

Hello everyone

The season proper for all the “live-ball” competitions (under 11 to under 17) is now completed and we will be moving into the semi-finals next weekend – congratulations to everyone for a very successful season – with all Hawkesbury’s live-ball teams making the play-offs.

Good luck to everyone as we move through the finals series over the next 3 weeks.

There is no specific science behind how semi-finals are allocated so we will simply need to wait for the draws to come out to see where and when each of the teams is drawn to play next Saturday.

At the last Hills Juniors meeting it was agreed by all delegates that Hawkesbury Baseball Club will host all the Grand Finals (except Under 17/1’s) on Saturday 16 March, 2013 at Bensons Lane.

The idea here is that the morning has lots of atmosphere with some 18 teams playing – so say 200 kids – at least that number again if 1 parent attends the games but experience has shown us from previous grand final events we have hosted that not only parents, but also grand-parents, siblings and others also come to watch the grand finals – depending on the weather we probably end up with well over 500 people at Bensons Lane over the four (4) hours of the finals.

We have amongst the cheapest fees in the competition (juniors & seniors) and the funds which come from the grand final day go a long way to helping us operate a Club with cheap fees while still updating the gear in the kits and make ground improvements etc.

To make such a day successful we will as usual be relying on people being able to volunteer to help with such things as – ground preparation for an afternoon or two before the 16th, ground maintenance on the 16th itself (set up early, remarking between the early and late games and packing up at the end), people to help at the BBQ’s, which will be set up at the pergola area, and people to serve in the canteen.

Ideally, with enough helpers we would look at selling some drinks/slushie’s separate to the canteen....

Obviously the more people who are able to volunteer the better chance we have of hosting a successful morning and we can keep the time you are assisting down to a minimum – experience has shown us that we could use say 3 grounds staff on the day, 4 on the BBQ at all times – so at least 8 people for this over the 5 hours we will be operating – a couple more would be good however – and probably 6 to 8 for the canteen.

If you have children in the grand finals that day – and I’m optimistic that will be ALL our teams – obviously you will be watching your game but hopefully that places you in the perfect position to help us either for an hour before your game (while the kids are warming up) or after their game for a while.

So if everyone can consider their availability to assist on the 16th March that would be great – you might then let me know whether you can or can’t assist and I’ll note down some numbers so that I know we are tracking towards having sufficient people on board for the day.

By the way parking will become very hectic – the car park will fill up and cars will park on the side of the main road almost from the softball area all the way down towards the cricket area – so I’d suggest

you arrive early (and help or watch early games) if you want a good parking spot.

Fingers crossed now that the weather improves from what we have been having lately!

Finally, we could use a few extra fold-up tables for the morning – for scorers tables, BBQ area, slushie's etc – if anyone has a table or two we could borrow you might let me know.

Cheers,
Rod