



First XI Match Report

ROUND 4 – 31/10/08

Johnson Park vs Upwey

Johnson Park 10/261 (P.Dunlop 139, D. Carman 46)

Lost to

Upwey 7/264 (S. Bowen 2/47, C. Wenham 2/78)

We turned up on day 1 against a pretty good side in Upwey who have some very good players in there ranks. We won the toss and opened up with Peter "nervous" Dunlop and Adam "more cushion more pushin" Burgess. They put on a partnership of 20 when Burgo was caught at gully. Dave "play and miss" Carman came in and played and missed, but with Peter "Add Water" Dunlop scoring freely the score was tickin over nicely. Carman was doing a great job frustrating the opposition and proving a terrific foil for Dunny down the other end. Peter "Vic Country" Dunlop pushed quickly toward 50 and was looking great. Dave "VC: Carman started to find touch and rode his luck to push the score to 1 fa 130 before he was caught off the bowling of young quick Sam Waters who was looking Dangerous. Bryn "Plays on alot" Gaunt confidently walked to the crease at no.4 and the sharks where looking at 300+. With not long left until tea Gaunt was Dismissed for 4 (Played on) We went in at tea at 3 for 150.

After tea, Dimitri came and went stumped off some great work from Matt Mulcahy down leg side. Dave "thinks he is Maurice Green" Devenish batted for a while before trying to burn the skipper on 80odd and was run out. Warwick "Works ontop of a TAB" Steele had a brief stay and quacked his way back to the pavillion. Peter "Not so nervous now" Dunlop was cruising and dispatchin to all parts but was running out of partners until he found an ally in Steve "horrible Kareoke singer" Devo and he guided Dunlop to his 100 with a 4 over cover. Steve then found himself running past one and that brought Step-hen "If i got fit" Bowen to the crease. We had lost 5 wickets for about 30 runs and looked in danger of scoring below 200. Setp-hen batted carefully with Pedro and they put on 50 before Dunlops

63 over stay was finished skying the ball to mid off to give Waters his 4th wicket. Stephen went out and resident 10 and 11 Craig "Granty cost me 50 again" Wenham and Adam "I batted on top of Wilko" Grant nudged us up to 261.

The new ball was taken by Granty and Wenham. We started well with Young Hewitt putting competition veteran Brendan "Hector" Heath in the toaster and left him in a little long so Steve "Give me a bowl" Devo hit the stumps from range then Adam "twenty20 Debutant" Grant took the second wicket of Hewitt caught behind. This brought Hurst and District crickets finest Matt Mulcahy to the crease. Hurst is a much improved player and Mulcahy was hitting them like he should be playing for Victoria. We knew we needed to get Mulcahy out early and expose Howe to Bowen early. Mulcahy chimed his way to 16 and miss timed a short ball from Bowen to be caught at mid on. Big Dain Howe who now had to be the man to take the game from us came to bat. If we get him early, victory would be very close. After surviving the early spell of short stuff from Bowen he was on his way. They cruised to tea and were 2 down for just above 100. After tea Snake continued his long spell and bowled Hurst and we were w! here back in the game. Dave Devo came on and chimed in with a wicket and Wokka was bowling a treat. Dain Howe continued on his way smashing the bowling everywhere and even though we were taking wickets he scored freely and took them home with 3 overs to spare. We battled hard but narrowly missed out. Big Game next week against the Favourites EP.

ROUND 3 – 24/10/08 *Johnson Park vs Ferntree Gully*

Johnson Park 8/183 (B. Gaunt 51, A. Burgess 29, S. Bowen 22*)

Lost to

Ferntree Gully 7/191 (S. Bowen 2/25, D. Devenish 2/25)

After week 1 was washed out we entered week 2 unchanged unlike our Ftg opponents. With the Arrival of one of the star players first child and a late call up for work for another of these players they decided that all the players in the 2's were no good and to grab a bloke who has had more send offs than John Farnham to play.

Again we lost the Toss and Richo the Ftg captain decided to bat. We had a great start with Steve (attention seeker) Bowen taking the wicket of Teofilo first ball which broke up his Partnership with Handley. It was not long after when Handley decided he couldn't be away from his mate for so long, so he smashed one through to the keeper off Craig "just hit one in front of the wicket you sh*t truck" Wenham, in the hope of getting out and much to the bemusement of the fielders it seemed the umpire didn't agree that the ball diverted 4 foot after it went past the bat. No problems we got a very questionable LBW the next over and an unlucky Millard was on his way. 2 for not many and the sharks looking good.

Young Bradbury came out and batted carefully while Handley Hit more of Wenhams bowling between 2nd slip and gully. The ground was lightning and these 2 put on a partnership that set them up for a 220 sort of score. Dave (Groundwork, Mal's Son, Max Rooke) Devo again bowled magnificently and was hard to score off finishing with 2 fa 25. Warwick (Mr Facebook) Steele bowled without luck. The change in the game came when Tim (Hamstring) Reid had to go off the ground. This Brought Bryn "I'll get all the good bats out" Gaunt to the bowling crease. He bowled 9 tidy overs of really gentle "Butchers Wing" and finished with the wicket of Luke Bowyer who thought running down the wicket and missing it by a foot was a good option. Thankfully for us as Bowyer is in form and a quality player. Handley was still knicking them through slips and finally went out on 60 odd. Steve (Wolfmother) Dev had 5 tidy overs toward the end and Steve (I wanna bat 6) Bowen Finished well.

FTG Gully finished up on 191 thanks to some good late over batting from There captain Richo, Graeme (This is my last game) Salan and Anstey who hid in the order until Bryn "I back myself" Gaunt had finished his overs. At one stage 220 was on the cards so we where confident we could get the runs.

Pete "cant win a toss" Dunlop and Tim "Oh but i won a first XI batting average" Reid opened the batting. Tim snuck a few down through third man. There was some genuine HEAT in the contest. Peter "Cant get past 40" Dunlop was copping some choice words. Tim "Play and Miss" Reid was getting some niggles as well until he was adjudged LBW.

You could have picked it straight of the Plum Tree. Dunlop left not long after being also adjudged LBW. mmmmm interesting one. This brought Adam "ANY DANGER OF HITTING THE BALL" Burgess and Bryn "Still talking about his wicket" Gaunt to the crease. They steadied and put on 80 or 90. Some good bowling from Field tied Adam "Pad it back" Burgess down one end. We continued to score slowly but with the fast ground we where always confident. Adam was caught for 29 and Gaunt out nicking on 51. We really needed one of these 2 guys to go on and get a big one. Dimi "Please don't leave at xmas" Sirewardene looked a million bucks again until he hit a fully to! a fielder. The tail wagged well but couldn't get us over the line with Warwick "Mernda" Steele, Dave "Im The best brother" Devo, Steve "No im better than him" Devo all getting 10 or so. Steve "How many tons have you got?" Bowen batted superbly and nearly got us over the line.

In the end we finished 8 short which was heartbreaking. We came up against a super team that will be there at the pointy end. We need to keep sticking together and just play our role for the side and we will have success this season.

Keep working hard boys.

ROUND 2 – 10/10/08 *Johnson Park vs Belgrave*

Johnson Park 3/210 (D. Siriwardena 101*, P. Dunlop 43, A. Burgess 42)

Defeated

Belgrave 5/190 (S. Bowen 2/47)

Round 2 began with only the 1 change, with Snake coming into the team for young Stevey Dev. We made the long trip up to Belgrave and after losing the toss again (i think im 1 from 13 now) we where told to have a field.

With John Levell and Ben (JP at heart) Carnell opening up, we decided to start with Disneyland Wenham and 292 off scratch Grant to see if we could take the pace off a bit and choke them up. This worked and the scoring was slow. After 10 or so overs they

started to lift the rate and as Dave (Mal's Son) Devo came into the attack the scoring slowed again. Dave has been super in the first 2 games and was brilliant with the ball again.

The Stylus Stalker took the first wicket with a great catch from Daddy Daycare Dunlop up the stumps to dismiss Mr JP Ben Carnell. The Dangerous Vozzo came out and he has carved us up in the past. We needed to get him cheaply and would have done so if shaky hands Pom had of caught him off the tidy bowling of Tim i want to play 1s Reid. He then decided he liked Reids bowling, putting him into the bushes with ease while Burgo was very quiet on the fence. Luckily enough "Max Rooke Devo" took the vital wicket of Levell with a high catch. Belgrave brought out some left hander who battled along and helped us tie down the score. With Vozzo still smashing us to all parts The man of Steele was brought on to tie up an end. Still no sign of Fat bastard from Austin Powers to the bowling crease. UNTIL in the 25th over when the sight screen was brought into the attack. Steve took his new role and bowled to plan and was excellent. Its great to see this year that players are unselfish and playing different roles to help the team win rather than play for themselves and Steve was great on the weekend.

Vozzo was finally dismissed for 63 after some lusty hitting and we needed it as they where looking at a score of around 220 with him at the crease. Steele Magnolia and The marathon man kept it tight to Newey and Windross who where swinging hard for boundaries. Step-Hen and Wilki Wenham Mooksy finished off and we needed to chase 191.

Again Burgo's catch phrase and Petero Civenecva opened up and where solid early. Petero was swinging like a dunny door and getting away with it, while many asked if Mal Francis was batting as Burgo was trotting along at snale's pace. The score past 50 and we had the game buy the scruff. They Brought on a new legspinner who thought it was a good idea to paste our batsman every ball. He bowled 5 goodies but always served up a big cream pie somewhere in his over. These guys never learn. Father Figure was run out of the hand of JP Carnell thanks to a very straight drive from "Come to Australia and get a pommy chicks phone number Burgess". Dimitri Gayle came to the crease in a mood not scene since Wolfgang VannDamme played against the basin 10 years back. He took to the very chirpy spinner and lets just say, while collecting his ball from down the hill a few times the bowler

learnt to put a lid on it. Sanath Sirewardene smashed his way to 101no and we comfortably got home with !

3 overs to spare. Not without the Pom having a dig at the ump after being run out and Dave (runs anyone?) Carman was dismissed also.

P.S Warwick made another Bevan like 15 or so at the end.

Obviously the report was a bit of fun but in all seriousness we overcame a really good side in Belgrave and they have some excellent players so it was a great effort to get over the line as Belgrave are a team that could definitely be up and about at the end of the season.

ROUND 1 – 03/10/08 *Johnson Park vs Upper Ferntree Gully*

Johnson Park 6/183 (A. Gaunt 88, P. Dunlop 31)

Defeated

Upper Ferntree Gully 10/121 (A. Grant 3/21, T.Reid 2/13, W. Steele 2/23)

After a long winter in which training started early, we have finally got to the big stuff and no better way than to come out and play against arch rivals Upper Gully.

We lost the toss as per usual and we where sent in to bat. Opening up with Pete was the new boy Adam Burgess (pom) who was straight of the plane on friday night. It was a quick stay for Burge who managed to score 7 before he was nipped out by Jay Colee. Carmsy came and went and Bryn came out to bat with Pete. They put on 60 odd before Pete tried to Smash there Pom onto the roof only to be clean bowled. Bryn continued on to compile an excellent 88 before he was bowled by Nick Maxwell's mate Allistair Lord. Dimitri came and went quickly. Not without putting a couple WAY back into the creek and making a quick 21. Trade week was also good for the sharks where we recruited Warwick Steele. The 'Man of' was superb at the end of the innings along with Dave Devenish who scored a run a ball.

The bowling started well with "The Chicken Sack" Adam Grant returning after an 8 year spell on the sidelines and finished with 3 wickets. Stephen Bowen also bowled well. Our medium pacers in Dave Dev, Tim Reid and the Steele Magnolia were superb containing the scoring and were very miserly. Our fielding was also much improved except for a couple of "2 bucks" at the start. After a great start with the ball we were never really in doubt unless a Goodger led fightback was coming but we held firm and got over the line. It was a fantastic win for the club as we need to beat sides like Upper Gully who will be up the top at seasons end and have many quality players.

Good luck next week.