

Saturday 21 March: Group Game 3: Brazil vs MCC

Brazil 117- 7 20 overs

Brazil won the toss and made the sensible decision not to chase leather in the heat and harsh conditions of pitch 2.

G Caisley and V Kumar made a promising start against the MCC opening bowlers, before Kumar was cruelly cut down by a hamstring injury, retiring hurt for 8. Who knows what might have been at that stage, if the opening pair could have kept up their seamless calling and running between the wickets - a serious total could have been posted.

However, when Caisley was caught for 23 and Featherstone bowled for 11 the balance of power seemed to have shifted. The wickets of Jones, Allen, Ballhatchet and Allison all followed swiftly, with the deceptively-quick Donald taking three wickets off his three-pace run up.

Luckily, Miziari came to the fore with an unbeaten 26 which showcased some great shot play and also some flourishing parries against an imaginary fencing opponent.

MCC 119-2 from 14.3 overs

Ballhatchet saved his best bowling of the tournament for the best batsmen during a spell (4-11-1) that had some quality players struggling to get bat to ball. Coming down the hill from the Military Police end, he had the ball dancing around back of a length.

Unfortunately, thereafter the MCC managed to assert themselves on the Brazilian bowlers. The Brazilians stayed committed in difficult fielding conditions. Most notably, Bastick put a

great attempted slide tackle on the boundary that Nobby Styles would have been proud of, but, ultimately, Brazil did not have enough runs on the board.

With three losses behind the team, but finally showing some signs of a coherent cricketing display the Brazil team went forward to a 7th / 8th play off with El Salvador from the opposing side of the group draw.

by Nick Jones

Former Cricket Peru *Llama of the Year*