

Tigers Softball Club Yearbook 2023



Tigers squad



Anissa



Bailey



Caroline



Ed



Holly



Nadia



Natasha



Oli



Rich



Rich



Rob



Simon



Steph



Sara



TK

Tiggers Squad



Aiden



Amy



Becky



Conor



Dave



Emma



Georgia



Harry



James



Jenna



Jennifer



Josh



Lynsey



Matt



Michal



Rachael



Steve



The year in review

Pre-season

There was no indoor league in 2022/3 which meant a pretty quiet off season. Unusually we also started 2023 with very similar squads to those we had had in 2022. We did do a limited amount of indoor training pre season and the Sunday indoor sessions at the dome in February and March gave a couple of us some preparation for the league season ahead.

Division 2

It was deja vu all over again for the Tigers in 2023 as we again finished 3rd in Division 2 with an almost identical record to the one we had in 2022. Overall we played well, though we had a couple of wobbles defensively when put under pressure by the bigger hitting teams. Going forward the team would benefit from playing more tournaments together as a group.

The squad was largely the same as in 2022. There were some changes, Sara came in and Alyssa departed, Oli moved up from Div 3, Rob actually managed to play some games this season, Holly returned from maternity leave but Nadia only played a few games before pregnancy claimed her. Natasha moved up to Division 2 for the last few weeks of the season.

Two of our best performances of the season were the two wins against Mavericks 2, though perhaps the most unlikely, and satisfying, win was when a patched up team, including a large Tiggers contingent and one player who had never played before, put Freeze to the sword.

Division 3

It was always going to be tough for the Tiggers in 2023. Oli moved up to the Tigers squad this year and Glen's move to flying long haul meant he was unavailable. On top of that injuries meant that Emma and Michal hardly played at all this year. James did join the team from the Tigers but shift work meant he could only play 1 week in 3.

All those things combined with other absences meant that we never really managed to put a settled side on the pitch. A rather bizarre league schedule didn't help, with our opponents in the 2nd half of the season being decided on the basis of results in 2022 rather than those in the first half of this year. All this conspired to make wins a rare event. In the 2nd half of the season in particular we were good enough to keep games close, but not good enough to win any of them.

It wasn't all gloom and doom, team morale stayed high and there were good individual performances, perhaps the most noteworthy coming from new boy Josh who in his first softball season rapidly became an effective batter and outfielder.

Tournaments

Our best team performances were at the Manchester tournament where we played really well, reaching the semi final and taking that game to extra innings before falling to the eventual winners (Familie Casling).

That weekend was the highlight of an otherwise slightly disappointing season. We didn't play in as many events as normal as we didn't manage to get a team together for Liverpool and couldn't get a space at North West 2.

We had an enjoyable time at the other tournaments we did enter but the closest we got to winning silverware in any of those was finishing as rec runners up at NW1 (despite finishing last in the round robin (ahem)).



Division 2 league campaign

26/04/23 Tigers @ Mavericks II

The Tigers put in an impressive performance in our first league game of the season and came away with a satisfying win against a team we struggled against last year. A six run top of the 1st gave us a lead we never lost and a 4 run 3rd opened up a gap that the Mavericks could never close.

In the field Steph gave a master class at short stop, Nadia did a good job at 1st, Rich T put in a late bid for MVP honours with some lovely catches in right centre, Rich G shrugged off being hit early in the game to put in a fine pitching performance and everyone else contributed to a solid team defensive performance.

OBP leaders were Oli (4 for 5) and Caroline, Home Run Heroes were Rich T., Simon and Ed with 1 apiece and Steph with a first inning grand slam and also the longest ground rule double in the history of the league. Steph was also denied another 4 bagger by one of the best running catches I've seen in a long time by the Mavs' left centre fielder.

Tigers MVPs were Caroline and Steph

Tigers	6	0	4	1	3	1	5	20
Mavericks II	4	0	1	1	1	0	3	10



10/05/23 Tigers v Freeze

An efficient win in atrocious condition. An 11 run first inning set the tone for a game in which the final result was never in doubt.

Oli (4 for 4), Steph, Ed and Simon were the OBP leaders, the female lead was shared by Bailey, Anissa, Caroline, Holly and Nadia who all went 2 for 3. Steph was the Home Run Hero with 3 in 3 at bats, Ed also claimed a 4 bagger.

In the field Rich G. pitched well in the disgusting weather, TK was as reliable as ever on 1st Anissa did some good work on 2nd, Steph took a really good running catch in the outfield and everyone else contributed to a fine defensive display.

A special mention for Ed for cleaning up the (literal) crap on the pitch before the game started and thanks to everyone that helped with the bases and other team gear after the game.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Steph

Freeze	0	3	0	0	3
Tigers	11	7	4	1	23



17/05/23 Tigers v Dodgers

Some days you win, some days you lose, some days it rains. Wednesday the Dodgers gave us a bit of a lesson in playing Softball. They hit hard, ran hard and fielded well and we were second best. We didn't do anything ludicrously wrong, there were a couple of plays we could have made that we didn't but on the day they were just the better team.

Male OBP leader was Steph (2 for 2), TK, Caroline and Holly led the way for the female half of the team, all going 1 for 2. In the field we all worked hard and made a couple of nice plays but overall we struggled to cope with their speed and power.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Steph

Dodgers	2	3	3	5	7	20
Tigers	1	0	0	0	1	2



24/05/23 Tigers @ Thunder 2

After the first two innings we were in the lead but not playing that well. After that though we clicked into gear and ran up a big score and an easy win.

Male OBP leaders were Oli and Simon (each 5 for 5) and Steph (4 for 4). Female lead TK (4 for 4) also batted 1000. Most of the power was supplied by Steph with 3 Home Runs, Simon also claimed a four bagger, though only after some "interesting" base running in his earlier attempts at glory.

In the field Rich did well battling the sun at pitcher, TK was reliable as ever at 1st, Bailey made a nice tag at 3rd and everyone else did their bit in a good team performance.

Tigers MVPs were TK and Steph

Tigers	4	4	7	13	28
Thunder 2	4	0	1	0	5



31/05/23 Tigers v Camels 2

After a competitive first two innings the Camels ran away with this game with an impressive display of big hitting and aggressive base running.

Simon and Holly were the OBP leaders, each going 3 for 3. Simon was also our only Home Run Hero. In the field Oli made some nice plays at 3rd, Anissa did a lot of good work at 2nd and TK was reliable as ever at 1st. It was good to see Rob, who finally managed to make it down to do some pre match batting practice and to join in in the warm up. After the game Nadia announced her (temporary) retirement – because she’s pregnant! - congratulations to her.

Tigers MVPs were TK and Oli

Camels 2	1	7	6	5	9	28
Tigers	2	6	0	1	0	9



07/06/23 Tigers @ Titans

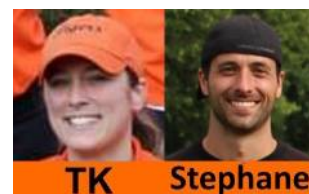
After the Tigers came up empty in the 1st an 8 run 2nd set us up for a comfortable win against a Titans team that never really got going offensively.

Male OBP leaders were Steph and Rob (each 4 for 4). Female leaders were Anissa and Sara (each 3 for 4). Home Run Heroes were Sara with 1 and Steph with 2 (1 Grand Slam). In the field TK did a good job on 1st, Oli was excellent at 2nd, Sara did some good work on 3rd with the whole team contributing to an efficient defensive display.

Rob made his first league appearance since 2021 in this game and it was good to have him back.

Tigers MVPs were TK and Steph

Tigers	0	8	3	4	6	21
Titans	1	0	3	0	0	4



14/06/23 Tigers v Bats

We were behind all the way through this game, and never looked at our best, but we were still in with a chance until the Bats put up 11 runs in the top of the 6th. We showed some fight in the bottom of the 7th but overall we were well beaten by an improving Bats team.

Male OBP leader was Ed who batted 1000 (4 for 4), female leader was Anissa (3 for 4). Our only home run was a rather fortuitous one by Simon in the 7th. In the field Rich G. pitched well, Anissa did good work at 2nd, including being in the middle of a nifty double play in the 7th, and the rock hard surface lead to all the outfield getting a good workout!

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Rich G.

Bats	2	1	4	4	3	11	3	26
Tigers	0	1	3	3	2	2	6	17



21/06/23 Tigers @ Hackers

Would Rich G. arrive in time? A delayed train meant played the first inning of this game with 11 batters and a gap in the batting order but happily Rich arrived JUST in time to take his at bat in the bottom of the 2nd. Away from the off field excitement this was a reasonably comfortable win nailed down by a 9 run top of the 4th. In the 5th the Hackers would have needed to score 3 runs to keep the game going but could only manage a pair.

Oli, Simon (both 4 for 4), TK and Ed (3 for 3) all batted 1000 with Holly (3 for 4) the best of the rest. Steph and Oli claimed 1 home run apiece. In the field the whole team performed efficiently in a game that (in sharp contrast to the one the night before) was over and done with shortly after eight.

Tigers MVPs were Holly and Oli

Tigers	6	3	0	9	3	26
Hackers	4	0	0	0	2	17



28/06/23 Tigers v Mavericks II

A high scoring game in which we deserved the win. The Mavericks took a brief lead in the top of the 2nd but we were ahead again by the end of the inning and stayed in front through the rest of the game. It got close at times but this was the sort of game where batting second felt like a big plus.

Male OBP leader was Oli who went 5 for 6, Rich T. and Steph were close behind, each going 4 for 5. female leader was Bailey (4 for 6). Home Run Heroes were Oli, Rich G. and guest Grace with one apiece.

In the field the highlight was Holly's energetic display on 2nd with Steph and Rich T (aka Biscuit) doing good work in the outfield.

Tigers MVPs were Holly and Biscuit

Mavs	0	7	1	1	4	7	3	23
Tigers	4	5	3	3	7	3	X	25



12/07/23 Tigers @ Freeze

A much changed and patched together Tigers team were too good for a Freeze outfit who had two high quality 1st Division guests in their ranks. The game was nip and tuck for a long time, with only 3 runs separating the teams after 5 innings, but a 7 run top of the 6th settled the game.

Male OBP leaders were the two Riches who each batted 1000, female lead was Natasha who went 4 for 5. Home Run Heroes were Ed with one 4 base hit and Rich G with a pair.

In the field Bailey was solid on 1st, Rich G. pitched a fine game and everyone else worked hard to keep the opposition's scoring under control.

Special thanks to Natasha, Georgia and Jennifer for doubling up and playing in both games this week and also to new girl Kay who had never played softball before, and until lunchtime on the day had no idea what fate had in store for her a few hours later. Also there should perhaps be a mention of the large branch that fell to the floor near first base during our warm up - happily it didn't hit anyone but it could have done someone serious damage if it had.

Tigers MVPs were Bailey and Rich G.

Tigers	3	0	3	0	3	7	3	19
Freeze	0	0	3	1	2	2	0	8



19/07/23 Tigers @ Dodgers

Close but no cigar! The Tigers gave the unbeaten Dodgers a mighty scare in this game but in the end, despite perhaps our best performance of the season so far, we came up empty. After a tight first three innings we burst into life in the top of the 4th scoring 12 runs. Unfortunately whilst the Dodgers wobbled they didn't break and an 8 run bottom of the 5th put them right back in contention. A seven run bottom of the 6th gave them a 4 run lead and we ended up losing by 3.

OBP leader was Bailey (4 for 5) with Rich G. (3 for 4) best of the rest. Home Run heroes were Steph with 1 and Simon with a pair. In the field Simon worked hard at pitcher, Oli did a solid job at short stop, Caroline was good at 1st and at catcher Bailey recorded a satisfying tag out after a long chase back towards 3rd.

Tigers MVPs were Bailey and Simon

Tigers	3	0	3	0	3	7	3	19
Freeze	0	0	3	1	2	2	0	8



26/07/23 Tigers v Thunder 2

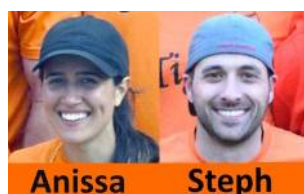
Wet, wet, wet. A Tigers team rejigged after Holly had to make a dash to A&E with Ella overcame both the weather and Thunder 2 to chalk up a narrow but well deserved win. We fell behind early, took the lead with a 6 run bottom of the 4th, were pegged back to 6-4 in the 5th but then scored 4 runs in the bottom of the 6th to secure the win despite a 3 run 2 out Thunder rally in the top of the 7th.

Male OBP leader was Ed who went 4 for 4, female lead was guest Lisa who went 2 for 3. Our only Home Run Hero was Steph with a 4 bagger in the 5th.

In the field Anissa did good work at 3rd, Oli was impressive at 2nd and Steph was king of the outfield. Ella is also fine after a bit of a scare.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Steph

Thunder 2	1	0	1	0	2	0	3	7
Tigers	0	0	6	0	0	4	X	10



02/08/23 Tigers @ Camels 2

We had a plan until we were punched in the mouth. After 5 & ½ innings we were 17-13 up, by the end of the 6th we were 26-17 down and we went 3 up 3 down in the top of the 7th. That one big inning blew open what up until then had been an even contest. We did lots of good things in the game but in the end we couldn't cope with the Camels batting power.

OBP leader was Caroline (4 for 4) who batted 1000. Best of the rest was Simon (4 for 5). Unluckiest batter was Tash who hit two beautiful line drives straight at the fielder in left centre. Despite the final score Simon pitched and fielded his position well, Sara made some nice plays in left field, catcher Tash made a nice throw to first on a mishit and everyone worked hard.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Simon

Tigers	2	4	7	0	2	2	0	17
Camels 2	3	4	2	4	0	13	X	26



09/08/23 Tigers v Titans

After a brief wobble in the top of the 1st we were strong defensively throughout this game but we struggled until (just) too late to get going with the bats and slipped to a 1 run defeat.

In field Rich pitched well, Steph was king of the outfield, Rob made a couple of nice takes in right centre and all the infield worked hard to keep things tight.

Rich and Anissa were the OBP leaders, each going 4 for 4 and Steph was our one Home Run Hero. Overall a slightly flat performance (a bit of a hangover after the weekend?) but in a perverse way it was good that we stayed so close to a strong Titans team despite not being at our best.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Steph

Titans	4	3	1	0	0	0	4	12
Tigers	0	1	2	1	0	3	4	11



16/08/23 Tigers @ Bats

Fort the second time this season the Tigers were out hit by an impressive Bats team. We came back strongly in the second half of the game but by the time we came to life we had given ourselves far too much to do with some fielding errors helping the Bats to a very large lead,

OBP leaders were Bailey and Oli who each went 4 for 5. Our Home Run Heroes were the two Riches with one four bagger apiece. In the field everyone worked hard and there were some nice plays but overall we made too many errors.

Tigers MVPs were Bailey and Simon

Tigers	3	0	0	2	8	3	2	18
Bats	3	6	0	14	3	1	X	27



23/08/23 Tigers v Hackers

We had a few defensive issues in the first couple of innings in this game but we kept our nerve and a 5 run bottom of the 3rd gave us a lead we built on steadily until darkness called an early end to the proceedings halfway through the 6th.

We had a full squad in action for this game, with 3 injured players (Sara, Caroline and TK) returning to action. The big squad meant we batted 6 and 6 and also put a couple of subs in half way through the game. Captain Dave also made a cameo appearance.

BP leaders were Steph and Oli who each went 4 for 4, with Sara and Ed (each 2 for 2) also batting 1000. Simon was our only Home Run Hero. In the field we overcame the early wobble and didn't give the Hackers a sniff after the first two innings.

Tigers MVPs were Anissa and Oli

Hackers	1	5	0	0	0	2	8
Tigers	4	0	6	6	4	X	20



Note: The scorer sheet signed off by both teams at the time was incorrect, giving the score as 19-7.



2023 Tigers League Stats

	Games	PA	OBP	HR		Games	PA	OBP	HR
Ed	14	53	698	3	Anissa	13	49	571	
Oli	13	57	789	2	Bailey	13	56	571	
Rich G.	14	52	692	4	Caroline	11	40	500	
Rich T.	12	44	636	2	Holly	13	53	528	
Rob	7	24	625		Nadia	4	14	500	
Steph	13	52	602	13	Natasha	5	19	474	
Simon	13	53	792	7	Sara	10	35	457	1
					TK	9	30	533	
Dave	1	1	0		Georgia	1	4	250	
					Jennifer	2	8	125	
					Kay	1	5	400	
					Lisa	1	3	667	
					Lou	1	4	250	
					Rhi	2	6	167	

	C	P	1	2	3	SS	LF	LC	RC	RF	EP	Sub	
Ed					3	9			1		1		14
Oli				4	5	2			1		1		13
Rich G.		11							3				14
Rich T.							1	2	7		1	1	12
Rob					2				4		1		7
Steph						5	2	6					13
Simon		4		1	1		4	1			2		13
Steve K		1											1
Dave												1	1
Anissa				6	2		1			3	1		13
Bailey	6		5		1						1		13
Caroline			2	1			2	2		3	1		11
Holly	3			3			1	1		4	1		13
Lou											1		1
Nadia	2		1							1			4
Natasha	1			1			1			1		1	5
Sara					2		4	3		1			10
TK			8								1		9
Georgia										1			1
Grace										1			1
Kay								1					1
Lisa	1												1
Jennifer	2												2
Rhi	1									1			2

Tigers League Fixtures

Date	v's	W/L	Score
26 th Apr	Mavericks II	W.	W 20-10
03 rd May	<i>rest</i>		
10 th May	Freeze	W.	23-3
17 th May	Dodgers	L	2-22
24 th May	Thunder II	W.	28-5
31 st May	Camels II	L	9-28
07 th Jun	Titans	W.	21-4
14 th Jun	Bats	L	17-26
21 st Jun	Hackers	W.	21-6
28 th Jun	Mavericks II	W.	25-22
05 th Jul	<i>rest</i>		
12 th Jul	Freeze	W.	19-8
19 th Jul	Dodgers	L	16-19
26 th Jul	Thunder II	W.	10-7
02 nd Aug	Camels II	L	17-26
09 th Aug	Titans	L	11-12
16 th Aug	Bats	L	18-27
23 rd Aug	Hackers	W.	20-8

Division 2

TEAM	P	W	T	L	F	RS	RC	PTS%
Dodgers (C)	16	15	0	1	0	328	168	.958
Camels II (P)	16	12	1	3	0	298	196	.867
Tigers	16	9	0	7	0	276	231	.708
Titans	16	9	0	7	0	264	256	.708
Mavericks II	16	8	0	8	0	281	211	.667
Thunder II	16	8	0	8	0	222	236	.667
Didsbury Bats	16	8	0	8	0	279	267	.667
Hackers (R)	16	2	0	14	0	177	329	.417
Freeze (R)	16	0	1	15	0	158	389	.354

Division 3 League campaign

25/04/23 Tiggers @ Bandidos

Bandidos were in Division 2 last year and their experience and skill shone through in this game in which the Tiggers were beaten but not disgraced. We actually didn't do that much wrong but our opponents just had too much power.

Batting highlight of the game was Natasha's lead off triple in the 2nd. In the field Steve both pitched well and fielded his position well. Matt made some nice plays at 3rd, Jenna did a god job battling the sun at 1st and Natasha showed promise at 2nd.

Georgia took a ball to the head in the warm up and had to go to A&E. Happily a bit of glue stuck her back together and she's fine!

Tigers MVPs were Natasha and Matt

Tiggers	1	1	0	0	2
Bandidos	9	2	9	4	22



02/05/23 Tiggers @ Raiders

Despite many absentees the Tiggers grabbed our first win of the season with an assured performance against an inexperienced Raiders outfit. After a scoreless first inning we gradually built up a big lead with the Raiders doing little in reply until the bottom of the 7th when they finally managed to string together some hits and a few runs, but it was a case of too little, too late for them.

Harry and Steve topped the male OBP stats, each going 6 for 6. Jennifer led the way for the women, going 4 for 5. Home Run heroes were Harry with 1 and Oli with a pair.

In the field Oli both pitched and fielded his position well. Becky and Natasha provided an effective middle infield combination, Dave did a decent job on 1st and Harry was the pick of the outfield.

It was good to have Georgia back in action after her season debut was delayed by her injury last week and Josh also played his first league game of softball.

Tigers MVPs were Natasha and Harry

Tiggers	0	2	5	0	5	2	9	23
Raiders	0	0	0	2	1	2	6	11



09/05/23 Tiggers v Thunder 4

A game of two parts for the Tiggers this week. The vast majority of the game where we were easily the better team and then the top of the 4th where Thunder put us under pressure and we didn't react well at all, chasing runners, making poor throws, and a whole series of errors. Happily we got back on track after that scare and some heavy hitting in the bottom of the 6th gave us a big lead and then the win.

Male OBP leader was Steve who went 4 for 4 (1000), Natasha led the way for the female half of the team going 3 for 4 (750). Home Run Heroes were Natasha with a Grand Slam and James with a solo homer.

In the field Steve pitched well and fielded his position well, Becky worked hard at 2nd, Michal pouched a really nice catch at short and Matt made some nice plays at third.

Tigers MVPs were Natasha and Steve

Thunder 4	1	1	2	9	0	0	2	15
Tiggers	3	0	6	2	2	7	X	20



16/05/23 Tiggers v Thunder 4

A games of 2 halves, a dismal first half that left us 1-19 down and facing an early finish and a rousing 2nd half where we gave the Screwballs a heck of a fright and with a bit more steadiness on our part may even have won.

Male OBP leaders were Steve and James who each went 5 for 5, female leads were Tasha, Lynsey and Georgia who all went 3 for 5. Home Run Hero was James with a pair of 4 baggers.

In the field Steve pitched a good game, Becky did a fine job on 2nd and Harry was the pick of the outfield with some nice catches. New boy Josh continued to improve, going 4 for 5 with the bat and working hard in the field. Special thanks are due to Tasha for risking pre-wedding bruising and helping us out in our hour of need.

Tiggers MVPs were Becky and James

Screwballs	0	4	2	13	3	5	1	28
Tiggers	1	0	0	9	6	6	0	22



23/05/23 Tiggers @ Stingers

A game when we made too many simple errors to get the win. We dropped too many catches and (after the top of the 1st) didn't hit well enough to put the Stingers under any real pressure. We did tighten up defensively in the 2nd half of the game but never looked like coming back into it.

Male OBP leaders were Michal and Matt (each 3 for 3) with Lou (2 from 3) the female leader. In the field Steve pitched well, Harry was the pick of the outfield and Becky worked hard at 2nd.

Tiggers MVPs were Becky and Harry

Tiggers	5	0	2	0	0	4	0	11
Stingers	8	0	7	2	3	0	X	20



30/05/23 Tiggers @ Barflies

Injuries and absences combined with too many simple errors meant we were well beaten in this game. Michal tore a muscle in his calf very early in the game which caused some disruption defensively as well as a lot of pain to Michal. We hit well at times but our fielding was well below par.

On a brighter note Emma made her season debut on return from injury and James also stepped in to the breach to cover for Michal, his first action (batting only) since his own injury,

Male OBP leaders were James, Josh and Aiden (all 3 for 3) plus the unfortunate Michal (1 for 1). Becky was the female lead, also going 3 for 3. In the field Dave worked hard at pitcher, Harry took a nice catch deep in the hole at short stop and Aiden took a nice running catch in the outfield.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Harry

Tiggers	2	8	5	0	1	16
Barflies	9	1	5	15	1	31



06/06/23 Tiggers v Swingers

The Tiggers went behind early but came back well to record an ultimately comfortable win with an 8 run bottom of the 5th giving us an ultimately game winning advantage.

Male OBP leader was Harry (5 for 5) with guest Caroline (4 for 4) the female lead. Steve, Natasha and Matt (all 4 for 5) were close behind. Home Run Heroes this week were Natasha and Harry with 1 apiece. In the field Steve pitcher Steve recorded a large number of assists, Becky did some nice work on 2nd, Natasha took a fine catch on 3rd and Emma and Caroline each took a fine running outfield catch.

Tiggers MVPs were Natasha and Harry

Swingers	5	0	0	3	3	0	1	12
Tiggers	2	5	3	0	8	5	X	23



13/06/23 Tiggers v Thunder 3

The Tiggers had another slow start in this game, perhaps put off by the discovery that the diamond was the wrong size! (60' sides whereas it should be 65') and despite a 7 run bottom of the 3rd we never looked like making a serious comeback.

Lynsey (3 for 3), Becky and Jennifer (each 2 for 2) all batted 1000, as did Steve (3 for 3). Our sole Home Run Hero was Lynsey. In the field Steve pitched efficiently, Harry worked hard at short stop and Becky made some nice catches in the outfield.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Harry

Thunder 3	7	7	4	3	6	27
Tiggers	1	3	7	0	0	11



20/06/23 Tiggers @ Sluggababes

A sprawling mess of a game that went on well past half past nine and in which batting second was always likely to be helpful. Initially the Sluggababes looked destined for a reasonably straightforward win but in the third and fourth innings their pitchers couldn't find the strike zone and we showed good discipline to take the walks on offer. These combined with some good hitting, and some slightly dodgy fielding on their part temporarily gave us a big lead. It was a lead we couldn't hold though with a number of fielding errors of our own, combined with some good hitting from the babes, allowing them to come back into contention and eventually (just) claim the win. Our cause wasn't helped by Emma's bad leg flaring up and then Georgia having to leave the field with back pain, forcing us to chop and change things more than once in the field.

Dave (6 for 6) headed the OBP rankings closely followed by a whole group of people who went 6 for 7. Home Run heroes were James with a pair and Matt with a Grand Slam. In the field Steve (despite the score line) actually pitched a good game, Matt made some good plays at short and all the outfielders got plenty of exercise.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Matt

Tiggers	6	4	19	8	2	2	4	45
Sluggababes	9	10	3	15	3	3	3	46



27/06/23 Tiggers v Rookies

An enjoyable game against an almost entirely male rookies team, one in which the result didn't really matter and the final score was a mystery.

James seized the chance to try out as a pitcher and put in a promising 4 innings of work before Dave came in in relief. Steve worked hard at short stop and Jennifer got some valuable experience at first. Everyone else moved round in the field and got time in both infield and outfield.

Josh was the male OBP leader, going 4 for 4. Becky (2 for 3) was the female lead. James hit our only Home Run.



04/07/23 Tiggers @ Seagulls

A well played game, the best Tiggers performance of the season so far. Not quite enough to get us that elusive first win against Division 3 opposition but hopefully a sign of better things to come. Seagulls are a big hitting team and we put in a fine defensive performance to hold them to 15 runs.

Our male batting lead was Josh, who went 3 for 3, female lead (2 for 3) was Becky. Josh was our Home Run Hero with the first (but not the last) four base hit of his career.

In the field Matt played his best game yet at short stop, Becky took a couple of nice catches at 3rd, Josh took an excellent running catch in right centre and Conor did some good work at 2nd.

Tiggers MVPs were Becky and Josh

Tiggers	0	2	0	0	2	8	0	12
Seagulls	2	0	4	0	1	8	X	15



11/07/23 Tiggers v Sluggababes

We put in another good performance in this game but again not quite good enough to get the win. Not for the first time this season an early injury meant we had to move things round in the field but despite this we managed to stay well in contention until a six run top of the 6th gave the Babes a game winning advantage.

Male OBP leader was Steve who went 4 for 4, female leaders were Lynsey, Natasha and Jen who all went 2 for 4. Our Home Run Hero was Harry with a 2 run effort in the 4th.

With the gloves Harry was king of the outfield, emergency stand in short stop Josh put in an excellent display and Steve both pitched and fielded his position well. Purple heart award goes to Becky who played on despite a badly damaged wrist and thumb.

Tiggers MVPs were Natasha and Josh

Sluggababes	2	4	1	0	6	3	0	16
Tiggers	1	2	3	2	0	2	0	10



18/07/23 Tiggers @ Thunder 3

Another close game and yet another loss. Similar to the first Sluggababes game in that we built up a big lead but then let it slip through our fingers. We played well at times but not quite consistently enough to get the W.

OBP leader was Josh who batted 1000 (5 for 5). Female lead was Lynsey who went 4 for 5. Best of the rest was Conor (also 4 for 5). Our sole Home Run hero was Josh who hit a 3 run round tripper in the top of the 7th.

In the field Harry was reliable as ever in the outfield, Lynsey did good work at 2nd, Steve pitched well and also fielded his position well and Aiden worked hard in right centre.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Harry

Tiggers	1	1	5	3	3	5	3	21
Thunder 3	2	1	4	0	1	13	1	22



25/07/23 Tiggers v Fireballs

Deja vu all over again. We held a small lead for most of this game but one bad inning cost us the win. Male batting lead was Matt (4 for 4). Female lead was shared by Lynsey and Bailey who each went 2 for 4. No Home Runs this week but Matt and Steve each hit a triple. In the field Matt again did some good work at short, Josh was pick of the outfield, Steve did his normal good job at pitcher and Lynsey made some nice plays at 2nd.

Tigers MVPs were Rachael and Matt

Fireballs	1	0	1	0	0	10	1	13
Tiggers	1	3	0	0	1	4	0	9



01/08/23 Tiggers v Seagulls

We worked hard defensively in this game, played on a miserably damp pitch 7. but our bats never really got going and the Seagulls gradually pulled into a commanding lead which we never looked like overhauling.

OBP leaders were Steve (4 for 4) and Josh (3 for 3). In the field Josh was the standout performer in the outfield. James worked hard at short stop, Steve pitched well and Dave recorded a large number of outs on 1st.

Tigers MVPs were Lynsey and James

Seagulls	4	1	2	0	3	4	2	17
Tiggers	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	4



08/08/23 Tiggers v Bandidos

Tiggers put in a spirited performance against the Bandidos before going down to a 6 run defeat. It was nip and tuck in the first half of the game. The scores were tied at 11 after 4 innings but a 5 run top of the 5th and a rearrangement in the field that tightened up their defence gave the Bandidos a winning advantage. James was the OBP leader on the night going 4 for 4. Rachael was best of the rest with 3 walks (3 for 4 overall). Conor was our Home Run Hero and had a couple of other nice hits. New girl Amy hit the ball hard and recorded her first hit.

James worked hard at short stop, Steve pitched well, Georgia took a nice catch in left, Harry bossed centre field and Conor showed some nice touches at 2nd. Overall it was an encouraging performance and it was good to welcome Amy to the fold.

Tigers MVPs were Amy and James

Bandidos	3	6	2	0	5	0	3	19
Tiggers	4	3	0	4	1	1	0	13



15/08/23 Tiggers @ Screwballs

Tiggers put in a really good defensive performance in this game but we couldn't score enough runs to grab the win.

OBP leaders were Matt (3 for 3) and Conor (2 for 2), Lynsey (1 for 3) was the female lead. In the field Steve pitched and fielded his position well. Matt had a good game at short topped by a spectacular catch of a line drive. Lynsey did some good work at second and everyone else contributed to a good team performance in the field.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Steve

Tiggers	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Screwballs	0	3	2	0	2	0	X	7



22/08/23 Tiggers v Stingers

As so often this season we were good enough to keep the score respectable in this game but never seriously looked like getting the win. Six runs in the top of the 3rd gave the Stingers a comfortable lead that they never really looked like losing.

OBP leader was Josh who went 4 for 4, female lead was Rachael (2 for 4). Becky hit the ball hard but with no luck at all. In the field stand outs were Simon, who pitched a good game and Michal who after looking understandably rusty early on made some nice plays at short in his return after 10 weeks away injured.

The game was also Michal's last, he's decided to hang up his glove, he's made a valuable contribution to the Tiggers over the last two seasons and it's a shame injury cost him so much playing time this year.

Tiggers MVPs were Lynsey and Michal

Stingers	1	3	6	0	4	2	2	18
Tiggers	2	0	1	2	3	0	2	10



Tiggers squad Stats

	Games	PA	OBP	HR		Games	PA	OBP	HR
Aiden	13	45	489		Amy	3	9	111	
Conor	12	39	564	1	Becky	12	46	326	
Dave	11	34	588		Emma	4	19	526	
Harry	14	58	707	4	Georgia	13	53	302	
James	7	29	828	6	Jenna	8	23	217	
Josh	10	40	750	2	Jennifer	12	45	422	
Matt	8	31	806		Lynsey	15	63	540	1
Michal	5	14	786		Natasha	11	48	563	2
Steve	15	65	769		Rachael	8	30	467	
Oli	1	5	800		Bailey	1	4	500	
Simon	1	4	750		Caroline	2	7	571	
					Lou	2	6	667	

	C	P	1	2	3	SS	OF	EP	Sub
Aiden				1	3		8		12
Conor				3	1		7		12
Dave		1	8					2	11
James						3	2		7
Josh						1	9		10
Harry						1	12		14
Matt					2	5	1		8
Michal						5			5
Steve		14			1				15
Oli		1							1
Simon		1							1
Amy							3		3
Becky				5	4	2	1		12
Emma							3	1	4
Georgia							12	1	13
Jenna	1		6					1	8
Jennifer	10		1		1				12
Lou					1		1		2
Lynsey	1		2	6			6		15
Natasha				2	3		6		11
Rachael	3				1		4		8
Bailey							1		1
Caroline	2						1		3

Tiggers Division 3 league fixtures

Date	v's	W/L	Score
25 th Apr	Bandidos	L	2-22
02 nd May	Raiders	W	23-11
09 th May	Thunder IV	W	20-15
16 th May	Screwballs	L	22-28
23 rd May	Stingers	L	11-20
30 th May	Barflies	L	15-31
06 th Jun	Swingers	W	23-12
13 th Jun	Thunder III	L	11-27
20 th Jun	Sluggababes	L	45-46
27 th Jun	<i>Rookies</i>		n/a
04 th Jul	Seagulls	L	12-15
11 th Jul	Sluggababes	L	10-16
18 th Jul	Thunder III	L	21-22
25 th Jul	Enforcers	L	9-13
01 st Aug	Seagulls	L	4-17
08 th Aug	Bandidos	L	13-19
15 th Aug	Screwballs	L	2-7
22 nd Aug	Stingers	L	10-18

Final Division 4 table

Team	P	W	T	L	F	GB
Sluggababes (C)	15	13	0	2	0	—
Screwballs (P)	15	9	0	6	0	4
Tiggers (P)	14	9	0	6	0	4
Barflies	15	7	0	8	0	6
Thunder IV	14	6	0	8	0	—
Swingers *	14	4	0	10	0	2 $\frac{2}{3}$
Raiders	14	3	0	11	0	3

*Penalised for fielding unregistered players



Tournaments

North West 1



The Tigers had an up and down, or more accurately down and up time at the North West 1 tournament. After the 4 game round robin we were bottom of the pile but we won two play off games to claim a place in the final before going down to a narrow, more than respectable defeat against the Bats.

Our first game, against the same Bats team, had been somewhat more one sided. We looked very rusty. We should probably have won our second game but the Stingers snatched it with a two out 7 run rally in the last inning. After an hour off we then suffered two more defeats but looked much better as a team than we had in the early going.

In the play-offs we started with a rematch against the Stingers, this followed a similar pattern to our earlier encounter, we took a large lead, they came back at the end but this time we just held on for the win. That gave us a second game against the (first place) Coyotes. In a bad tempered game, in which Becky was cleaned out at second base by a dangerous slide, we showed admirable discipline at the plate and walked our way to a very satisfying win. In the final the Bats took an early lead but we showed a lot more fight than we had in the morning and gave them a fright before going down to a narrow defeat.

Simon (667) was the male OBP leader with Conor (614) in second place. Georgia (600) was the female lead followed by Becky (545). Home Run Heroes were Matt and Simon with one apiece.

Tournament MVPs were Simon and Georgia.

Bats	L 1-25
Stingers	L 12-13
Camels II	L 4-8
Coyotes	L 4-9
Stingers	W 10-8
Coyotes	W 8-7
Bats	L 4-6





Firstball



The Tigers had a tough old time of it in some ways at Firstball, we only chalked up one win and a couple of ties to show for our efforts, but we also lost some close games that could have gone our way with a bit more luck and there were some good personal performances along the way.

On Saturday a loss to the impressive schoolkids of the Rockets was followed by a fightback to grab the tie against Freeze. We then grabbed the win in the grudge match against the Coyotes, lost a tight one against Thunder 3 and then let the win against Maelstrom slip through our fingers ending up with a tie.

On Sunday we lost another close group game against Camels before hanging around to find our next opponents. Our one win turned out to give us 4th place in a 7 team group! So we found ourselves playing old foes the Bobcats. This was perhaps our best performance of the weekend, we kept it close for a long time before they pulled away. We rounded off the proceedings with 2 close but not close enough performances against Stingers and a rematch against Camels before retiring to the Bridge to recover.

Oli was the male OBP leader followed by Steve and ED. Bailey was the female lead followed by Emma with Becky and Lou tied in 3rd. Home Run Leader was Ed with 3, Oli also claimed a 4 bagger. In the field Steve pitched well on Saturday with Oli shouldering most of the work on Sunday, (though Dave came out of retirement to do one game). Everyone worked hard and we made some nice plays along the way.

Overall we had an enjoyable, if none too successful time. Most importantly lots of people got some valuable playing time under their belts before the start of the league season. In particular it was good to see Holly and TK back in action after long lay-offs.

Tournament MVPs were Oli and Bailey.

Rockets	L. 3-9
Freeze	T. 10-10
Coyotes	W. 12-9
Thunder 3	L. 5-8
Maelstrom	T. 11-11
Camels 2	L. 9-11
Bobcats	L. 5-13
Stingers	L. 12-14
Camels 2	L. 7-11







Captains' Tournament report - Leeds



Saturday

Our first game saw the Tigers taught a batting masterclass by the United Nations who scored Heavily against us with an opening salvo of 9 in the 1st to which we replied with 3 of our own including a HR for Harry. Oli struggled finding the length at pitcher probably due to rustiness of not pitching much this season. United Nations added 8 in the 2nd with no reply to take the game out of reach of the tigers who had a taste of how difficult silver may be.

The heavens opened and a Thunderstorm cancelled our second game against the aptly named Drizzle (part of Manchester Thunder) resulting in a 7-7 draw.

A delayed start against our next opponents Pimlico pirates saw us bat deep in the 1st as we racked up 5 runs which our opponents managed to match. Simon hit a fine HR in the 2nd but we couldn't follow it up with any more runs. In a close fought game, the pirates edged it 14-13 to hand the Tigers another loss. Our final game of the day pitted the Tigers against Cardiff a low scoring wet and tired Tigers who just couldn't seem to get the bats going despite managing a late 4th innings rally in which Simon bagged his 2nd HR of the day, it wasn't quite enough as we went down to another defeat.

United Nations	L. 8-23
Drizzle (rained out)	n/a
Pirates	L. 13-14
Cardiff	L. 7-11
UoN	L. 9-10
Oxford Foxes	L. 5-13
Pyros	W. 11-1
SF: Pyros (leading 11-9 but RB)	L. 3-9

Sunday

A lovely sunny day after the previous day's thunderstorms saw Tigers with a late start up against the youthful University of Nottingham. The youngsters came out of the blocks early with an 8 run 1st innings Despite outscoring them in the next 2 innings including a HR from Ed it wasn't enough to record the W as the Tigers went down 10-8.

Oxford Foxes were our second opponents of the day, once again the bats were cold despite HRs from Dan and Bailey, we managed a record our lowest offensive score of the weekend with just 5. Consistent hitting into the gaps by the Foxes was the difference as they put up 13 runs despite pitcher Rich's best efforts. The scoreline not reflective of the efforts put in by our defence.

The final game of the Round robin was The Pyros in which the Tigers sleeping bats sprang to life. Dan bagging his 2nd HR and Rich's superb pitching the highlights of our best performance of the weekend. left us in last place going into the SF round.

Leeds



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SF: Pyros (leading 11-9 but RB)	L. 3-9

SEMI FINAL

The draw saw the Tigers pitted against the Pyros (again). Confidence was high after the win against them an hour earlier. A new Pyros pitcher started with a 0 then their bats hit 5 giving us a hill to climb. The next 2 innings saw fine defensive work from both sides keeping the scoring low. With time running out the Tigers started the 4th innings 6 runs behind and rose magnificently to the challenging by batting round the order an amassing 8 runs with a HR from Guest Ash (Drizzle).

Despite the best efforts of Rich Pitching a fine game a getting a quick out we ran out of time and the score rolled back to the last completed innings giving the Pyros a revenge win and sending the Tigers home.

Captains Comments.

Huge thanks to Bailey for finding guests for all our games, needed due to a last-minute drop out through injury (get well soon TK). Thanks to all the players on both days for your efforts and laughter all weekend it was a real pleasure to captain the side you made it easy with your willingness to score, sit out or DH. The biggest lesson is we can't give teams big leads in timed games, it makes it too difficult to claw back. Some close games we were unlucky to lose. Other than the 1st game against the United Nations and the one against the Foxes we were competitive in all of them, little thing make big differences.

Stats corner.

OBP leaders were Simon and Natasha. Home Run Heroes were Ed (1), Harry (1), Simon (2), Dan (2), Bailey (1) and guest Ash (1).

Tournament MVPs were Simon and Bailey.



Report by tournament captain Steve.





North West 3



The Tigers has an enjoyable day at a rain soaked NW3 tournament. The first game was a see saw affair against the Screwballs with Ed's 3 run homer grabbing a walk off win. A tight second game went the way of the Coyotes before we suffered two larger loses to the Dales and a comp player heavy Bats team. Our last game was a tight affair with some good defensive play on both sides with Ed's second Home Run of the day again playing a large role in our win. We ended the day in a three way tie for fourth place.

Screwballs	W. 10-9
Coyotes	L. 5-7
Dales	L. 4-11
Bats	L. 0-14
Stingers	W. 4-2

Our batting stand out was Ed who topped the OBP table (750) and also hit our only 2 Home Runs. Female OBP leader was Tasha (571). In the field Steve was his normal reliable self at pitcher with Oli also doing a solid job in his one game. Oli and Ed did a fine job in the infield, Harry was the pick of the outfield, Georgia showed her versatility in both infield and outfield and Dave rolled back the years in his one game in the field recording a large number of outs at first in our final game. Thanks to guests Abbie, Martine and Rhi for playing for us. The whole team had an enjoyable day despite the awful weather.

Tournament MVPs were Ed and Tasha.



Natasha **Ed**





Manchester Tournament



Bobcats	T. 7-7
Game of Throws	T. 11-11
Bolts	W. 12-4
Fokkers	L. 7-17
Hackers	W. 10-6
Barflies	W. 19-5
Raiders	W. 13-0
QF: Camels II	W. 13-12
SF: Famille Casling	L. 9-10 (AEI)

The Tigers put in a series of impressive performances at the Manchester tournament before losing a heartbreaker semi final in extra innings. The tournament was also memorable for the weather, absolutely vile on Saturday, then much better on Sunday except for during our quarter final game when for a while it was if anything even wetter than on the Saturday (see photo above).

On Saturday we started with not one but two tied games against old foes the Bobcats and a strong London based Game of Throw team. Next up were two Scottish teams with a routine win against the Bolts followed by our worst performance of the weekend in defeat against the Fokkers. Final game ODF the day (or evening) was another routine win against the Hackers.

Sunday was a game of two halves, big wins against Barflies and Raiders in the morning and then, after a nearly 3 hour gap, two tight well played games, the first a one run win against the Camels that gave us some small measure of revenge for our league game a few days before, the second an even tighter affair against Famille Casling where we came back from 3 runs back to tie the game in the final inning only to lose on an enormous home run in extra innings.

Simon (852) was male OBP leader with Josh deserving an honourable mention, close behind on 850. Bailey and Caroline (667) shared the female lead. In the field everyone worked hard, all the pitchers did good work, Anissa impressed on 3 and Josh and Rich did good work in the outfield.



Tournament MVPs were Bailey and Simon







Tournament Batting Stats

	Games	PA	OBP	HR		Games	PA	OBP	HR
Aiden	10	17	412		Anissa	8	22	545	
Conor	15	29	621		Bailey	26	71	577	1
Dave	8	10	500		Becky	17	34	500	
Ed	19	46	717	6	Caroline	18	40	475	
Harry	19	41	659	1	Emma	4	9	667	
James	10	20	550	3	Georgia	12	22	500	
Josh	9	20	850		Holly	8	19	263	
Matt	7	15	467		Jenna	12	22	318	
Oli	22	56	750	1	Jennifer	28	57	421	
Rich G.	8	21	667		Lou	5	12	500	
Rich T.	15	35	600	3	Natasha	26	62	484	
Simon	26	71	789	7	TK	4	8	500	
Steve	27	61	639						



End of season awards

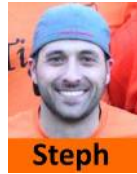
Male

Female

Tigers batting champion



Tigers home run champion



Tiggers batting champion



Tiggers home run champion



Tournament batting champion



Tournament home run champion



Tigers players' player



Tiggers players' player



Tigers captain's player



Tiggers captain's player



