

Match Report , Saturday 13 March 2021

MWJCA Under 15: Round 16

SPX Yellow vs Cromer

Beverley Jobs Reserve, Narraweena

SPX Yellow – 8 for 140 after 30 overs

Cromer – 7 for 51 after 30 overs

SPX Yellow win by 89 runs

The phrase “*A week’s a long time in Sport*” is regularly used by Sports Journalists (actually think the original quote referred to Politics) to highlight that form slumps are easily forgotten after a win. Having suffered poor form since their return from the Christmas break and, having had the pressure valve of finals released the week earlier, SPX Yellow travelled to Narraweena the destination of its best win of the season so far, to face its last regular round opponent in Cromer.

The unusually warm weather for March had instilled enthusiasm within the team, and this was even further lifted when SPX captain called correctly at the toss and didn’t hesitate to bat, having struggled over the last few games chasing scores in the second innings.

SPX Yellow made a slight change to its usual opening batting pair, with Lachlan Jurcevic this time partnered by Charlie Woolf. Charlie had been rewarded for very good batting form over the last month and deserved the promotion up the batting order. It was a slow thoughtful start by the SPX openers with this type of mentality to characterise the batting for the whole SPX innings. With some tight bowling and good fielding by Cromer , both openers were back in the pavilion with the score at 31, as Victor Mosmann and Ben Vaccarella looked to build a good partnership as foundation for a post drinks break batting assault. With the score at 4 for 73 at the innings break , the team looked confident of reaching 150 in the overs remaining. Steady batting by Captain Boyle and Flynn Pavely saw the 100 runs mark passed easily , which was followed by some strong resistance in the batting tail-end from Antony DiMauro and Nicolai Dimantha. The compulsory close of innings saw SPX register a good total of 140, with many of the boys comfortable that the lethal SPX bowling attack would finish the job.

Batting honors on the day go to the captain Eamon Boyle with a stylish 25 filled with a number of lust hits over the cover region, followed by a return to form for Antony DiMauro with 21 not out and the ever reliable Lachlan Jurcevic with 20. The most pleasing aspect of the SPX batting which turns around recent form, is that most of the top and middle order settled in early, were thoughtful with regard to shot selection and most reached double figures and looked comfortable throughout their innings.

With Flynn Pavely rested from opening the batting and keeping, and Declan Carroll elevated to the 17’s for the weekend to assist SPX Purple, Flynn opened the SPX Bowling with Darcy Keenlyside with immediate and decisive action removing both Cromer openers by his third over. What was to follow is probably the main reason the mercy rule should be used in cricket as the Cromer batting melted quicker than soft serve ice cream on a hot day, with the Cromer score at 6 down for 30 runs at the 15th over drinks break.

The last 15 overs was probably the most bizarre cricket seen by any opponent all season, as the Cromer 9th wicket pair decided to mimic Geoff Boycott or Cheteshwar Pujara and not only block most balls faced from the 18th over onwards but also not run for any easy singles. The last Cromer pair managed to face 94 balls for a total aggregate between them of 8 runs. Cromer managed to achieve their target of batting to the 30th over however they only reached 51 runs and had no batsmen reach double figures in the innings. A little unsure of the objective of the Cromer team for the last round of the season however it did give SPX Yellow boys a chance to work on their tans whilst fielding, and allow the SPX captain to bowl 10 of the 11 players on the field.

All SPX Bowlers are to be acknowledged for their bowling on the day given the frustrating tactics of Cromer, however special mention goes to Andrew May and Nicolai Dimantha both with figures of 2 wickets for 5 runs from their three overs, Flynn Pavely who started the Cromer collapse with 2 wickets for 12 and Darcy Keenlyside taking the other wicket.

With the regular season now completed , SPX Yellow finished equal fourth on the ladder however 5th placed on the run quotient formula meaning the SPX team would not play semifinals this year. This as written in earlier match reports was a huge disappointment as the team spent most of the year in 3rd place on the ladder. Reflection of what might have been is best kept for another day as it was nice to just enjoy the win.

A special thanks for all the boys and the parents for their kind gesture to the SPX Yellow coach and manager.

A consolation playoff match remains for all teams not contesting the semifinals and the boys I'm sure will bring the same enthusiasm for this last game.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7YZ9THc8uESVn7hd6>

Great win boys.

Tony DiMauro

SPX Yellow Manager

SPX U14 Green
Match report
Saturday 13-3-2021. Round 16
SPX defeating St Augustine's Gold

The day started with a loss of the toss and we were sent into bat on a very wet field. Strong opening bowling from Tom Carroll (2 for 2 including 2 maidens) and Chris Mander (1 for 5) set the tone for the day. Great bowling and fielding effort from everyone lead to a steady stream of wickets with 2 wickets each for Darcy Mills and Will Lyall. At drinks the score was 8 for 50, Augustine's then fought back to finish at all out for 86. Leaving a small but tricky total to chase.

Fiery opening bowling from Saint Augustine's led to the early wicket of Darcy Mills. A steady partnership between Ziggy Gilleland And Will Lyall got us back on track. Will Lyall went on to dominating the bowling scoring more than half the required runs (45 Not out) to put the team in a strong position. At the 15 over break, we needed a small total of 17. Despite the loss of a couple of quick wickets. Chris Mander and Tom Carroll saw the team home getting the remaining runs.

It was a great effort by everyone lead to success over the school rival. Looking forward to carrying on our success into the last game next week.





Match Report
St Pius X Under 17 Purple
Harbord Spinners
Harbord Oval
13th March 2021

I suppose I should end this tumultuous season with the final words from Gideon Lawler's play [Rays Brother], 'The Summer of the 17th roll. Sort of bookending life' extraordinary journey from the past 6 months

Emma- where did that time go Roo? There is so much more to do

Roo – Emma, things will be fine, life will go on

Emma- but the rugby league, I just want what I had before.....

Yes good people, as this jaded reporter struggles to write quirky drivel on just about anything except cricket and as the 20-21 cricket season drags itself into hibernation to make way for the winter carnage, we have this time to reflect on the season that was, well, not yet. That's to come next week. This week, firstly, as self-appointed correspondent and third in charge of cynical comments for the Mighty Purples, may I offer our heartfelt congrats to the 2nds for their magnificent win in the finals of the ISA comp last Saturday. We at the Mighty Purples, feel we have several special interests in their victory of which, makes us minutely partial winners as well. Now other cynics amongst us may think that was a cheap shot, but my intentions are sincerely genuine and

Kit Kat awards to the Lough crew, who answered the early call for some much required hardware. Namely stumps and a nut to enable the mighty Purples to participate, as super coach, and hence the kit, went down with man flu. Nasty stuff that. One thing I will say regarding this team and its periphery, when unsavoury things hit a fan, lots of people stand up to help out and offer fantastic support. Thank-you all.

Regarding the game, we lost the toss and were requested to field. Continuing our form, the lads again combined with an inspirational spell of bowling from our openers and first change bowlers. Harbord were scoring at a frantic Geoff Boycott pace of a little over 2/over, real paint drying stuff, at 15 overs, Harbord were 1-41 and struggling. Fast accurate bowling ably supported in the field with some terrific catching and backing up, kept the second placed team on the ladder contained. Hats off to Tom Kennedy, Ollie Hunt and Jesse Mansbridge [5.20, 0M, 4-16]. The second session, the wheel tended to get a bit wobbly, with the run rate increasing to over 5 an over. At the end of 29.2 overs, Harbord were all out for 125.

Regarding the batting, well it would be nice to end it here. It turned into a revolving door of SPX batsmen drying the grass as they walked out, then back in again. Some notable rear guard action from Pat Frost, Ollie Hunt, Jesse Mansbridge and Tom Kennedy, but the damage had been done and the

target slipped from our grasp. As proven previously, it's the small targets that always seem out of reach. We wish Harbord all the best for their finals campaign.

It would be remiss of me at this stage to not take this opportunity to thank a few bods. To the mums and dads that turn up every week to chip in to the running and organising of the game, even in the most valuable role of supporting their lads and enjoying a most perfect Saturday morning, regardless of the cricket outcome. To those that score and umpire, I don't think I've actually asked anybody all season to stand up to undertake these somewhat tedious tasks. To those at SPX Mothership for organising and supplying stuff to make it all possible. To Super-coach, I think he's aged a few years this season. Clearly he is very dedicated and passionate. To the lads, yes including those on loan to the 2nds and all those others that came down to offer their experience and share their knowledge [yes that's you Brad], I think I can say this on behalf of the members of the Mighty Purple advisory table of know-it-alls, we have laughed, cried, enjoyed the wins, enjoyed the losses and feel very honoured to have been part of it all. Sincere thank-you's all round

To those lads that are about to embark on life, who's cricketing times with the mighty Purples draw to a close, I say thank you, good luck with your endeavours and please keep safe

Match results

SPX Purples 8-86 Defeated by Harbord Spinners 10-125 after 30 overs

Bowling

Jesse Mansbridge 5.20, 0M, 4-16

Ollie Hunt 30, 0M, 1-5

Brad Power 40, 1M, 2-13

Tom Kennedy 30, 0M, 0-10

Batting

Pat Frost 27*

Jesse Mansbridge 11

Ollie Hunt 10