

Friday, 20 March: Group Game 2: Brazil vs Peru (Amistad Cup fixture)

Brazil 144-7 20 overs

Brazil lost openers Caisley and Allison for 8 apiece, leaving Featherstone (59) and Allen (24) to steady the ship in the middle of the innings.

Tight bowling from Alex James (4-15-1) and Matt Spry (4-20-0) in the middle of the innings pegged the Brazilians back. Jones, looking to push the run rate along, carefully selected the slog sweep / hoike 3rd ball to fall LBW for 3 to Ian 'The Body' Roughton.

Avery fell for 8 chopping on / "bowled by a wide" depending who you speak to. Brunt added 11, before being run out off the last ball, with Vinod Kumar finishing on 13 not out.

Peru 145-5 from 19.4

Peru got away to a quick start through Hallet and Soulsby. Avery bowled a tight spell finishing with figures of 4-19-1 whilst Brunt (4-12-3) hauled Brazil back into the game with a spell of accurate and aggressive bowling on a pitch that was occasionally showing its demons.

Cricket's truism of catches winning matches was never quite put to the test (one caught and bowled that may or may not have been put down/reached, another going down behind the stumps and a late, difficult chance low down, running in off the fence all passed Brazil by).

Ultimately, it was some wayward bowling and clean hitting from Miles Buesst (unbeaten on 35) that won a great game of cricket for Peru with two balls to spare.

VB's TP: Skipper Caisley's over in the 18th of the innings.

Brazil has between now and the South American Championships in October to mastermind the return of the Amistad Cup.

With back-to-back losses behind them - and the prospect of the MCC on day three of the tournament - the Brazil team decided to sample some of the vast array of real ales available in Panamanian supermarkets.

Showing the true *Spirit of Cricket*, Alexandre Miziari slept through all of the team speeches that evening by the pool.

by Nick Jones

Former Cricket Peru *Llama of the Year*