



# BHRDCA U18 CHAMPIONSHIPS

## SPONSORED BY MADDOCKS SPORTS & REBEL

### Round 2 Report

So far this season we have been a bit blessed by our Friday night weather. The standard of cricket I have observed has been very good, but it has been the spirit of the way that cricket has been played that is what really stands out for me, along with the parents and grandparents coming along and enjoying the cricket.

### Maddocks Sports Championship



#### Vermont v Vermont Sth

Vermont won the toss and decided to bat, the loss of an early wicket was counterbalanced by Henry McNally who shared solid partnerships with Ben Nichols and James White before Vermont Sth began to claw their way back into the game. McNally was then joined by Callum Reid for a great 90 run partnership with McNally just failing to carry his bat but it was his 83 that was the backbone of the 214 score. For the Sths Dane Wilding returned the impressive figures of 6 / 51 a fantastic effort.

Ronan Prigg and Jayden McLeod got Vermont Sth off to a flyer and it looked as though they could well knock off the runs themselves but the loss of Jayden for 61 slowed the run rate right down. Dane Wilding began to build a solid innings but time was becoming the enemy and as the overs flew by, Vermont Sth struggled to keep up to the required run rate. Ronan Prigg remained undefeated on 79 but the Livingstone boys fell 19 runs short with 6 bats still in the shed.

#### Croydon Ranges v Eley Park

Ranges making their maiden visit to Eley Park lost the toss and found themselves in the field. The Parkers however were very quickly in strife losing three wickets with only a handful on the board. Justin Beach (31) and Jason Halge (17) began to right the ship but the run out of Jason brought a determined Rohan Vats to the crease but his 21 was the final roll of the dice as wickets tumbled rapidly and the Parkers closed at 8/102 well short of what was expected. Wickets were evenly shared with Jake Sali's 2/9 the best return.

Lively opening bowling from Jack Kimber and Jed Dally had Ranges reeling at 4/16 and suddenly 102 seemed a mile away. This brought Rohan Saric-Skewes (46) and Mitch Thomas (52) together in an 89 run partnership that saw Croydon safely through to take the points. Luke

Kenealy (22), Lachlan Harvey (25) and Will Killen (22) rubbed salt in the wound as Croydon racked up a final total of 219. Jack Kimber (3/12) and Jed Dally (3/28) never gave up and bowled their heart out.

### **Heathmont v Heatherdale.**

In what shaped as the game of the round the Dales opted to bat first and Rodrigo Arguello was quickly into stride with his big hitting rattling up a 40 opening partnership in no time at all but he lifted one too many and his quick fire 31 ended just as it looked as if might be his night. From that point on the Dales innings never really regained traction as promising starts by Michael Downes (35), Ben Joseph (15) and Sam Brooks (26) started with promise but failed to carry through to a big score. The final score of 164 while competitive was always going to be hard to defend. Steve Brooks (4/22) was the pick of the attack and he received good support from Liam Douglas (2/16) in keeping the bowling tight.

A quick wicket did not deter the Heathmont bats as the ever reliable Lincoln Wong (37) and Joel Merrett (73) combined to graft an 83 run 2<sup>nd</sup> wicket partnership and whilst Michael Downes gave the Dales some hope, Coady Mitrevski (28) and James Kelly (15) put their head down and slowly hauled in the target finishing with 7 / 181 and a fine win against strong opposition.

## **Rebel Sport Championship**



### **Yarraleen v East Doncaster**

Yarraleen would have been confident deciding to bat considering their great showing in their Rd 1 clash but they were soon in trouble with Nadi Hamzovski and Kristian Panagiotou gone before having 30 on the board and whilst there was some brief hope from Adrian Vidajic (25) and Jack Dullard (20) wickets continued to fall steadily without too much damage to the score. Marcus Pilot gave some hope with 24 to ease Yarraleen just past the ton with the final total only 101. Wickets were evenly shared, Dan Stanford (2/8) and Adam Chan (2/10) returning the best figures.

Any hopes that Adrian Vidajic could achieve quick breakthroughs were soon dashed as David Fornito (27) and Dan Stanford opened up with a 64 run partnership before Michael Baysinger (43) and Daniel Sgro-Traikovski (220) put the result beyond doubt. Jake McCormack (3/28) tried hard but there were just too little runs to bowl to, East Doncaster have won both their opening match's.

### **Doncaster v Blackburn Nth**

With the bye in Rd 1, Doncaster were desperate to get some runs on the board, while Blacky Nth coming off an emphatic first round win were very confident. Two quick wickets cemented that confidence and whilst a sound partnership began to build under Brad Davis (34) and Alex McCartin (22) wickets fell in sets and it was left to a late cameo from Turlough Sullivan (27) to

jump Donny past the 100 mark to close out at 9/114, a hard ask against the strong Blacky Nth batting lineup. All bowlers got into the act with 7 getting a wicket in a real team effort.

Again quick wickets were the trend of the evening and Doncaster had 3 back in the shed for only 4 runs and an upset was looming. This brought last rounds batting hero's Liam Smith and Rudi Hunt together again and they continued on in the same vein as they proceeded to amass a second consecutive big partnership in a row. Both players put the Doncaster bowlers to the sword, Rudi backing up a second ton on the trot (101\*) while Liam not wanting to be left out chimed in with his own ton (105\*) – a great effort by both players as Blackburn Nth have become the team to beat.

### **East Box Hill/Box Hill Nth Super Kings v Vermont**

This time Vermont won the toss and put in their opposition, a move that seemed vindicated as the Combined side soon found themselves 3 down for only 8 with Ben Riddle picking up a cheap brace. It was left up to Paul Collopy (71) and Jake McIlldowney (52) to right the ship combining for a match defining 127 run partnership. Gavin Carusi (37\*) and Vasish Vasan (32) then took the long handle, Gavin belting three sixes in a row to carry the Combined through to a defendable 6 / 226cc. Lachlan Jackson ended up with the good stats of 3 / 25, a top return.

Vermonts innings began with a flourish as opening pair Ben Stoikos (30) and Jordan Wright (16) blunted the early firepower of Jake McIlldowney and Gavin Carusi. The departure of Jordan was quickly compensated for by a fine innings from Josh Keyte (20) and then Jordan McGowan (17) before Carusi got in on the act, this time little brother Conlan whose 2 / 6 broke two dangerous partnerships setting Vermont back on their heels. And it was there they would stay as despite two little cameos from Ben Riddle (16) and Jake McIlldowney (24) a final scoreline of 137 was well short of what had been a promising opening. Jake McIlldowney (3/18) along with Conlan were the best of the bowlers.

### **Wrap-Up**

After only two rounds a picture is starting to emerge in both championships. In Maddocks, Heathmont and Vermont lead the points and are along with Forest Hill undefeated. Croydon Ranges make up the 4 on % from Heatherdale. A similar scenario in Rebel with East Doncaster, Blackburn Nth and EBH/BHNSK again all undefeated and Mitcham/Blackburn making up the 4 on % from Doncaster.

This week Forest Hill host a top of the table clash with Vermont in Maddocks and there is an exciting match-up between East Doncaster and EBH/BHNSK in Rebel.

In something of a rare coincidence the Man of the Round Awards go to players from the same teams as last Round, 1 for bowling and 1 for batting as they were then. This weeks winners are Vermont Sths Dane Wilding for his 6 / 51 and I can't go past Blackburn Nth's Liam Smith for his 105\*. Also coincidentally both Vermont Sth and Blackburn Nth have the byes this round so we will get new winners from new teams.

On a different note, I announced last week that we will be picking a Rep team to play in the VMCU Carnival in the New Year. I am also excited to advise players, that we will also be hosting a team from New Zealand representing Timaru Boys High School who are touring Australia. This match will be on January 4<sup>th</sup> (venue to be confirmed) and the BHRDCA team will comprise of players picked from the U18 competition that did not make our U18 Carnival side. So plenty of players have the chance to get something back for their endeavours, just keep making runs and taking wickets and you may well find yourself in either of those two Assn Representative teams.

Peter White