

SPX U/12 Blue.

SPX Blue took on the Peninsula Pacers in Round 2 of the U12/Div 1 competition in windy conditions at Mona Vale.

St Pius sent the Pacers in and we're unlucky not to take more early wickets against a strong Pacers side, with a number of chances falling just wide of fielders. Excellent efforts from Josh Perry and Matthew Opie with the ball, each taking 2 wickets, with Harry Toms and Austin Judd both very unfortunate not to pick up wickets with accurate spells and Oliver Sudbury and Xavier D'Silva putting in strong shifts in the field. The Pacers finished strongly to mount 6-198 from their 30 overs.

Ben Fieldus and Matthew Opie offered stern resistance against an extremely strong Pacers bowling attack, with Lachlan Mirabello also showing great resolve in mounting a rear-guard action before the pacers dismissed St Pius for 36.

Being together as a team for weeks, St Pius Blue continue to form as a team and look forward to more time in the middle over the coming weeks to build their confidence.

SPX U13 Gold

The sun was out although it was very blustery at the Nolan's 4 ground. We went out to the middle to do the toss; I called hills and won the toss and elected to bat.

The outfield was extremely slow. Harry and Alex opened the batting, and it was a slow start although we lost no wickets in the first six overs. Alex got run out after seeing off the opening bowlers. Harry got 9 runs and retired after thirty-five balls. Graham was next into bat, and he ran some quick singles with Harry before being run out pushing for the second run. Brody put on a good partnership with me getting the second top score with thirteen. Sundries top scored with 27. Zac and Jared came in at the end with a nice little cameo to get us to a score of five for eighty five off our thirty overs.

Zac and Jared opened the bowling and bowled very well restricting Wakehurst to just six runs off the first six overs. From there the squeeze was on as we kept it tight dismissing Wakehurst for 63 in the twenty sixth over. Wickets to Alex (2), Rohan, Graham, Brody and myself. Harry and Graham both took two catches and I stole another catch from Graham. Rohan got a direct hit run out. A great start to the season with two wins from two games has us sharing top spot with last year's premiers.

Darcy Horstead

Game 2 match report - 13/11/21

St Pius U13 Black v Beacon Hill Bloomers

The weather was perfect again and, despite playing on the same slow outfield pitch as last week, over all it was a great game of cricket. We unfortunately didn't manage to get the win but come close only 7 runs short of a victory but none the less we played very well. It was certainly a bowlers game on both sides with few runs scored

Our fielding was good and there were some amazing catches. Special mentions to Charlie S, Alex A, Shaun C and Hamish M who all took amazing catches which led to us getting them all out for 51 runs.

On the batting side of things there a few things we could have done to help us get the win but none the less there were some good shots out there, special mentions are Logan V and Miles M for some really nice shots and even some boundaries. Overall, I think we played really well, and I hope everyone had a great time.

Will Pile

14 November 2021

U14 Division 2 Round 2

Dee Why Oval

SPX Red V St Augustine White

After losing the toss, SPX were sent into bat with an outfield that was extremely long. It was clear

that runs were going to be hard to come by. SPX suffered a batting collapse falling to 3 for 3. Undeterred Sam Doherty steadied the ship with 27 not out off his 25 deliveries. SPX ended up 5/77 after their 20 overs.

As could be seen with SPX innings, due to the long grassy outfield, St Augustine's found runs hard to come by. Tight bowling by Sam Crawley 0/4 (3 overs), Myles Roche 0/2 (2 overs) and Harrison Signor 0/2 (2 overs) was backed up by great keeping by Lucas Mackenzie and back up / first time keeper Manni Costello. As the run rate climbed, St Augustine lifted the urgency with their batting which was countered by SPX fielding with all three of St Augustine's wickets falling by way of direct throw run outs (Sam Crawley, Nick Wennan and Harrison Signor) restricting St Augustine to 3/61 and a 16 run victory to SPX.

Matt Crawley U14 Red Coach

Round 2 Match Report

SPX U/15 Yellow

A sunny start greeted SPX yellow on Saturday as the team were eager to claim bragging rights over their fellow St Pius team, SPX orange.

The boys were sent in to bat on a sluggish outfield and after losing an early wicket, Tom Roche played a captain's knock (37* retired) supported by Nathan Bund's gritty innings (11* retired) putting yellow back in front. After a hard-fought opening 15 (overs) Max Spurr (17) and an explosive Darcy Alymer (57* not out) capitalized on the platform set to propel SPX yellow to 155-2 after 30 overs, a stunning turnaround from the previous match.

Striding out to the pitch with some confidence, yellow made a tight start with the ball, yielding a wicket to the bowling of Max Lynn. Disciplined line and lengths kept the pressure on SPX Orange and despite the gusty winds chatter and intensity remained high. Darcy Mills and Flynn Mansbridge each picked up a wicket respectively and were supported by Alessio Spillane and Darcy Alymer with some meticulous work behind the stumps. SPX Orange were restricted to 88-3 from their 30 (overs), handing yellow a comfortable 67 run win reflecting the efforts of the boys with the bat, ball, field and in training.

Thanks to all the coaching staff, umpires and parents. Looking forward to a cracker of a game against Wakehurst Red next week.

Saturday 13 November 2021

Griffith Park, Collaroy

SPX Purple all out for 81 in the last over

Peninsula Pacers 4 / 82 in the 20th over

Peninsula Pacers win by 6 wickets

After an opening round BYE, the newly formed SPX Purple met at a sunny and very Windy Griffith Park, Collaroy to play its first game of the season against a familiar opponent in Peninsula Pacers.

The SPX Purple U17 side is made of a predominantly Year 9 and Year 10 boys, with a sprinkling of Year 11 and Year 8 players. The sides make up will change throughout the season as the ISA competition resumes, with coach Ryan Balboa to enjoy the luxury of having 16 players to choose from until the commencement of ISA.

As is typical of suburban grounds this time of year, the grass was kept long at the ground, and it was always going to be a bowl first strategy for whatever team won the toss. With that team being Peninsula, SPX Purple were sent in to have first use of the synthetic wicket. The openers in Patrick Frost and Tom Lough looked comfortable early on against a very good, quick, and accurate pace attack from Peninsula.

Tom Lough was the first wicket to fall with the score at 13, the victim of a LBW call where DRS would have been helpful. The fall of the first wicket saw a procession of SPX middle wickets tumble, saved only by stoic batting by Patrick Frost which turned into classic stroke play when the score was starting

to become a real concern. The departure of Patrick saw a wonderful cameo innings by Oliver Hunt who took the prize for high score of the day and the best strike rate. Several lusty boundary shots by Oliver remind the other SPX batsmen what was possible on an otherwise slow wicket and outfield. The SPX Purple battings closed in the last over, with the team all out for 81, with Oliver Hunt (22) and Patrick Frost (21) the only SPX batsmen to reach double figures.

With a par score probably in the vicinity of around 120, the SPX bowlers knew they had their work cut out for them and that early wickets were crucial. Right on call Darcy Keenlyside broke the opening Peninsula Partnership thanks to some quick thinking by Liam Hunt behind the stumps, with his second over removing the Peninsula number 3 batsmen for a duck leaving the Peninsula score 2 wickets for 3 runs and hope breathed life into the match for the SPX players.

A further wicket by Antony DiMauro in the 13th over saw the home side 3 wickets down for 41 runs at the halfway mark of their innings, with Peninsula now knowing they were in for a fight. Strong middle order batting by Peninsula saw them navigate the next five overs and basically extinguish any hope SPX had of making it a nervous few overs at the end.

The match ended with Peninsula reaching the target in the 20th over but not before Jesse Mansbridge produced the highlight of the season by completing a diving catch on the boundary to dismiss the Peninsula batsman who had visions of a half century on the day.

Best of the bowling was Darcy Keenlyside with 4 overs, 1 maiden, 2 wickets for 2 runs, with Antony DiMauro and Nick Green the other wicket takers on the day.

With SPX Purple showing clear signs of early season rust it was nice to get cricket back on Saturdays and the boys together to represent the college for another season of cricket.



Showing the full face of the bat

Round 1 – 6th November 2021/22 vs Beacon Hill Vipers – Nolan's 4

Match Report

We arrived early this morning at a dewy Nolan's reserve, it was the first game of the season, and we were all pumped for the game.

Pius won the toss, and we choose to bat. Zach and Harry opened with a strong 50 run partnership, they were both set to retire when Harry unluckily middled one to square leg, 1-53. We lost a few quick wickets in the middle order, Darcy made an elegant 20 and Alex was busy getting into the teens, helping us tick over the scoreboard. After almost 30 overs of tough batting on an outfield as slow as a snail, Pius finished 8-125.

Slightly disappointed with our batting effort, we made our way out to bowl. Kamanan 1-4 and Eddie 0-9 both opened tightly, helping us concede just 15 runs in the first 6 overs. Pius kept this standard throughout the rest of the innings, with Zach 1 wicket for 0 runs (2 maidens) and Alex 0 for 6 runs (1 maiden) bowling great spells. However, the standout bowler in his first game in 2 years was Brody 3 wickets for 9 runs (2 maidens)! Another good sign was our energy and enthusiasm in the field, we made 3 cracking run-outs, 2 of them direct hits and Darcy took a good catch as wicket keeper.

We ended up bowling Beacon Hill out for 61 – a very comfortable win. I am very happy with how we played and excited to see how well we go this season. A big thanks to our coach Toby and manager Eamonn. Great game Pius

Match Report Round 1

SPX U/14 Green

6-11-2021

The Northern Beaches Council has long prided itself on the presentation of its cricket grounds, and so they should for they are some of the finest in the sporting world. Last Saturday morning the SPX U14 Green team had the privilege of kicking off the new season on Nolans Reserve #3, a beautiful ground, considered by many to be the pick of the bunch!

The pitch was firm with a good even covering of green grass. Captain R.Chang called correctly at the toss and asked the Seaforth skipper to have a bowl. Setting a big total was the goal and J.Patchett & R.McCallum seemed set until Patchett had his off stump dislodged by one that jagged back,1/11. O.G.H.Freeman made his way to the middle and he and McCallum got stuck into the Seaforth bowlers before McCallum(25) was adjudged LBW in the 14th over, 2/87. The skipper was now out in the middle as Freeman took to the Seaforth bowlers, bringing up his 50 with a sharp single off the last ball of the 16th over and retiring to the shade of the pavilion. N.Marshall joined his captain in the middle and was looking comfortable before a hamstring strain saw him looking decidedly uncomfortable. He limped off to spend the rest of the morning sitting in the pavilion with an ice-pack strapped to his leg (Marshall 12 ret hurt). Luke Austin arrived in the centre and took his time settling in and getting a feel for the bowling before launching the second delivery he faced onto Pittwater Road where it bounced off the roof of the #607 bus! The runs flowed freely for Chang (37NO) and Austin (46NO) as the Pius boys finished on 2/196 off their 30 overs.

The Seaforth innings got underway with J.Baker unleashed from the southern end, and finding an edge in just his second over which Freeman happily accepted behind the stumps,1/2. L.Opie was doing the heavy lifting from the bowling club end, and also struck in his second over having the remaining opener adjudged LBW by the opposition umpire! 2/4. D.Carroll and O.Costain were brought into the attack. Carroll took no time to cartwheel the batsman's middle peg,3/32 before Costain found an edge and Freeman took another fine catch, 4/33. Lucas Gleeson and his economical left arm tweekers slowed the run rate. Patchett was deadly in the field, pulling off a runout 5/34. Toby Moran bowling with excellent line and length was his usual miserly self, adding his name to the list of wicket takers, 6/44 before that man Patchett took a spectacular diving catch off

the bowling of Austin, 6/44 and Seaforth were in all sorts. The return of Baker saw the exit of another Seaforth bat, 8/70 before a runout in the final over drew things to a close. All up a pretty good start to the season. The batting looks solid, but the bowling will need to make a big improvement if this team is to compete in the weeks ahead as we take on Peninsular in a grand final replay and a Wakehurst team with a point to prove!



SPX U14 Green