



WASTCA

West Australian Suburban Turf Cricket Association (Inc.)

KOOKABURRA CRICKETWEST CUP

WASTCA SENIORS MATCHES -5th&6th JANUARY 2019

A change to the format for the kookaburra Cricketwest cup this season would see the seniors and colts combined into one competition and all matches between the 5 associations played over a blockbuster weekend of cricket with every association agreeing to scheduling a bye round in order to ensure players were available for representative cricket.

The WASTCA seniors squad would have no less than 12 clubs represented with a strong line-up combining a good blend of youth and experience, depth of quality batsmen and strike bowlers complemented by a group of solid all rounders. This season the senior team would be attempting to win their 4th straight title and continue its unbeaten run through the round robin fixtures as well.

Once again this year's squad have secured the talent and experience of ex-international cricketer Suresh Perera as the captain with the multi-talented all-rounder exploits of Brody Koelewyn as the vice-captain who was coming off a solid winter preparation of English county cricket and some fantastic form with bat and ball thus far in the current club competition.

ROUND 1 VS PERTH CRICKET ASSOCIATION (PCA)

Perth Cricket Association have been competitive over the years and being one of the biggest competitions in the metropolitan area we were under no illusions as to the strength of their squad- We were however to be surprised to find out their appointed captain had withdrawn at late notice and they appeared in disarray prior to the commencement of the match.

Suresh Perera would decide to bowl first and with new first time players James Claxton from the Swan Athletic Caversham CC to open up with his left arm medium fast seamers along Bassendean CC Right arm opening bowler Ravi Kumar we would start the carnival in style and send an early message to the competition.

Kumar was first to strike in the fourth over with a stylish outfield catch by his fellow clubman Ash Dahiya- the score 1/23. Bentley CC stalwart Brendan Daye took over from Claxton and continued to choke the PCA batsmen who were by now digging themselves an early grave. Brody Koelewyn would chip in early with a superb piece of fielding and a direct hit to the stumps to execute a run-out- the score now 2/22 from 5 overs.

Wembley Districts CC hard hitting all-rounder Matt Nowotny would take-over from Kumar and continue to tighten the screws on PCA and along with Daye would strike in his second over clean bowling the opener- PCA now reeling at 3/34 from 7 overs. Nowotny and Daye continue to bowl tightly both routing the middle order with Daye to finish his set of 4 overs with 3/13 and Nowotny 4 overs 4/18. Brody Koelewyn would close out the innings with a wicket with PCA bowled out for a dismal 85.



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Bentley CC's hard hitting Right hand opener Yahya Ali would join Kalamunda CC's stylish wicket keeper and Left Handed batsman Jonathan Clifton at crease to chase down the small total.

Ali started the first over aggressively smashing the second ball for 4 however was out caught 2 balls later attempting the same shot. - 1/6 the score after the first over. Swan Athletic Caversham CC's classy all-rounder Simon Parry joining Clifton at the crease and progressively knock the ball around to steadily work towards a victory.

Parry was out bowled playing all-over a yorker for 5- the score 2/19 from 3 overs.

Ash Dahiya joined Clifton and he too like Ali was keen to get the game done and dusted was also out bowled for 4- the score now 3/27 from 4 overs and some doubt commenced to creep into the team. This however was put to bed immediately as the Applecross CC opening batsman Aiden Griggs strolled to the crease and after settling in it became a procession of boundaries and an exhibition of 6 hitting between the two youngsters.

Clifton And Griggs would combine for a match winning partnership of 48 runs with Clifton the star only to get out prior to passing the total with a well made 32- including 4 fours and a massive six over mid-wicket from 23 balls, Griggs would finish the match not out on 25 from 23 balls with 2 fours and 1 six, Brody Koelewyn was 4 not out as we complete the chase 3/87 from 11 overs.

ROUND 2 VS SOUTH METROPOLITAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION (SMCA)

South Metro cricket association had well and truly under performed in recent years and as they are the largest cricket association along with fact they had some 25 in their nominated squad suggested there were keen to turn their form around against us.

Once again Suresh Perera would win the toss however this time elected to bat and go with the same batting combination for the first three in the order. Clifton and Ali would open with Ali first to get into gear smashing a boundary off the 3rd and 4th over.

His partner not to be outdone also joined the fray and smashed another over midwicket for a boundary and we were cruising along steadily at 0/30 from the first 5 overs. Ali was first to go- caught and bowled by the SMCA captain for a well compiled 26- from 18 balls- 4 x fours and 1 x six.

Simon Parry joined Clifton and both combined well against some very tight bowling to continually rotate the strike with great regularity at little risk.

After a 50 run partnership Clifton was next to go caught in the deep trying to lift the run rate further for another well made 32 – 3 boundaries and 1 x six from 29 balls to leave the team well placed at 2/84 from 11 overs. Captain Suresh Perera then came to the crease and once again like Parry took his time to pick-up the pace of the wicket grafting ones and twos before picking his bowler and launching into the final overs.

Parry and Perera put on a partnership of 33 before Parry was out caught on the boundary for a solid 36- off 25 balls with 3 fours- the score 3/117 from 15 overs. He



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was soon followed by Perera who was stiff to be caught on the longest part of the ground for a slashing 29 from 17 balls with 3 fours and an enormous 6 clearing the boundary by some 30 metres!!!!- The score now 4/123 from 16 overs.

A mini collapse followed with Aiden Griggs out for 1 and Brody Koelewyn also out spooning one back to the crafty spin bowling of SMCA Captain Andrew Gailbraith also for 1.

Marc Watkins chipped in with a timely 17 from 11 balls- out off the last ball and Ravi Kumar also knocked up a couple of handy boundaries as well to finish 11 no and get the score to 153 at the close of the innings- A competitive total.

Ravi Kumar would open up with Brendan Daye although the start was not what we had planned with both SMCA openers getting away to a flier courtesy of some loose bowling and fielding. SMCA had reached 24 in the 3rd over until Kumar struck a much needed blow clean bowling the opener- the score 1/24. James Claxton replaced Daye and now started to turn the screw down on the run rate and work in tandem with Kumar.

Matt Nowotny was also introduced to take –over from Kumar and continued to drag the run rate down however both bowlers were still unable to make a break through with the game evenly poised at 1/89 in the 13th over. Kish Ravichchanran came on in an endeavour by captain Perera to break the SMCA partnership and he executed a perfectly directed yorker to clean bowl the opposition skipper and swing the game marginally back in our favour 2/92 from 14 overs.

SMCA then proceeded to loose their way struggling to find the boundaries required and the pressure from some tighter bowling and cleaner fielding saw the run rate climb to over a 10 an over. Ravi would claim his second scalp in his third over and finish the match with the impressive figures of 2/18 from his set of 4. He was well supported by James Claxton who also finished with 2/24 from his 4 overs.

SMCA finished 20 short of our total and a good solid win for the team considering the position we were in at the halfway mark of the SMCA's innings.

ROUND 3 VS NORTH SUBURBAN COMMUNITY CRICKET ASSOCIATION (NSCCA)

North Suburban Community Cricket Association over the years had tested us in particular with their batting depth with a number of good quality strikers in their squad.

Suresh Perera was rested for the final match of the day and Brody Koelewyn stepped in as the captain but unfortunately was unable to emulate the feats of his master and lost the toss for which we were sent into to bowl.

Having the flexibility of a large squad certainly worked in our favour as we were able to rest a number of key battle weary players- John Clifton, Matt Nowotny, Aiden Griggs, Kish Ravi and Perera were all benched and the inclusions were with fresh legs in the form of Bassendean CC's-Tom Kujawski, Bedford Morley's Nick Farmer,



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High Wycombe CC's Ranil Dunusinghe and Murdoch Uni Melville's Quality 1st Grade Keeper Jason Vowels for his first match ever for the WASTCA Cricketwest team.

Brendan Daye would again open the bowling and team-up with James Claxton who struck in his first over getting a solid drive to ricochet off his foot, swooped on by Kujawski who cleverly lobbed a throw to keeper Vowels to complete a simple run-out of the dangerous NSCCA opener- Wiggers- the score 1/8 from 2 overs.

NSCCA throughout the next 2 overs tried to rebuild from the shaky start but the introduction of Dunusinghe would send the opposition into shutdown/preservation mode for the next 7 overs. He struck in his first over NSCCA now 2/25 from 5 overs and in trouble of not getting to 100.

Kujawski was introduced into the attack to bowl in tandem with his ex club mate and complete shut down the scoring-to finish with only 14 runs from his 3 overs (including 2 dropped catches.!!!). Ravi Kumar completed a very successful day taking 2/14 from 2 overs but it was big fiery Redhead Nick Farmer who stole the show coming on as the 8th bowler for the innings and absolutely routed the NSCCA middle order and tail.

Both he and Daye- who was reintroduced back to the attack completed demolished the opposition with Daye finishing the match with the figures of 2/23 from his set of 4 and Farmer an outstanding 4/3 from 1.3 overs including a very sharp stumping for the talent of Vowels- NSCCA all out for 106 inside 19 overs.

We were going to make short work of this so went on the attack sending in our most aggressive combination of Ash Dahiya and Yahya Ali and they did not hold back in particular Ali who had smashed 4 boundaries in rapid time unfortunately holing out in the deep for 17- the score 1/18 from 3 overs.

Simon Parry as he has done all throughout the day read the situation correctly taking his time to get himself in giving Dahiya as much of the strike as possible. Dahiya was in scintillating form and it was a pleasure sit back and watch a master class of power hitting as he unleashed blow after blow on every bowler to each over- a particular highlight were two massive sixes at either end of the ground one nearly landing on the roof of a house in the cricket club car-park if not for clipping the massive tree in front.

Dahiya finished unbeaten on 52 after clubbing a six to win the match and get his half century (3 fours and 3 sixes in his innings) and was aptly supported by Parry who finished not out on 36 (6 boundaries) within 14 overs- An emphatic victory that completed a successful day for the team and WASTCA.

SUNDAY 6th JANUARY

ROUND 4 VS SWAN HELENA DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION (SHDCA)

Swan Helena District Cricket Association has always been flushed with talented batsmen but their particular strength has always been their fast bowling attack which



is disciplined, accurate and fast and could not be underestimated going into this final round clash.

Confusion between the Captain and the Team Manager about the strategy for the final match would see Perera win his third consecutive toss and surprisingly elect to bat. Yahya Ali and Jonathan Clifton would resume their opening combination however our start was slower than expected due to their pace attack.

Ali was first to go caught behind slashing at a wide delivery for 11 with the score 1/19 in the third over. Marc Watkins was elevated into the number 3 position to be given an opportunity to bat for an extended period and after a slow start he settled into the position well. Both he and Clifton tick the scoreboard over consistently for a 6 over period until Watkins was caught for 17 off 21 balls (2 boundaries).

Neket Shah straight back of the plane from Bali where he was overseas for a surfing and rock concert tour was unable to trouble the scorers –out first ball slashing at a wide one for a duck- the score now 3/48 from 10 overs and SHDCA were certainly holding the upper hand at this point in time.

Aiden Griggs came in at 4 and commenced with some real positive intent and both he and Clifton started to rotate the strike and find some regular boundaries. The two youngsters combined well for a 55 run partnership until Griggs was caught at deep mid-wicket for a solid 30- including 3 fours and 1 six- the score now 4/108 with 5 overs remaining.

Enter the Skipper- Suresh Perera, as he has done repeated over a 5 year period in this competition took up the challenge and commenced to thrash the bowling to all parts of the ground. After a short drinks break due to the oppressive temperature out in the middle, Clifton found his second wind and joined in the fray with Perera to also smash the bowling to all parts of the ground including two consecutive 6's and boundaries in one over from the SHDCA leg spinner.

Clifton was out shortly after for a wonderful 52 (42 balls) including 2 boundaries and 3 sixes and combined with Perera for a shot fire partnership of 55 – The score now 5/159 with two overs remaining. Perera was out the very next over trying to blast quick runs for 43 from just 16 balls including 4 fours and 4 sixes. Unfortunately the middle order and tail end could not capitalise losing Ash Dahiya (0) and Ravi Kumar (5) with Simon Parry not out on 1 and Ranil Dunusinghe not out on 2- our innings closed at 8/168 from the allocated 20 overs.

As he has done in all previous matches for the team Ravi Kumar was entrusted with the new ball along with Nick Farmer who was putting his body to the test after suffering what was assumed to be an adductor injury sidelining him from bowling at pace for several months. The team look flat in the field- the effect of the 3 matches played yesterday appeared to have taken its toll and SHDCA got off to an absolute flier taking 34 from the first 4 over with the loss of only 1 wicket to Kumar.

Ranil Dunusinghe was then introduced into the attack and being a specialist in this format of the game pulled the reins back on the scoring to bowl a maiden in his first



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over. Tom Kujawski was also introduced and all of a sudden the scoring completed ceased and momentum started to swing back in our favour.

Captain Perera was now swinging the bowling changes and in a master stroke introduced quality All-rounder Simon Parry into the attack for the first time in the competition and he went bang and closed down the match for the opposition. He claimed two wickets in 1 over with some superb outfield catches to Aiden Griggs and Ravi Kumar now had us in a strong position with SHDCA 3/81 from 11 overs.

Kujawski finally snuffed out any chance of a slim victory to the opposition following on from Parry also taking two scalps in his 3rd over- the first a sharp one-handed catch to Dunusinghe and next clean bowling the dangerous Stuart for a duck- the score now 5/83 from 12 overs.

SHDCA then showed no intent to chase the runs happy to just bat out the overs to finish 7/122. The pick of the bowlers were Tom Kujawski who finished with 3/19 from 4 overs and Simon Parry who completed 3 overs 2/10.

Another opportunity now for the senior's team to go into a final with confidence- a team deep with talent and solid form which will provide the association and opportunity to play-off for our fourth straight seniors premiership.

