagorin, Leonard.

**Pitching:** Scoop 7Inn 14H OK OBB 6ER

**Highlights:** Let's see now: Ant Millen's superb leaping catch against the fence in left to turn around what was becoming a horror 1st inning; Neil Sharples' near Home Run hitting the top of the fence at dead centrefield and bouncing back into play for a double; Neil's next at-bat producing a loong home run onto Sagorin's Porch in left; a pop-fly bouncing out of the falling Marton Marek's glove straight up into the waiting hand of Sea Ansley; Justin Ramirez stepping off the bench to take two fantastic catches at centre; Josh Heard's continued powerful hitting; Geoff managing to get up unscathed after falling over; and a pitching performance from Scoop that started out with getting smashed for four runs in the 1st but ended up with only two more runs scoring in the remaining 6 innings.....

Take your pick; they were all highlights in this memorable game. Easily the 3's most polished performance of the season. Batting, fielding, pitching - today we had it all. In the past I have seen us struggle mentally after an opposition put up a big start like Waverley's, but we stayed to the team mantra of disciplined hitting (anyone sick of Geoff's preaching yet.....?) and the results followed.

An excellent victory against a quality opposition.

Won 4 – Lost 3

Geoff



## DIVISION 2 FOURTHS

St.Kilda 10 defeated Waverley 7

**Hits:** 4 - Robbie O. 2 - Tompkins, Sivera, Van De Mijl, Roberts, Gibbo. 1 - Renton (inc 3B), Crockenberg (inc 2B), SeanO (inc 2B).

**Pitching:** Drew 7Inn 7H 4K 3BB 2ER

**Highlights:** In the words of the late Harry Carey, SAINTS WIN, SAINTS WIN, SAINTS WIN. Yes I know he said CUBS not SAINTS, work with me here people. This week it was the Wildcats that came to town with their fourths side or was that their eighths or maybe it was the twelves, I don't know, who can keep up. All I know is that a competitive Wildcats team would show up and we had to play well to be any chance. The game started positively, both teams scoring once in the first inning. From there things started to get away from us as Waverley scored 6 times in the next 2 innings. Drew was getting hit and the defence only compounded the issue with some untidy work in the infield.

This was the sort of start we had seen in previous weeks, but then a funny thing happened. The offence woke up, Drew pitched great, settling into a groove, giving up only 2 hits for the remainder of the game and the defence stood up, some great flies from Eulise and some nice plays from Dunc and Seano, cumulating in a great diving catch and double up in centre by Robbie O to go with his 4 hits for the day. Nine runs in three innings gave us a 10 to 7 lead, one we would not relinquish this time. A great overall team effort by everyone and a well deserved win.

Won 2 – Lost 4 – Draw 1

SeanO

## DIVISION 4 RED

St.Kilda Red 4 was defeated by Chelsea 17

**Highlights:** Very flattering scoreline for Chelsea. We give up 8 walks, 13(!) stolen bases and 2 errors in the first 2 innings to hand them 12 runs for little in the hitting department. Our bats picked up some solid hits but we need to tighten down the defence if we are going to compete. One highlight for us though was Crackers hustling back on a line drive out to not be doubled up at first. He overshoots the bag and is nearly out diving back from the foul side of first base... interesting. Second bright spot was Corey coming on for the last inning to pitch and shutting them down in order. Nice work.

Next week will be better...

Won 2 – Lost 4

Lordy

## DIVISION 4 BLACK

St.Kilda Black 6 was defeated by Blackburn B 12

**Highlights:** The St Kilda Black team was up for the challenge against Blackburn B, seeking to improve after last week's disappointing effort versus Chelsea. They arrived in Billabong Park with a spring in their step - and the recent memory of a win on the same ground - gave them real hope of an improved performance. Blackburn B is the official name of Ripken's (from Ausball Sports Equipment)

[www.stkildabaseball.org.au](http://www.stkildabaseball.org.au)

Tenacious Taiwanese team, who looked very focused and well-drilled in the warm up, it was clear why they had seven wins from seven starts this season. This however didn't put off the first two batters for St Kilda, who got on base, and were then brought home with a mighty hit out of the park from the Blacks third baseman Scott Meltzer. Player Manager Neil Bennett replied on the mound for the Blacks - and after hitting the first batter with his fourth pitch - he then struck out the next three. The teams traded scores over the next couple of innings and the game was tied at 6-6, with all St Kilda's runs coming from the top of the order, Ben Tan, Dean Teniswood and Scotty 'boom boom' Meltzer. Blackburn got ahead in the fourth inning, and then the Blacks from the Bay got two quick outs, with a pick-off at third and another K from the recently married pitcher. With one more out to get and Blackburn only up by a run confidence was high on the field in the Blacks team. Then the old Welsh arm started to wilt. A couple more Taiwan batters got hit by non curving curve balls, and some great hitting from the big guns at the top of the Blackburn order saw the game slip away from the Blacks. The inning ended at 12-6 to the home team, and their relief pitcher through harder and faster than anything St Kilda had seen for a few weeks, closing them down without reply. The umpire called 'time and game', and the records will always show loss to the St Kilda Black team for Sunday. But that doesn't tell the whole story - the future definitely looks bright for this group of players - they have proven they can compete with the best in the league. The great American football coach Vince Lombardi once said, "Winning isn't everything, but the will to win is the only thing", and that's what St Kilda showed on Sunday.

Won 2 – Lost 5

Neil



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*in association with Nathan Kuperholz*

## WOMEN'S DIVISION 3

St.Kilda 0 was defeated by Footscray 17

**Highlights:** The Sinners' first game of the season saw a nail biting 12-11 loss to Footscray, albeit aided by Footscray's best pitcher and one of their experienced catchers. This time around St. Kilda had to rely on themselves, making the trip across the bridge to Footscray with three notable absences. Despite loading the bases in the top of the first, they could not bring a run across. Things started awkwardly in the bottom of the first, though damage was limited to two runs with two outs recorded. An easy ground ball to pitcher nearly escaped the inning with a mere 2-0 deficit, but the ball was thrown over the head of first base. It was 6-0 by the end of the first, and another six conceded in the second for a 12-0 hole against the division's top side, and 17-0 after 3. St. Kilda could barely muster any offense, limited to one hit (by Zoe Bickenstaffe) and six baserunners, mostly by walks or hit batters. The best chance to score came in the top of the fourth and final inning, with Claire Bartlett walking to lead off the inning before stealing around to third. Carol Chen walked and was doubled off after a line drive by Ebony Butler landed in the second base chick's glove. The final batter grounded out to end the chance, though St. Kilda did prevent Footscray from scoring any further runs in the bottom. Despite the lopsided loss, the team showed flashes of improvement in various areas and should be competitive in the coming weeks, particularly if they can start fielding a consistent, regular lineup.

Won 0 – Lost 6

Sea

## SAINTS HISTORY

### OUR GOLDEN ERA

1920 - 1929

World War 1 had ended and the club welcomed back several key members of the team from service overseas. Coupled with the acquisition of Takahashi and Bannister, St.Kilda now had a competitive and powerful unit ready to challenge. The club's very first taste of success occurred in 1921 when the second's team took out the premiership.

At this time a summer competition was formed, thanks almost exclusively to St.Kilda stalwart Ernie Baster, who also administered the league. Whilst not considered the main season, that honour remained with the winter League and would do so until the late 70's, the summer league was taken very seriously. St.Kilda would have an immediate impact winning 5 flags between 1921 & 27.




However the real prize, a senior title, had eluded us thus far, the team playing finals in 1923 and 1925 but failing to go on with it. The Association itself had also gone through some changes, the Victorian Baseball Council being formed to reunite the Victorian Baseball Union and the Victorian Baseball League, this finally taking place in 1922, thus creating the Victorian Baseball Association. In 1926, after recruiting Barney Barnard and Doc Dowling, St.Kilda finished on top, winning a gripping grand final 6 to 4 against Fitzroy to win our very first Pennant.



Now with an appetite for more success, Jack Leekey and Wally Smith were acquired in 1927 and Bill Ponsford returned, all combining to achieve the 1928 title after narrowly missing out on the 1927 flag. By the end of the decade, St.Kilda Firsts and Seconds in both winter and summer leagues had captured 11 titles and had stamped their authority as a powerhouse of the competition. We also said goodbye to 3 club champions as Baster, Bannister and Takahashi all retired at the end of the 1929 season closing the door on our most successful era to date.....

## EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS



**St. KILDA  
BASEBALL CLUB**  
**Celebrating 130 Years**

Past Players, Sponsors, Current Players, Friends & Family all invited to come and celebrate  
**130 Years of St Kilda Baseball**

St Kilda 1's & 2's v Ormond Glenhantly  
Saturday 21st November 2009

Join us under the Marquee for lunch & drinks

**BBQ Lunch with Salads only \$15.00**  
Full Lunch & Beverage package available for \$40.00

Drinks at bar prices available separately  
Raffles, prizes, competitions

Celebrate a big day in St Kilda's history  
1.00-3.00pm (Reserves)  
& 3.30-6.00pm (Firsts)  
Lunch served at 2.00pm

RSVP: Joe Keiper 0403 369 964  
stkildabaseball@gmail.com

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
Major Leaguer  
Peter Moylan  
(Atlanta Braves)  
will throw out  
the first pitch!

Tom O'Halloran Field  
Hockey Drive Albert Park Reserve  
Melway 58 A7

## WHO SAID THAT ????????

"Your shower shoes have fungus on them. You'll never make it to the bigs with fungus on your shower shoes. Think classy, you'll be classy. If you win 20 in the show, you can let the fungus grow back and the press'll think you're colorful. Until you win 20 in the show, however, it means you are a slob."

Answer in next column



**Next Game – 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009**

**FIRSTS/SECONDS**

v

Ormond Glenhantly  
Home - 3.30/1pm  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Nov

**THIRDS/FOURTHS**

v

Ormond Glenhantly  
Away - 3.30/1pm  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

**ST.KILDA BLACK**

v

Doncaster  
Home – 1.00pm  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

**ST.KILDA RED**

v

Blackburn B  
Home – 3.30pm  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

## 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 '3<sup>rd</sup> 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 7

	Won	Lost	Position
Firsts	5	2	3rd
Seconds	3	4	9th
Thirds	4	3	5th
Fourths	2	4	7th
Red	2	4	8th
Black	2	5	7th
Women's	0	7	11th

### Answer to 'WHO SAID THAT'

Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) Bull Durham 1988

Full colour version of this publication and full Match Reports can be found online at  
[www.stkildabaseball.org.au](http://www.stkildabaseball.org.au)