## Women's Report

The EBC Women's baseball program grew from the previous season where we fielded teams in Division 1 and Division 2 growing from the 2014-15 seasons where we fielded teams in Division 1 and Division 3. Early in the season we even considered a 3<sup>rd</sup> team as we had around 30 potential players on the list. We were fortunate to gain several new players from Bundoora, Jess, Rachael, Danny, Claire & Robbo. We also had some new girls that had never played before join our team, Michelle, Liz and Isabella. Also the development of all players including our juniors, Izzy and Zoe who travelled down from Bendigo to play.

This all culminated in us taking the next step on the field playing off in the Grand Final against women's powerhouse Springvale. Our team performed excellently jumping Springy going to a 4-1 lead but unfortunately we couldn't hold on for the win. They say you have to lose one to win one, so next year we are aiming high.

#### **EBC Women's Achievements:**

#### State Representation.

I would like to recognise Leslie Anglin, Emma French, Bronwyn Gell, Abbey Kelly & Georgia Page who represented Victoria in winning the silver medal at the National Championships.

# National Women's squad selection.

I would also like to congratulate Leslie Anglin, Bronwyn Gell & Abbey Kelly, who have been selected in the Australian Women's baseball squad. I wish them all the best in being selected in the Australian Team for the Women's World Baseball Cup being held in South Korea in September this year.

# Australian Under 18 Team selection.

Congratulations to Emma French and Abbey Kelly for their selection in the Australian Women's Under 18 team that played in Hong Kong earlier this year.

#### The Division 1 award winners:

Coaches Award - Danni Teasdale:

Danni had a great season for the club. We were fortunate to gain Danni's services from the Bundoora club this year. Danni was a stand out with her commitment to training and her game developed accordingly. She started the season in the 2nds and progressed to the 1sts where she performed excellently getting us a crucial hit in a tough situation in the grand final.

Batting Award - Bronwyn Gell: Average 0.634 - Also winning the League batting award.

MVP - Bronwyn Gell: This season I asked the umpires to award our team MVP votes. Winner Bronwyn Gell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Abbey Kelly, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vibs Pedersen, 4<sup>th</sup> Emma French,

# I would like to thank.

Rob Gell, my assistant coach and EBC Div 2 team coach, also congratulations on your selection as Victorian Under 16 Youth Women's Coach. Sharon Gell for scoring, Brad French, Team manager, Sharon Gell, Women's Co-Ordinator, Brad & Sandra French, Sharon and all players who helped in the canteen and Tony Cornish and the EBC committee, for their continued support of women's baseball.

### Col Penny Coach - Women's Division 1

Our Division 2 team that stepped up from Division 3 the previous year struggled a little to be competitive early in the season but improved every week to where post Christmas we defeated Doncaster, a top 4 side twice, lost to the premiers Melbourne in the last innings after leading all day and drew with minor premiers Springvale 15 all in a high quality game we deserved to win.

Every team member should be very proud of the way they developed as baseballers this season. By the season's end they were playing a consistent, high quality, team oriented and aggressive brand of baseball, all whilst maintaining a great attitude.

# The Division 2 award winners:

### Coaches Award:

Mary Vanselow, who was a regular at training and her game, reflected this.

Mary's leadership qualities showed out this year where she took the lead in pregame preparation, displaying and promoting good team baseball habits to her teammates.

Mary enthusiastically took on the role of EBC Women's Liaison person where she will act as a link between the women's program and the club at large. Her work will hopefully help to integrate the men's and women's, promoting a healthy and united future.

Batting Award - Two Winners, both batting .500. Danny Teasdale & Brighde McGrath.

Brighde, a first year player with a cricket background, could have a bright future in baseball as she develops further.

Danny, joined EBC from the Bundoora club this season. Danny was deservedly promoted to our Division one team later in the season.

MVP - Also two winners, Teesha Gardiner and Brighde McGrath.

Teesha, back to back MVP awards for EBC. Has a huge heart and gives 110%. Teesha can play anywhere on the field, turning her hand to catching this season.

Brighde, her first summer season of baseball polled votes most weeks either as a developing pitcher or a powerful hitter, hitting several home runs.

# I would like to thank.

Col Penny our Women's Head Coach for the enormous amount of time and effort he contributed putting together and coordinating a fantastic program that saw our Division 1 team play in the Grand Final.

Tony Cornish and the EBC committee, for their continued support of women's baseball, Brad French (Team manager), Sharon Gell (Women's co-Ordinator), Sharon Gell & Sandra French (Canteen) and Jackie Garvin (Scoring).

Rob Gell Coach – Women's Division Two