



Who Said Cricket Is A Summer Sport

With the continuing rain throughout Sydney it is hard to believe that there was any matches played last weekend.

Under 12's Cup

Loss

President's Cup U12 v. Central Coast 29 January 2012

We arrived at Bannockburn to an overcast and breezy morning but blessedly no rain. A beautiful cricket oval surrounded by trees but with a springy outfield that had the potential for a slow run rate!

We lost the toss and were put in to bat with Josh Banner and Paddy Coburn opening the innings. They got off the mark in the second over and made slow but steady progress until Paddy was caught behind for three runs. Matt Carpenter came on as the number three batsman and after a confident start was bowled for three runs. The Captain's innings was short; Leyton Witts clean bowled on his first ball to allow Jarrod Knox an opportunity at the crease. As with the other openers, Jarrod's innings was cut short for only two when he lost his off stump to a well-placed full toss. Unfortunately our next batsman James Brown could not interrupt the fall of wickets, caught at square leg for just one run from a brave shot for the boundary.

It looked as though the tide was about to turn when Lachlan Hodges came to the crease. He opened his account with a super shot through square leg that went for four runs from his first ball, the first, and ultimately only, four of our innings. Our gallant opener, Josh Banner spent over two hours at the crease. He survived being caught a couple of times at point and collected 9 runs before being caught at cover. Lachlan Hodges ultimately made the team's high score with 11 runs before an LBW decision cut his innings short and brought Tom Ragell to the crease. Tom was dropped at point before, the very next ball, being caught behind from a cheeky ball down his leg side, a sad end to an innings that made 3 runs. McKenzie Brown made a run from his first ball and looked to be consolidating his innings before being caught and bowled for three. Matt Dowers had a good day at the crease playing some fine shots and boosting the team's overall score by a further ten runs. He was caught at mid on giving Brett Murray an opportunity to score a few runs. Unfortunately he was out for zero leaving our excellent substitute Liamh not out for two.

Lunch was a culinary coup with the Hornsby parents, in spite of the appalling facilities, rising to the challenge to produce a masterpiece of al fresco haut cuisine. The hope was

that the meal would rouse the team for a bold return to the field. Unfortunately this was not to be the case.

Matt Dowers and Jarrod Knox opened the bowling and immediately put the batsmen under pressure. But slowly and steadily the score built. Liamh was unlucky not to get a wicket in the ninth over but the ball just cleared the fielder's fingers!

The first wicket fell in Brett Murray's spell. Jarrod fielded a difficult ball and returned it quickly and accurately to Josh Banner, the wicket keeper, who took the bails off ending an impressive Central Coast innings. We then had to wait until the 28th over and the Captain's bowling for our second wicket. Leyton Witts stepped up to the mark and with a well-judged ball encouraged the batsman to play the ball onto his own stumps. One wicket was not enough though and in his very next over Leyton's bowling gave a catch to Tom Ragell in the slips.

The visitors managed to score 72 runs in 30 overs, a fairly convincing victory as our boys were all out for a final score of 71 runs after 46 overs and two hours and forty-five minutes. With a slow outfield and after a lengthy break from cricket it was a fair effort by Hornsby and an opportunity for our boys to meld together again as a team.

Under 13's Cup Win

HK&HDCA U13 Presidents Cup 6/86 defeated Central Coast U13 President Cup 11/84 After a long break over the Christmas holidays from Cricket, and only a trial game against a mixed U14 Presidents Cup team last weekend for most of the boys, like every year the first game back was going to be a challenge.

How wrong we were, within the first 8 overs Lachlan and Ben had decimated Central Coast's top order to leave them at 5 for 20. This was continued by the other bowlers who consistently took wickets without giving away many runs, to have Central Coast all out for 84 in 32.1 overs. Every wicket taken was either bowled or caught, which shows the bowling strength within the team.

The bowling figures were Ben 3 for 14, Lachlan 2 for 10, Nick 2 for 16, Jack 1 for 3 (econ 0.75), Bailey 1 for 4, Ryan 1 for 6 and Liam 1 for 14. Catches were taken by Liam (2), Oliver (2), Jack and Tom.

Keeping from both Adam and Scott was superb as it is on every game.

We then went out to bat on a very bouncy wicket which we are not used to. Will and Thomas opened and along with Adam saw through the opening bowlers. Oliver, Scott and Ben then followed but were caught when trying to lift the run rate. This left Bailey at the crease who was joined by Ryan. Once these two had the measure of the pitch and the bowlers, they opened up and went sailing past Central Coast's score with 15 overs to spare.

The batting figures were Ryan 27no, Bailey 25no, Oliver 8, Adam 3, Will 2, Tom 2 and Ben 2.

Our next game is in Newcastle next Sunday which we hope will be just as successful.

Under 14's Cup

Under 15's Cup Win

Who would of thought there would be a ground dry enough on the Central Coast to play a game of cricket. There was one, barely dry enough, to play cricket on.

Long wet grass, 60 metre boundary, there was going to be no 4's hit today!

We lost the toss and we were told to have a bowl. That suited us fine on a wet pitch and soggy out field and who knew how the ball would play.

At the first drinks break (over 14) we hadn't taken a wicket but the Central Coast had only scored 21 runs. A few words of wisdom from someone had the Central Coast 3 for 36 by the 25th over. By over 34 they were 9 for 53. This is going well I thought. I thought wrong. We just don't know how to turn the heat on at this point of a game. There appears to be a club match mentality where certain people need to bowl instead of putting the openers back on and cleaning it up! So by the end of the 50th over the Central Coast were 9 for 90. We gave them 40 more runs than we should have, not only that we gave them 32 sundries- TOP SCORE for the Central Coast.

Some good bowling

- Breytenbach 7 overs, 3 maidens, 0 for 10
- Shamsi 6 overs, 1 maiden 0 for 9
- Carter 7 overs 1 maiden 1 for 11
- Sweeney 5 overs, 2 maidens 1 for 7
- Gracias Flor 5 overs, 0 maidens 1 for 7

The pick of the bowlers

- Jamison Sexty 10 overs, 5 maidens 4 for 13

Our openers went out and were given strict instructions, 2 runs an over wins us the game. We lost one of them second ball, a noisy thigh pad mistaken for the bat, sent opener Yash back to the pavilion. Rob out next, cheaply. This brought McNay & Savio together. They put on 43 before McNay hit one sky high and down covers throat. We promoted our big hitter Lachlan up the order and this finished the match. 3 for 103 after 34 overs

- Savio Gracias Flor 36 NO
- Lachlan Inwood 27 NO

It's nice to win, it's nicer to kick butt!

We will be working on bowling order and batting technique before the next game.

So that puts us up the ladder a position.

Next game, Newcastle in Newcastle!

Under 16's Cup Loss

Manly 8/136 def. HKHDCA 11/100

The recent weather conditions meant the game had to be moved from The Glade to Fred Catterson 2 (astro-turf).

About one quarter of FC2's surface is in the process of being re-turfed and the rest needing urgent TLC. The ground is uneven and was still soggy following the recent rain. Achieving a large score was going to be difficult particularly in the earlier part of the day and Manly surprised us by opting to bat first. The outstanding performance of our bowlers, keepers and overall fielding put them under pressure from very early on and by then end of the 12th over we had then on 3/25.

Our wicket takers were Anurag 1/24, Saahil 3/16, Aaron 1/15, Rohan 1/11. Danusha and Chris contributed with a run out each. None of our bowlers was punished by the opposition. The other bowlers performed well i.e., Liam 0/17, Kushal 0/11, Danusha 0/7, Chris 0/9, Karl 0/12 and Harrison 0/7. We kept the opposition well under control with the run rate staying between 2 and 2.7 per over during the whole innings.

Their highest figures were 41, followed by 23 and 22, with the remaining batsmen with 10 or less runs. The vast majority of their runs were singles or 2's. They only scored 1 boundary (4) and only 2 shots went for 3 runs.

Matt left the field early on after plunge tripping over whilst chasing a ball and injured his knee. He was meant to open the batting with Rory but didn't recover in time and only went in as the last batsmen at the very end of the innings.

After a lengthy discussion at the lunch break, Chris reluctantly agreed to take Matt's batting spot. Chris is an impressive batsman able to reach high scores in relatively short periods of time however the change in the order seemed to have work against him and lost his wicket rather early. Rohan took over from Chris. Rohan's partnership with Rory lasted an hour and delivered 23 runs as well as the stability that the team needed early in the innings. Karl went in for Rory, stayed in for close to an hour and worked very well with Liam, Harrison and Saahil. Anurag went in for Karl and his partnership with Saahil delivered 26 runs in a relatively short period of time which frustrated the Manly bowlers. Anurag lost his wicket in the 44th over with the team on 91 runs. His contribution helped increase our run rate from 2 to 3.2 per over and had the potential of getting the team over the line. Khushal, Danusha, Aaron and Matt were given the rather difficult task of trying to score 46 runs in the last 6 overs in some difficult conditions. We all knew it was a very ambitious goal however they certainly tried their best.

The highest batting scores came from Anurag (17), Karl (17), Rohan (16) and Saahil (15).

The team's overall performance has improved substantially during the season and despite this result, we have a good chance of securing a much better result against Sutherland on the 5th of FEB at The Glade.

We still have the City v Country match for the Moore Shield this Sunday at the SCG starting 10.00 am Sunday