

St. Pius X College – Oxley College (Moss Vale)

ISA Round 3: 09/11/2019

2nd XI Report

They said cricket was a summer sport! They told stories of heroism and valour in the blistering Australian heat. They stressed to “re-apply” so we wouldn’t end up with their same, abundant list of skin conditions. But never did they mention playing in the 6-degree chill of Bowral that, according to the Bureau of Meteorology, felt more like -1 °C because of a wind chill that felt like it was straight off Mt Perisher.

The mighty 2nd XI weren’t fazed however, with the skipper Brad Power finally winning a toss, and subsequently electing to bowl. The players donned their warmest clothing (including a white rashie under the jersey of cult-spinner and opening batsman Jackson Carrall) and got out into the field, where they turned up the heat on Oxley from the very first ball. Opening bowlers Nick Ward (2/22) and Oscar MacDonald (3/14) devastated the opposition’s top order early, leaving them reeling at 5/28 at the first drinks break. The following bowlers continued to mount on the pressure with Kiefer O’Brien (0/13), Josh Overton (0/13), Jackson Carrall (0/11) and Ben O’Reilly (0/13) all bowling extremely economically, and were unlucky to not take any wickets. The middle overs belonged to the captain, however, with Brad putting in a tremendous effort to take 3/4 off eight overs, two of those wickets thanks to some stunning catches from Julian Hyde (3 catches, 1 bye) who had another day out behind the stumps. SPX closed up shop brilliantly, with Joel Austin (1/7) taking the final wicket on the last ball of the innings to restrict Oxley to just 99.

After a brilliant lunch hosted by Oxley College, the openers Jackson Carrall (14) and Joel Austin (26) immediately set out chasing down the total as quickly as possible, running out to 1/25 after just four overs. Joel and Josh Overton (45*) then went to work, with some extremely classy strokeplay on show from both batsmen as they continued to edge closer to Oxley’s total. Tom Wunsch (9*) came in with only 15 runs to score and made sure it was done quickly, hitting a brilliant six over deep midwicket to end the game and secure a double-bonus point win for SPX, since the total was chased down within 25 overs. The Pius team could only be summed up as “Icemen” today, overcoming the arctic conditions to comprehensively beat Oxley College on the road.

They’re back to Oxford Falls next week in a top-of-the-table clash against Central Coast Grammar, so make sure you get down next Saturday and show your support for the SPX 2nd XI as they look to extend their unbeaten run in what is sure to be a blockbuster game.

Poetic Correspondent: Nick Ward

Scorers on the day: Mr. Nigel Ward & Mr. Anthony Wunsch

Coach: Mr. Matt Stearn

SPX Black Report 9/11/19

One wonders what it must have been like to see Shakespeare's Othello being performed at The Globe Theatre, or Frank Sinatra on stage in Las Vegas? Nowhere near as good as spending a glorious Saturday morning watching the SPX Black team playing on The Bottom Oval at Oxford Falls!

The Bottom Oval was looking its best for our Round 7 match against Wakehurst The deck was quite hard with a good covering of green grass, the outfield was of course flawless and the pies and coffee from the canteen were up to a similar standard!

After calling correctly at the toss and deciding to bat, skipper Ollie Freeman (24no off 35 balls) and Lachlan Richmond (24no off 35 balls) set about putting on a flawless display, picking the gaps, putting loose deliveries away and running well. The runs kept coming as Lachlan Jurcevic (41no off 35 balls) belted the Wakehurst attack, in a devastating exhibition of stroke play, to all parts of the ground. Jaydon Akouri (25 off 30 balls), and Rueben Boulos (22no off 20 balls) kept the scoreboard ticking over as late runs to Luke Jackson and Max Lynn saw the SPX Black rack up an impressive 4-178 off their 30 overs.

Riley Meares and Riley Collins took the new ball duties and it wasn't long before Meares struck, disrupting the furniture. Collins followed suit in the next over with a beautiful delivery that took the top of middle stump and followed up in his third over when the safe hands of Freeman claimed an excellent catch. 3-20 after six overs, but there were a couple of seriously big units still to come. Max Lynn struck in his first over,(4-21) but the Wakehurst boys were starting to hit out. Lachlan Mitchell, after being roughed up in his first over, struck back with a ball that pitched on leg, spun across the batsman and removed the off bail.

Conner Jory and Jurcevic bowled without much luck at the score climbed into the nineties before Lachie Richmond's leggies picked up two quick wickets. Jayden wrapped things up in the 20th over with the last Wakehurst batsman trudging off and only 99 runs on the board. The next task for the SPX Black team is to put together consecutive wins, as they ramp up their preparations for the round 11 clash against SPX Red!

Round 7 - SPX Blue v Peninsula Sharks

This week we played the undefeated Peninsula Sharks. Pius batted first and lost a few early wickets but were able to fight back in the middle order with solid partnerships between Rhys Bourke, James Patchett, Noah Marshall and Lucas Gleeson. Peninsula were set a target of 105 runs. Tidy bowling kept Pius in the game with Noah Marshall, Sean O'Donnell, Michael Cheah all taking a wicket. The Highlight in the field was a difficult diving forward outfield catch to Lucas Gleeson off Sean O'Donnell bowling. With fast reflexes Oliver Costain gained a runout with a direct hit. In the end Peninsula made the target with 4 wickets in hand. Thanks again to the 1st XI for warming the boys up.

Nathan