

EXTRA INNINGS
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WRITTEN BY CHARLIE WHALLEY

Last Weeks Recap!

Last week we held our last training session before the 2023 season starts. We were pleased to see new faces at Childwall Sports and Science Academy, who looked to have great talent as they picked up the bat... some for the very first time.

David Martin Baez looked after the new players for the first hour, taking them aside to teach them the fundamentals of softball, while **Keith Altena** held a mash-up game for the rest of the players.

After the training session finished a handful of players went to our usual venue on a Monday night, The Fiveways Wetherspoons pub.

We would like to remind people that we will be having post match drinks after the game/training at the Fiveways Wetherspoons pub down the road. This is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow softball players off the field and build friendships that last a lifetime. Additionally, members from our committee will be at the pub if you have any questions or recommendations!

This Weeks Fixture

This week we see the first fixture of the 2023 season. Sefton Sharks are hosting Liverpool Trojans and it's difficult to predict who will come out on top!

We are predicting a close game, but anything can happen...

Find out more on this weeks upcoming fixture later on!



TROJANS



SHARKS

TRAINING SESSION SUCCESS

Last week we welcomed five new players to our training session ahead of the new season! **Lydia, Rachel, Ellie, Chloe** and **Paul** all started off our session with some fundamental training with Trojans' Captain **David Martin Baez**. They covered the basics of throwing, catching and batting, and then participated in a mash-up game held by **Keith Altena** at the end! It's safe to say they got the swing of things quickly, with each player hitting some incredible shots well over the infield!

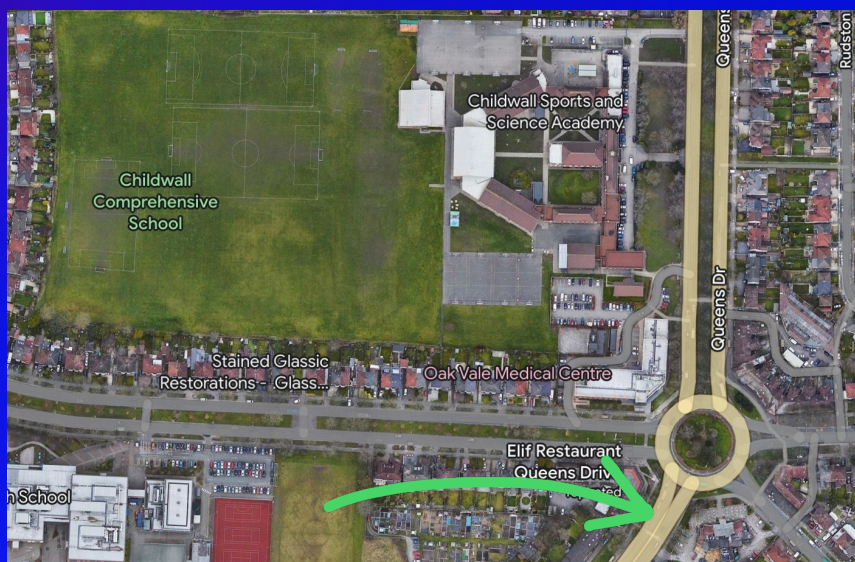
It was great to see players trying out some new positions in the mash-up game too! **Rolf Groth** pitched the last inning of the game, initially striking out the first batter! We had the privilege of witnessing "The Rolf", where a pitch practically towered into the stratosphere before it came shooting down and landed just behind the plate! The pitch was called illegal but it was fun to watch! It made a giggle, including Rolf himself.

We saw **Carlos Dos Ramos** bat the opposite way round, **Dave** tried some new pitching techniques, and our new players make some excellent throws from the outfield! It was great to see so many new things occurring at once on Monday night, and we hope we can keep this going! We love new faces and are still welcoming anyone to come and join in on Monday nights at Childwall Sports and Science Academy, from 18:30 onwards!

After training had finished, a small bunch of players went down to the Fiveways Pub for a quick drink and a chat! The weather was perfect for sitting outside, watching the sun go down with a cold drink and talking about all sorts. Anyone is welcome to come down to the Wetherspoons and join us for a drink and a chat with your fellow softballers!

We would like to thank all of the 25+ players who showed up to training last week, and we look forward to seeing you all in the upcoming season!

See below where the Fiveways Pub is! If you're unsure where to go, ask us for directions!





TROJANS @ SHARKS PREVIEW

2022 Final League Position: Sharks 1st, Trojans 3rd

Captains: Sharks - Stephen Shearer, Trojans - David Martin Baez

Players: Sharks 14 (8 BBH, 6 SBH), Trojans 12 (8 BBH, 4 SBH)

Last Meeting: Trojans 5 - 16 Sharks

Last Meeting MVPs: Sharks - Kate Shearer, Lee Kendrick-Walker
Trojans - Jess, David Martin Baez

Last year, it's safe to say that the Sharks dominated their season, winning nearly all of their games. This year, they are looking to do the same and they want to get off to a great start against the Trojans! The Sharks have lost some good players since last August, but have been turning up to the indoor season and developing their skills both individually, and as a team.

The Trojans, who are a recently formed team, have recruited some talented players in the offseason and want to get their revenge. The Trojans finished bottom of the League last season, but are aiming higher in 2023.

With the game only a few days away, it's time to start looking forward to the first pitch of the 2023 season! For those who aren't playing, we are still hosting a training session at our venue, where any new players are welcome to join us! Please find timing details below:

6:30pm arrival | 7pm First Pitch | 8:30pm No new innings | 9pm Site cleared

Pitch space is available for the resting team to train and any newcomers.

We're always looking for new players and the potential to add a 4th team, so if the resting team are training, beginners or new players can come to that session.

Trojans' 2023 Preview

The 2023 season will be the start of the Trojans' second full year in the league. Last year had been a successful season in terms of player retention and player feedback.

The results may not have looked very successful with only one win however in the context of playing far more experienced teams which larger squads and having an injury to Paul Colton our biggest hitter and pitcher, I was happy with the season.

This year we have retained most of our players with the exception of Paul and Hollie who have signed for the Seagulls and the Sharks respectively as the league redistributed players in the preseason draft. In return we have picked up: Karthik, whose performances in both the Liverpool Shield and Manchester League has wowed all with his bat and glove; Mel who joined us through our league rookie recruitment during the offseason and has taken to the game well with a naturally good arm and bat; and finally Lou, an experienced softball player with Manchester league experience and an exciting signing for us.

Our retained players are Dan, Ian FS, Ian W, Jermie, Pete and Rolf on the Big Ball side, giving us lots of experience. The small ball hitters are Di and Gina; Di who continues to develop well and Gina who brings experience and a good stick at the plate. We're looking at acquiring a couple more small ball hitters, hopefully in the next couple of weeks.

Playing in a 3 team league and having trained with the other players during the off-season we know our opponents very well. The Sharks will bring an organised and experienced team with Jay, Lee, Meg and the Shearers being their key players. The Seagulls look strong as well with lots of hitting through Sophie, Carl, Keith and the smart pitching from Arthur.

Written by David Martin Baez

PLAYER FOCUS!

Name: David Martin Baez

Current team: Liverpool Trojans

Previous Team: Sefton Sharks

Experience: 7 years Softball, 32 years Baseball

Position played: Pitcher, SS, 3B, any!

This year's goal: For the Liverpool Trojans my main goal is for everyone to enjoy playing Softball, develop as players, have good team spirit and hopefully win some games!

Best thing about softball: Inclusivity, very few sports where so many diverse people can play on the same field regardless of gender, age, athletic ability and experience.



Funniest moment: The funniest moment for me personally is where an unnamed Trojan players trousers partially fell down running to first base last season. I think a belt has been acquired now but it was extremely funny to watch!

MLB team: Seattle Mariners

A rare picture but we can see young Dave in the picture above taken in the early stages of his Baseball/Softball career!

See Dave in action in the picture opposite as he pitches for the Trojans to victory at Liverpool Shield 2023!

Next week find our Player Focus on Trojans SBH, Gina Amos!

Sefton Sharks 2023 Roster

SBH: Kate Shearer, Gemma Wallace, Jo Dyer, Meg Bankier, Hollie Glennie, Jenny Douglas.

BBH: Stephen Shearer, Charlie Whalley, Jay Stevens, Chris Jones, David Allen, Terry Brennan, Lee Kendrick-Walker, Will Leszki.

Liverpool Trojans 2023 Roster

SBH: Di Martin Baez, Gina Amos, Lou Gape, Mel Byrne.

BBH: Dan Groves, David Martin Baez, Ian Ferguson-Smith, Ian Williams, Jermie Tucker, Karthik Manjunath, Pete Smullen, Rolf Groth.

Southport Seagulls 2023 Roster

SBH: Sophie Temple, Aly Jones, Yolie Bendall, Estelle Speers, Gabrielle Dos, Grace Williams, Anna Morris-Goldson.

BBH: Matt Thomas, Arthur Hung, Carl Roy, Keith Altena, Ray Walker, Josh Walker, Oscar Marenco, Tony Alphonse, Aaron McKenna.

JOIN US! COME AND PLAY SOFTBALL



SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL IS A FUN, FRIENDLY CO-ED SPORT.
COME ALONG, MEET NEW PEOPLE AND LEARN THE GAME
ALL LEVELS WELCOME
FIRST THREE SESSIONS FREE FOR NEWCOMERS

**TRAINING AND COACHING
ON MONDAY'S AT 6:30PM**
CHILDWALL SPORTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
QUEENS DR, LIVERPOOL L15 6XZ.
PARKING AVAILABLE ON SITE

TO JOIN CONTACT: LSISOFTBALL@GMAIL.COM OR DM US ON INSTAGRAM OR FACEBOOK @LSISOFTBALL



The Pitch

Parking

Entrance

Exit

THIS SEASONS FIXTURES

DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY
5th JUNE	7PM	TRAINING	
12th JUNE	7PM	SHARKS	TROJANS
19th JUNE	7PM	TROJANS	SEAGULLS
26th JUNE	7PM	SEAGULLS	SHARKS
3rd JULY	7PM	TRAINING	
10th JULY	7PM	TROJANS	SHARKS
17th JULY	7PM	SEAGULLS	TROJANS
24th JULY	7PM	SHARKS	SEAGULLS
31st JULY	7PM	SHARKS	TROJANS
7th AUGUST	7PM	TROJANS	SEAGULLS
14th AUGUST	7PM	SEAGULLS	SHARKS
21st AUGUST	7PM	END OF SEASON PARTY	

2023 TABLE

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAW	LOST	POINTS	R/S	R/C	%
SEAGULLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHARKS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TROJANS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Did you know...

The Liverpool Trojans were formed by demobilised servicemen in 1946 and they got the name the Trojans from The Higsons' beer, Trojan, a favoured drink that they drank after games in the Halton Castle pub in West Derby.

The Trojan Softball Team was formally started in 2021 and entered the Liverpool League officially in 2022. It was an offshoot from the Trojans Baseball club. The Trojans have won trophies at the last two Liverpool Shields that they have competed in; the Trophy in 2022 and the Spoon in 2023.

Written by David Martin Baez

Next Week

Next week we will show off our first match report of the season, as well as introduce our Homerun table, MVP tally and find out more about Trojans' SBH, Gina Amos. Who will come out on top in the seasons inaugural game? Will the Trojans perform an underdog win, or will the Sharks retain their winning streak against the Trojans?

Until next week, give our social media a follow, take a look at our website and get yourself down to our sessions every Monday night at Childwall Sports and Science academy from 7pm onwards.

Contact

Email - lssoftball@gmail.com

Instagram - lssoftball

Facebook - Liverpool Softball

