

Strike Zone

Day Three – Friday, February 22

Live another day

Local sides continued to show the way, but some of the big names needed late wins to seal their spots in the next round of the Open Men's Club Championship at Christchurch.



Dodgers pitcher Nik Hayes in action with the Black Sox

Two, but both had to work hard to preserve their records.

In the final analysis, the top eight seeds are still in contention for the title heading into Day Three, but not in the order they were ranked and only after a few close shaves.

Defending champions Auckland United got a walk-off home run to invoke the mercy rule in an 8-0 decision over Porirua and progress, while Dan Tarapi's homer saw last year's runners-up Poneke Kilbirnie – ranked third this time – past crosstown rivals Miramar 4-3.

No 4 Hutt Valley Dodgers benefited from Black Sox pitcher Nik Hayes' presence on the mound to slide past Papanui 8-1.

While these giants were struggling, Canterbury champions Parklands Christchurch United and runners-up Albion were the unbeaten sides to emerge from pool play on Day

2013 OPEN MEN'S CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
MAINLAND FOUNDATION BALLPARK, CHRISTCHURCH

After riding the hot arm of Black Sox pitcher Penese losefo through the opening day, Albion lost their ace – at least temporarily – to an ankle injury and had to come from behind to beat Porirua City 9-7.

Similarly, PCU were in an early hole against Johnsonville, before bringing on Regan Manley to steady the ship and run out 6-3 winners.

With their place atop their group already guaranteed, the Devils then needed extra innings to sneak past Roosters 2-1, after international Daniel Milne had two home runs disallowed for missing bases.

When the dust (and dusk) settled on the ballpark, the top three seeds – United, PCU and PK – had all landed in the same group, along with Northcote, for the next stage, with only two progressing to semifinals.

Across in the other group, Albion, Dodgers, Mt Albert Ramblers and Waitakere Bears will do battle.

Ramblers, coached by Black Sox infielder Nathan Nukunuku, loom as dark horses. After losing their opener to Halswell – the local club's only win of pool play – they came back to beat both PK and Miramar to eventually top their group.

Northcote also came back to lead their group, after having points for their opening win against Fastpitch deducted for playing an ineligible player.

Statistically speaking

Batting Average

Lee Rudolph (Nothcote)	0.800
Tyron Bartorillo (Papanui)	0.750
Daniel Milne (PCU)	0.700

Runs Batted In

Lewis Temarama (Miramar)	7
Daniel Tarapi (PK)	7
Joshua Niui (Bears)	7

Home Runs

Tyron Bartorillo (Papanui)	4
Daniel Tarapi (PK)	3
Brad Rona (Northcote)	3

Earned Run Average

Penese losefo (Albion)	0.00
Joel McKenzie (PK)	0.00
Regan Manley (PCU)	0.00

Meet the Black Sox World Champions!

Don't forget, our world champion Black Sox will be celebrated at the Mainland Foundation Ballpark on Sunday, March 24.

Players and coaches will be available for autographs and photos, so bring your kids and show them what they can achieve in the sport of softball.



Yesterday ...

Thursday, March 21

Section 1		P	W	L	For	Against
(8)	Albion (Canterbury)	4	4	0	26	8
(1)	Auckland United	4	3	1	20	6
(9)	Poirura City United (Wellington)	4	2	2	24	23
(17)	Demons (Southland)	4	1	3	13	25
(16)	Auckland Marist	4	0	4	2	33

Demons 6 Auckland Marist 0, Albion 9 Porirua 7, Auckland United 10 Auckland Marist 0, Albion 6 Demons 1, Auckland United 8 Porirua 0

Section 2		P	W	L	For	Against
(2)	PCU Devils (Canterbury)	4	4	0	24	4
(7)	Waitakere Bears (Auckland)	4	3	1	29	9
(15)	Johnsonville (Wellington)	4	2	2	14	20
(10)	Roosters (North Harbour)	4	1	3	5	18
(18)	Stoke Eagles (Nelson)	4	0	4	6	30

Johnsonville 5 Stoke 4, Bears 7 Roosters 0, PCU 6 Johnsonville 3, Bears 15 Stoke 0, PCU 1 Roosters 0

Section 3		P	W	L	For	Against
(6)	Mt Albert Ramblers (Auckland)	4	3	1	20	13
(3)	Poneke Kilbirnie (Wellington)	4	3	1	20	8
(11)	Miramar (Wellington)	4	2	2	30	17
(19)	Eden Roskill (Auckland)	4	1	3	31	31
(14)	Halswell Hornets (Canterbury)	4	1	3	3	35

Eden Roskill 16 Halswell 0, Ramblers 6 Miramar 4, Poneke Kilbirnie 7 Halswell 0, Ramblers 11 Eden Roskill 6, Poneke Kilbirnie 4 Miramar 3

Section 4		P	W	L	For	Against
(5)	Northcote (North Harbour)	4	3	1	20	15
(4)	Hutt Valley Dodgers	4	3	1	32	7
(12)	Papanui Tigers (Canterbury)	4	2	2	10	13
(13)	Fastpitch (Hawke's Bay)	4	2	2	15	15
(20)	Howick (Auckland)	4	0	4	6	33

Fastpitch 8 Howick 1, Northcote 3 Papanui 2, HV Dodgers 12 Fastpitch 0, Northcote 12 Howick 2, HV Dodgers 8 Papanui 1

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Today ...

Friday, March 22

9am

D1 Demons v Papanui

Scorer: Russell Moffat

Umpires: J Hart/W Tamaki

D2 Porirua City v Fastpitch

Scorer: Wendy Morris

Umpires: R Barrow/D Fortin/C Gaze

D3 Halswell v Auckland Marist

Scorer: Don Karsten

Umpires: R Griffiths/T Kaiaruna

D4 Johnsonville v Eden Roskill

Scorer: Lee-Ann Johnon

Umpires: D Beaumont/M Porteous/D Sutton

11am

D2 Poneke Kilbirnie v Northcote

Scorer: Lynley Dove

Umpires: M McFarlane/J England/D Fortin

D1 Auckland United v PCU

Scorer: Cheryl Dahms

Umpires: D Shedlock/L Brown

D4 Miramar v Roosters

Scorer: Laurelle Rogers

Umpires: A McManus/D Sutton

D3 Halswell v Stoke Eagles

Scorer: Ronnie Gurney

Umpires: S Lindsay/B Wells

1pm

D1 Mt Albert Ramblers v Waitakre Bears

Scorer: Don Karsten

Umpires: W Tamaki/R Barrow/D Beaumont

D2 Albion v HV Dodgers

Scorer: Wendy Morris

Umpires: M Porteous/J Hart/A McManus

D4 Demons v Johnsonville

Scorer: Lee-Ann Johnon

Umpires: T Kaiaruna/R Griffiths

D3 Auckland Marist v Howick

Scorer: Russell Moffat

Umpires: C Gaze/B Wells

3.00pm

D1 Auckland United v Northcote

Scorer: Laurelle Rogers

Umpires: J England/M McFarlane/W Tamaki

D2 Poneke Kilbirnie v PCU

Scorer: Lynley Dove

Umpires: L Brown/D Shedlock/M Porteous

D3 Eden Roskill v Papanui

Scorer: Cheryl Dahms

Umpires: D Fortin/S Lindsay

D4 Miramar v Fastpitch

Scorer: Ronnie Gurney

Umpires: D Sutton/R Griffiths

5pm

D1 Mt Albert Ramblers v HV Dodgers

Scorer: Russell Moffat

Umpires: R Barrow/M McFarlane/J England

D2 Albion v Waitakere Bears

Scorer: Lee-Ann Johnon

Umpires: J Hart/D Shedlock/L Brown

D3 Howick v Stoke Eagles

Scorer: Wendy Morris

Umpires: B Wells/A McManus/S Lindsay

D4 Porirua City v Roosters

Scorer: Don Karsten

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