



With The Finals Looming We Had 2 Five Wicket Hauls & Hornsby Have Three Teams Competing For Shields.

Congratulations To Henry Ludlow (16) 5/28 and Dan Habib (15) 5/27 for there outstanding 5 wicket hauls in the Semi Finals.

I for one applaud the decision of the DCA to play both the Weblin & Watson Shield at The Blacktown Olympic Park venue. This is the pinnacle of representative cricket played at a first class venue and it also means that I can watch both my boys in a final with out the travel.

Cawsey (U12) play at Thornleigh Oval.

Semi Final & Cup Round 2 Results Below

Forster Shield

Creak Shield Loss

Manly 9/145 (50 overs) def
HKHDCA 8/139 (50 overs)

Highlights:

Lachlan Shaw: 20 runs, 2/5 off 2 overs, 1 catch and 1 stumping
Will Coffey: 2/33 off 9, 19 not out
Corey Miller: 22 runs, 1 catch and 1 stumping
Jordan Fullager: 25 and 0/16 off 8
Yash Patel: 2/26 off 10
Jarod Baxter: 3/14 off 8

Once again we turned up today with someone in the team not fully fit. Lachlan Soles woke up with a sore throat and feeling somewhat lethargic.

A beautiful day presented us at Collaroy Plateau Park. The sea breeze made it a comfortable day for the players.

It saddens the writer that this would be our last match report for the season. Just like last year, the boys stumbled in the semi final when all believed they had the goods to reach the final. It was a very close game as the scores indicate. However Manly were just that little bit better on the day.

Manly won the toss and decided to bat first.

Opening the bowling today would be Varun and Jarod from the other end. Varun was right on a good line and length from the first ball, conceding only 1 run in his first over.

Jarod who was named the beast in an earlier game started off brilliantly, bowling Manly's "beast" with his first ball in his first over. Jarod picked up his second wicket in his 4th over to complete his first spell with a tidy 2/5 off 4.

Johnno and James came on next and both bowled a couple of tidy overs. Jordan was next introduced and continued with good line and length, starving the Manly batsmen for runs.

Time for spin. Yash comes on and starts with a wicket maiden. At 3/31 off 15 we are in a good position.

10 overs later Manly had consolidated a bit and were 3/62 off 25. Their 4th and 5th batsmen were watchful, played some nice shots and put on 45 in 17 before Jarod came back on and claimed his 3rd wicket to break that vital partnership, thanks to a very good catch from Oliver.

Some close calls with run outs and stumpings didn't go our way today.

Will and Menuja were introduced in to the bowling attack and also kept things tight. When Will claimed the 5th wicket Manly was at 5/104 in the 40th over and with the run rate at only 2.6 our side was in a strong position.

Manly then started to look to accelerate the scoring. Despite losing 4 wickets in last 10 overs they managed to score at 4 runs an over here and lift the run rate up to almost 3 runs an over.

Lachlan Shaw had a cameo bowl today, taking two wickets in his two overs at the death.

Full credit to all the bowlers today for bowling good lines all throughout the innings. The boys backed this up with some sharp fielding to keep Manly's batsmen under pressure all day, making them earn their runs.

Our side almost bowled Manly out within their 50 overs. Given that Manly was able to score 9 runs off the last over, a big "what if" we had of managed to get that last wicket sooner?

Lunch was served up and with the Aussies doing well in the Ashes, things were looking good! Yours truly was casting his mind onto next week, thinking of the hosts in the final serving up a big spread.

145 definitely seemed gettable by our boys. Despite not knowing how strong our opponents bowling attack was, it was felt that our batsmen could bring us home.

It was up to Lachie Shaw and Varun to open up. Under a watchful start, we were 0/25 off 10, a better start than Manly in terms of wickets lost.

Then in the 14th over we lost our first wicket Varun with the score on 35. Overs 17 and 18 saw us lose James and Lachie. Manly's bowlers had really put the brakes on our runs.

With Corey and Jordan at the crease, we needed to stop the wickets falling as the game was shaping up to be a close finish, and we would need wickets in hand at the end.

In the 14 overs between 14 and 28 we only scored 3/17. At this point in time our run rate which had been consistent to Manly's had certainly fallen behind.

After 29 watchful deliveries, Corey got off the mark. He then scored 9 off the next 10 balls faced, which was basically what we needed to score from here on.

These two consolidated our innings again, putting a match high partnership of 51 off 20 overs when Jordy was out caught and bowled.

So at 4/98 in the 38th we were in the identical position as Manly were in their innings. They scored 18 in the next 3 overs despite losing a wicket, we scored 13 and also lost a wicket. Yash looked like he was the one capable of lifting the run rate, hitting a boundary off his first ball and managed 8 off 8.

At this point the umpires called a 5 ball over. Luckily it didn't count against us in the end (or could we have hit a 6 six off a no ball with that extra delivery???)

The game was in the balance but then Manly struck a big blow, removing Lachie Soles and Corey in one over.

Still all was not lost. Will came in at the unusual position of 8 and with Jarod, they started to get the run rate going. We now needed 38 runs of 48 balls. Will and Jarod were batting well, taking 26 off the next 8 overs.

In the end we just fell short and have to rue another opportunity gone begging.

The bowlers from both sides really bowled well today. Just 4 no balls in total were bowled. Despite 31 wides in total being bowled from both sides, on other days this may have been considerably less.

The team played some great cricket throughout the season. We were a little disrupted with injuries and sickness during the season.

It was a fantastic effort to reach this far but a little sad we couldn't make it to one more week.

A big thank you to coach Shishu for moulding the team and getting them this far. Special thanks to Murray and Judy Shaw for all their efforts as well. And finally thanks goes out to all the parents for everything.

We have shared such a wonderful season together. We have been lucky to have such a terrific and skillful bunch of boys and awesome parents. It has been such a great experience and it was always good to look forward to every Sunday.

Let's hope we all stick together and have the opportunity to do it all again next season and go a few steps better.

Last of all a big congratulations to Lachlan Shaw and Will Coffey who are the leading run scorer and wicket taker up to and including the semi finals in the Creak Shield. Well played boys.

Lance

11 Presidents Cup Win

Manly won the toss and sent us into the field,

The bowlers started well and we got an early break through with Jack clean bowling there skipper for 3, Both Sol and Jack had the batsmen jumping all around the place and both bowling with some fire and pace. Sol also picked up a wicket blowing the other opener Manly in trouble 2/17, Partnership begins to build 36 runs Henry comes on and settles into his job bowling a good line and length picking up two quick wickets for very little runs Manly 4/64.

Zac came on settles in to a good rhythm and gets that Tennis ball bounce and dries up the runs, Louis from the other end struggles a little with line but bowls well, Zac picks up a wicket 5/78. Shaan comes on the runs dry up good line and length 4 overs for 4 runs. Luc comes on and settled in well-deserved to bowl a couple more overs, Young Lachlan the newly invented leg spinner turned the ball square, he would have picked up 3-4 wickets if it was not for the bounce. Jack and Sol come back on Jack bowls well with no reward Sol picks up another and the Henry snares another.

End of the innings the above reads well but when you break down the score book we should have only been chasing 81 we gave away way to many extras, 45 in total.

Our turn to bat, Corey and Jude opened, Manly claim a quick wicket with Cory playing the wrong line and cleaned bowled, out came Sam and he and Jude went about the job of building a partnership Jude batted well playing some lovely back foot drives, Jude plays over one and gets bowled, Sam is joined by Shaan put on 11 runs Sam gets caught, play

through the ball Sam go hard. Zac comes and goes quickly 4/67 very similar to the Manly batting score card, out goes Louis right from the first ball he was on the front foot playing with power and determination we are quickly falling behind the run rate, Shaan and Louis go about their job and the tide turns both batting and running very well put on a game winning partnership of 47 very impressive, Shaan pushes one run to many run out, that's a shame because these two deserved to be there when the winning runs were scored. Out strides Jack rotates the strike and he and Louis play well and win the game. Well done boys it was great to see that we had all learnt something from the week before and we are starting to get to the levels of where we need to be at if we want to be competitive. Keep it up challenge yourself and your team mates. I would love to hear the team song after every game.

Thanks to the parents who were there to support and score these are thankless jobs so well done to all

Cawsey Shield

Win

Hornsby 215-3 (N. Hammond 67no, C. Rose 59, J. Hayes 41, K. Krishnan 26no)

Defeated

Blacktown 182 all out (C. Cameron 3-26)

By 33 runs

And as a result qualified for the Grand Final.

A big thank-you to Reeve Krishnan for stepping into the breach and taking the role of Coach for the rest of our games. Chapeau, sir.

Ken lost the toss and we fielded!

Nah, just kidding, <Cut and Paste> Ken won the toss for the ~~second~~ ~~third~~ ~~fourth~~ ~~fifth~~ ~~sixth~~ seventh successive match (odds 1 in 128) and, after the parents had finished rubbing their lotto tickets on Kens' head, Hornsby batted 1st again. You'd think by now that our opponents would have sussed out Ken's insistence on using his special coin. The MyCricket gods were also smiling on Hornsby when Sal Khan successfully bribed his way out of doing the scoring – to date the only scorer to scream out in a panic “who's the bowler ?” when his own son is stood at the top of his mark.

Joe and Jordan started very slowly, maybe showing a little too much respect to some decent but not overly threatening bowling, and eschewing the opportunity of a few singles that would have got the blood flowing and settling their nerves. Almost inevitably a wicket fell, despite a couple of trademark 4's, Joe nicking off to a fantastic slip catch in the 9th over. Score 1-13.

Charlie next up, and both he and Jordan played safe until the first drinks break with the score 1-23 after 14. Immediately after drinks the runs started to come, particularly for Charlie. 14 hit off one over got the juices flowing and the boys proceeded serenely to the mid-innings break – 54 runs in the 11 over mini-session brought the score to 1-77 after 25 and, with wickets in hand, the first thoughts about posting a big total were entertained. The boys pushed hard after the restart, taking a few more risks. Jordan in particular was invigorated and a series of 4's followed. It couldn't, and didn't, last for much longer before Jordan, on 41, found a fielder and was caught. A great partnership of 95 and the platform truly set. Score 2-108 after 32.

Nick came to the crease, and set the tone for what was to follow by cracking two 4's in the first over he faced, bowled by the returning Blacktown opening bowler. The prospect of a Charlie/Nick partnership didn't last long sadly; maybe the oppressive heat under the lid eventually took its toll on Charlie and he holed out 4 overs later. A beautifully paced innings, much like his work last week, saw him depart on 59 (from 77bf). Score 3-128 after 36.

Kieran was next up and batted a responsible supporting innings, rotating the strike expertly, whilst Nick cut loose against the tiring bowlers. Nick was clearly making up for a couple of frustrating weeks previously with the bat and unleashed a succession of 2's and 4's to all parts of the ground. Blacktown shoulders drooped and no bowler was spared in the final 14 overs which saw the boys build an 87 run partnership. Nick's 67 came from just 55 balls and Keiran's 26 off a respectable 43.

Thank you to the Hornsby family for laying out the best lunch spread of the season (so far). To see dozens of parents swarming around the table like fat kids in a lolly shop was a sight to behold.

And so to Blacktown's response....

All was well at first, Ken and Connor spoiled us once again with 2 great wickets for 3 runs in the first 3 overs. However Blacktown's #3 (especially) and #4 presented a very solid barrier to our boys and Hornsby started to leak runs. First change to James didn't stop the leak, the Blacktown boys seemed to enjoy the pace on the ball and all the Hornsby bowlers were uncharacteristically loose. Maybe nerves (our first semi-final!), fatigue in the hot sun, or eating too much lunch was to blame. And a well organised batsman, to give credit where it's due.

Whereas Hornsby had been on 18 after 10 overs, Blacktown got to 51. Credit to Captain Ken he quickly moved to the leg-spin of Vedant at one end and Coopers' nagging accurate medium pace at the other, forcing the batsmen to put energy on the ball. It worked a treat. Whilst Vedant wasn't quite at his usual standard it still slowed Blacktown down, Coopers 4 overs were the best he's bowled all competition and he was rightly rewarded with the breakthrough wicket whilst conceding only 10 runs and ending the dangerous 50 run partnership.

The Blacktown #5 was also a tidy batsman, but with Vedant whirling away at one end and Cooper replaced by the off-spin of Eshaan at the other, the run rate continued to slow. The pressure was building and finally the Blacktown boys snapped, the run-out was on, and Eshaan and Vedant combined to get rid of the dangerous #3 who had just passed 50 runs.

Mid-innings break was taken immediately with Blacktown 4-97 (Hornsby were 1-77). Blacktown boys appeared to have been told to score more runs off our spinners during the break, which resulted in Keiran stumping the set batsman 2 overs after the restart, in Vedant's 10th and final over.

Surely that would be the game won, with the opponents down to #6 and #7 with more than 100 runs needed ?

Another solid partnership commenced. Eshaan continued at one end, proving impossible to get away for more than 3 runs an over and Ken re-introduced pace bowling at the other in short spells shared between 4 boys.

It was proving beyond the Hornsby boys to build pressure at both ends, again Blacktown found the pace to their liking and the occasional 4-balls sufficient to keep them ahead of the scores Hornsby had posted.

Unfortunately for Blacktown they were entering the period of their innings where they'd have to keep pace with Nick's turbo-charged effort, but with 2 settled batsmen they'd given themselves the best chance. The slogging started at about 40 overs, and they added 30 runs in 4 overs.

With Blacktown 5-168, needing 48 off 7 overs this was starting to resemble last week's pressure cooker game, especially with the 2 Blacktown boys having built a 60 run partnership already.

Who would blink first ?

Joe, the one-over spell specialist, opened the flood gates. He managed to shape one of his left-armers through the #7 batsman to do him neck-and-crop. Blacktown now 6-176, needing 40 runs in 6 overs.

Obviously the Blacktown #6 batter, who by now was on 40, didn't have much faith in his remaining partners. He tried to take Connor on at the start of his 3rd spell and spooned a catch which Keiran was able to turn around and take. Adrenaline pumping, Connor allowed the next guy in to block one ball before being comprehensively bowled and then Connor (deciding he was being far too kind) joined with Joe to run the #9 out, golden duck, all in one over. 9-177 after 45 and surely that would be the end of it ? Yes it was; desperate for runs and into the 48th over the #11 took on a lively one from Nick and was easily caught by Jordy. Phew. Well Done boys. Never doubted you for a minute.

Honestly.

The boys will have to match this weeks batting performance and certainly tighten up with the bowling to beat Central Coast this Sunday, but we all know they can do it.

U12 Presidents Cup Win

Gee Shield

U13 Presidents Cup Loss

It was a picturesque day for cricket under blue skies at Freshwater. Our umpire was one of only five female umpires in the NSW Association - let's hope we see more and more in the coming years. Manly won the toss and batted. Ganan snared an early breakthrough, but by the 13th over they had put on a strong and fast-scoring partnership, going at better than four runs an over. Our fielding had room to improve, but in the 14th over Sri bowled their remaining (and dangerous) opener, and two overs later had the new batsman caught. We had them 3/68 after 16 overs. To Manly's credit, they kept the run rate ticking along, but we were energised in the field after drinks. Riley removed their solid number 3 in the 21st over, and Tom had the new batsman LBW in the 25th. We went to morning tea with 5 wickets in the bag and with the momentum running our way. We returned to the field after morning tea a little flat in the field, and their biggest partnership - 66 runs - ensued. Riley combined with Luke to have their top scorer stumped in the 37th over, but by that time they had 160 on the board with 13 overs remaining and four wickets in hand. We

took three more wickets at regular intervals with Riley and Ed chipping in. In the 48th over, skipper Jonathon Phoebus, who did a great job once again running the field, put down a sharp chance, only to pick the ball up and whip it back to the bowler who took off the bails and completed the run out. After 50 overs, Manly had scored 9/195. Riley Behlavanas took three wickets, Srivaths Nahrain took two, and there was one each to Ganan Sritharan, Tommy Gohl and Edward Blackwood. Riley Behlavanas also took two catches to cap off a great day in the field. Zachary McKenzie and Brody Camp also took catches. Luke Duncan took one catch with the gloves and got a stumping - he deserved more after an impressive 50 overs of keeping. Jonathon Phoebus and Benjamin Knox combined for the run out. All the boys contributed with their bowling and fielding, and a number of close run out calls did not go our way, and a number of balls went in the air just falling outside our reach. With a bit of luck, we could have been chasing a much lower score.

After a very nice lunch provided by our hosts, our openers went out and had a steady start, going at about two an over but looking solid. We lost our first wicket in the 5th over, but then Brody Camp and skipper Jonathon Phoebus (number 3) put on 41 runs for the 2nd wicket. Then, in three overs we lost 3/3. Brody, our top scorer with 32, was still in, and together he and Ganan Sritharan (2nd top score with 21) steadied the ship for a few overs, but the wickets fell regularly and by the 43rd over we were all out for 109, well short of the target.

Despite the loss, we come away from the game with a number of positives. If we can eliminate unnecessary wickets, and sustain the tight fielding and bowling we are capable of for longer periods, we should win more games than we lose.

Thanks to the Manly parents for the great food and for their hospitality. Thanks to Mike Blackwood for coaching, to Sri Srivaths and Michael Phoebus for umpiring, to Craig Duncan and Karl Gohl for scoring, and for all the parents for their support and contributions, bringing eskies, marquees, food, drink, and lots of encouragement for the boys.

Moore Shield

U14 Presidents Cup Loss

Weblin Shield Win

Parramatta 122 (40.4 overs) (D Habib 5/27, R Krishna 3/12) def by Hornsby 8/123 (48.5 overs) (O Moss 34, N Dolly 30, T Loxton 27) at Monty Bennett

We lost the toss and bowled first which is what we were going to do anyway. A superbly maintained ground and blue skies looked like this semi final was going to be a runs fest. The Parra openers were dispatching anything loose to the short boundaries and after

seven overs it was 0 for 32. Daniel then found his mojo and went bang, splat, dot, kerpowww after which, Daniel had a “poor man’s hat trick” and Parra were 3 for 32 and in trouble. Lachie jagged a wicket not long after and it was 4 for 42. Travis and Rahul combined for a key run out just before the morning tea break where Parra were 5-103 after 31 overs. Daniel and Rahul then came back out after the break to rout the Parra tail. Parra lost 5-19 and were all out for 122. Daniel (5/27) held the match ball up to the crowd to acknowledge his Michelle Pfeiffer. Rahul also bowled superbly to be 3/12 of 10.4 overs. The fielding was pretty sharp and committed and things were looking good, even Bob looked relaxed.

With fifty minutes to bat before the lunch break Parra came out firing and the always reliable opening pair of Will and Ryan were both back in the sheds with the score on 2-7. Eknoor and Trav pushed the score along to 31 but in the last over before lunch Eknoor (14) snicked one to slip and then in the same over Anthony was also caught at slip and it was 4-31 at lunch. Yoikes! Rahul (5) was out soon after lunch with the score 5-36 and then our “rock” Travis (27) was out caught behind and it was 6-59. Nic was then joined by Mossy at the crease and after both had settled in the boundaries started to flow, much to the delight (and relief) of the Hornsby fans. Mossy cracked 8 boundaries and two singles for his 34 and Nic six boundaries in his very composed 30. Nic and Mossy’s 61 run partnership guided the team to within 3 runs of victory which was sealed by a sneaky tuck around the corner from Danusha (3*).

Well done to all boys on a great team win against the previously undefeated Parra. Great teams always find a way. Good luck in Sunday’s final against Bankstown at Blacktown Olympic Park.

U15 Presidents Cup Win

In an extremely tight match Hornsby was able to defeat Central Coast by one run on the last ball of the day.

We lost the toss and were sent into bat which was exactly what we wanted.

We didn't bat up to expectations except for 2 batters who really showed some determination on a slow ground where 4's were difficult to hit. We ground away and pleasingly we survived for the full 50 overs. 1st challenge met.

The problem for us was that we had only managed 125 from the 50 overs.

Defending 2.5 per over would be difficult. Congratulations to Oliver Williams who scored 29 (almost 1 quarter of the runs) and Shubang Harihan who scored 37 (almost 1 third of the runs.)

The team really showed they had some grit and determination when it came to bowling and fielding. We managed to keep them just on the required rate or just below with some tight bowling. This continued through out the match and certainly put some extra years

on the coach, manager and parents. Hornsby fielded with a desperate attitude for the entire game which went a long way to winning the game. Nick Bishop's fantastic catch to dismiss their big hitter was a highlight as was Kyles Faber's (wicketkeeper) dive to stop a ball that would have gone for two in effect won the game for us. This time, however, the bowlers get the credit for bowling a good line and length and keeping us in the game.

They created run rate pressure which eventually resulted in wickets.

Great effort from them all with Kristoff O'Meara finishing with 3/21 off 10 and Avneet Bhele finishing with 3/16 of 8. Avneet had to bowl the last over with Central Coast needing 3 for win. Avneet kept them to 1 off the over.

They all created the pressure, however, which helped these 2 get their wickets.

A truly exciting game that was played in a great spirit.

Watson Shield

Win

Hosting the Semi Final due to the continued undefeated season Hornsby won the toss & elected to bowl. Win the big tosses they say.

Again the boys showed that they are the team to beat when it comes to fielding. Limiting Canterbury West to a total of 213. It would show to be never enough at Barker. The pick of the day was Ben Wallwoods catch at deep cover running in, sun in his eyes, diving forward, elbows hitting the ground catch. A mere mortal would have surely dropped this chance but Ben held onto it like it was his first dollar coin.

For the second consecutive match spin was bought on first change from the southern end and proved to be a masterstroke breaking the opening partnership, but nothing was going to overshadow the Mitch Johnson like spell of Henry Ludlow bowling with 11 overs 2 maidens 5 for 28.

Time to chase and Mc Vay wasn't going to waste any time doing it scoring early only to be bought back a little before holing out. 47 to J Anderson was a steady innings as to was the 56 from D Hiedegger. Someone did however forgot to tell D Piek that we had plenty of balls to face as he smashed the bowling attack around as though he had some where to go. Scoring 79 off 70 deliveries it was far from a steady innings and was super entertaining to watch. It is always fun seeing the red leather fly over the fence and on to the road at Barker. I am just glad there wasn't a freight train going past as it may have been carrying extra freight weighing approx 156 grams.

Again with only 2 wickets falling there was plenty of firepower in the sheds but not required.

This then puts the side into the finals undefeated for the first time ever. Parramatta to beat at, other than the SCG, the best facility in NSW.

Good Luck lads,

U16 Presidents Cup

Win