

BHRDCA U18 CHAMPIONSHIPS

SPONSORED BY MADDOCKS SPORTS & REBEL



Round 7 Report

Maddocks Sports Championship



**Maddocks
Sports**
One Stop Cricket Superstore

As we enter the last round before finals get under way, it is a pity that due to the weather we have had 2 x one dayers leading into the finals, not really the optimum but we will learn from that.

Heatherdale v Forest Hill

The Dales put Forest Hill in and at 2/39 that decision seemed vindicated. The Zebras knuckled down and a great 161 partnership between Ben Matthews (100*) and Alex Manning (57) had them back into the box seat closing out at 9/216. Lucas Grierson 4/12 bowled superbly and he was well supported by Sam Giblett (2/10)

In reply Heatherdale's chase reached 3/ 82 and the match was evenly poised. Rodrigo Arguello was solid in his 54 but with Grierson and Kral also back in the shed with 40+ still required, it was left to a great innings from Ben Thomas (100*) with support from Tom North (22*) to see the Dales home.

Eley Park v Vermont

This shaped as a must win for both clubs with a finals berth on the offering. The Parkers won the toss and decided to bat first. This proved to be the right choice as Robbie Cox (38) and Zach Tzitsikas (77) set about the bowling putting on a great 128 for the first wicket.. It was left to some top line and length bowling from Angus Hands (2/37) and Matty Sevier (2/21) to put the brakes on and keep Eley Park to 6/200 from their 45 overs.

Eley Parks opening attack of Jed Dally (2/33) and Jack Kimber (2/33) were up for the task and with great support from Robbie Cox (3/25) having a great game, Vermont struggled to get in front of the run chase. Jack Morrison (71) and Dan Ryan (27) raised the Eagles hopes with a solid 66 run partnership but in the end it was the Parkers who ran out victors by a mere 11 runs.

Croydon ranges v Vermont Sth

The Vultures travelled to Silcocks Res for the first game there this season and had no hesitation deciding to bat first. Isaac Delaney took the new ball and was slippery early but it was Jake Sali

who made the first inroads. Lochie Newton (42) and Nick Dore (24) steadied the ship but the final offering of 8/161 was disappointing . Jake Sali's 4/28 was just reward for his hard work.

It was a confident Ranges side that took up the run chase and despite the shock of an early scalp they put their heads over the ball with The ever reliable Rohan Saric-Skewes (49) and Mitchell Thomas (29) combining for a 2nd wicket 65 run partnership. Vermont Sth began to claw their way back to have Croydon 4/87 before Ben White (75) and Lachlan Harvey (39) put paid to their fleeting hopes. Laurenie Chim (3/27), Rohan Prigg (2/18) and Lochie Newton (2/18) all played their part but it was Croydon ranges who took the honours.

Rebel Sport Championship



Vermont v Mitcham/Blackburn

Vermont hosted the combine at Terrara electing to bat first. The Eagles batting was studded with promising starts by several batsmen like Sean Bell (35), Ben Stoikos (31), Jordan Wright (28) and Jordan McGowan (25), but none took that extra step and posted a big score. Mitcham/Blackburn's bowling was dominated by Mitch Gale whose fantastic stats of 6/28 kept the Eagles to 207 all out.

The combine's run chase was a polar opposite to the previous week with no batsman selling his wicket cheaply Tom Macrokanis was punishing in his excellent 100* as was opening partner Mitch Mahoney as they piled on an opening stand of 158. Any Eagles hopes of it ending there, was quickly dashed by top half tons from Bill Macrokanis and Mitch Gale leading to a closing score of 3/330.

Doncaster v Yarraleen

Doncaster won the toss and sent Yarraleen into the field noting they were missing star bowler Vidajic. The Doncaster batsmen revelled in the conditions Rafael Epstein posting a brilliant 100 sharing in a 43 run opening partnership with Sam Varghese and then a great 160 knock with Brad Davis (80). Carl Giovannini (2/47) battled away but the final score of 2/254 was a big ask.

In reply Yarraleen's chase never really got out of first gear. Nadi Hamzovski (27) and Angus Dullard (21) held proceedings up for a spell, but the result was never in doubt with Sam Varghese knocking in the final nail taking 2/0 at the death.

Blackburn Nth v East Doncaster/East Burwood

Winning the toss Blacky North took first strike with Ev Smeed and Rudi Hunt fronting the new ball. With both openers back in the shed with 61 on the board, the combine were well in it. Enter the pairing of Liam Smith (100*) and Tom Rimmer (40*) who put paid to any early celebrations

from the fielding side. Adam Chan (2/56) and Ben Evans (2/54) stuck to their task to keep the Bulldogs to 6/244

The combines innings was again one where several batsmen got them selves in only to squander the good work and fail to go on and build a big total. Michael Baysinger (33), Daniel Sgro-Traikovski (32) and Griffin McComb (29) all looked solid at the wicket and the final score of 5/158 could have been so much better. Blacky Nths attack shared the honours, the best figures returned by Josh Hudson (2/22)

Wrap-Up

The Maddocks ladder going into the last round is very interesting. Heathmont clear on 42 pts will stay on top and Croydon Ranges who draw the bye last round will hold onto second position providing Heatherdale don't have a very big win against Vermont and jump them on percentage. The last spot is anyones guess with Eley Park (24) playing Forest Hill (21) and if Vermont (24) are victors over Heatherdale (24) percentage again will come to the fore. – Watch this space.

In the Rebel competition the top three of Blackburn Nth (41), East Doncaster/East Burwood (36) and East Box Hill/BHNSK (30) are all safe. It is the last spot that provides the sparks with Mitcham/Blackburn, Doncaster and Vermont separated by percentage all on 18 points and all are in the action. Mitcham/Blackburn travel to Yarraleen and Doncaster hosts Vermont, each team will have 1 eye on their opponents match's.

The Players of the Round Awards just don't get any easier with several tons recorded in both grades and some top bowling performances. For Maddocks I have opted to give it to Heatherdales Ben Joseph for his match winning ton against the Zebras with apologies to Ben Matthews who again batted with flair.

In Rebel I could not go past the mercurial Mitchell Gale for his fantastic double of 6/28 and 50* for Mitcham/Blackburn against Vermont – great effort Mitch.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the players, parents, coach's and team managers who have made this years competition what it is, We have seen some outstanding efforts with both bat and ball and you are all a credit to your clubs and sport.

It is important that I also on all players behalf thank Des and the Umpires Assn for their support of the U18 concept. It is gratifying to see our great umpires give so willingly of their time and yes I know they get paid, but still their enthusiasm, punctuality and good humour play a significant role in the competitions success.

Also I would like to wholeheartedly applaud our two sponsors Maddocks Sports and Rebel Sports. Anthony and Corey have been nothing short of sensational this year with their generous support and I again call on all players and clubs to get behind these organisations, they need our patronage and support in return – thank you so much guys.

Finally all the best to all sides on Friday night and in the finals series.

Peter White