

## **SPX u14 Red Team Report 2026**

Scoreboards measure results. Character is measured by how you react to adversity and how you show up the next day. The SPX U14 Red team of 2026 truly personified character. I have never been involved in a sporting team that has come back to win the final matches after losing so regularly. With each loss, as a team, the boys continued to smile, accept the lessons, and enjoy the shared experience. Every Saturday the boys brought a positive attitude and a desire to enjoy the game. Well done boys, you should be proud of yourselves. The final two wins, after 17 straight losses, were just reward. After many seasons involved in cricket this one will stand out as special, and I know you will all look back fondly in time with a grin at this season.

The team was exuberant and positive in the field. Fielding was our strength for the majority of the season. This positive approach was best demonstrated in the final game, when we snapped up four sharp catches in the first five overs to have the opposition reeling at 4/9.

Our bowling improved with every game. Once we developed an understanding that line and length are key fundamentals, many of the boys graduated to the finer arts of swinging the ball and wrist spin.

Where we were often undone was with the bat. It is imperative that batsmen build a solid defence and allow themselves time to settle into the conditions before chasing risky shots. Batting and bowling are highly technical skills, and I encourage all the boys to put in extra technical work—it will lead to even greater enjoyment of the game.

Below is a brief snapshot of each player:

**Toby Batishall** – Toby was our go-to man for energy in the field. A dynamic fielder, he was always giving the team a boost through both words and actions when we needed it most. New to the game, his batting and bowling improved with every match. Toby has a good eye, and as his technique improves I expect he will begin piling on the runs.

**Zac Bunny** – 166 runs at 12.77, 16 wickets at 12.19 and 4 catches made Zac our top all-round performer for the season. Zac developed a deadly outswinger, taking the wicket of the season against Wakehurst with a fast delivery that clipped the top of off stump.

**Liam Gallery** – Liam is an accurate bowler whose wicket tally was lower than he deserved. In the final game he consistently hit a good length on off stump to deliver figures of 2 for 8 from 4 overs. He has worked hard on his batting and I expect this work will pay off in the future.

**Ashton Marks** – Another cricketer whose batting and bowling results belied his athletic ability and work ethic. Ashton was our Jonty Rhodes in the field, taking the most catches during the season (8). With patience many more runs will come, and I expect his pace and deadly inswinger will become a real weapon for teams in the future.

**John Mazzei** – The first batsman to embrace the concept of a rock-solid defence and the patience to wait for the inevitable bad ball. John was the batting anchor in our team and was not out for four games in a row. He was also a dependable wicketkeeper and has a natural leg spin delivery that I expect will become a weapon in the future.

**Tom Moskvin** – Our top wicketkeeper and an excellent swing bowler. By season's end Tom had batsmen completely confused with his ability to swing the ball late and with control. He is an agile wicketkeeper who took some excellent catches. Tom has a solid batting technique and, when he learns not to become frustrated early on, will start scoring many more runs.

**Kairav Singh** – The ever-smiling Kai took some remarkable catches and delivered several excellent bowling spells, including two wickets in consecutive balls against St Augustines. Kai's best with the bat also came against St Augustine's with a near match-winning 27 scored in quick time.

**Richie Spencer** – Richie has a golden arm, often dismissing top batsmen when most needed. Bowling solid left-arm orthodox, he snared the league's top batsman at Tania Park with a textbook turning delivery. A much-improved batsman and fielder, Richie was a team favourite.

**Josh Telford** – Josh has a big smile and an excellent eye for the ball. In typical fashion, Josh took the Collaroy attack to the cleaners with a great knock while chasing a huge total. Josh is a natural wicketkeeper and fielder. He has a bowling action that is difficult for batsmen to read and, with work on his length, will continue to progress.

**Will Hanks** - Will was always on hand to give the team a shot of confidence with a wicket, catch or boundary when the team most needed it. A confident strokeplayer and natural ability for leg spin will stand Will in good stead through his career. Will finished the season with the top batting average of 18.75.

**Oliver Ward** - Oli was our top run scorer with 199 runs for the season. A swashbuckling 42 off 39 balls in the final game typified his approach to batting. Oli also finished the season with the 2nd highest number of wickets (11) at an average of 19.82.

**Oliver Pemberton** - Oliver was deservedly promoted to the A team after the first 3 games, averaging 42.5.

A special thank you to the parents who were always on hand to score, umpire and give an encouraging word. Thank you to the cricket committee, coaches and the College for facilitating the season.

**Andrew Ward**