



First XI Match Report

ROUND 10 – 7/02/09

Johnson Park vs Eildon Park

Johnson Park 9/248 (D. Samaraweera 83, D. Carmen 29, B. Gaunt 25)

Drew with

Eildon Park

Coming into the biggest game of the year thus far, with the weatherman telling us we will be playing in scorching heat, we came to the ground hoping to win the toss and have a hit. For the second time this season Pete won the toss and we batted.

Bryn and the rookie "Mal Francis" opened the batting. Our target was to not lose early wickets and build a partnership early on. Mal and Bryn batted well putting on 30 until Bryn pulled one down fine legs throat for 25. Carmen came in and he and Mal batted solidly and put us in a good position until Mal thought he was Carl Lewis and took on a throw from the boundary and was run out by half a pitch. Pete came and went, but Carmen was still going well until he was nipped out not long after for 29. Dimi didn't trouble the scorers and this had us at 5/90 with Dulip and Liyan to steady the ship. They batted superbly and built the score up steadily. With the Chirping slowing up as Dulip was slaying it to all parts and our score creeping up, we were crawling back and putting a respectable target on the board.

Liyan lollied one to point and was out for twenty odd. Wints came in and swung away for a well hit 18 or so. Bowen joined Dulip and pulled a calf, so Pete did the running.

Dulip was eventually out for a well made 83 to get us out of trouble and that brought Richies "specialist fielder" to the crease. He got bat on ball and made 15 off about 10 balls to help us get some good runs at the death.

248. Was it enough? We will never know. But to come from 5/90 and get to 250 was a fantastic effort. We showed some great ticker to get there and that is the way we need to play to go any further this season. Keep up the good work.

ROUND 9 – 24/01/09 *Johnson Park vs The Basin*

Johnson Park 7/330 (B. Gaunt 127, D. Samaraweera 62, L. Desilva 42, D. Siriwardena 34)
Defeated

The Basin 10/146 (C. Wenham 4/74, S. Bowen 2/10, D. Samaraweera 2/14)

We won the toss for a change and had a bat. Carmsy and Gaunt opened and put on about 34 for the first wicket before Carmsy thought the keeper wasn't busy enough and gave the ball a tickle through to him. Dunny came in at three and after having a chuckle at the bowlers expense, thought the keeper was due to drop one so he thought he would test him out (apparently he wasn't due)

In came Dulip and he and Gaunt took there time and batted very well. They dug in through the hard patch and we came in at tea 2 for 140. We needed a settling partnership after tea and they did just that before Dulip was dismissed for 62. Brynny batted superbly and finished up on 127. Dimi and Liyan also batted well towards the end collecting 34 and 42 respectively. Some clean hitting from Bowen and good running from the swing and miss Simo rounded us up to 329.

We came out with a plan the second week and Stevey Bowen produced a great spell after a long week in Bendigo and picked up 2 key wickets in Whalan and Heath, who have both made plenty against JP sides in the past. Wenham strapped himself in and just kept bowling. Wints; Liyan and Dulip all toiled hard from the other end. Wenham took the big wicket of RS Rundle and from then on we felt the game was in our grasp and it was a piece of brilliance when Koster aka Lee Tudor didn't think Robbie's arm was much chop from long off and decided to take off for a run, where an unsuspecting Tecinevic was run out at the keepers end with Robbie's throw right next to the bails. Diamond Duck champ. Did someone say specialist fielder? Let's not get into it.

With 2 wickets to get and Wenham into 25 overs plus, Robbie had a bowl and created a couple of chances. One being to Bowen who only had to take 3 steps, but still didn't get there. He got a cheapy in the end. Wenham Bowled 32 on the trot and collected his 4th. Great team effort in the end, dismissing them for 147.

We had another hit for 10 overs in junk time. Liyan and Pete batted and put on 40 odd against some bowling that resembled Knox City 3rd XI. Well Done boys.

HUGE game this week.

ROUND 8 – 10/01/09 *Johnson Park vs Mountain Gate*

Johnson Park 10/157 (L. Desilva 39, D. Carmen 30)

Lost to

Mountain Gate 5/225 (D. Devenish 2/62)

ROUND 7 – 20/12/08 *Johnson Park vs Belgrave*

Johnson Park 2/173 (B. Gaunt 92, P. Dunlop 62*)

Defeated

Belgrave 10/167 (B. Stallworthy 4/29, C. Wenham 2/27)

7 in a row and Pete loses the toss again, so we were fielding. With Stallsy MIA for the first 4 overs, we only had the 10 fielders to play with. That didn't worry Wenham grabbing the big wicket of Benny Carnell with a rapid short ball (we all know that's not true) 1/0. Steve Bowen came down the hill and bowled with good pace again. Benny Stalls finally rolled in like he was there the whole time and was running around like a headless chook, saving runs willy-nilly. It was one of the best fielding sides we could have put on the park with the Blow in Wisey; the specialist fielder Beeros; Stallsy and Liyan patrolling the infield.

Belgrave built a mini partnership and where cruising until Liyan came on to put the brakes on and Stallsy bowled wonderfully to peg them back and tie down the dangerous Vozzo. We where consistently taking wickets all day, but we couldn't claim Vozzo. Benny Wise

blew in and blew out and grabbed the prize wicket finally and once he was gone the run rate slowed up and they finished up on 167 (all bowlers doing a great job).

Belgrave put on a ripper spread and some pretty handy cordial which went down a treat at Tea. We opened up with Gaunty and Pedro. Belgrave bowled tidily early and the Sharks openers batted patiently, waiting for the bad balls to put away. Ben Carnell came on early and had Pete in some trouble, bowling his bouncy spinning offies. Pete got through and Bryn was scoring freely. After the boys put on 50 for no loss Bryn hit his straps slapping some big 6's and hitting some clean balls to the fence. Pete was going about his business at the other end.

On 92 Bryn decided he wanted to hit one down a fielders throat and was out after a fantastic innings. Troy came and added to the 2 bucks tin then departed. Stalls came out and received his customary paste-ing and we passe them with about 7 overs to spare. Pete finishing 62* and Ben 15*. It was a fantastic win and the boys go in to the break sitting 3rd at 5 wins and 2 losses with some big games after Christmas.

ROUND 6 – 13/12/08 *Johnson Park vs Ferntree Gully*

Johnson Park 0/15

Drew with

Ferntree Gully 10/101 (L. De Silva 3/21, C. Wenham 2/36, S. Bowen 2/26)

ROUND 5 – 29/11/08 *Johnson Park vs Upwey*

Johnson Park 2/163 (D. Siriwardena 77*, D. Samaraweera 61)

Defeated

Upwey 9/161 (S. Bowen 3/27, D. Samaraweera 2/26)

After a much better preparation and warm up this week, Pete decided he didn't care what we did first and proceeded to lose his 5th toss in a row and field. We started poorly in the field and it was the 2 bucks express stopping all stations except East Richmond (with 3 catches going begging early).

Snake started off well with the new ball and had Mr. Left Handed Wood Chopper playing and missing at everything (they never learn). Benny came down the hill and didn't have the greatest start (apparently it was his footwear?). Upwey toughed out the start and made there way to 0/30 in good time, before Bowen was introduced and turned the game. His efforts were much needed and he bowled with good pace.

It was the dismissal of the Dangerous Dain Howe which was the most exciting. Already under the pump losing quick wickets, Howe needed to get going and we knew he may be in for a long afternoon if hew did. However a couple of Bowen short balls (which Howe defended in the air) where taken to swing the game in our favour.

Dave Devenish came on for a quick spell to grab a wicket and bowled well for his entire spell. Troy was getting better as the day went on behind the stumps and he grabbed a couple of cheeky stumpings, late in the innings. Liyan's spell was super, he bowled with a 7-2 field and his line and length was excellent. In the end Upwey batted around a young guy (Hurst) who batted superbly for a well made 50 and they reached 161 (no thanks to Mr. Butter Fingers - Bryn Gaunt dropping two catches in the deep).

We set out to make the allotted 161 with Dulip and Bryn opening up. Big Wilson was fired up and looking to take some early wickets to have a look at the middle order early. However, Bryn and Dulip had other ideas. They saw off a pretty good spell from Wilson and were very cautious not to lose early wickets, which we have been doing in previous weeks.

Bryn played a stinky "Un-Bryn-Like" shot to get out on 20 odd, which brought Lance Klusner; sorry, I mean Dimitri Siriwardene to the crease. After a shaky start and 2 bucks from the Upwey skipper at mid-off, Dimitri lifted the tempo and unleashed the fury on the Upwey bowling attack. It was a war-zone on the hill (and the bike track) as little red missiles were being launched on a regular occurrence. Oh yeah, Dulip wasn't going to bad either (finishing on 61).

There was some heated exchanges between the two club's players toward the end of the days play, but cricket is just a game and we move on from it and have a beer afterward. In

the end we ended up getting over the line with 7 overs to spare. It was a great win for us because Upwey was definitely a danger game. They have some quality cricketers and some good young players who are in good form, so to knock them off was a great effort.

It keeps us in the hunt for a finals berth along with 6 or 7 other sides. We need to keep winning fella's. Get to training....

ROUND 4 – 15/11/08 *Johnson Park vs Lysterfield*

Johnson Park 10/135 (P. Dunlop 46, D. Samaraweera 34)

Lost to

Lysterfield 9/231 (D. Samaraweera 5/28, B. Stallworthy 2/55)

WEEK ONE

This week we came out and faced Lysterfield and once again Peter lost the toss. We were sent out to field, which wasn't a problem because we would have bowled anyway.

Liyan opened up with first gamer Yuda and they kept things tight for the first few overs before Bowen and Wenham were introduced to the attack. Hill and Dempsey (two of the leading batsmen in the competition) were looking solid at the crease for the beavers, until Stallworthy was introduced. Dempsey found his leg stump didn't want to stand next to the middle and off stumps anymore and would much rather be knocked out of the ground.

Steve and Dave Devenish bowled well in tandem just before tea, good signs for the future of Johnson Park. The bowlers toiled away without much success and at tea the Sharks hadn't bowled too badly and yet Lysterfield were able to sit comfortably only 3 down.

With 30 odd overs to bowl and the Beavers sitting pretty at 3 for 170, we needed some wickets to slow the runs and with the introduction of Dulip we did just that. After looking like making closer to 300 Dulip took 5 wickets in quick succession and JPCC kept the beavers to a modest 9/231.

WEEK TWO

With Stallworthy back and Gaunty set to open up again, we set out on the trail for 231 and with a long batting line up we were very confident.

- BANG - Bryn played on "Out"
- BANG - Liyan catch ya
- BANG - Stallworthy very stiff to get out LBW

Sharks for the second game in a row were 3 for stuff all. With Dulip smashing the ball to all parts and Peter plugging away at the other end we looked like steadying the ship. Dulip as always scored freely and made a quick 34 before a low bouncing short ball hit Dulip in front and he was out LBW (much to the delight of Snyman who felt obliged to win Tool of the week for ranting and raving all afternoon).

Dimitri then came out and after his recent form in the twenty/20 (and at training) he looked good. After belting one of the biggest 6's ever seen (which only just came off the toe) Dimitri was also given out LBW. Where were the LB's last week Bowen asks? hahaha. Steve Devenish came and went. Peter battled away at the other end and was finally dismissed just before getting to 50 and the game was gone.

We finished all out for 136 and another missed opportunity. We decided to have another quick crack at them with the ball with Stallworthy and Wenham each grabbing wickets. A good little session, with the Beavers finishing 4 for 30.

Get to Training and look for a big weekend and a much improved performance this weekend.

ROUND 3 – 01/11/08

Johnson Park vs Upper Ferntree Gully

Johnson Park 10/169 (D. Samaraweera 55, P. Dunlop 33)

Lost to

Upper Ferntree Gully 10/274 (C. Wenham 8/76, S. Bowen 2/52)

Week 2 wasn't a good day for the sharks. Apart from Sama's 55 there was nothing special about the sharks batting (as the final result showed with a 100 runs loss).

If there were some positives to come out of the day it was that Sama, Dunny and the middle order all got to spend some time in the middle.

All in all it wasn't a good day for the sharks and we will be looking to bounce back next week with a big team effort, and get back on the winners list!

Everyone get to training Wednesday and Thursday and work on where you can improve.

WEEK ONE

Today was the first time Sama' has got changed in the back of his car in 30 years!

The first travelled to Upper Gully for their Round Three match. On a warmish day Dunlop lost the toss (0-3) again and the sharks were in the field. It was De Silva and Reid with the new pill and De Silva had another case of deja vu when he had Uppers opening bat dropped on 0 by Kane Murphy at second slip. Little did the sharks know at that stage that Uppers opening bat was in for a big day after that.

Without a wicket from the two opening bowlers it was time to bring on the new man Craig "Snake" Wenham. Snake picked up the first wicket with a very nice pegging (the first time he has removed a stump in 2 years). Then the real shock came as Snake got the Collee family out in the space of two balls (both pegged), followed by two more before the tea break (his first "Michelle" in a few years). Bowen also grabbed one to have upper on the ropes at tea.

After tea Uppers opening bat Goodger (who had been given 2 lives on 0 and 40 by Kane Murphy - second one would have been a cracker of a catch!) brought up his 100 and got a partnership going with there number eight and kept the sharks waiting. Enter Wenham again, as he has done so well for the last couple of years, coming back with the old ball and picking up wickets when needed. He went on to take 8/76 for the afternoon and Bowen

managed to pick up a bunny at the end of the day to end with the other two wickets that wenham did not get.

Upper Gully's opening bat (Goodger) carried his bat through the innings for an unbeaten 155, as Upper Gully finished the day all out 274.

The Sharks have the same scenario as last week, so they must bat their allotted 80 overs !!!

Well done again to Snake who took more wickets on Saturday then he did last season.

ROUND 2 – 11/10/08 *Johnson Park vs Rowville*

Johnson Park 3/395 (B. Gaunt 172, S. Bowen 110, L. De Silva 45*, D. Siriwardena 37)

Defeated

Rowville 9/277 (S. Bowen 3/29, D. Samaraweera 2/68)

After losing the toss the sharks were in the field (looking for the same sort of performance as the week before) and the start was looking promising with big tubby Reid getting his first 1st XI wicket, then Bowen got his first of the day and the sharks went to tea with the score at 2/80.

The wickets were a few overs apart after tea as Rowville batsmen Gillespie and Burgerman put on a handy partnership. Bowen returned to claim Gillespie, then came the big hitter from Rowville and he did not let them down, getting under De Silva's skin and managing to land a couple over the fence (over the U3A building).

Enter last years runner up Jack Feaver medalist (lost by 1 vote best thing Bowen has ever done!) Bryn Gaunt to bowl his slow medium swingers (well the wicket ball was a full toss!). He ended Rowville's big hitters afternoon, then Rowville pushed on to make 277.

Should be a good test for the sharks strong batting line up come Saturday, but we must bat 80 overs!!!

ROUND 1 – 04/10/08

Johnson Park vs Monbulk

Johnson Park 8/165 (P. Dunlop 42, B. Gaunt 26, L. De Silva 21)

Defeated

Monbulk 10/69 (D. Devenish 2/13, S. Bowen 2/6, C. Wenham 2/14, L. De Silva 2/10)

After losing the toss we were sent into bat first against a depleted reigning premier side, having lost six of their premierships stars from last year. Dulip and Peter opened the innings and started well, putting on 20+ before Dulip was caught and bowled for 13. Peter was joined by Liyan and they continued to score at a steady pace before a few big blows from each batsman got us rolling. Liyan was next to go for about 21 and Peter followed soon after for 42. Some lower order hitting from Steve Bowen, Kane Murphy and Steve Devenish got us to a score of 165, probably 15 shy of what we were after.

Liyan and Wenham were thrown the new ball and both guys bowled superb lines to the openers, it was unfortunate about the one blemish from Steve Bowen at first slip (2 bucks). Snake bowled his 8 straight and was a great foil for Liyan who was bowling with good pace. Bowen followed Liyan down the hill and was impressive. Once Jason Fraser came to the wicket, Peter asked us to be really tight in the field and to make sure we put Fraser under lots of pressure. David Devenish had the task of bowling to him and was excellent in his control and kept Monbulk to singles only. Big Tubs Reid came on and bowled very tidily. We were in control of the game for most of the day and once Fraser departed it was in the bag. Young Steve Devenish came on at the end and got himself a wicket. The Boys put in a real team effort today with no real outstanding performances with bat or ball to get us over the line. The fielding was the best it's been for many games and the voice in the field and pressure we applied was great to be apart of. With some big games coming up we need to make sure this continues.

Great stuff guys.