

HEAT INSIDER

GAME DAY PROGRAM



ROUND SEVEN



3 JANUARY - 5 JANUARY 2020



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COACHES CALL

It has been a couple of competitive weekends of baseball at Perth Harley-Davidson ballpark & Blacktown with both Adelaide & Sydney. With 4 rounds left to play, we are excited to continue to make another run at the Claxton Shield.

The boys are still grinding away, but we need to find a way to clean up things a bit defensively. We have had some miscues in the games we've dropped, and with some cleaner play defensively, we'll be on the right side of a few of these close games going forward. Our pitching has really been a strength all year, and it looks that it will continue to stay that way as we added Trevor Frank this past week to replace young Josh Hendrickson who has now been shut down for the remainder of the season. Trevor is an experienced and exciting arm who I've managed previously. We are also looking to add two more arms to solidify our already strong pitching staff.

I'm confident our bats will catch fire in January and we'll put plenty of runs on the board. Hitting as a team really is contagious, and when a guy or two gets hot, the entire team tends to follow along. At just past the halfway point, the standings clearly show that the parity in the league is like it's never been before. I keep saying that 'you can't look past anyone', and the standings clearly reflect that as we head into the New Year. A 1-8 Auckland team has now won 9 of their next 10, and are very much in the mix for a playoff spot. It's anybody's Shield at this point. Exciting for fans and sponsors as everyone who still has a horse in the race.

As always, we greatly appreciate all of your support and we'll do our best to put a great product on the field, fully of energy, enthusiasm, and intent. Let's roll!

Brooke Knight

Field Manager



PERTH HEAT ROSTER 2019/20

HITTER



Tim Kennelly
Outfielder



Jess Williams
Infielder



Robbie Glendinning
Infielder



Jake Turnbull
Catcher/Infielder



Alex Hall
Catcher



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Jordan Qsar
Outfielder



Niko Hulsizer
Outfielder



Kaleo Johnson
Infielder



Sam Kennelly
Infielder



Ulrich Bojarski
Outfielder



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Roberto Alvarez
Catcher



Jake Bowey
Infielder



Pete Kozma
Infielder



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COACHES



Brooke Knight



Kevin Hooker



Andy Kyle



Tyler Anderson



Blake Butera



Jose Gonzalez

PHOTOGRAPHY: JAMES WORSFOLD / SMP IMAGES



PITCHER



Audry Lugo
Right



Blake Bivens
Right



Jorge Perez
Right



Tom Bailey
Right



Nick Veale
Right

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Cameron Lamb
Right



Josh Rawlinson
Right



Josh Hendrickson
Left



Daniel Schmidt
Left



Dylan Unsworth
Right

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Carlos Garcia
Right



Conor Lourey
Right



John Anderson
Right



Mitch Neunborn
Right

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

What better way to kick start the new year, and the new decade, than a series against the four-time defending champions, Brisbane. The Bandits have been the benchmark in recent seasons and we're all looking forward to an exciting three days.

The new year brings a lot of excitement as we reach the final rounds of the season. There is no doubt the quality of the competition has again improved significantly, and the final standings will be decided by only a handful of games. It means every game in our remaining four series are crucial as we strive to deliver our members and fans more playoff games at home.

In 2020, Perth Heat will continue to invest into the community and grassroots with the first of our Summer Clinics this January. The goal is to have clinics every school holidays along with development programs to continue to inspire the next generation of Heat players.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our members, fans, sponsors, corporate partners and the community for your continued support. On behalf of the board, we wish everyone a safe and prosperous New Year.



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MATCH PREVIEW & SERIES REVIEW



Nobody at the Alcohol. Think Again Perth Heat have forgotten losing last year's championship series to the Brisbane Bandits and now a chance for vengeance presents at Harley-Davidson Ballpark this weekend.

The Heat return home for the first series of 2020 on the back of last week's road series in Sydney against the Blue Sox, and it's a tantalising match up against the defending ABL champion Bandits.

That made it four straight Claxton Shield triumphs for the Bandits and again this season they are looming as one of the teams to beat, but this weekend provides a chance to make a statement for the Heat.

Clearly having played off in last season's championship series, the two teams are no stranger to one another and 13 Heat players took part in it, including John Anderson.

He pitched in Game 1 of the series and still has strong memories of it and gave the Bandits ultimately a lot of credit.

"I remember that series pretty vividly. It was a battle of starting pitchers and all about who can overcome small errors and small mistakes," Anderson said.

"They did everything right. They played good defence. They put the ball in play, and their starting pitching was pretty good."

Bandits ace Tim Atherton worked eight innings with 10 strikeouts in Game 2 and was named as series MVP in the end. Andrew Campbell and Wade Dutton both homered in the series and remain the key players for the Bandits this season.

The explosive offence of the Bandits was the key to winning the championship last season as they led the league with 68 home runs. On top of that squad, they were able to add former Mariners catcher Mike Marjama to the roster.

The Heat need some quality pitching to hold this group off but that hasn't been an issue so far. **"Our strength has been the pitching,"** said Heat manager Brooke Knight.

"Our starting pitching has been outstanding with Unsworth, Anderson and Lourey. Hendrickson also had a couple of nice outings. They are giving us every opportunity to win."

The batters are also providing crucial run support. Robbie Glendinning, Niko Hulsizer and Jordan Qsar have produced plenty of highlights with their bats so far this season.

But there's no doubting the significance and importance of this series against Brisbane.

"I feel like our entire season all leads to playing them in the playoffs and we want some vengeance," Anderson said.

"If we can minimize small mistakes and capitalize any gifts we receive, I think that would be the difference in the series."



PERTH HEAT SUMMER CLINICS

JANUARY 14-15



THE TWO DAY EVENT WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 14 AND 15 AT PERTH HARLEY-DAVIDSON BALLPARK FROM 9AM TO 3PM.

THE EVENT WILL BE RUN BY PERTH HEAT PLAYERS AND COACHES WITH THE CLINICS OPEN FOR CHILDREN FROM 6 TO 16 YEARS.

THE COST FOR THE CLINIC IS \$199 AND EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE:

PERTH HEAT JUNIOR MEMBER PACK

- PERTH HEAT TEE-SHIRT
- PERTH HEAT MEMBERS CARD
- PERTH HEAT DRINK BOTTLE
- PERTH HEAT TICKET TO A GAME VS MELBOURNE ACES

PLUS

ALL CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE MID-MORNING REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH IS INCLUDED!

DYLAN UNSWORTH

While in the big picture star South African pitcher Dylan Unsworth hopes a strong ABL season earns him another crack at Major League Baseball, before that his focus is on helping Perth Heat win a championship.

The 27-year-old right-handed pitcher has joined the Heat for the 2019/20 ABL season after a brief stint playing with Caracas in Venezuela having gone ever so close to a Major League call up while signed to the LA Angels and producing a 6-1 AAA record with the Salt Lake Bees.

It was his first season signed by the Angels having spent the previous nine years with the Seattle Mariners and now what Unsworth is hoping to get from starring with Heat in the ABL is a return to the minor leagues first of all, and ultimately a crack at Major League Baseball.

You certainly wouldn't deny him that possibility with the stunning way he has started the season down under. Unsworth has produced some dominant, impressive and clever pitching.

"I was in AAA last year and had a 6-1 record so I was very close to getting a call up. After spending nine years with the Mariners, I signed with the Angels as a free agent and I got very close, but things happen in baseball and nothing come of it for me in the end," Unsworth said.

"I did originally sign to play in Venezuela when Tyler (Anderson) called me up and told me he really believed in me. He said he knew I'd dominate the league and he wanted me to just trust him that it would be the best thing for my career.

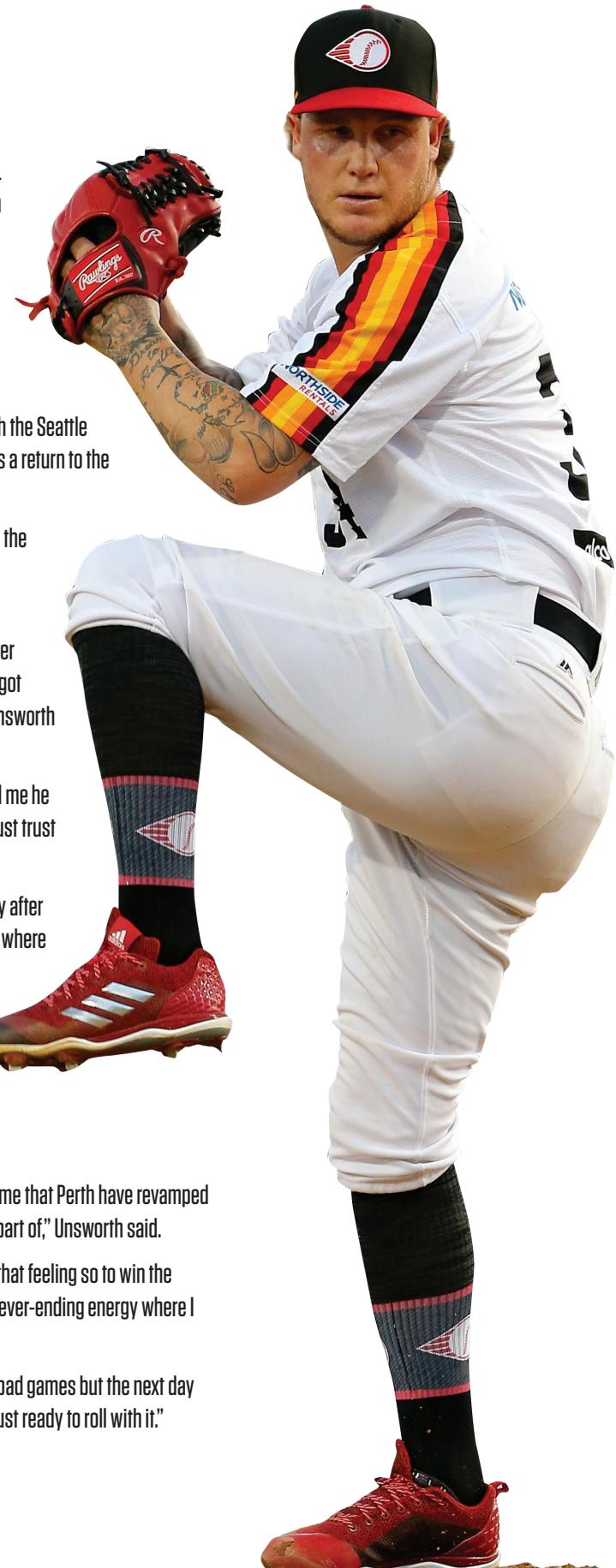
"Now here I am competing as hard as I can and seeing where that takes me. Hopefully after the ABL something comes up and some team believes in me to sign me again. I'll see where it takes me from there but I'm 27 so I am in my prime and at my peak right now so I'm obviously not giving up."

While it's only natural for a 27-year-old pitcher to have lofty individual goals, what he's loving about the baseball in Australia already is the team chemistry and that's why helping the Heat winning a championship would be so meaningful.

"When Tyler and Brooke heard about me and wanted to bring me over here, Tyler told me that Perth have revamped the stadium and they want to win the championship. That was a team I wanted to be part of," Unsworth said.

"I've won a championship in AA in Jackson, Tennessee with the Mariners and I know that feeling so to win the championship is obviously a great experience. I'm very competitive and I have that never-ending energy where I want to keep going no matter how many times I get knocked down.

"I feel like this team is one where we're not going to stop. There might be a couple of bad games but the next day comes out and we're ready to play ball. I feel like everybody's on the same path and just ready to roll with it."



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Q&A

DANIEL SCHMIDT & JESS WILLIAMS



Daniel Schmidt

Favourite movie: Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Horrible Bosses

Favourite TV show: Prison Break, Person of Interest

Fictional character you want to be friends with: Tony Stark

Favourite musician/band: Breaking Benjamin, Three Days Grace, Staind

Best vacation spot: Maldives

If you could have lunch with any three people, who would they be: Carl Barron, Jimmy Fallon, Dwayne Johnson (The Rock)

If you could have any superpower, what would it be: Mindreading would be my superpower so I'd know what pitch the hitter is looking for and throw the opposite

Favourite food: Spaghetti Bolognase

Favourite clothing label: Hurley

Hobbies outside baseball: Golf, pool

Favourite athlete: Luke Parker

Funniest teammate: Cameron Lamb



Jess Williams

Favourite movie: Step Brothers

Favourite TV show: Peaky Blinders

Fictional character you want to be friends with: Bugs Bunny

Favourite musician/band: Luke Combs

Best vacation spot: Japan

If you could have lunch with any three people, who would they be:

Sam Kennelly, Robbie Glendinning, Alex Hall

If you could have any superpower, what would it be: Invisibility

Favourite food: Surf and Turf

Favourite clothing label: Order

Hobbies outside baseball: Video games, playing cards, listening to music

Favourite athlete: Connor McGregor

Funniest teammate: Sam Kennelly



OUR OPPONENTS

BRISBANE BANDITS

Brisbane Bandits are the powerhouse of Australian baseball as they have claimed the last four ABL titles. Last season, they defeated Perth Heat in the championship series with a 3-2 win on the road and a 9-4 win at home. Tim Atherton was named as the series MVP. He pitched 8 innings with 10 strikeouts in Game 2.

Nine Bandits players were selected to represent Team Australia in the Premier 12. It's the highest among all ABL teams. Atherton started three games during the tournament and claimed the win against USA. Logan Wade and Mitch Nilsson have also been the key players of the team.

Dave Nilsson has been the manager of Brisbane Bandits since 2014. He led the team to championship in 4 of 5 seasons. Nilsson played for Milwaukee Brewers from 1992 to 1999 as a catcher and competed in the 2000 and 2004 Olympic Games. In 2008 Nilsson was named to the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

The four-time defending champion had a slow start to this season as they were swept by Adelaide Giants in Round 1. But Dave Nilsson's team was able to bounce back and click into gear thanks to their strong pitching. Other than Atherton, Travis Blackley and Cory Taylor have been great on the mound. They are supported by a strong bullpen which features Australian representatives Sam Holland and Ryan Searle.



TEAM LIST

Catcher	
8	Mike Marjama
11	Jeremy Martinez
12	Jay Myers
29	Ryan Battaglia

Outfielder	
1	Liam Taylor
2	Daniel Nilsson
Pitcher	
9	Tim Colwell
17	Andrew Campbell
18	Nathanael Vankan

Infielder	
3	Wade Dutton
16	Logan Wade
32	Donald Lutz
38	Mitch Nilsson



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SCORECARDS

FRIDAY 3 JANUARY 2020 - 7PM

GAME ONE

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Adelaide												
Perth												

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 2020 - 4PM

GAME TWO

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Adelaide												
Perth												

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 2020 - 7PM

GAME THREE

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Adelaide												
Perth												

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2020 - 4PM

GAME FOUR

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Adelaide												
Perth												



NEXT HOME SERIES

THURSDAY

JAN 23

7PM

FRIDAY

JAN 24

7PM

SATURDAY

JAN 25

4PM + 7PM

