



# St Pius X College Cricket Club

## St Pius Gold U13 vs Harbord Warriors 20 November 2021. Round 3

Match report by Graham Halgreen

All the boys in our team went to Keirle Park to take on the Harbord Warriors. When we got there, it was overcast. Unfortunately, I lost the toss, and we were sent into bat first. Fortunately, that is what we wanted to do anyway.

Zach Rapa and Darcy Horstead opened the batting and got us off to a great start. They both retired, leaving the team with the knowledge that there was batsman in bank. Eddie was next and picked up the run rate for us, unfortunately he was caught after a great start. Most of the boys batted well but Jared had an amazing innings and was 47 not out of just 35 balls.

The boys came out to defend a total of 160 (we had lost 6 wickets). We started off the bowling innings with Harry and Alex who got us off to a solid start. Neither of which leaked many runs in the first overs. The oppositions opening batsman where hard to knock over as they had a steady start. Until Alex got the first wicket with an amazing catch by Jared. Up to drinks I think we had 3 wickets and the batsman where not up to speed with their run chase. We started getting a few more wickets after drinks and there were a few close calls as well.

All in all, it was a great game and Pius managed to win comfortably by 78 runs. Again, I want to highlight Jared's batting with an amazing innings and Darcy taking 1 wicket for just 4 runs in 4 overs. Of course, thank you to the umpires and scorers.

### Match Report, Saturday 20 Nov 2021

Under 14 Div 2: Round 3 SPX Red vs Peninsula Heat

SPX Red – 3/78 after 20 overs.

Peninsula Hear – 3 for 79 in the 12th over

The SPX side arrived early at Terrey Hills and after a quick inspection of the pitch decided to bat if they won the toss. We lost that but ended up batting anyway. After a steady start from Jack and Connor, the scoring rate increased with some cracking boundaries from Connor as both boys retired with wickets intact. The next batsman in Myles continued to keep the scoring app moving over his innings with consecutive boundaries through mid-wicket the highlight. Unfortunately, the Heat, through a succession of slow paced bowlers, managed to restrict our other batsmen and while Manni got bat on ball numerous times we were struggling to get runs. The final pairing of Michael and Tom entertained the sideline and flustered the fielding side as they ran late 2s before a run out on the last ball.

The score of 78 looked a little under par and so it proved as the Peninsula side appeared with a strong top order. The opener and first drop punished our bowlers, particularly anything short of a length. When we bowled fuller, the runs were stymied with Lucas being very economical 1/6 from 2 overs. Nick took out one wicket with a fantastic direct hit, but they were all we had for our efforts after 10 overs. Chances were created, with a couple of catches that would on another day have been held hitting the ground, but the boys remained positive with each other. They were rewarded with a second run out from Jack just before our score was passed and the game ended.



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While the result did not go our way, it was a good game and the boys will learn from what they saw in terms of aggressive batting and challenging accurate bowling, something I know SPX Red can deliver themselves in future games.

See you on Dec 4 after the bye

Hugh Roche SPX Red Manager

## Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> SPX Orange.

St Pius lost the toss and got sent to field. Some exquisite bowling from Crysto getting an early wicket. St Pius had their hopes up as the new batsman came to the crease. At the crease some quick thinking from both Ara and Lachlan getting us a run out which dismisses the other opening batsman. Two new batsmen at the crease prove a good partnership and have St Pius worried but quick to our rescue the batsmen hits the ball in the air and Ryan O Riley takes a catch off Riley Collin's ball. Hopes run high as more wickets come flowing in from Lachlan getting an LBW and Sergio taking a wicket. Not long after the innings come to an end and St Pius need to chase 195 runs. Opening Batsman Sergio Vincenzo and Ryan O Riley looking to start things strong but unfortunately Ryan gets out early bringing Ara to the crease. A very slow start and just like that- it was drinks, and the boys only have 40 runs on the board. They knew it would be a tough challenge to win this game, but Lachlan and Josh Barwell try to pick up the pace. However, Josh goes out early which leave Lachlan and Flynn to pile on some runs. At around the 29rd over Lachlan is on 47 runs and Flynn on 23. Lachie aiming for a half century but gets dismissed unfortunately. The last couple of balls go by and ends in a loss for St Pius. It was a tough game, but we will be back again giving it our best next week.



SPX U15 Orange



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## **Saturday 20 November 2021**

SPX Purple vs St Augustine's Green

Melwood Oval, Frenches Forest

St Augustine's Green all out for 61 in the 18<sup>th</sup> over

SPX Purple was 0/62 in the 11<sup>th</sup> over

SPX Purple win by 10 wickets

Grey skies and the possibility of rain greeted SPX Purple to Melwood Oval Frenches Forest for the first of its games against fellow Catholic School St Augustine's of Brookvale. The synthetic oval at Melwood would provide relief later in the day in the event of rain, with the toss won by our opponents who took the batting option first, fresh from a high score of 160 runs in its previous weeks match.

SPX bowling attack opened with its frontline pace attack of Darcy Keenlyside and Oliver Hunt, with both bowlers particularly quick on the hard surface at Melwood. Darcy was his usual line and length however it was Oliver who captured the first wicket delivering a brute of ball which was caught by his brother Liam behind the stumps. With the first wicket to fall at 12 runs, the St Augustine's batting look to consolidate the middle order which looked successful until Antony DiMauro cleverly spun one on the pitch to see Liam Hunts glove work again stump the St Augustine's number 3 batter, just as he was looking to settle in for the innings.

With the St Augustine's middle order now exposed Ben Purcell came on to bowl to completely change the match SPX way. In a three over spell which conceded just 1 run and a wide, Ben sent three of the St Augustine's back to the pavilion with two of the batters failing to trouble the scorers. With the score at 5 wickets for 40 and St Augustine's in deep trouble, Jesse Mansbridge and Ben Vaccarella came on to issue the last rights to the St Augustine's batting, with Jesse's pace bowling sending shock waves through the remaining St Augustine's batting line up.

The St Augustine's innings came to an early close in the 18<sup>th</sup> over, all out for 61 with the SPX bowlers the stars of the day so far. Best bowling of the day was Ben Purcell with 3 overs, 1 maiden, 3 wickets for 2 runs; Jesse Mansbridge 2 overs, 1 maiden, 2 wickets for 3 runs with Oliver Hunt, Antony DiMauro and Ben Vaccarella the other wicket tickets on the day.

With a modest total to chase, the SPX openers of Patrick Frost and Jesse Mansbridge made a cautious and slow start to the chase, being selective on shot making on what was particularly good tight bowling at the beginning by St Augustine's. Once both batters had their eye in, they made light and easy work on the chase with each sending several balls to and over the boundary fence for an impressive win. Jesse channelled his best Mathew Wade impression in the recent T20 semi-final, by finishing the match with a six over square leg. Both batsmen finished the match not out with Patrick Frost on 27 and Jesse Mansbridge on 34 and highest of the day thanks to a last over flurry of runs.

Whilst all victories make for a good confidence booster, the SPX boys are aware there would be tougher games ahead in the season.

Well played boys.