

CRICKET REPORTS

Saturday 28th January 2017

SPX U14 Green – 28/01/17, Round 10 – T20, Passmore Oval, Manly

SPX Green 4/107 (RM Kennedy 30*, L Chang 24*, B Power 16*) defeated St Augustines 6/101 (L Krizan 1/6, T Kennedy 1/2, Chang 1/12)

Happy New Year everyone. What a way to start the 17 part of the 2016/17 season for Pius Green.

It seemed a lightyear ago, the boys scored a much needed and morale boosting victory before the Christmas break. Little lessons were learnt that day and to their credit, virtually to a man, each and every one continued to improve.

There's no doubt, there was much more Big Bash watching going on than practice in the nets but the boys were fresh, enthusiastic and ready to go for a T20 challenge of their own against arch school rivals St Augustine's.

The coin bounced correctly for skipper Tom Wunsch and he confidently declared "we'll bat".

Pius had the opposition seeing double, with twins Bradley and James Power opening together for the first time. The Power's attitude was spot on, eager to hit the bad ball and push the singles. But a misunderstanding saw James run out and unfortunately the first wicket was down with six on the board.

Tom Wunsch, has been working hard in nets and it shows. He looked in good touch in building a nice partnership with Bradley. Tom was on 16 and trying to force the pace when he fell to the old full toss trick. Pius now 2 for 41 and tracking okay, but below our target of a 120 total or simply 6 runs per over.

Geordie Coullits, played a nice shot off the very first delivery to get off the mark, but next over danced down the pitch to a full toss and lost his off stump. Pius now 3 for 42 and momentum had swung back the way of Augustine's after 8 overs.

Still, the attitude was good and the intentions of Pius remained positive. 9 overs down and with his retirement looming for Brad, he held out in the deep on 16 and all of a sudden it was 4 for 43.

That brought Riley Kennedy and Liam Chang together at the crucial midpoint of the innings. It's never easy to steady the ship, plus keep the scoreboard ticking, but that's exactly what the pair did. Kennedy was forced to retire on 30 with one over remaining, while Chang finished off the innings undefeated on 24.

Pius Green posting a formidable total of 4 for 107.

Enthusiasm is never an issue for Luka Krizan or Ollie Fitzroy and they gleefully took up the challenge of bowling first with the new ball. Both bowled with good heat, Luka (1/6) and Fitzroy (0/7) getting the team off to a positive start.

Swapping his beach patrol gear for his cricket whites, Callum Fitzgibbon (0/13) proved difficult to get away. Pius were slightly ahead in a very tight race.

With scoreboard pressure mounting St Augustine's best batsman James Brock (44no) decided to hit out against Liam Kinna (1/12) and Cameron Keir, both held their nerve and kept Pius in the contest.

Augustine's were within reach of victory, but nothing stops a charge like wickets and dot balls, Tom Kennedy came up with a vital scalp to finish with the great figures of (1/2). Riley Kennedy (0/6) and George Coultis (0/9) bowled accurately down the stretch, Coultis even chipping in with a run out.

With St Augustine's needing 11 to win off the final over, Liam Chang was thrown the ball for his third and most important over and he held his nerve superbly to guide Pius Green to a thrilling 6 run win.

Terry Kennedy



SPX BLACK | Round 12

SPX Black 100 defeated by North Sydney 5/104

Back after a break and looking forward to resuming our season, keen find a way to win. Winning the toss was a good start, we elected to bat. Unfortunately, we lost our first early on but it was our new opener Andrew Guerrero, (12) who took on North Sydney's bowling for a very impressive first up know in the opening position. Combing well with Logan, (19) who was looking good with three consecutive fours progressed our score on to 38 before we lost our second. At drinks we were 3/64 and pleased with where we were. Will Harper, (12) and Harry Melloy, (11 no) also started the year with plenty of promise but unfortunately the wickets continued and we were all out for 100 in the 28th over. We really needed one of our batsman to go on after getting a start and we found ourselves about 20 runs short and not facing the full 32 overs.

100 was going to be tough, to defend this we knew we had to bowl then all out. Unfortunately, things did not go to plan and the opposition lost their first wicket at drinks with the score on 63, one short of our score at the break. After the break we adopted a ring field and gave the opposition no easy singles. This alongside our spinners provided us with some hope. North Sydney lost their 2nd, 3rd and 4th wicket all with the score on 72 and then 5th on 86. Nick Lough. 3/7 off 5 came close to a hat-trick with the batsman skying the ball only to somehow manage land it a metre away from two of our players.

The positives were the improvement in our bowling, our new combination of Finbar McLeay and Jaiden Speter were impressive, bowling without luck but displayed plenty of promise. North Sydney got the runs in the 30th over, who knows if we batted our full 32 and improved on our fielding perhaps a win was possible. We let through to many runs in the field and need to pick this up. Our batting and bowling is close, I looking forward to the day when we put all three together, let's hope this is only a week away.

