



2 More Centurions On A Wet Weekend

Another 2 Centurions to be added to the ever growing list.

Well Done to the Eknor Singh 109 (15) & Travis Loxton 113 (15)

Forster Shield **Win**

Creak Shield **Win**

Central Coast: 10/65 (30.5 overs)

def by HKHDCA: 1/69 (25 overs)

Special mentions:

Jarod Baxter: 3/2 off 2 overs (Hat trick)

Yash Patel: 3/4 off 7 overs & 1 catch

Will Coffey: 2/4 off 0.5 overs

Corey Miller: 24 runs & 1 stumping

Lachlan Shaw: 18 not out & 1 catch

It was an overcast day at Thornleigh Oval for our round 3 game and second home match against Central Coast. We arrived at the ground not knowing what time we would be able to start play or whether or not we would be able to get a result due to the inclement weather.

After a brief delay to proceedings, the toss was done and the game got underway at 10.30. Central Coast won the toss on decided to have a bat. The boys from both sides were happy with that and got ready to start.

James was told he was opening the bowling today and started on target with a maiden. Menuja opened from the other end and fifth ball in bang, he gets a wicket bowled.

Not wanting to miss out, James in his second over claims a wicket thanks to a nice catch from Yash. Yash has a knack off taking a catch a game in the gully.

There was a hush over in tent city where the visitors were sitting.

The two new batsmen were very watchful early on, trying to stop the wickets falling. James and Menuja were bowling very well. Both finished their opening 4 over spells with great figures of 1 for 3.

Verun and Johnno came on to bowl next and kept things tight. By now the ball was starting to become wet and the recent top soil spread over the ground wasn't helping either.

Central Coast's batsmen were starting to settle in and were now picking up ones and twos. The outfield was slow and not giving batsmen value for shots as was the case when we played here two weeks ago.

Lachlan Soles and Yash replaced Verun and Johnno.

After putting on 39 for the third wicket Yash got the breakthrough. In his third over he had their batsmen caught behind to Lachlan Shaw. That took us to the morning tea break 3/39 off 21 overs.

After the break, Central Coast's gun batsman was batting well and looking good. Then Yash strikes again removing him for a match high score of 35.

That was in the 25th over. The final 6 wickets fell in the next 6 overs for only 9 runs.

Highlight of the innings and the match came from Jarod "The Beast" Baxter who bowled a hat trick. Jarod picked up the nickname in the previous game from Lachlan Shaw for his late power hitting. Fresh from not being bowled in the first two games, Jarod was keen and mean to make an impression. All three of his dismissals were bowled, which was a great achievement given the state the ball was in by this stage. After his first ball in his spell was a full toss, all the remaining balls Jarod bowled were perfect line and length. Jarod had a huge smile on his face for the remainder of the day!

Will was able to get one over in and finish the innings off taking two wickets in 5 balls.

A great bowling and fielding effort in the wet to bowl the opposition out for 65. Lunch was called early and yours truly couldn't understand why. My watch said it was only 11.15am. Confused I turned to Snehal who told me it was actually 12.45pm. Time for a new watch battery.

Lachlan Shaw and Corey were given the task of opening our innings and batting us to victory. Coach Shishu gave them instructions to see out the day. The boys batted well within themselves. Credit is given to Central Coast's bowlers and in particular the fielding. Some of the stops they made were first class.

Lachlan and Corey were very patient but pounced on any loose deliveries.

Finally Central Coast were rewarded with a wicket, Corey getting out to a good catch with 7 runs to victory. Another 50 run plus opening stand by these two.

Lachlan Soles joined Lachlan Shaw and the two Lachlan's coasted to victory two overs later to give us an early finish which was pleasing given the uncertainty with the weather all day. An easy day for the scorers.

A resounding win by the boys today. Three from three and next week's game is against co-competition leaders Inner West Harbour.

Congratulations once again to Jarod for his hat trick today.

Cawsey Shield Win

Hornsby won the toss (again!) and elected to Bat.

Result : Hornsby 165-6 (C. Rose 44, J. Hiley 40)

 Defeated

 Hawkesbury 106-9 (K. Chu 3-5, C. Cameron 2-17)

 By 59 runs

Ken won the toss for the third successive match and Hornsby batted 1st again.

Openers Joe and Jordan Hayes once again did their job, though slightly less spectacularly than the first two games, this time sharing 59 runs in 10 overs for the first wicket. Jordan was out first, on 20 (from 29bf), kicking himself for not smacking one hard enough.

Charlie joined Joe in the middle of the good quality, large and increasingly damp oval and the two lefties looked set to cash in before a yes-no-yes run out ensued and Joe (40 from 46bf, score 69-2 from 14) was replaced by Nick Hammond. Moments later the first of several short rain interruptions brought the two back into the change rooms. The boys did a great job re-starting their innings (ultimately Charlie had to play himself back in four times during his innings, great focus) and Nick was especially circumspect in the worsening batting conditions. The score moved steadily upwards, past 100, before Nick gave the Hawkesbury mid-on some catching practice he didn't need (12 from 34bf, score 108-3 from 26). Keiran Krishnan missed out this week (3 from 11bf) and we then got our first look this season at Mason Oates. Visibly nervous, Mason did the right thing, firstly taking a good look at the bowling and the skiddy wet pitch before concentrating on rotating the strike with the more settled, and considerably more bedraggled, Charlie, maximising the benefit of the left-right partnership with a series of measured singles. Charlie eventually fell, pneumonia rather than the Hawkesbury bowling probably getting the better of him, having batted an important lynch-pin innings (44 from 82bf, score 133-5 from 37) on a day where a batting collapse would have been all-too easy. This then brought Connor Cameron, another 1st timer for the season, to the crease and he was able to accelerate the rate with Mason as the end of the weather-shortened innings (45 overs) and a chance to get dry/warm/fed loomed. Connor fell in the penultimate over, rightly whacking a full-toss but unfortunately to the one Hawkesbury fielder with warm hands (3 catches), for a creditable 15 from 23bf. Ken joined Mason in the middle for a bit of last-

over mayhem and the Hornsby innings closed at 165-6. With the very damp outfield robbing most of the boys of several nailed-on 4's the score felt more like a 220+ effort. So, how would Hawkesbury respond ? Having clearly prayed to the right weather gods during the lunch break (their innings was only interrupted once for rain) Hawkesbury came out looking to hit hard. But unfortunately (for them) they picked the wrong two bowlers to try it with. Ken and Connor made the most of the dry hard ball, a perfect opening spell which saw 3 wickets fall (2 ducks) for just 14 runs in 8 overs. Chastened, Hawkesbury throttled back somewhat. Strangler-in-Chief Vedant replaced Ken and started off with 3 consecutive maidens in an excellent straight-through spell of 10 overs of quality leg-spin, somehow conceding zero extras along the way. James Reynolds wanted to get in on the action too, replacing Connor and at times extracting troubling bounce from a now wet ball on a still wet pitch. Realising there was to be no let up the Hawkesbury boys again tried to up their run rate and once again Hornsby showed their plan to be folly. A super-sharp Ken/James combination ran out the opponents' solid looking #5 and then a simply stunning running-at-speed-full-length-forward-diving catch by Cooper Davenport meant Vedant got the wicket his bowling deserved. At 5 down, Eshaan Khan got in on the action. Leggies and offies rained down (ahem) for 10 overs and the only thing Hawkesbury could do about it was to give up 5 maidens to Vedant and 2 more wickets, Eshaan removing the stubborn Hawkesbury #3. Cooper then bowled a nice tight spell whilst Ken, Connor, James and Nick cycled through 1 or 2 over spells at t'other end picking up maidens and/or wickets along the way. Ken's lightning slip catch off Connor's bowling particularly deserving a mention, as well as his picking up of our first 3-fer of the season.

Special thanks to the Umpires for persevering with the match when lesser mortals might have given up, and well done to the boys for another job well done.

Gee Shield Drew

Moore Shield Drew

Weblin Shield Win

Round 3

Weblin - Hornsby 2/261 (48 overs) (T Loxton 113*, E Singh 109*) def Fairfield-Liverpool 5/151 (41 overs) (D Habib 2/19, S Balakumar 2/24) at Barker

Lost the toss and were sent in. Another busy start from openers Ryan (16) and Will (19) who negated the new ball and kept the scoreboard clicking over in a rain reduced 48 over innings. Eknor was soon joined by Travis at the crease and after settling in they both hit the go button. The onslaught that followed reminded this scribe of Pontius Pilate's classic line in the Life of Brian "Stwike them, Centuwions. Stwike them vevy wuffly!" Travis (15 x 4s and 1 x 6) was the first to reach his ton and was soon followed by Eko (14 x 4s). Both centuries were roundly applauded by all (sorry Peter Watts but we just had to).

After the allotted 48 overs Eko (109* of 105) and Travis (113* off 104) were cheered off the ground by both players and spectators after a very, very classy 216 run partnership.

An extended lunch break due to another shower reduced the Fairfield-Liverpool innings to 41 overs and with the rain always threatening the boys needed to bowl 30 overs to ensure there was a game and limit the opposition to less than 5.4375 runs per over. Tight spells from all bowlers kept the Fairfield-Liverpool run rate down. With rain threatening the boys literally ran through overs 20-30 to ensure there would be a result. Daniel (2/19) and Sanjay (2/24) got amongst the wickets, Eko also jagged one. Tight bowling from Lachie (0/1), Anthony (0/1) and Travis (0/7) snuffed out any chance of a late dash by the opposition's bats. Nick kept well all innings with a sore thumb, Rahul (0/25) and Danusha (0/24) took two screamers and Mossy raced around the outfield like a gazelle.

Great to get a result given the weather. Well done all boys and congratulations Travis and Eko – awise Centuwions.

Watson Shield

Drew