

## **ISA Cricket Round 2: Castle Hill 31/10/2020**

### **Oakhill College – St. Pius X College**

A day full of running the covers on and off saw the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI come away with a draw due rain and lightning. With the toss won by Oakhill, choosing to bowl saw the Pius Boys keen to score some runs on a tight boundary.

Ben O'Reilly took advantage early, scoring 54 from 67 deliveries. He set the example for the Pius batsmen, scoring through putting the bad balls away into the river. His performance was backed up by Will Pavely, coming in at four, he hit 51 off 78, seeing out the 1<sup>st</sup> innings unbeaten. St Pius had finished with 5/212, seeing the innings finish later than expected with lightning and a lunch break both taking place before the end of the 50 overs.

The St Pius bowlers were eager to get out and see how the pitch was acting, with a history of being capable to perform the unexpected. 20 overs were completed before the covers were brought out for the second time of the match, which ended up seeing the match called to a draw, with little time left to play with. 1/69 was the Oakhill score, with an Oscar MacDonald caught-and-bowled being the only wicket taken.

With no result being able to be calculated, a drawn match was the outcome for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI side. The overcast conditions lasted all day, seeing the ground often wet in the outfield. An unreliable pitch saw cautious performances with the bat and ball.

**Correspondent:** Oliver Fitzroy

**Scorer:** Mr. David Kennedy

#### **Match Report , Saturday 31 October 2020**

#### **MWJCA Under 15: Round 3**

#### **SPX Yellow vs St Augustine's White**

#### **Nolan's Reserve , North Manly**

**SPX Yellow – 7 for 89 after 24 overs ( rain reduced)**

**St Augustine's White – 7 for 80 after 24 overs**

#### **Match Tied.**

It was back to Nolan's Reserve for SPX Yellow for its round 3, under 15's match against its rivals St Augustine's College Brookvale.

With three teams in the under 15 MWJCA competition for St Augustine's, expectations were high for both clubs to finish somewhere near the top of the table.

With grey skies, light rain and thunder greeting the teams as they arrived, expectations of a full game were low and the possibility of a start at all was also a concern. Following a wait of some 45 minutes, match conditions were safe to start for a reduced 24 overs per team game. The toss was an important one to win for both sides as the pitch remained heavily waterlogged and bowling was only possible from one side. With a lucky call from St Augustine's, SPX Yellow were sent into bat in what was expected to be trying and difficult conditions.

With an unchanged line from last week, SPX opened with its reliable openers Lachlan Jurcevic and Flynn Pavely. Lachlan continued his stellar form from the first few games and both openers looked to steady

starts on a very slow and sticky pitch. The first wicket fell for 27 for SPX Yellow, with the teams other inform batter Victor Mosmann looking to also build another solid innings. Victor's innings was cut short this week by a stunning catch by St Augustine's to dismiss Victor for his first single digit score of the season. Unfortunately, this was the catalyst for an all too common middle order collapse, despite SPX going to the drinks break of the innings at the 12 over at 3-53. With a score of 120 firmly in their eyes, SPX Yellow struggled to form any good partnerships following the enforced retirement of Lachlan Jurcevic, however Declan Carroll did provide strong resistance at the end with a well compiled score.

The close of the innings at the 24<sup>th</sup> over saw SPX Yellow at 7-89, well short of its expected par score of 120 and keen to also try and make early inroads into the St Augustine's batting. Lachlan Jurcevic again led the batting with a 22 retired not out, followed by Eamon Boyle on 16 and Declan Carroll on 10 not out.

As luck would have it, the St Augustine's batting opened with sunlight peeking through the clouds and the pitch considerably drier than the early morning. SPX Yellow opened with its strike bowling pair of Darcy Keenlyside and Nikolai Dimantha, with Nikolai making the first breakthrough thanks to a wonderful catch at gully by Eamon Boyle from a ball smashed by the St Augustine's opener. With a sharp catch and bowled taken by Charlie Woolf, SPX Yellow had clearly taken the ascendancy in the game by having the St Augustine's 2 for 33 at the drinks break at the 12<sup>th</sup> over.

With what was now looking like a close finish and nervous batting by St Augustine's, the match could have turned on the 16<sup>th</sup> over which saw Augustine's hit 15 from the over to take them back to a more comfortable run chase. However, this SPX team is made of sterner stuff, and with a good tactical bowling change from the 17<sup>th</sup> over, it was clear this game would go to the last over. With the second last over bowled by Flynn Pavely who took a wicket and assisted in a run out, the final over went to our clutch bowler Victor Mosmann to protect a 7-run lead with six balls to bowl.

Again, the confidence of SPX Yellow was tested with a boundary from the third ball of Victor's over, however again the boys had a steely look in their eyes to scrap through to the end. The final test for the boys and Victor came with the teams tied at 89 runs each with one ball left to bowl. With the SPX Yellow fielders all up protecting the single, Victor bowled an off stump yorker which made it to the keeper Charlie Woolf, who calmly threw the ball back to the bowlers end to affect the run out and see the match tied.

Best of the SPX Yellow bowling was Lachlan Jurcevic with 2/9 off three overs, Nikolai Dimantha 1/9 from 3 overs and Charlie Woolf with 1/10 from 3 overs.

On reflection neither side deserved to lose and for SPX Yellow, they can take a moral victory knowing they had to bat in tougher conditions in the morning to accumulate its runs. It was an exciting finish for all the players and parents who sat through the early rain and showed the scrappy fighting qualities of a good SPX team that has already shown improvement from the beginning of the season.

Well done boys, great effort by both teams

**Tony DiMauro**  
**SPX Yellow Manager**



Match Report  
St Pius X Under 17 Purple  
Peninsular Pacers  
Watkins Oval

I think it would be a mild understatement stating that the weather at the moment is a bit changeable, and fickle. Last Saturday, the weather, was without doubt was interesting to say the least. At 730am, members of the all-knowing were standing, just short of a good length on the pitch on the Dreadnought Street end at Watkins oval, it was like looking into a half stirred tin of battleship grey paint. There were more greys than a Probus meeting. There was dark grey, darker grey and apocalypse. Angry clouds that said 'no lads- no cricket today.' The taste buds could savour the hot croissants and coffee, and then, back to bed for a Saturday doze and review of boatsales.com to just dream. Not perfect in a cricket sence, but sensational in the least. 20 minutes later, the sun screen was applied, hats on, the coin tossed and a frantic parent realised he'd left his glasses in the car and couldn't score. We were on..... Saturday morning. Even the Gods love watching the mighty SPX Purples

We hosted the Peninsular Pacers at Oxford Falls. The aforementioned toss was lost. That's better, back to normal. We were bowling first. From the get go, the lads were focused. A prep talk from the super coach clearly was instrumental in getting the Pacers on the back foot. Oh, and did I mention the weather, it was a little overcast, so there was a guarantee that there would be more swing than a Glen Miller big band festival. And that's what happened. Mitch and Ollie opened the bowling and had some serious steam happening. Two early wickets including a snappy leg side catch to Evan Ausling saw us into the belly of the Pacers batting line up. Our fielding was the best example of the art this season. Tight, focused and the backing up was sensational, but that exposed underbelly of our bowling attack as reported previously, whilst getting better, was still evident. Statistically, if we break down the bowling into segments we can see an interesting set of figures where the game slipped from our grasp. After 6 overs, the Pacers were 1-10. The second set of six overs saw the Pacers move to 2-50. The third set of six overs saw SPX tie them down again to 6-74. The fourth set of 6 overs, the Pacers was 8-103 and all out for 123 off 27 overs. Digestion at training lads! Also lads, the sundries were way too high. 25 gift runs to Peter Sundry in total. Take that 25 from the Pacers score, and the match takes on a completely different completion. Hats off though, we fought and scraped our way through the innings with 10 tough and can I now add the term 'becoming polished' cricketers. If we continue this intensity to our fielding and bowling, fortunes will change. Imagine what we can do with the shear luxury of 11 players? Hold your heads high lads.



The well drilled being drilled well

Regarding batting we knew what we had to do. 4 runs per over. We had the Watkins home ground advantage. We had the support of the SPX 1<sup>st</sup> X1 taking us under their wing. We had the local knowledge, and the continued support and cheering of the various SPX basketball teams. No wait, just the 1sts- we'll end it there. Some very unpredictable bounce from the Members end saw us loose a few early wickets. (No I'm not going to call it the basketball court end. Whaddayathinking?), the partnerships of Ausling, Frost and McGrath teed off to gain on the ever diminishing target, or at least keep us in the match. At the 20 over mark we were still well within range to take the points but the finish we were all wishing for slipped as wickets fell and overs slid. A few really positive points that emerged from the batting was that the lads were very cool under pressure. Our top order, whilst not all firing, did show considerable flair and resilience in reaching 7-95. Withering stroke play, quick singles and SPX determination was great to witness. Well done lads

### **Match Summary**

**SPX Purples (7-94 off 30 overs) def by Peninsula Pacers (9-123 off 27 overs)**

#### **Batting**

E. Ausling 24\*

P Frost 22

M McGrath 21\*

#### **Bowling**

M McGrath 5O, 2M, 1-14

O Hunt 4O,0M, 2-9

T Lough 4O,0M, 2-16

A Guerra 3O,0M, 1-16