



Tigers Softball Club Yearbook, 2013



Review of the year

2013 was a challenging year for the Tigers club. We had been promoted to Division 2 of the Manchester Softball League after a successful 2012 season, but how would we cope at a higher level? We had also decided to set up a second team, (the Wildcats) would we actually be able to recruit enough players? and even if we did how would they do?

In the event we needn't have worried. The Tigers secured their survival in Division 2 before the season was half way through and the Wildcats finished second in the 4th Division and secured a well merited promotion to Division 3. We did struggle for players at times over the summer but we did fulfil every fixture with a solid core of players in place for 2014. The Tigers had a tough time in the Play Off division but we did gain some valuable experience and get better as the season went on.

In tournament play we performed creditably at the Manchester and Leeds tournaments, and were runners up in our own "Red Rose" tournament. The Wildcats also had a successful run in the MSL 3rd and 4th Division cup, getting to the semi-finals and eventually finishing in 3rd place.

End of season awards 2013

Tigers



Emma



Sam



Becky



Ed



Claire



Sam



Uric

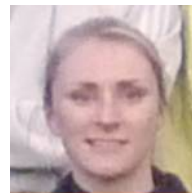
Players' player

Captain's player

Batting Champion

Home Run
Champion

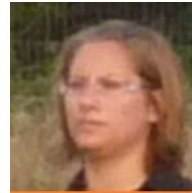
Wildcats



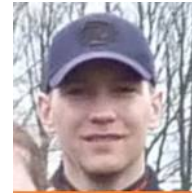
Steph



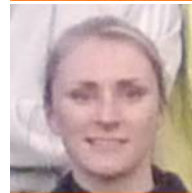
Neil



Irene



Matt H



Steph



Tony



Tony

Tigers



Anu Guleria

Tigers



Becky Ellis

Tigers



Chloe Love

Tigers



Claire Monaghan

Tigers



Dave Eaton

Tigers



Dave Wareham

Tigers



Deb Cantu

Tigers



Ed Covington

Tigers



Ellie Beard

Tigers



Emma Miller

Tigers



Evan Lawrence

Tigers



Hayley Metear

Tigers



Irene Binder

Tigers



James McConville

Tigers



Karl Pilkington

Tigers



Kirsty Fell

Tigers



Matt Arrowsmith

Tigers



Matt Hughes

Tigers



Naz Akhtar

Tigers



Neil Love

Tigers



Keith Ogden

Tigers



Peter Elliott

Tigers



Richard Sarver

Tigers



Sam Taylor

Tigers



Sarah Hughes

Tigers



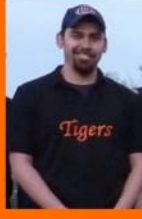
Sarah Newman

Tigers



Steph Hallows

Tigers



Steve Aguirre

Tigers



Tony La Fave

Tigers



Urie Narthey

League games

Tigers: Division 2



24/04/13: Meerkats

A shaky defensive display meant we never gave ourselves a realistic chance of defeating the Meerkats but there were also lots of encouraging signs in our performance. Eleven out of twelve people in the line up got at least one hit, Matt (3 for 3) and Sam and Claire (each 4 for 4) were perfect at the plate. Sam and Uric also hit a homer each as we showed that we are perfectly capable of scoring runs at this level.

Defensively it was a different story as the whole team collectively had an off day with the gloves. Sam did lighten up the gloom with a smartly taken double play, and we turned two more when we converted an infield fly into a double killing. Plenty to work on then but also reasons to think we will be able to compete at this level, roll on next week!

Tigers	2	2	6	0	3	4	17
Meerkats	3	5	3	5	9	X	25

MVPs were Sam and Claire.



01/05/13: Bats

After the first 2 innings we were 9 - 3 down and looking at another defeat, but that's when we began to play. We shut the Bats down in 4 of the other 5 innings, giving up just 2 further runs in the fifth. At the same time we continued to score ourselves, with 4 runs in the third and 5 in the sixth being the highlights.

Sam and Karl (4 for 4) and Richard and Peter (3 for 3) were perfect at the plate with other useful contributions coming from all parts of the order. In the field Karl was impressive at short and Emma was a brick wall at first, nothing got past her as she recorded innumerable put outs at one. Sam pitched a fine game and we just looked better and better as the game went on.

Bats	5	4	0	0	2	0	0	11
Tigers	2	1	4	1	2	5	X	15

MVPs were Sam and Emma.



08/05/13: Storm

After our customary slow start we dominated a tight and well-played game against Storm. Karl and Richard were the batting heroes, each going 3 for 3 at the plate, and they also turned a pretty double play in the middle innings. Carrol from the Lions had a fine game at 1st and went 2 for 3 at the plate whilst Deb also went 2 for 3 and made some good plays at third. Sam put in another excellent pitching performance and despite a little wobble in the 7th we looked good throughout.

Storm	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	7
Tigers	0	2	4	0	2	0	X	8

MVPs were Sam and Deborah.



15/05/13: Outlaws II

Another good performance against an Outlaws team who never really got going until the bottom of the 7th, when they showed what they are capable of with a 5 run innings.

Ours was very much a team performance with everyone getting on base at least once and ten of the twelve batters scoring at least one run. Tony was the only one to bat 1000 and we hit no home runs, though Claire caught the eye hitting triples in consecutive at bats in the fourth and sixth innings.

Defensively Sam put in another fine pitching performance and the infield looked solid with Karl taking some nice catches at short. Uric also made some good plays in left field with the rest of the outfield rather under employed until the burst of scoring in the 7th.

Tigers	4	1	2	4	4	1	0	16
Outlaws II	1	1	0	0	2	0	5	9

MVPs were Karl and Claire.



22/05/13: Mayhem

A slow burner of a game with the tension building as the innings passed and the scoring dried up leaving us in a 10 all tie after 7. In the top of the 8th it was Karl's blast to right that gave us a 3 run lead to work with, and in the bottom of the 8th Mayhem scored just 1 run and saw their mammoth unbeaten league run come to an end.

We started off slackly in the field with errors contributing to a high percentage of Mayhem's runs but we then tightened things up and only conceded one run in the second half of the game. Mayhem also kept things tight in the second half of the game with their first baseman collecting deserved MVP honours for an outstanding display.

Our batting numbers were solid rather than spectacular with no individual performance really standing out from the crowd. In the field Sarah took a nice catch behind home plate, snaring a spiralling pop up that initially looked likely to fall safe, Emma played well on first and Sam pitched another fine game. The rest of the fielders threw off those early errors to record that impressive second half display.

Tigers	2	0	4	2	2	0	0	3	13
Mayhem	4	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	11

MVPs were Karl and Emma.



29/05/13: Bullfrogs

We were second best all the way through this week's game as the Bullfrogs leapt into the lead with a 7 run first and never looked back. We managed to keep their scoring under some kind of control for most of the rest of the game, but they in turn put in an impressive defensive display which shut us out after the second innings. Sam and Ed stood out with the bat, each going 3 for 3, and Claire led the way amongst the women going 2 for 3.

In the field Claire and Ed worked hard in the outfield and took some nice catches, Deb also made some nice plays on third and Richard played well on second. Sam put in another good pitching performance, and Tony came into the game in relief after the fifth and only conceded 1 run in the last 2 innings.

Bullfrogs	7	1	2	2	5	0	1	18
Tigers	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4

MVPs were Sam and Claire.



12/06/13: Speeders

Won by forfeit.

19/06/13: Dragons

An incident packed game that ended in a comfortable win that took us to a 6 and 2 record and meant that we won promotion to the play off division in our first season in Division 2. The Dragons started the game with some impressive batting in the first 2 innings but we more than matched them, batting round the order twice ourselves. After finishing the first one run ahead the eight runs we posted in the second gave us the platform for the win. We shut their bats down after that, giving up only 3 more runs over the remaining 5 innings whilst keeping our own score ticking along.

The story of the game doesn't just revolve around the box score however, Emma took a ball to the face in the third innings and had to retire hurt, with Sarah the Wildcats rookie moving across from Catcher to put in an impressive display at first and the injured Becky coming off the bench to catch and then stand in the batter's box hoping for walks ! Happily Emma, whilst acquiring an impressive bruise, was not seriously hurt and the pain was alleviated later in the evening when she won big on the football scratch card!

Sam and Uric led the batting stats, each batting 1000, whilst Chloe and Deb led the way for the women, each going 3 for 5. Karl hit a home run. In the field Sam pitched a good game, Ed took a nice catch in the outfield, as mentioned above Sarah looked a natural after taking over from Emma at first, and Richard took a fine overhand catch to record the final out. Tony also deserves a special mention for umpiring the game. He wasn't able to play as we were down to 5 women so couldn't play our normal 6 and 6.

Dragons	4	4	1	1	0	1	0	11
Tigers	5	8	2	2	0	4	X	21

MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.



Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
24 April	Meerkats	PW7	A	L.17-25
01 May	Bats	6	H	W.15-11
08 May	Storm	2	H	W.8-7
15 May	Outlaws II	7	A	W.16-9
22 May	Mayhem	4	A	W.13-11
29 May	Bullfrogs	9	H	L.4-18
05 June	Resting	?	?	?
12 June	Speeders	5	A	W.20-0 forfeit
19 June	Dragons	3	H	W.21-11

	G	W	L	F	RS	RC	%age	
Bullfrogs	8	8	0	0	135	63	1.000	(P)
Tigers	8	6	2	0	110	95	.750	(P)
Mayhem	8	6	2	0	143	82	.750	(P)
Meerkats	8	5	3	0	135	129	.625	
Outlaws II	8	4	4	0	127	96	.500	
Storm	8	3	5	0	83	119	.375	
Bats	8	2	6	0	89	116	.250	
Speeders	8	2	5	1	96	127	.250	
Dragons	8	0	8	0	83	174	.000	

Tigers: Play Off Division

26/06/13: Camels

We looked promising in the first two innings but were then completely outclassed for the rest of the game. With a make shift line up we just couldn't cope defensively and fell to our heaviest defeat of the season. Tony was the stand out performer both at bat where he went 3 for 4 and in the field where he turned in his best pitching performance of the year so far. Other good batting performances came from Peter who went 3 for 3 at the plate and Uric, Richard and Chloe who all went 2 for 3.

In the field both Uric and Peter made some nice catches in the outfield whilst Richard and Emma deserve a mention for getting a classy out in a run down in the top of the first. For the most part however errors flowed freely and the Camels ran away with the game.

Camels	0	0	7	8	6	5	26
Tigers	6	1	0	0	0	1	8

MVPs were Tony and Chloe.



03/07/13: Bullfrogs

We played well for large portions of this game, and far better than in our first encounter with the Bullfrogs this season, but in the end we just let in too many runs.

Batting heroes on the night were Karl, Uric and Sam who all went 4 for 4. In the field both Chloe and Richard took nice catches in the outfield. Becky also did well in right field, making some strong throws back into the infield, Karl put in a solid performance at short stop, Sam pitched well in relief and Sarah continued her encouraging performances at second. Irene stepped in at very short notice to make her Wednesday night debut and didn't look out of place.

Tigers	4	1	2	1	0	2	2	12
Bullfrogs	6	0	6	0	5	0	X	17

MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.



10/07/13: Mutineers

The evening's proceedings started on a sour note as Anu took a ball to the face in the warm up and had to go to hospital for a check-up. Happily the X-rays proved negative and she's now feeling much better. Best wishes to Anu from all the Tigers and big thanks to Tony for taking her to the hospital and staying with her there while she was seen to. Back on the pitch we again put in a competitive performance but again we eventually came up short with a lack of experience costing us at times.

Sam was the stand out batter, going 5 for 5, and he also put in another strong pitching performance. Karl was solid at short stop, Sarah made some nice stops at second and Uric took some good catches in Left Centre. The Mutineers only managed one big innings, scoring 7 in the top of the 6th, but as so often happens that one big innings was enough to give them the win.

Mutineers	0	0	2	4	2	7	0	15
Tigers	3	0	5	0	1	0	0	9

MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.



17/07/13: Lightning

Lightning had come within 1 innings of staying in Division 1 before the mid-season break and they looked impressive defensively in this game. Good pitching from Oscar and sure handed fielding kept our bats quiet throughout the game.

Our one batting standout was Chloe who went 2 for 2. When we were in the field they took advantage of our many errors to rack up the runs. James made a nice play after moving to short stop which almost resulted in a double play but there was little else of note to report.

We had been very much in the game for the two fixtures before this but we second best throughout this game and ended up well beaten.

Tigers	1	0	0	0	2	3
Lightning	8	4	2	0	4	18

MVPs were Richard and Sarah Newman.



24/07/13: Mayhem

A bad first two innings in the field left us in a deep hole against an impressive Mayhem team. We played much better after that but never looked like recovering from that initial damage and they ran out easy winners. James was understandably rusty at short stop in the early going, but grew into the role and made some good plays in the later innings. All four outfielders, Uric, Claire, Sam and Becky, made impressive catches and Tony pitched well throughout the game. Ed also made a couple of nice plays at third and Deb was solid at first.

With the bats Sam and Tony were the stand outs, each going 3 for 3. Tony also hit a home run, with Claire also recording a four bagger, our first Wednesday night female home run of the season.

Overall we were well beaten but we looked good defensively in the later innings and there was plenty there for us to build on in the last 5 games of the season.

Mayhem	6	6	0	0	0	3	2	17
Tigers	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	5

MVPs were Sam and Claire.



31/07/13: Camels

With a rather makeshift line-up we made a better job of playing the Camels than we managed at our first meeting, but still came up short. Sam's 3 for 4 was the best male record of the evening, and Chloe and Emma were the best of the women, each going 2 for 3. Richard hit the ball hard and came close to a home run in the 6th and Claire also hit the ball hard but with no luck.

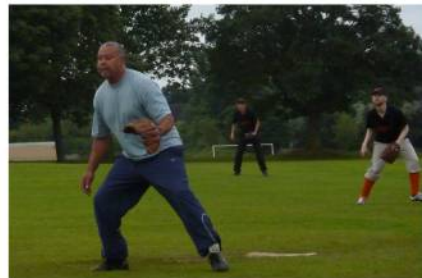
Also worthy of note was that Karl being delayed in traffic meant Dave made his first outfield appearance for many years, before escaping to take over on the mound in the 2nd. Emma had a solid game at first and James displayed his versatility by starting at short before moving into the outfield when Karl came into the game in the 3rd.

A horrible wet pitch that made it very difficult to pitch.

Tigers	3	0	1	1	1	0	2	8
Camels	0	4	0	3	2	7	X	16

MVPs were Richard and Emma.





07/08/13: Bullfrogs

This was a very tired looking performance by a team that hadn't recovered from playing the weekend before at the Manchester tournament. After a poor first couple of innings we did steady the ship and looked good defensively in the middle third of the game before we let things slip again in the last two innings. With the bats we never really got going, with our only real rally too little and too late in the bottom of the 7th.

Sam was the stand out performer with the bat, going 4 for 4 as well as also putting in another fine pitching performance. Emma also deserves a mention for some strong hitting, sending a couple of line drives down the third base line and Becky continued her improvement, hitting the ball hard with little luck.

Stand out performer in the field was Ed who was a bundle of energy in the outfield, getting a good force out on two from centre right and almost repeating the trick at first later in the game. Claire did some good work in right taking a couple of nice catches and Irene looked more comfortable at second and also got some good outs.

Bullfrogs	2	7	0	0	1	6	7	23
Tigers	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	4

MVPs were Ed and Irene.



14/08/13: Mutineers

A really encouraging performance after last week's flat display with Uric leading the way both with the bat, 3 for 3 with 2 line drive Home Runs, and with the ball as he put in an excellent pitching performance, fielded his position well and gave some leadership to the infield.

Other stand outs included Richard, who went 3 for 4 with a couple of doubles and made some good plays at 3, James who looked really good at short, Emma, who put in her normal solid performance at first and also got her longest ever base hit putting it well over the head of the 3rd baseman, and the defensive efforts of the whole outfield who even when they didn't make the outs got the ball back into the infield in a hurry and kept the scoring under control. Becky deserves special mention for one particularly fine catch in right field.

Tigers	0	1	1	3	3	0	0	8
Mutineers	3	1	6	0	3	0	X	13

MVPs were Uric and Emma.



21/08/13: Lightning

We played well in patches against the best team in the division but never looked like getting the win. Highlight in the field was Steph's performance at second, which made her a shoo-in for MVP selection. Elsewhere Emma was solid on one, Ed looked good in the outfield and Uric put in another fine pitching performance. Chloe took a nice outfield catch and Karl showed good range at short when snaring a pop up behind third base.

With the bats Steph again shone, with Richard also looking good as they both went 2 for 3. Elsewhere good Lightning defence kept the bats quiet. Hayley, Dave and Kirsty all made their Wednesday night debuts and all showed promise.

Lightning	2	1	5	1	4	3	0	16
Tigers	0	0	3	0	0	2	1	6

MVPs were Uric and Steph.



28/08/13: Mayhem

We finished our league campaign with another loss, but this was perhaps our best performance of the season. We played really well in the field and were slightly unlucky when batting.

Dave W. was the only person to bat 1000, going 2 for 2, with Ed, Sam, and Richard all going 2 for 3. Sarah was the best of the women and was unlucky not to get more reward than her 1 for 3. Hayley also hit the ball hard but with no luck.

In the field the whole team contributed to an efficient performance but stand outs included Uric, who pitched another fine game, Emma, who had a really good game at first, James, who played well at short, and Sam, who was the stand out performer in the outfield.

A big thank you to Steve Beddows from Mayhem II who umpired the game and did a fine job.

Tigers	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Mayhem	2	0	0	0	2	1	X	5

MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.



Play Off Division results and Table

Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
26 June	Camels	PW7	H	L. 8-26
3 July	Bullfrogs	6	A	L. 12-17
10 July	Mutineers	2	H	L. 9-15
17 July	Lightning	3	A	L. 3-18
24 July	Mayhem	5	H	L. 5-17
31 July	Camels	9	A	L. 8-16
7 August	Bullfrogs	PW5	H	L. 4-23
14 August	Mutineers	4	A	L. 8-13
21 August	Lightning	5	H	L. 6-16
28 August	Mayhem	PW4	A	L. 3-5

	G	W	L	RS	RC	%age	
Lightning	10	9	1	135	59	.900	(C)
Mayhem	10	7	3	133	103	.700	(P)
Camels	10	6	4	114	111	.600	(P)
Bullfrogs	10	4	6	100	106	.400	(R)
Mutineers	10	4	6	106	107	.400	(R)
Tigers	10	0	10	64	166	.000	(R)

Wildcats: Division 4



23/04/13: Mayhem II

The Wildcats started their career with an impressive win in a well-played game. Karl and Uric gave an experienced spine to the team and the rookies showed lots of promise. Stand out performers and Home Run hitters were Karl and Steph. Karl bossed the team from shortstop and Steph looked good at second. Karl hit two homers and Steph a homer and a double on her MSL debut. Anu also deserves mention going three for three at the plate, with Tony (4 for 4) and Steph (3 for 3) also batting 1000. Emma was the other stand out with a fearless performance at first that on another day would have won MVP recognition. Mayhem also played well and there was plenty to suggest they will be better still as they gain experience.

Mayhem II	1	1	4	2	1	1	0	10
Wildcats	5	0	4	2	3	1	X	15

MVPs were Karl and Steph.



30/04/13: Camels II

After the excitement of our opening day win we came down to earth with a bump this week. We fielded a much less experienced line up against a strong Camels side and the difference in game savvy was obvious all game as the Camels scored heavily and often.

Our own batting hero was Ed who went 2 for 2 at the plate and also scored his first home run of the league campaign. Matt A. and Tony also batted 1000 on the night. In the field there was plenty of enthusiasm but we lacked a bit of patience at times, making mistakes by trying too hard to help the team win. Matt at third was one stand out defensively and Anu also made a promising debut on first.

Wildcats	1	3	0	0	4
Camels II	5	9	6	4	24

MVPs were Matt and Anu.





07/05/13: Morekats

After last week's defeat we got back to winning ways with an impressive performance against the Morekats. Six of the 12 batters (five of the blokes plus Steph) batted 1000, with all the others getting at least one hit. Matt and Neil homered with Neil's being a Grand Slam.

We fielded efficiently, with Karl at shortstop controlling the team and Darcy playing well on 2nd on her debut. Dave pitched well in his first start of the season, though his fielding of ground balls left a bit to be desired.

Morekats	1	2	2	0	2	7
Wildcats	1	7	3	11	X	22

MVPs were Dave and Anu.



14/05/13: Phoenix

After a slow start we ran away with this game against an under strength Phoenix team. After the first 2 innings we were 1 run behind but pulled away in the 3rd and 4th before sending 16 batters to the plate in the 5th to end the game.

Neil, Matt A., Tony and Sam all batted 1000, whilst Steph and Darcy led the way on the female side, each going 3 for 4. Matt hit a home run and Naz marked his first league game with a Grand Slam in the 5th that also gave us the mercy rule win. Sam pitched well in relief, Darcy made some nice plays on second and Ed came agonisingly close to turning a triple play.

Phoenix	1	4	0	0	0	5
Wildcats	4	0	3	4	9	20

MVPs were Matt and Darcy



21/05/13: Barflies

We dominated this game from start to finish. Everyone hit well and we looked solid in the field. Batting highlights included Neil's home run and perfect (1000 average) performances from Tony, Steph, Neil, Sarah N and Dave. In the field Ed had a fine game at short, Emma was her normal dependable self at first, Dave pitched well and Anu took a nice catch in right field.

Wildcats	7	11	5	8	31
Barflies	0	1	0	3	4

MVPs were Neil and Anu.



28/05/13: Mayhem II

An exciting game where we showed lots of promise, and took an early lead, but where our inexperience ultimately led to us letting in rather too many runs. We batted well on the whole, Tony, Peter and Matt H. led the way for the men, all batting 1000, while Peter, Matt H and Matt A all homered. Darcy and Anu led the way for the women, each going 3 for 4.

In the field Matt H put in a solid display at short stop and Irene looked excellent on debut, putting in a great performance at first. Elsewhere things looked less rosy, there were too many small mistakes, virtually all a result of inexperience rather than any thing more worrying, that in total ended up costing us the win. All in all lots of promise but also lots to work on at practice this week!

Wildcats	4	4	5	0	0	3	1	17
Mayhem II	0	6	1	4	5	5	X	21

MVPs were Matt H and Irene.



04/06/13: Camels II

A game that followed a similar pattern to the week before. we took an early lead, made lots of good plays but let the opposition score too many runs in the last two innings, whilst our own scoring dried up after the first three. Stand out performers with the bat were Tony, Dave and Matt A. who all batted 1000, with Sarah N. leading the way for the women going 2 for 3.

In the field Dave put in another solid pitching performance, Tony made some nice plays at third, Darcy looked good at two, Emma put in a fine performance on first and the outfield worked hard and were efficient in getting the ball back into the infield.

There were encouraging performances all over the park, and we could take comfort from comparing this game to our first clash with the Camels where they walked all over us. We are getting better week by week and some of that progress was visible tonight despite the loss.

Camels II	2	2	1	2	2	4	4	17
Wildcats	3	3	2	1	0	1	0	10

MVPs were Matt and Sarah.



11/06/13: Morekats

We always looked comfortable in this game and a healthy lead turned into a mercy win in the fifth as we sent 33 batters to the plate and scored 27 runs as the Morekats pitching lost it's way.

There were a lot of impressive batting performances. Three people, Tony, Naz and Neil hit Home Runs with both Tony and Neil getting Grand Slams. Three people hit 1000, Neil, Dave, and Sarah H. Plenty of other batting averages received a boost, though Tony suffered the trauma of only going 5 for 6, making an out whilst at bat in a Tuesday game for the first time this season.

In the field Anu looked good at first, Tony pitched a good game, Matt A made a steady debut at shortstop and Dave put in a curates egg of a performance at third, making lots of outs but also missing a few that should have been made. The Morekats deserve credit for battling to the end in a game played in a good spirit throughout.

Wildcats	3	3	0	5	27	38
Morekats	2	0	3	2	3	10

MVPs were Neil and Anu.



18/06/13: Phoenix

A comfortable win after an uncertain start against a much improved Phoenix side. Steph and Dave were the batting stats leaders, each going 4 for 4 at the plate, whilst Neil and Tony each hit home runs. Sarah Newman also made her mark with the bat going 3 for 4.

In the field Tony put in another solid pitching performance, Neil took some nice catches in left and, after a shaky first innings, the whole team looked efficient. (N.B. Phoenix were the home team but chose to bat first which is why the box score shows Wildcats as the home team).

Phoenix	5	0	0	2	1	0	3	11
Wildcats	4	4	7	1	2	1	X	19

MVPs were Neil and Steph.



25/06/13: Barflies

A shaky performance but we got the win against an improving Barflies team. Batting hero was Tony who went 5 for 6 and hit 2 home runs. Several others went 4 for 5 and everyone got on base safely at least twice.

In the field it was a different story, Tony put in another solid pitching performance and Sarah played well on first but elsewhere there were too many errors for comfort.

Barflies	4	3	0	5	2	1	3	18
Wildcats	4	1	6	2	6	2	X	21

MVPs were Tony and Sarah.



02/07/13: Barflies

A bizarre start time and some nasty weather meant this was a truncated game, but we got the job done against an enthusiastic Barflies team. The women led the way at the plate with Steph, Sarah N. and Irene all going 4 for 4, Matt H. got our only Home Run and everyone chipped in as we scored early and often.

In the field Tony pitched well in difficult conditions, Neil took a nice catch in left and Sarah N was her normally hard working self at second. By the middle of the fifth it was entirely too dark for comfort and we were happy to see the game called for light. One of Barflies took a ball to the face whilst running the bases in the top of the first and we'd all like to wish her well in her recovery from what looked like a nasty injury.

Barflies	1	4	0	4	0	9
Wildcats	9	1	1	9	X	20

MVPs were Tony and Sarah.



09/07/13: Mayhem II

By far our best performance of the season so far. Some power hitting from the women led the way as we put up several crooked numbers on the way to a five innings mercy win over a Mayhem team who had beaten us last time we played them. Steph, Anu and Irene all went 3 for 4 with Steph's triple the highlight. For the guys Matt H. and Dave stood out, each going 4 for 4, but it was the performances from the women that allowed us to build the big innings.

In the field Matt and Irene were the stand out performers. Matt had perhaps his best defensive performance of the season playing at third and Irene was just as good on one. Elsewhere Dave pitched a good game and James made his first appearance of the year, a welcome return after months out injured.

Wildcats	9	8	0	6	2	25
Mayhem II	0	1	2	1	3	7

MVPs were Matt and Irene.



23/07/13: Morekats

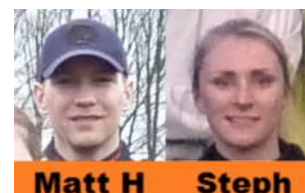
A bit of a creaky performance, enlivened by having to dodge a falling fence panel on the show pitch, but we improved as the game went on and got the job done in the end.

Batting stand outs were Matt H., Naz and Dave W., each going 3 for 3, with Steph leading the way for the women going 3 for 4.

In the field Tony pitched a fine game, with Dave making a cameo appearance in the 7th to record the last 2 outs. Emma had a fine game on one, Irene made some nice plays at second, Matt H. put in a solid performance at short and Steph took a fantastic catch in the outfield. Hayley made an encouraging debut, hitting the ball hard and getting her first hit.

Morekats	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	6
Wildcats	2	0	1	2	6	3	X	14

MVPs were Matt and Steph.



06/08/13: Colt 45s

We had a bit of a patched up look in the field this week with people playing out of position and that lack of experience showed in our performance, we made some good plays but also too many mistakes. Fatigue after the tournament didn't help, but we more than made up for a shaky defensive display with some impressive hitting and base running that eventually proved too much even for a vastly improved Colts 45 team (someone must have been coaching them !).

Male batting heroes were Tony, Sam and Dave Eaton who all went 6 for 6 with a home run each. Leading the way for the women was Irene who went 5 for 6 and also showed off her impressive sliding technique. Close behind her were Anu and Steph, who each went 4 for 6. Tony pitched well and Emma was her normal reliable self on first.

Wildcats	1	0	9	5	6	1	12	34
Colt 45s	2	4	3	0	4	1	5	19

MVPs were Tony and Irene.



20/08/13: Phoenix

A good solid performance after a slightly shaky start that nailed down a 2nd place finish in Division 4. Home run hero was Steph who also went 3 for 4, something also achieved by Anu and Hayley. Amongst the guys Dave, Neil and debutant Oggy all batted 1000, and there were other strong batting performances up and down the line up with a lovely shot up the 3rd base line by Emma being one highlight.

In the field Dave came out of the bull pen to put in a strong pitching performance, Matt had a good game at short, Emma recovered from an uncertain start to make some nice plays at second and Tony and Matt got the out after a well executed run play between first and second, the runner eventually getting back to first before the tag but only at the cost of overrunning the base and then being finally, and slightly humiliatingly, despatched in foul territory. A good fast return of the ball from the outfield contributed to that out and through the whole game everyone worked hard and produced a professional team performance.

Wildcats	3	3	4	10	0	20
Phoenix	0	4	0	0	1	5

MVPs were Matt and Emma.



03/09/13: Camels II

A boring anticlimax of a game which meant the league season finished with a whimper. Having already won the Division the Camels decided to give pitching practice to two players who just weren't up to it, which led to long, dull innings, general boredom, and a game that ended in darkness after only four innings. Matt A. did hit a home run and Tony, Dave, Matt H. and Oggy all batted 1000 but it was all pretty anti-climatic.

We did show some good touches in the field. Dave and Matt H. looked good at third and short respectively. Steph took a couple of good catches at second, Oggy was energetic in the outfield, and Tony pitched another good game. We kept the Camels hitters under control and that was enough to give us an easy win.

Wildcats	6	4	9	6	25
Camels	3	2	0	3	8

MVPs were Dave and Steph.



Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
23Apr	Mayhem II	6	H	W.15-10
30Apr	Camels II	1	A	L.4-24
07May	Morekats	2	H	W.22-7
14May	Phoenix	3	H	W.20-5
21May	Barflies	7	A	W.31-4
28May	Mayhem II	4	A	L.17-21
04June	Camels II	3	H	L.10-17
11June	Morekats	2	A	W.38-10
18June	Phoenix	6	A	W.19-11
25June	Barflies	8	H	W.21-18
2July	Barflies	2	H	W. 20-9
9July	Mayhem II	1	(H)	W.25-7
<i>16July</i>	<i>cup</i>			
23July	Morekats	7	(H)	W.14-5
<i>30July</i>	<i>cup</i>			
6Aug	Colt 45s	3	(A)	W.34-19
<i>13Aug</i>	<i>cup</i>			
20Aug	Phoenix	6	(A)	W.20-5
<i>27Aug</i>	<i>cup</i>			
3 Sep	Camels II	7	(H)	W.25-8

Final Division 4 table

	G	W	L	F	RS	RC	%age	
Camels II	16	14	2	0	298	117	.875	C
Wildcats	16	13	3	0	335	180	.813	P
Mayhem II	16	10	6	0	211	176	.625	
Barflies	16	6	10	0	205	289	.375	
Phoenix	16	5	10	1	154	239	.313	
Moorkats	16	3	13	0	173	284	.188	
Colt 45s	6	0	6	0	40	131	.000	

League Cup

16/07/13: Colt 45s

We dominated this game from start to finish. Everyone hit well and we looked solid in the field. This week's Home Run hero was Tony with two, with Neil and Dave also hitting four baggers. Dave, Tony, Naz and substitute Sam all hit 1000. Steph, Becky and Sarah N. led the way for the women, all going 3 for 4 (750), whilst Sarah H. went 2 for 3 (667).

Wildcats	10	11	6	1	28
Colt 45s	1	0	1	0	2

MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.



30/07/13: Hackers

A comfortable win against an under strength Hackers side who never really got going. Tony was the stand out figure in the game, combining a strong pitching performance with a 5 for 5, 3 homer, night with the bat that included 1 Grand Slam. Matt H. was best of the rest with the bat going 4 for 5 whilst Emma led the way for the women going 3 for 4 with the stand out a well struck single over the head of the short stop.

Emma also put in a strong performance at 2nd and the whole team played well in the field, with other highlights including Matt's solid performance at short and Irene recovering from a slightly shaky start to play well on first. Dave Eaton made a welcome return to action, going 3 for 4 and playing a solid left field on his season league debut, a dodgy back meant Kirsty was confined to scoring duties, but it shouldn't be long before she too is back in action.

Hackers	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	4
Wildcats	3	4	4	2	2	3	X	18

MVPs were Tony and Emma.



13/08/13: Dragons

A painful day at the office against a ringer strengthened Dragons side who kept us under pressure for the whole game. Matt H. was Home Run king with a 3 run shot in the 4th, Steve was the OBP leader, going 2 for 2, with Irene, Steph and Matt H all going 2 for 3.

Despite the high number of run we let in there were some good performances in the field with Irene taking some good catches at second, Sarah H. (in perhaps her best performance of the season so far) taking a couple of nice grabs in the outfield, and Matt H. having a good game at short stop. Tony worked hard at pitcher and Dave enjoyed himself at first before finishing the game with 1 innings 'on the mound'.

Dragons	2	4	0	3	0	8	3	20
Wildcats	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3

MVPs were Matt and Irene.



27/08/13: Drizzle

We claimed a third place finish in the Division 3&4 Cup with a good win against another higher division team, with the last innings played in conditions that were far too dark to be safe. We fell behind 7-2 after the first 2 innings only to haul ourselves back into contention with a combination of timely hitting and effective fielding, we slipped behind again in the 5th only to get back in the front in the gloom with a 3 run 6th, and nailed down the win by keeping Drizzle scoreless in the dark of the 7th.

At the plate Tony highlighted his 4 for 4 performance with an enormous home run whilst Hayley, Sam and Dave E. also all batted 1000, each going 3 for 3.

In the field Tony pitched a good game and Neil took some good catches in the outfield but the stand outs were Kirsty, who made some impressive plays at first, and Dave E., who showed us what he can do at short with an outstanding display that featured several plays that would have stood out in Division One, never mind on a Tuesday night. Evan looked promising on debut and Hayley's batting looks better every game.

Drizzle	3	4	0	0	2	1	0	10
Wildcats	2	1	2	3	0	3	X	11

MVPs were Dave and Kirsty.



Date	Opponent	Pitch	H/A	Score
16 July	Colt 45s	4	A	W.28-2
30 July	Hackers	1	H	W.18-4
13 Aug	Dragons	6	H	L.3-20
27 Aug	Drizzle	8	H	W.11-10



Tournaments

MSL Firstball

We used Firstball to get a bit of game time under our belts, blooding most of the many new players we had recruited over the winter and also getting most of the old lags back into the swing of things. The mixing and matching that ensued meant we creaked a bit defensively at times but overall our performances were very encouraging. We started well with a one run loss to Thunder, then suffered another one run loss in a game to the hackers that we seemed to have in the bag at one stage. Come the afternoon we wobbled a bit with a heavy loss to a Terriers side who had a bit too much class for us, followed by a run fest in which Mayhem came out on top.

Thunder	L. 7-8
Hackers	L. 10-11
Terriers	L. 7-12
Mayhem	L. 13-16
Phoenix	W. 16-4
Camels	W. 12-3
Dynamite	L. 12-16

On the Sunday we gelled a bit more as a team and recorded impressive victories against Phoenix and Camels before going down 16-12 to a strong Dynamite team in the quarter final. There were lots of impressive individual performances over the weekend. Chloe, Steph and Deb headed the female batting chart with Lindsey also showing impressive power. No surprise at the top of the men's list with Sam closely followed by Richard being the top two, but new boy Peter stood out in third place. In the power stakes it was Ed and Richard leading the way with 3 homers each whilst Sam also got a four bagger. In the field Emma did some stirling work at first, Deb looked good at both second and third and Chloe looked impressive when she played on Sunday. For the guys Sam pitched well, Matt A looked impressive on debut, and Ed's performance, particularly in the outfield, caught the eye.

Overall it was a very enjoyable weekend with lots of encouraging performances in addition to those mentioned above. By Sunday tea time it was very much mission accomplished with lots of players blooded, lots of experience gained and even a couple of wins to reflect on afterwards.

Tournament MVPs were Ed and Emma.





Leeds

We had a successful Saturday at the Leeds tournament but found it tougher going against higher quality opposition on the Sunday, though we didn't let our heads drop and played hard throughout. On Saturday morning we started with a routine win against Team 20 before losing a hard fought game against Maidenhead where we looked good in the field but the batting struggled against some good pitching and excellent fielding on their part. In the afternoon we chalked up two more wins against Dynamite and a ringer heavy Meerkats team that seemed to be a lot less than the sum of its parts.

Team 20	W. 12-4
Maidenhead	L. 2-9
Dynamite	W. 6-1
Meerkats	W. 15-7
Cougars	L. 10-25
Pyros	L. 6-8
Misfits	L. 8-14

Sunday was tougher, we suffered a heavy loss first up to the Cougars, the one game over the weekend where heads did seem to drop, then in the trophy play offs we suffered a tight loss to the ever energetic Pyros before playing well in defeat to a very noisy Misfits team

Male batting leaders were Matt A.(909), Karl (875) and Matt H. (786), the female top 3 were Sarah N. (632), Sarah H. (455) and Emma (385). Home Run leaders were Karl and Richard (3 each) with Tony (2) and Uric (1) also chipping in.

In the field Karl led the team well on Saturday, Richard made some nice plays at third, and Sarah Newman looked excellent on second. Deb played well at both second and first and Emma also did well on one. Apart from the hiccup in the latter stages of the Cougars game we worked hard in the field as a team all weekend.

Tournament MVPs were Sam and Sarah Newman.





Manchester



We had an enjoyable time at the Manchester tournament, finishing with a 4 and 4 record and put in some good performances even in the defeats. We started on a low note against Mayhem, gifting them a game we should have won, but things improved after that. After a routine win against a Thunder team that were less than the sum of their parts we put in one of our best performances of the weekend in a narrow (6-8) loss to the Honey Badgers. After a two hour gap we played well again, and got revenge for last week's league loss with a narrow win against the Camels. We finished the day with tea in the pub after another easy win against a very weak Cougars side.

Mayhem	L.10-12
Thunder	W. 16-4
Honey Badgers	L. 6-8
Camels	W. 10-7
Cougars	W. 11-1
Buschini's	L. ?-?
Demons	W 9-8
Dragons	L. ?-?

We had another slow start on Sunday with a loss against Buschini's, we did bat well but the fielding was a bit wobbly. Next up were the Demons in a game where defence was on top throughout, we were 8 - 4 down in the last innings but their pitcher had a wobble and we showed commendable patience to put together a run of walks and hits that took us to the win. Victory put us in a semi final against a strong Dragons team. We didn't play badly but they hit really well and never really gave us a sniff, highlight of the game was an impressive performance by Chloe in the outfield including two particularly fine catches.

Male batting leaders were Karl (882), Richard (875) and Dave (833), the female top 3 were Anu (600), Irene (438) and Becky (389). Home Run leader was Ed with 3 with Karl (2), Uric and Richard (1 each) also chipping in. In the field Sam put in sterling work at pitcher, Chloe got better and better in the outfield, Irene looked good at both first and second, Dave enjoyed his one appearance at first and Karl and James both did good work at short stop. All the rookies got lots of useful experience and the whole team played well.

Tournament MVPs were Karl and Irene.



Red Rose Tournament



We had a successful day at the Red Rose tournament, finishing first in the round robin games before losing the final to a strong Thunder team. We had a comfortable win against an off colour Mayhem team in our first game, before upsetting Thunder in perhaps our best performance of the day in Game 2. Game 3 showed that we might have got a bit over confident, we never managed to put enough runs on the board against a strong hitting Sefton team, and despite being in front for most of the game they earned a well-deserved win by scoring 7 in the bottom of the fifth (last) innings.

Mayhem	W. 18-5
Thunder	W. 8-6
Sefton	L. 9-11
Thunder	L. 10-19

That 2 and 1 record was enough to put us in first place after the round robin, and give us home advantage in the final, where we faced Thunder for a second time. We took an early lead in that game, shutting out their heavy hitting line up for the first 3 innings, but they got on a roll in the 4th, batting round the order and posting 9 runs. They scored heavily again in the top of the fifth to take an imposing 16 - 3 lead. Whilst we did keep our heads up and rallied for 5 runs in the bottom of the fifth we never seriously looked like coming back into contention, and they ran out comfortable winners.

Home Run Heroes were Ed, with 3, and Richard, who recorded 2 four baggers. Ed and Richard (both 800) also led the male OBP leader board. Kirsty and Chloe lead the way for the women (600), and both were hitting the ball hard. Fielding highlights included Sam, who gave us good pitching throughout the day, and Matt, who was solid at short. Elsewhere Kirsty and Deb each looked good at first, and there was lots of other good work in all parts of the field. Our outfield work in particular is gradually improving, there were nice catches from several people and a general awareness of the importance of getting the ball back into the infield quickly and securely, there was even some backing up on view!

The day was not without its casualties, Neil couldn't take the field for the last game because of back problems, and Anu turned her ankle running the bases, and we all wish both a speedy recovery.

Tournament MVPs were Ed and Kirsty.





Name	D4 App	D4 PA	D4 OBP	D4 HR	Wed App	Wed PA	Wed OBP	Wed HR	OBP	HR	
Sam	6	17	1.000	2	17	59	.797	1	842	3	
Uric	1	3	1.000	0	16	51	.588	3	611	3	<i>Runners reunited!</i>
Karl	2	8	.750	2	12	42	.667	0	680	2	<i>Runners reunited!</i>
Ed	4	13	.769	1	10	33	.515	0	587	1	
Tony	18	77	.857	11	8	26	.731	1	825	12	
James	1	4	.500	0	7	17	.353	0	381	0	<i>Injured a lot</i>
Peter	5	22	.727	1	6	21	.762	0	744	1	
Dave W.	15	55	.818	1	3	7	.571	0	790	1	
Matt H	11	42	.762	3	3	9	.778	0	765	3	
Dave E.	4	13	.923	1	1	3	.333	0	813	1	<i>Returned late season</i>
Richard	15	53	.642	0					642	0	
Neil	14	54	.759	5					759	5	
Matt A	13	47	.702	5					702	5	
Steve A	11	36	.583	0					583	0	
Naz	10	36	.667	2					667	2	
Keith	2	6	1.000	0					1000	0	
Emma	14	49	.408	0	17	47	.298	0	354	0	
Becky	10	33	.394	0	17	48	.271	0	321	0	
Chloe	2	11	.545	0	11	38	.368	0	408	0	
Sarah N.	13	47	.681	0	9	32	.281	0	519	0	<i>Finally played</i>
Irene	12	49	.571	0	6	19	.368	0	515	0	
Beth	2	10	.600	0	4	15	.400	0	400	0	<i>Vanished mid-season</i>
Steph	18	70	.700	2	3	11	.273	0	642	2	
Anu	16	63	.508	0	2	7	.429	0	500	0	
Hayley	5	12	.583	0	2	4	.250	0	500	0	
Kirsty	3	8	.375	0	1	2	.500	0	400	0	<i>Returned late season</i>
Sarah H	14	50	.400	0					400	0	
Deb	10	33	.303	0					303	0	
Claire	9	29	.448	0					448	0	
Darcy	4	17	.471	0					471	0	<i>Unreliable</i>
Evan	2	6	.333	0					333	0	<i>Late season sign up</i>
Ellie	1	1	.000	0					000	0	<i>Pregnancy!</i>



Pre season v. Mayhem

