

## ISA Cricket Round 1: Oxford Falls 24/10/2020

### St. Pius X College – St. Andrews Cathedral

Last weekend's match up saw the young 2<sup>nd</sup> XI side eager for a day of cricket, with 8 debutants wanting to make a statement in the ISA competition. A history making game was unravelled, with weather conditions wanting to spoil the party. The second innings was cut to 39 overs, which however saw enough for a decision to be made, and for 6 points to be added to the blue and gold on the ISA ladder.

The toss was won by St Andrews, with their choice to bowl first proving costly. The Pius boys were meant for business, with Keelan Mendel coming in at 3 racking up a total of 142 runs, a new record for highest score from a St Pius 2<sup>nd</sup> XI player. Steering the ship alongside him was Oscar MacDonald, with a busy 74 off 36, including 5 sixes, which resulted in 3 balls being hit and lost simultaneously into the bush behind the Watkins and Walsh signs.

After an explosive finish from the tail, a score of 311 was set for the St Andrews batsmen, also ticking another record off the list, the first time a St Pius 2<sup>nd</sup> XI side has totalled 300 runs. With a healthy score to defend, the Pius bowlers were eager to get out there before the light drizzle got to intense. Angus McConnel set the example early, knocking over the stumps along with 2 maidens.

With intensity in the outfield, the win was well deserved for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI. On a gloomy day, the match shined with a history making batting performance, backed up with sufficient bowling and fielding closing out the game.

**Correspondent:** Oliver Fitzroy

**Scorer:** Mr. Sean Aylmer



## **SPX U14 Green Match Report 24-10-2020**

It was a gloomy morning for SPX green as the visitors lost the toss and were sent out to bat on a damp, slow-scoring Nolan's Reserve wicket. The openers made a watchful start successfully navigating the first eight overs without losing a batsman. St Pius put up a strong fight with the bat, standout performances coming from Chris Mander (18 not out), Will Zhara (12) and Will Lyall (10). Despite a gritty effort from the nine determined batsmen, St Pius were contained to 72 from 30 overs by a vigorous Seaforth bowling attack and challenging conditions.

Defending a low total on what was now becoming a much easier batting pitch the boys adopted an aggressive mindset, going out to take wickets, create pressure and showing true Pius spirit, never giving up and making the opposition fight for every run they got.

Credit must be given to all the boys as even with two players short, and our backs to the wall, not a single player gave up hope. We showed great intensity and took the game as deep as possible. Josh Turner, Will Zhara and Ziggy Gilleland bowled tightly, with Will Lyal, Nathan Bund and Tom Carrol dismissing three of the top order Seaforth batsmen. Commendations to Max Spurr for some tidy keeping behind the stumps.



St Pius X Green

At the end of the day, the match was a test of character, and although we didn't walk away with the result we were hoping for not a single player in SPX green didn't pull their weight. It was extremely encouraging for both our next game and the rest of our cricketing careers to see a group of boys who had respect for each other, the opposition, parents, coaches and the game.

## **Match Report , Saturday 24 October 2020**

### **MWJCA Under 15: Round 2**

#### **SPX Yellow vs Wakehurst Green**

#### **Terrey Hills Oval, Terrey Hills**

**SPX Yellow – 4 for 160 after 30 overs**

**Wakehurst Green – 6 for 127 after 30 overs**

#### **SPX Yellow victorious by 33 runs**

Round 2 for the SPX Yellow under 15's saw the side travel to Terrey Hills to take on the second of the Wakehurst Cricket Club sides in the division, Wakehurst Green. With inclement weather greeting the team on arrival there were concerns whether the match would extend to the full 30 overs for each side.

With Wakehurst winning the toss and confidently sending SPX Yellow into bat, the Wakehurst team were expecting to take advantage of a wet pitch and the ball skidding through to the keeper. SPX opened with last week's top scorer Lachlan Jurcevic and Flynn Pavely. Lachlan showed signs of bringing last week's form to this week's game, whilst Flynn looked comfortable with the early pace bowling as both boys maintained a good strike rate through the opening 5 overs. The first SPX wicket fell for 29 in the seventh over bringing another of last week's inform batsman, Victor Mosmann to the crease. Both Lachlan and Victor played soundly through to the 15<sup>th</sup> over drinks break, dispatching the poor balls to the boundary and defensively sound on the good balls. Victor was his usual calm temperament, working the singles and two's to the teams' advantage. The team went to the drinks break at 2/75, on its way to eclipsing last week's score and looking to drive home the advantage in what was now annoying rain/drizzle for both batting and bowling sides. The second session of SPX batting innings was characterized by a masterclass of batting from Ben Vaccarella who hit the ball to all parts of the boundary and who worked some wonderful batting partnerships with Victor, Eamon Boyle and Antony DiMauro.

The chase for runs in the last 4 overs of the SPX Yellow battings saw a few cheap wickets fall, however by that stage the total had well passed the 150 mark. The innings close for SPX Yellow at 4/160 with the top run scorer for the day to Ben Vaccarella with 39, followed by Victor Mosmann 35 and Lachlan Jurcevic with 30.

With the rain now settled in, Wakehurst commenced their innings knowing only solid partnerships in the early batting would allow them to chase down the score. SPX Yellow bowling opened with Darcy Keenlyside and Nikolai Dimantha and both bowlers set the tone and standard for what was to follow. This week's energy in the fielding was evident as the bowling for the first 15 overs was a slow grind for Wakehurst, falling ever behind in the run rate as each over passed. The mid break of the session saw Wakehurst at 2/59, needing another 100 runs from the last 15 overs. A combination of great work in the field, good catches and sharp returns saw Wakehurst crumble in their chase for glory, and finish well short at the end of their innings. Special mentions to Flynn Pavely for his excellent keeping and catching and Eamon Boyle for a great catch in the rain. Best of the bowlers were Victor Mosmann 1/3 from 3 overs including a maiden, Darcy Keenlyside with 1/6 from 3 overs, with special mentions for Flynn Pavely 1/12, Ben Vaccarella and Lachlan Jurcevic with 1/16 each.

A justified result for SPX Yellow for the patience they put into their batting, the thinking they put into their bowling and the energy they displayed in the field.

A very special mention goes to our new Player, Xander Buckingham who bowled his first over for SPX Cricket and who will be a valuable addition to the team in the matches to come.

Well done boys, great effort.

**Tony DiMauro**

**SPX Yellow Manager**



Match Report  
St Pius X Under 17 Purple  
Harbord Spinners  
Nolans 1

Isn't life strange? Not so long ago it would have been unheard of to not be able to fill a full cricket team from a positive and forward looking institution such as SPX. That august institution has tried, the lads that play in the mighty U17's have tried, but to no avail. This week, we still languished with 9 players against a noble opposition in the Harbord Spinners. To me, it is a bit unfair. Not to those on the field including the opposition, but to the vast members of the cricket associations that organises these events to occur, the parents that dutifully travel, support and nurture the lads the coaches and the whole raft of people that make the morning 'work'. These few statements I type are not to blame anybody specifically, it just seems to me that society is or has changed- are people so highly wired nowadays that if their young sons and daughters are to play a sport, the event must take place and be finished with as quick as possible? Get in, get it done, and get out as fast as humanly possible. It seems to me that the heady days of cricket on the common are waning. Gee I hope I'm wrong and gladly happy to be rebuked. There are most likely thousands of answers and explanations as to why, some more poignant than others. Answers on a postcard please!

OK- I'm off my soapbox now. Basically, we need a few more starters willing to take up the battle- to stare down that delivery, to catch that ball, to stand up to enable a more balanced contest- it's only fair on the current lads that have already stood up to maintain that fine tradition of cricket.

Firstly, welcome to our new and latest members of the squad, Evan Ausling, Aiden Wilson and Mitch McGrath. It's great to have you all on board. The mighty Purples won the toss, again. That's 2 in a row. Save that coin Angelo- unprecedented territory here. We elected to bat first as a slow soft drizzle of rain quenched the thirsty soils of Nolans. As the lads strapped on their pads, the drizzle stopped. The outer was heavy but draining. It didn't rain again until we drove out of the carpark, bruised and battered. We started excellently with Thom Lough and Evan Ausling taking the shine off the pill and scoring at a healthy clip before Evan was smartly caught in the gully. Honours of the day go to Pat Frost who came into bat at 1<sup>st</sup> drop and commenced a very entertaining and valuable dig. Unfortunately Thom was stumped 3 balls prior to drinks. After drinks, Harbord bought on these two spinners that would make the great 'Shane' look positively pedestrian. Cloudy overcast humid conditions- yeh the pitch may take some spin. The ball was oval and smoking when it left those hands. Unfortunately our wickets fell away quickly and cheaply. Valiant effort though lads. Tip of the day, probably a bit more practice in stroke play as the ball didn't come onto the bat. There were several occasions where the ball spooned away to be snapped up- indicating we were through our shots prior to the ball arriving onto the bat. A thing to watch



Regarding the bowling, hats off to all the bowlers in the team. The lads showed commitment and determination in the bowling attack. Having to defend such a small total with 9 players is an uphill battle at the best of times- I'd call it a near vertical incline. Being able to set an affective attacking field is very difficult under such circumstances. There are holes everywhere to be exploited by batsmen. Even the outer began to quicken due to the humidity. Special mention to Mitch McGrath who gave it his all.

Regarding the fielding, again it is easy to criticise, but with 9 players, the task is all that more difficult. The lads chased and backed up, but above all else, supported each other. Pat Frost threw in a blinding return from deep backward square to affect a run out. Classy stuff. There would have been more success given fielding numbers. Stay positive lads

#### Results

SPX Purple 8-98

P Frost 36

T Lough 19

Mitch McGrath 6O, 0M, 0-43

Def by

Harbord Spinners

1-103 (13 overs)

# SPX U14 Cricket Report

## Round 1. Darcy Mills- U14 Captain

We kicked the season off with perfect cricket conditions at Kierle Park, with a lovely sea breeze blowing from Queenscliff Beach. SPX Green were dying to take to the crease and make our parents proud. We lost the toss and Peninsula Lightning sent us into bat. They were unaware of the storm ahead.

Nathan and Ziggy opened the batting and got SPX Green off to a flying start. Will Lyall and Chris Mander got an incredible partnership of 46 which pointed us in the right direction. Our batsmen scored the following; Will Lyall 27\*, Nathan Bund 13, Josh Turner & Tom McElvogue both scored 12, Ziggy Gilleland & Chris Mander both scored 10, followed lastly by Will Zahra on 8\*.

The umpires certainly hammered the stumps well into the ground. I thought we were playing croquet as we aimed at stumps half the size. I took the first wicket (and broke the bail), which set the tone for our bowling. Ziggy was best with ball in hand claiming 3/4, followed by Will Zahra, with 2/10 and Tom McElvogue with 1/1. Max, Chris and I also claimed 1 wicket each. Tom Carroll's deadly bowling resulted in 0/2; we have a great bowling line up!

Classic catches went to Will Z, Nathan, Ziggy and me. Shout out to Tom M and Max, for doing an excellent job wicket-keeping.

Great team effort from everyone, and we look forward to next week's match against the Seaforth Sixers.

Darcy Mills