

From the Boundary Rope

58th EDITION

Day One – 1 'C' MCC 1st XI vs Wynberg CC played away

STAG FIRST TEAM SHOW WYNBERG THE WAY

Loosing the toss for the first time in a two day game, Holman's team were asked to bat, which is what Sir Rich was intending to call. The pitch was longish with grass, but they rolled it in and once we started it looked a lot better than when we arrived.

A small change in the personnel with Aggies going down to six and Braham and Faheem opening.

The first hour was going to be crucial and MCC got off to a steady start, but unfortunately loosing Braham, falling LBW, in the 6th over.

MCC 20/1.

Damian joins Faheem at the crease (both ex Dal players) and starts off very cautiously.

Faheem caught behind in the 11th over with the score on 34/2.

Justin stepped in and looking still in the Ama 20 mindset hit an even run a ball innings of 24 before being caught at Mid on off a spinning ball that got only a edge of bat.

A solid 54 run partnership against great bowling from Spin Guru Nyulu and skipper Young.

MCC 95/3 in 21 overs.

Again we form up a ex-Dal partnership with Morg's joining Damian (31*) and after doing all the hard work of getting in fell to Nyulu caught at slip for 8.

MCC 118/4 in 33 overs.

With 30 minutes until the lunch interval Aggies joins Damian. Damian reaches his 50 and they come off at lunch with the score on 145/4 in 44 overs.

16 overs remain and the goal was to get to 200, but unfortunately the Wynberg slow bowlers had other ideas and MCC lost quick wickets in pursuit of the 200.

Aggies out in the 46th caught at slip off Young.

MCC 145/5.

Copeland in at number 7, due to the suspension of Zarin, wasted no time in pushing on with Damian until Damian was bowled for 74 in 132 balls.

A delightful innings and showing the one's and two's are so important to an innings scoring 34 of his 74 in boundaries and the rest was great running between the wickets and putting the opposition under pressure.

MCC 172/6 in 49 overs.

Copeland out a little unluckily being given LBW for 15.

MCC 173/7.

Sias walked out took guard and walked back to the hut only using enough lead from Jumbo's pencil to write a W!!!!

MCC 173/8.

Debutant Wesley joined Milne and it was not long before a serious calling blunder and Milne stranded in no mans land for 1.

Nine down and Sir Holman enters to the crease and nonchalantly stroked 7 before Wes Groenewald played a soft shot to cover to close The Stags innings on 183.

Spin Guru, Cypie Nyulu ended with 6/43 and in so doing surpassed Holmans seasons wickets by 4.

Any indecision or contemplation of Holman to opening the bowling was gone, Faheem and Holman to open.

Faheem had a tidy first over only allowing 3 runs off it and then Holman struck with his 5th delivery to have danger man Holiday out for 2 caught by Wes in the covers.

Faheem clean bowls Williams and both openers are back in the hut for 6 runs.

Holman got another two in his third over including the wicket of Skipper Young and Wynberg had their backs to the wall on 8/4 in the 6th over.

MCC had to work hard and looking like such a polished outfit were doing exactly that and in the tenth over the hard work paid off again by another scalp by Holman.

First ball of Faheems 6th over he cleaned bowled Nel and Wynberg found themselves 14/6 in 12 overs.

Oliphant and Taliep tried in vain to resuscitate the Wynberg innings and bravely took the score to 36.

A change of armouery worked with Andy replacing Faheem and third ball had Oliphant caught by Aggies in the covers.

Wynberg 36/7 in 23 overs.

Saunders joined Taliep and they continued to frustrate the Millies bowlers with their recue mission and took the score to 71 before Copeland removed him.

The next two wickets, one apiece to Holman and Copie, wrapped the innings without further score. 71 all out and a follow on was ordered.

Holman again taking a “fiver”, but also again the main destroyer superbly backed up by his other bowlers namely, Copie, Faheem and Andy.

MCC enjoyed a 112 lead with a minimum of 27 overs left in the day.

No change to successful tactics and it was Faheem and Holman back into the attack with the new cherry.

Pressure applied by Faheem with a maiden over and Holman removing Williams caught at slip.

Wynberg 1/1.

A further 12 overs followed before Richard got a bullet of a return catch, but managed to bag it with the help of his Castle belly!!!!

Wynberg 23/2.

Four overs later Holman sends Holiday on a small bag vacation having him trapped LBW.

Copeland introduced to the attack and the ball was coming out so perfectly and he took advantage of Wynberg’s dilemma to bowl the best he has for some time.

He claimed the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th wicket with some top class spinning and when time was called @ 18h00 Craig had bowled 9 overs, 4 maidens, 4 for 14.

Holman finished the second innings with 18 overs, 12 maidens and 3 for 16 and a return on the day of 36 – 21 – 40 – 8 and now has comfortably surpassed hi 60 wickets for the season, standing on 65.

It sounds impressive and impressive it was especially as he bowled unchanged for 4 hours enduring the pain of cramps and exhaustion and the dying desperation for a COLD CASTLE!

Well done team a Stag performance of note!

Ladies match – Senior Ladies XI vs Junior Mom’s XI played at MCC ‘A’

Firstly to say that fun was had by all.

Senior Ladies XI won the toss and put the Junior mums XI into bat.

After 20 overs the senior innings came to an end on 102 runs for 4 wickets. Highlights included:

- Natasha was run out for 27, great batting.
- Marche Harding scoring 8no making her debut for the Senior Ladies XI.
- Marche Harding and Sarah Geldart it was great to see some of the MCC old boys wives joining the ladies playing and they surprised all of us with their batting.
- Emma “Kelly” bowled Chantal for 4
- Caryn Hardenberg and Colleen Bezuidenhout both bowling maiden overs.
- Jackie getting Mrs. Geldart out caught and bowled.
- Tarryn Morgan also claiming a wicket when Mrs. Holman caught Tash out for 14.

Senior Ladies Batting

Senior Ladies XI were 92/5 after their 20 over Highlights included:

- Andrea top scored with 16 before Tanya claimed her wicket.
- Alley (Wonder woman) also batted well with 15no
- Jackie scoring 9 runs before Luka claimed her wicket, bowled
- Louise came in with runs before being caught
- Cornelia Holman scoring 3 being run out by Sara Worthington.
- Linda who ran brilliantly between the wickets ending up on 3no
- Tash stood out with the bowling with 2 maiden overs and a wicket.
- Luka also with 1 maiden and wicket bowled well

Thanks to Colleen (Senior Ladies XI captain) for keeping her troops under control and to Natasha Towers (Junior Mums) for keeping Luka and co under good behavior!!!!

A special thanks to Umpie, Vice Chairman - Derek, who is always silently doing his bit behind the scenes.

A fine’s session was held afterwards where everyone laughed about the days play and incidents.

Some of these incidents as reported by the roaming Rope reporter who prefers to remain anonymous are :-

Debbie again scared and ducking from the ball.....!

Colleen rolling around on the floor whilst fielding, now she can understand why Sias comes home so dirty.....!!!!!!!

A DC is being called to discipline Chantal under Offence 8 which clearly states **“Threat of Assault of, /or Physical Interference to an Umpire.....”** It is an offence to kiss an umpire which definitely translates to Physical Interference.

The sentence for this is 10 playing days.....!!!!!!!

(I trust my First team players took note of how respectfully one should treat an umpire!!!!,, it would probably have saved Mr Hardenberg’s suspension)

Karin having watched Sir Holman field on too many occasions, one does not use your feet to stop the ball!!!!!!

Sara W, catching with eyes closed!!!

The Terrier behind the stumps, Luka, complaining again, this time about Tash’s fast and hard returns. ***(Luk’s you must not complain if you want to play with the big girls!!!)***

And I am sure a great day was had by all, my apologies for not being there, but I did have a very valid excuse.

See everyone on the 28th of Feb.

Day One - Res ‘B’ MCC 2nd XI vs United CC played away

We arrived at United on Sunday morning to find 10 cars still parked on the field (from the previous days opening of Green Point Stadium), overcast conditions and a damp pitch. As we waited for the cars to be moved, work was done to make the pitch playable. Eventually a starting time of 11h20 was decided upon.

With the pitch being very sticky and the cloud cover overhead, the toss would be very important. Unfortunately, Brett lost the toss and United unsurprisingly decided to bowl first.

Openers, Swartzy & Dirk took to the crease knowing that batting in the morning wasn’t going to be easy. However, they started well with both looking in good nick. Unfortunately, in the 8th over, Nyland struck a low full toss straight to point leaving us 17/1. Soon to follow was Kassie, caught at 3rd slip. With the ball continuing to do quite a bit, a middle order collapse ensued, with Swartzy, Brett and Bevo all falling with the score below 30. Wes joined Cliff and both set about restoring the innings, taking us to lunch at 44/5.

After lunch with the clouds lifted and the pitch almost thoroughly dried out, the 2 batsmen started promisingly, until unfortunately Weso was caught by the ever-busy 3rd slip. This brought Nic to the crease, and after a promising 20 run partnership, Cliff was out caught at

short leg. Powelly followed soon after, leaving MCC 70/8. Jason came to the crease to play his natural aggressive game and hopefully, with Nic, take us to a respectable total. Unfortunately Nic was soon out after showing some good determination at the crease, soon followed by Ritzy. Unfortunately we were all out for 81.

With an inadequate 1st innings total on the board, we had a huge job to do with the ball. Nic and Piet got us off to a good start, hitting good areas and restricting the runs. In the 6th over, Pietie after some testing deliveries, had Martin caught at square leg by Swartzzy, leaving United 12/1. The very next ball was something really special, with Pietie bowling the left-handed Alexander with a great in-swinging Yorker. Well bowled Piet!

After having them 12/2, they then started to rebuild their innings with Sassman reaching his 50 and Booley looking good but scratchy on the other end. With Jay and Nic bowling extremely well, Sassman was out caught brilliantly by Powelly at deep square for 63. We then removed the captain Daniels for 0, leaving them 93/4. Nic continued to bowl one of the unluckiest spells of bowling, having Booley play and miss continuously as he tried to attack the youngster. He continued in this vein until he reached his 50, after giving us a few chances. Meanwhile, wickets were falling at the other end, with Maritz removing Burns and Toefy for 16 and 10 respectively. With Booley opening up and starting to middle some shots, the score started to climb. In order to take the pace off, we then brought our keen swing-bowler Kassie into the attack. He started off well and in his 4th over removed Damon with a quality slower ball for 10. Jason then finally removed Booley with a great catch off his own bowling for 84. Lastly, Kassie wrapped things up by bowling the number 11 Allie, leaving United with 206/10 in 60 overs.

This brought a long day to an end, walking off the field at ten past seven. It was a hard days cricket, with us being behind the 8 ball from the start with such a small 1st innings score, but we continued to work hard and stay upbeat in the field which I'd like to commend the guys for. We've got a huge task ahead of us next weekend, but I'm sure we'll give it a right go! Also, mention must go to Jason for his figures of 24-7-75-5...Well bowled Jay.

Lastly, thanks to our supporters Richie & Cornelia, Craig & Michelle, JP, Andy, the Greens', Mr Adriaanse and Gibbo for turning out. Much appreciated guys.

Day One - Res 'F' MCC 3rd XI vs Blue Downs CC played at MCC 'A'

The 3rd Eleven making a rare appearance on the A Track fielded first on Saturday.

Cameron Connolly a late replacement for Ryan Conradie opened the bowling into the breeze and soon had Blue Downs in trouble. Peter Hillman and Craig Zeeman joined the party in taking two sticks each and Blue Downs were in serious trouble.

Skipper Blazic did not want to be left out and recorded impressive figures of 7.2 – 4- 7- 4 as Blue Downs were blown away 65 all out off of 28 overs.

Openers Kamfer and Smith made a solid reply before falling on 13 and 12 respectively. Justin Broker batted well in making 53 and Chris Gibson used the long handle in making 33. Kevin Barnes top scored with 65 as MCC reached 220/6 off of their 45 overs.

This left Blue Downs to bat for 45 minutes before close of play during which time Peter Hillman picked up another two sticks and Chris Gibson one to leave Blue Downs down but not out on 31 for 3 in the second innings still 124 runs behind.

3B - MCC 4th XI vs Blue Bells CC played away

We arrived at one of the most atrocious fields you could ever imagine to play on. The grass was cut and resembled nothing like Andre Theunissen warned us about. But along with short grass came dust, thorns and stones...and a mighty strong wind. Very unpleasant.

As it turns out, only one team rocked up for the game, and the result echoed the sentiment.

Vlam won the toss, elected to bat in an effort to boost our net run rate even further and again went in to do the business with Chris. We got off to a flyer when the opposing skipper struggled to find his length and saw the first ball he bowled at Vlam disappear in the general direction of the road.

A brief cameo came to an end when a cube of C4 explosive detonated at the top of the bowlers' run-up and the resulting dust cloud managed to beat the bowler to the crease. Vlam got a face full of earth at the same time as the ball pitched and the result was a death rattle! Out for 27. Millies 39/1

Everyone got in and in the pursuit of quick runs perished. Chris got out for 15 and Carl was out bowled for 8. The biggest resistance came from Emile and Gabriel who both batted brilliantly. Emile was particularly severe on anything short while Gabriel dismissed deliveries at will to both sides of the wicket. Emile unfortunately was out caught for 36 of 51 balls. Our score a mystery as no overs was properly tallied after over 20!!

Rick joined Gabriel and for the rest of the innings all batters would play a little gem around Gabriel who seemed totally at ease even while wickets kept tumbling every few overs. Rick got out caught for 30 off 23 balls.

Slim, Ben, Wayne and Kean all came and went as Gabriel racked up a brilliant century – the last scoring shots being two huge sixes over cow off some very poor short bowling to bring up 104 off 83 balls. He was unfortunately run out off the last ball which handed Millies a formidable total of 252/9 in our full 40 overs. And once again...an innings timed well.

Blue Bells was languishing at 19 on the log before the start of the game and you would have had to be a real gambling man to put money on them chasing down the total. As it happened it would have been a poor horse to back.

Vlam opened the bowling with Andre G and from ball one it was obvious to all that a miracle need to occur for Blue Bells to see 40 overs, let alone chase down 252. The played and missed, edged, jumped and swayed to scratch themselves to a start off the first over.

Andre came on and in a complete anti climax the jumping stopped, but wickets started to fall like skittles! The first 4 wickets all belonged to him – taking one in each of his first 4 overs!!

Vlam felt like chopped liver from the other end and in an effort to join the celebrations he came around the wicket and bowled a Blue Bell...

Andre was not finished yet! In his 5th over he picked up another to end with astonishing figures of 5/4 in 6 overs which included 4 maidens!! For every 10 bowlers that think that raw pace is the answer you will have the one bowler that shows you that a little swing and extreme accuracy will stand you in far better stead.

In an effort to give as many bowlers as possible a run before our most important games Vlam brought Wayne and Kean on as change bowlers. Both bowled well and Wayne was rewarded with 1 wicket, Kean with 2 and the last wicket was a run-out – leaving Blue Bells (for whom the bell tolled very early on) on a dismal 53 all out.

Millies won by a mammoth 199 runs and in all fairness, apart from two out-of-this-world performances, we did not learn too much from this outing...aside from the fact that Grassy Park has very little grass. At least of the actual lawn variety...

Gabriel van Heerden – 104 (83) – 14 x 4's & 4 x 6's
Andre Groenewald – 5/4 in 6 (4 maidens)

3D - MCC 5th XI vs Yorkshire CC played at MCC 'B'

FIGHTING FIFTHS FIGHT BACK TO WINNING WAYS

Yorkshire arrived at the ground early the toss was taken at 13:15, and they opted to bowl first. For once a 13:30 start was on the cards and "Uncle Vern" vd Berg, promoted up the order, walked out with batting partner Gert Badenhorst to face the 1st delivery.

Vern and Gert saw off the new ball for a decent opening partnership of 42 before Gert was first to go for 21. Mad Mike vd Merwe joined Vernon and briefly before going out trying to move his feet to a straight delivery. By the time Wray van Schalkwyk came to the crease 69 runs had been posted off 19 overs and the run rate was slightly behind the minimum 160 runs. At drinks Vern received the good news that there was a 12th man to do fielding duties, so he had license to run as much as he wanted. Wray negotiated his way to 12 before he took the license to hit as much as he wanted! An entertaining partnership of 63 followed before Vern was out caught on 36.

Skipper Mike joined Wray at the crease and managed to get most of the strike to Wray who accelerated the run rate before going out for an excellent innings of 66 runs. Morgan

Maxwell joined the skip in the middle with 4 overs remaining. Skipper Mike hit the ball into the covers Morgs called for the run and what followed might have even made finals of Strictly Come Dancing! The Skip managed to win the race back to the non strikers end while Morgs had to walk back to the hut without troubling the scorers. Two more wickets fell without adding to the score before Rory Keane (3*) and the Skip (19*) saw off the 12 balls to post a 164/7 off the allotted 40 overs.

With a defendable score on the board, tight bowling was required. Opening bowlers Jade Eager and Jacques Wessels responded by keeping the run rate below the required rate. Jade got the breakthrough in the 9th over with a sharp chance taken by Morgan at short cover. Bowling through his 8 overs Jade picked up another wicket when Gert (wearing the pink cap) held on to a skier. Change bowler Pooven Ragaven produced the performance of the day bowling his 8 overs for a return of 8-1-19-4 and was unlucky to miss out on a fifer when a sharp chance was put down at short square leg. At the other end Andre Gorenwald Snr bowled 7 tight overs on the trot taking 1 wicket for 17 runs and Yorkshire was 79/8. With only 10 overs to go Jacques Wessels came back for his send spell of 4 overs and took the 9th wicket while only conceded 1 run to finish with figures of 8-3-11-1. With the batsmen opting for a middle practice off the last 4 overs, Morgan and Mad Mike got some bowling practice to see out the 40. Yorkshire ending on 102/9 and the Fighting Fifts were back to winning ways. Skipper Mike, having spent 140 overs /11 hours, on the MCC B field was particularly chuffed to claim the double as his U12 side beat Avendale CC in the morning!

Many thanks for Lynn who was back to scoring duties this week and Megan who kept the scoreboard updated while the 5^{ths} were in the field.

3D MCC 'A' "Closed XI" vs Sea Crest played at The Gary Kirsten Oval

“TIGERS BRING IT HOME WITH DECENT RUN RATE”

The toss won by Grant Peacock. Closed XI to bat

Wayne McKenzie and “Run machine McCracken” to open.

After some fine swing bowling from the Seacrest openers, frustration crept in and Wayne mildly popped one to short mid on. Millies 31/1. Peacock makes his return at No 3 and just plays himself in before being softly dismissed for just 12. Ewan Fourie makes his return a little differently by being bowled first ball by a full toss. (Ewan believes the full toss is the most under-rated ball in cricket). Paul “Huge’s” aggressive style of play as left him wanting against the openers all season. Skip and I decided he would be better suited taking on the 2nd rate bowlers coming in at 5 or 6, and boy did that move pay off. 65 off about 40 balls sure helped the teams’ run rate. Paul finally went for one too many and was caught on the boundary. Gordon comes to the crease with only 5 overs left and sacrifices his wicket by getting himself run out trying to steal the strike. Gray looked tidy before McCracken finally succumbed to their openers by almost batting through the entire innings. Well done Crax - another top score of 77 from some pretty tight bowling. Not many wides or extra’s from Seacrest. Millie Tigers 217/8 at close of innings.

With Christo :The Hammer” thumping the keeper gloves harder with each game that passes, Wayne was bitching from ball one about the pain in his pencil pushing hands. I think Wayne was just as scared as the batsman with ”The Hammer” screaming in. Christo shaved the stumps on no less than 5 occasions. The batsman had no clue.....nor did the keeper. Ha ha

Paul Huge finally made the break through with a fine diving catch by myself in the slips that more resembled some sort of beast doing tricks at Waterworld. I was more surprised than anyone else. Seacrest 1/12

After wickets started tumbling Peacock gave everybody a go at bowling. Paul “Huge” once again standing out with figures of 4/36 in 8.

Seacrest 121 all out! A great win by 96 runs.

(One down, 6 more to go. Well done on this warm up for “The Big Show” on the 20th against “Demon Davids” and the boys. We will be trying a few new ideas against Edgmead this week in preparation for The Macassar match. With Ed the Leb back and Huge finding some form, we should be in for a big score on Saturday against The Mead.)

3E – League MCC XI vs Green Point at the Playhouse

GREEN POINT GET THE POINT

Welcome back to the playhouse, a reasonable size field where, you, as a batsmen get value for your shots. Anything past the inner ring goes to the boundary. Great for the batsmen, not so good for the bowlers. MCC knew that these weeks’ opponents would not be walkovers. Green Point sits two slots below us on the log. Although MCC should take the 10 points, complacency was put aside and some serious work was put in in the nets and in the field. A change to the starting lineup saw two U17 players stand in for us. The Super Sixes welcome the guys to senior cricket. Brett takes the gloves for day as a plan was set out on Tuesday.

MCC arrive early at the Playhouse and get ready with some warm up drills. Green Point arrive at the field just in time, maybe they were still standing in awe of the stadium. JJ Rebello walks out with the opposing captain and takes the toss. True to his form, JJ wins the toss making in 3 from 3 and MCC go into bat.

Green Point only had one bowler of any skill to speak of. Their number 1 bowled some good lines and with good pace. No movement in the air or off the seam made things easier for MCC but his line was dangerous. Miss it and your out, simple as that!

After 3 overs, MCC were 7 without loss with only 1 run coming from their No1 first 2 overs. The 4th over was a good one for MCC with Brett jumping on the bowler and smashing 17 runs off the over setting the score at 24 after 4.

MCC lost their first wicket in the 7th over when JJ received a short ball around the ribcage area and going slightly down leg. JJ shaped to run the ball to Fine leg but only managed to get a rub of the glove and the keeper taking a neat catch. There was a small appeal but before the umpire could give his decision, JJ walked. The umpire later admitted that he thought it hit the batsmens shirt and not the glove. Hats off to JJ for walking when he knew he was out. Cricket is a gentlemens' game and if you nick it, you walk!!

Enter Shaun, filling in for the Super Sixes this sat, he wasted no time in scoring 8 quick runs off 5 balls before testing out the slips catching ability, unfortunately for him, the slip fielder could catch and Shaun in back in the hut.

Shiraz to the middle to join his captain. Bad news for CNA stationery suppliers as sales were lost since Shiraz saved the scorer pencil as he was dismissed for a 3 ball duck.

Mr Cricket, Alec van Wyk was now at the crease. Hungry for some runs and confident after some solid batting in the nets. Brett and Alec decide on the game plan for the next few overs. Let's hang around and accumulate while we stabilize the ship. Unfortunately for MCC, Brett was unable to keep the plan in action as he was caught at cover.

GP captain bringing himself on and bowling a slow half volley outside off to Brett but unfortunately Brett hit a simple catch to the cover fielder. Brett later said that he expected it a bit quicker and was setting to play a cover drive only to stop his shot due to the lack of pace resulting in the catch. A catch my grandmother could hold on to.

Michael joins MR Cricket at the wicket and after putting on a 3 run partnership Michael was tapped LBW playing back. Speaking to Michaels' father after the game, apparently he a problem with leg before. Something to work on then.

Clarence "Tin Tin" Coetzee and Mr Cricket set another 3 run partnership before Alec was bowled by a good delivery leaving MCC on 73 / 6 after 15 overs.

Rob Lucas, fresh from his recent 50 runs joins Clarence at the crease and the two set about getting MCC to a reasonable score putting on a 37 run partnership until Clarence was dismissed for his highest score of the season. Chris now joins Rob and quickly gets to 10 runs off 10 balls but unfortunately Rob was unable to stay with him. Getting bowled through the gate by the off spinner. The ball looked like it hit a stone as it turned from about half a meter outside off and hitting the leg stump.

Neil Waterboy Kruger and Fred Besselaar were next to come but they didn't last long, only hanging around for 1 and 2 balls respectively, leaving Chris stranded on 10 NOT OUT. MCC 122 all out after 29 overs.

A low and below par total for Playhouse but defendable if we bowl properly, so short meeting is held in middle. Back up your fielders, hold onto the ball if the run out is not on and chase down absolutely everything.

Green Point confidently stride out to the middle aiming to reach their total quickly and go home with full points. MCC had other plans.

The usual opening partnership of Chris Coetzee and Rob Lucas take the new pip and in the 5th over , Chris bowls the number 1. Unfortunately due to the wind and the shallow channels in the top of the stumps the bails had been removed. The ball travels past the batsmen and hit the top of leg stump. Both umpires claim to not have seen it and the batsmen stands. Not good for MCC but we keep our cool and concentrate on the task at hand. Robs' 4th over yielded the double breakthrough. Rob trapping the No2 in front and a brilliant run out between Neil and Brett resulting in the run out of the already bowled No1. GP 10/2 in 8 overs.

The loss of the first wicket saw their No3 make his way to the crease and true to form Alec "Mr Cricket" van Wyk had the chirp of the day. The batsmen had long curly hair and while he was taking guard, Alec shouted from gully, "Hey guys, its Kenny G" This of course had MCC in fits of laughter and it took a few minutes before play could resume. Even the batsmen saw the funny side of the chirp as he was also laughing.

Some very tight bowling from Chris and Rob saw the third wicket fall with the score on 15. Rob Lucas bowling around the wicket inducing the false shot and the ball is skied to gully. A simply catch is put down and the fielder stands staring into the sky with hands on his head and ball lying by his feet. At this point both batsmen were standing at the keepers end. JJ (fielding at slip) was wide awake and charged in to gather the ball, throwing it to Rob at the bowlers end and the furniture is knocked over. Even though the catch was dropped, the presence of mind of the fielders still resulted in the run out leaving Green Point on 15/3 after 14 overs. If the Super Sixes had a pink hat, the fielder who dropped the catch and stood with hands on his head would have been awarded it without any question.

Green Point managed to hang on by their finger nails to get to drinks on 41/3 after 20 overs. Due to very accurate bowling and some great fielding MCC only conceded 2 runs per over. After the drinks break, Chris Coetzee was brought back into the attack with one instruction. TAKE WICKETS!! Chris did not disappoint. Pumped up and bowling with some serious pace, he had the batsmen edge the ball behind and a great sharp chance was held by Brett at keeper jumping up to his right. Chris' following over gave GP more problems as the batsmen edged another ball behind. Brett diving to his right was unable to get to the ball but the awareness and superior skill of Rob Lucas at first slip held a great catch diving forward. Rob is one of the best slip fielders I have ever had the pleasure of playing with. He has had about 8 or 9 catches this season and all at slip. He is yet to drop one. Most of them have been quick and very difficult chances.

JJ claimed his first of the day in the next over, bowling the new batsmen for a well deserved DUCK. GP 47/6 after 25. MCC now containing GP to less than 2 per over and taking wickets. So far a good day in the field. The bad news is that this was the start of a fairly decent partnership for GP. They looked solid and it was going to take something special in the field to break the partnership. Alec "Mr Cricket" Van Wyk took a walk over to Brett and had a quick chat. MCC were called together where Alec gave the team a pep talk. The team needed to lift their heads and refocus on the task at hand. The pep talk

worked and the brilliance was created between Tin Tin Coetzee and Waterboy Kruger. Clarence back into the attack dropped the second ball of the over slightly short and the batsmen went on the pull. He hit the ball in the middle of the bat but just to the right of Neil at deep midwicket. The ball flew at pace and had Neil frozen in time until instinct and reaction took over with Neil jumping up and to his right, pouching the ball with one hand. I am sure that his hand is still stinging. The ball hardly got higher than 2 metres off the ground, and the batsmen and supporters were looking to the boundary to find the ball. Just what MCC needed.

GP lost their 8th wicket in the next over. Two balls hit to backward square in the air, both resulting in dropped catches. Waterboy fielding at midwicket ran around to the square boundary as the ball was in the air on the second catch. One of the Juniors was fielding at deep square and put down his second catch, Neil was on the scene in a flash and gathered the ball while the batsmen were on the second run. He picked up the ball and fired a low PERFECT throw to Brett at the stumps, Brett takes the ball directly over the stumps and runs out the batsmen. Two brilliant contributions in the field by Waterboy gave MCC the chance they needed. 1 more wicket required, 15 runs to defend, 5 overs left.

Shaun is brought on to bowl some off spin and although the wicket was not taken, he bowled with great maturity and concentration only conceding 2 runs in his over.

3 overs left and 13 runs required by GP for victory. Enter Tin Tin. Conceding a boundary off his 4th ball on the over, cleaned bowled the number 10 on his last delivery, ending a tight game and ensuring MCC take home 10 Points. GP 113/10 after 38 overs.

Notable contributions with the ball.

Chris Coetzee, 8 overs, 5 maidens, 6 runs and 2 wickets.

Rob Lucas, 8 overs, 5 maidens, 10 runs and 1 wicket.

Top class bowling gents. The team and Captain salute you.

This was a great game for MCC as we all chipped in as a team and the spirit and camaraderie between the Super Sixes was a huge factor in this victory. The fact that we were able to contain them and take wickets was great. Conceding only 2.97 runs per over was great to see.

Thanks again to Jenna for scoring and to all the supporters who showed up on the day. Your cheers provide much motivation.

On to Altuis United B next sat. This will be our biggest test so far this season. Improvement is needed in the batting department if we are going have a chance at victory.

Until next week.....

From the Boundary Rope was compiled by Coach
Craig

Thanx for the input of the respective captains.