



Eastern Suburbs Junior Baseball League Inc.

Office: 55 Caley St, Chifley NSW 2036 Mobile 0402 350 971

2024 Presidents Report H D Twaddell

Since Spring 2023 I have had the great privilege of being President of this club for another season. Our hard-working Volunteers along with our enthusiastic members have helped make sure the year was a success both on and off the field. It has been one of the most successful seasons in my memory. There has been lots of work put in by many and has helped ensure the sport and club is growing locally.

Highlights of the Club year has included:

- Councillors, & Council Support of the extended Lighting Hours at Chifley Sports Reserve.
- Support of BNSW in establishing a dedicated Women's Program at Eastern Suburbs.
- Dolphins Women's Managers & Players to form the most successful club in BNSW Competition.
- Dolphins Little League Majors Manager, Coaches and Players winning the Premiership in CSJBA.
- Dolphins Minor League winning the CSMLBA Club Championship for the first time in our history.

Personally, I was thrilled to witness the engagement of so many in the success of the club, and the sport. To see the efforts of coaches and other volunteers giving all they could to make the most of the opportunities we have been afforded was thrilling.

The new Women's program was obviously a thrill to be a part of even on the edges. The players did themselves and our club proud. Both teams played like the Champions they are all season. If it wasn't for representative commitments, I am sure they would have finished 1st in the regular season but they achieved that in the post season coming away Champions in Both Divisions!

So many of our ladies at our club were going above, and beyond with involvement in Barclay Cup, All Girls Little League, and National Championships. A National Championships where they were denied the opportunity to play for the Gold medal due to rain but brought home the Silver for NSW. The hours these Champions of our sport put in is to be admired. They are the gold standard of our sport.

Of course, I must mention the fantastic accomplishment of Troy Vigil and his team of supporters in steering our wonderful Little League Majors team to a CSJBA Championship victory. These players have achieved the greatest result for our club since Alex Prado led our U17's 1st Division to the Championship in 2010. In fact, if you take into account the prestige attached to the Majors division today as part of the LLWS, I will say this is an even greater accomplishment. Well done, Champions!

Our Minor League achievement in winning the club Championship last summer was our first in club history. Sadly, our teams couldn't win through to take the Championship, but they proved throughout the season just what a force they were to be reckoned with. The result was a silver lining to a sad departure from the club with Diego Real relocating to be with his fiancé in Melbourne. One of the greatest players and men that I have had the privilege to know. We will all miss his smiling face and amazing talent at the club.

I want to call out all our volunteers that have contributed to this fantastic year, in particular our executive and the growing group of administrative volunteers that has seen the integrity of the organisation improve as the club was outgrowing its existing administrative structure to meet the needs and expectations of our community and needed the more hands that people have provided.

We have a new website, we have outstanding Social Media, we now have an apparel committee and Volunteers are working to try and address Sponsorship opportunities that we may be missing. Thank you all for making this happen.

Our Club Founder has taken a leave of absence at the field this season for personal reasons. It was unavoidable but we are all looking forward to Daryl being back at the Chifley soon. Daryl is still doing the heavy lifting with the Players registration system. Kathy is, as usual, doing the heavy lifting with running our canteen and Peter has been the leader in keeping the Fields ready for play. Sincerely thank you all for your contribution to our club. All of our Volunteers have walked the walk in making our team off the field a success. And thank you to my darling Alison for putting up with my passion for our club and sport.

Finally, I want to remind all parents to cherish your children but encourage them to develop resilience. They need to know things will not always go their way. We never know what the future holds for them. While we have to give them love and support, we can never forget we will someday have to give them their freedom, as much as we will want to keep them under our protective wings. Our only comfort then will be to know that we did our best. We didn't stifle their growth. We encouraged learning, resilience and problem solving. And God willing that will be enough to see them thrive.

Thank you all for your support this last year. I hope you too feel optimistic about the future. There is a lot to be optimistic about because of many of you and what you bring to your community. So, thank you again and good luck in our next season on the Diamond.

Henry Twaddell , Club President