

Sun, 22nd April, 2012 - Lima Llamas v Cricketers Club of NSW - Lima Cricket Club

Having been well beaten the day before in a T20 game, the *NSW Cricketers* turned up at *Lima Cricket Club* on Sunday morning, bleary-eyed, but with a bolstered line-up and keen to gain revenge for the day before. The *Llamas* also showed changes in personnel from the day before, and had Harry Hildebrand pulling the strings as captain. His first act was to lose the toss to NSW captain, Paul Brandon, who decided to bat first ... and then take to the field without a wicket-keeper!

Once this had been rectified, the *NSW* openers Steve Kish (14) and Ian Hammet (2) made a much better start than in the T20 game, reaching 22 before they lost their first wicket. However the scoring rate was painfully slow as opening bowlers Miles Buesst (32 for 2 off 8 overs) and Nick Barsby (18 for 1 off 8 overs) kept the batsmen well-shackled, and were then supported by Tony Sanford (34 for 0 off 8) and James King (37 for 2 off 8). After 20 overs, *NSW* had scored just 67 runs; but then both Graham Howes (50*) and Michael Thomson (54*) opened their shoulders, and plundered runs off the *Llama* change bowlers. Both reached the retirement score of 50, leaving it to Trevor Worland (24*) to eke some runs out of the death overs. The final score of 187 for 6 off 40 overs was enough to give the *NSW* bowlers something to work with.

After tea, *Llama* opener Cameron Smith (13) came out all guns blazing, with two fours in the 2nd over, before being bowled - going for a trademark big one - in the 3rd over. This brought Miles Buesst (54*) to the crease, and he patiently built partnerships with first Chris Hodgson (6), then James King (32) and Nick Barsby (16). Buesst had to retire with the score on 130 in the 24th over, and it was left to Clint Donkin (30*) to shepherd the tail as the target score got ever closer. The run rate was never really an issue as the target was passed in the 33rd over; but the *Llamas* only had 3 wickets in hand at the end, so it was by no means an easy chase. Pick of the *NSW* bowlers was David 'Jack' Jones, whose slow, accurate off-spin claimed 2 wickets for 33 runs in 7 overs.

With honour partially restored, the Aussie visitors and their hosts repaired once again to the Cricketers Arms, for post-match ceremonies, beer, fish and chips ... and an epic bout of topless arm-wrestling.