

Peru v Argentina

If Chris 'Jefe' Hodgson thought that all the bad luck in terms of team dropouts had passed, he was sadly mistaken. Unfortunately, the high pollen count led to the onset of hay fever and semi-blindness for Jonny Lucas just after lunch. Whilst the team wept at the loss of their key fine leg fielder, Lucas ran off into the Chilean countryside to locate a pharmacy, leaving the headcount down at just nine players for the next match.

The Argentines had looked strong against Chile in the previous game and this form continued as openers David Mauro and Grant Dugmore began carting the bowl to all corners in the early overs. The breakthrough was eventually made when Sanford trapped Dugmore with a debatable lbw decision. After the Chilean organisers had resisted calls to install DRS for the tournament, Dugmore had no option but to trudge back to the pavilion. However, he continued to debate the decision at drinks later that night.

Half centuries from Mauro and Paterlini laid the foundations for an impressive total of 170/3, although Ed Baxter emerged with significant credit after taking 1-11 from his 3 overs.

The Peruvian task was always going to be tough and after Soulsby, Hodgson and Baxter all found themselves back in the hut with the score on just 8, it became more a matter of restoring Peruvian pride. This was a task that was duly achieved. After Hildebrand and Jones both reaching double figures before perishing, The Body Roughton (31no) and Nick Fitzpatrick (38no) both played beautifully to push Peru's total up to 115/5 by the end of the innings, against the strongest bowling lineup in the competition.