

SILLY POINT!.....Reports on...

MCC vs Northerns Goodwood - Under 13s

12 November 2011

UNDER 13s PRODUCE THEIR FIRST CENTURION

The 19th edition of Silly Point against St Augustines was leaked to Reddam Constantia, and after reading about the 190 run chase by Coach Mike' charges against Saints, Reddam cancelled the scheduled match in a hurry, giving some lame excuse. But as always, Coach Mike arranged a home fixture, against unknown Northerns Goodwood.

After winning the toss Mark decides to set a target after a very successful run chase (194 runs) the week before on the same pitch.

The first ball of an innings in any game is always going to be difficult to face for the opening batsman. Chaz unfortunately being the no.1 opening batsman will lose his wicket to this 1st ball. A couple of overs later though it was decided to inspect the visitor's match ball because of the unusual and early swing. The ball proved to be a three match old ball and the one side very roughed up, so we will blame this for Chaz's demise!

Grant in at no.3 will take a single off the 4th ball of the innings, and scoreboard will show 2 for 1 after 1 over. Some serious consolidation took place between Mark and Grant and together putting on 37 runs after 10 overs, showing some good patience. A lot of meetings in the middle of the wicket between Mark and Grant was thought to be about not losing their wickets, but had later emerged that they were discussing where at the mall they are going to meet later that day!

The next five overs however Mark decided to push the rate up and try and get that elusive six that he has been looking for so long. The six will not come, but missing the boundary on two occasions by 12 inches. Mark's aggressive approach will see a few fours over the ring and a few two's and races to his 50 in 51 balls. It is not every day that you score faster than your partner, if that partner's name is Grant Simon! With both batsmen settled at the crease on 96 for 1 after 18 overs, it was drinks time.

20th Edition

We have come accustomed to Grant's slow start over the season, but it was from the 19th over that he decided to catch up to Mark, and then reached his 50 in 59 balls. The McDonalds Burger that Mark had during the break slowed him down somewhat and would eventually lose his wicket in the 24th over for a well played 55 runs(5 fours), and contributing to a record 133 run partnership with Grant for the second wicket.

Promoted to no.4 Khanya will dispatch his first ball to the boundary for four runs, looking to continue his recent good form, no excellent form! In the meantime Grant is muddling every ball, hitting two sixes and some glorious fours. Khanya will follow suite, smashing everything that was coming his way, and both Khanya and Grant treating the spectators to some awesome cricket, by racing to 184 after 30 overs.

We have never had a centurion from this group of players, who for most have been playing together for 4 years, Grant being one of them. Only the spectators new that Grant was on 99 and you could hear a pin drop when the bowler made his run up to bowl to Grant. Verna at this stage was climbing the oak tree behind us, Dan was on his 10th rolled cigarette since Grant was in the nervous nineties, I was not far behind I must add. His team mates were silent - for a change - and all eyes were watching, hoping that Grant can achieve this magnificent milestone in his short career.

Grant, oblivious to what was going on, glanced over his left shoulder to make sure that we were still at the ground, as the silence was deafening, he then looked back at the charging bowler and ever so calmly smashed the ball for 4 runs, to huge applause from the side. 103 off only 90 balls. A deserved century, to a great guy, Grant Simon.

With all the hype around Grant's century, Khanya will race to 50 off only 38 balls. The innings will end on 234 for 2, with Grant 116 not out(15 fours, 2 sixes), and King Khanya 53(6 fours, 1 six) not out.

During the awesome batting display in the middle by our top order, some "awful" batting was unfolding on the side by "Ollie and Co". It was learnt that Ollie had unleashed a shot that cleared the fence and that the ball came to a standstill against a 2011 model Mercedes, belonging to one of the oppo's, very upset parent. Fortunately we had our own Pastor on

20th Edition

**sight, and He saw to it that the situation did not get out of hand.
Thanks Rod!!**

Coach Mike decided to rest Centurion Grant for the second innings as he had just batted for 35 overs. During his mammoth innings Grant injured his groin and decided to treat it with Deep Heat. He however was too tired, or misread the instructions, and applied it to the “little man” downstairs instead. This resulted in an excruciating burning sensation that would last a while. Grant, in this instance, DO NOT keep your eye on the ball!!

A confident MCC took to the field, with tongue in cheek instructions from Mike to bowl Northerns out for less than 47 runs. Confusion will rain early and a run out will be the result in the first over. The next over Dylan will have their opener caught by Jono, 3 for 2 after 2 overs. The 3rd over Kyle will strike twice in two balls, but will narrowly miss out on his hattrick. 5 for 4 after 3 overs, and Mike thinking that he will be on time for his game today!

A huge 8 run partnership will follow, until Jono is reminded that the target is less than 47 runs, and has the 5th batsmen caught by Chaz. Wickets will now tumble at regular intervals, and the game will not reach the break as MCC wraps it up with 10 wickets in the 16th over for 28 runs.

A win by 206 runs is great in anyone's books, well done guys!



**Batsmen of the Day: Centurion, Grant Simon 116 not out, Mark 55,
Khanya 53 not out**

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**Bowlers of the Day: Kyle, 4 for 12 after 7, Dylan, 2 for 7 after 4,
Jono, 2 for 7 after 4**

**Now for our last game against old foe Sunningdale, and remember, for the
last time.....I am watching you.**