

Chile and Belize heading for showdown after victories on day 3

Mexico miss chance to become a major threat

The morning session on day 3 saw the hosts, Costa Rica, take on Peru who won the toss and elected to bat. The trend of Peru not being able to post large scores continued as Costa Rica restricted them to 98/6 in their allotted overs. Miles Buesst was top scorer with 26 while both Nadeem Ahmed and Dinesh Ekanayake contributed 19 each. Ben Smith was Costa Rica's top bowler with an outstanding spell of 2/6 from his four overs.

Peru's bowling attack continues to make life difficult for the opposition and today was no different as they restricted Costa Rica ... before bowling them out in the last over for a mere 67. Chris Prasad was the only batsman to overcome the Peruvian attack, with a fine knock of 30. Dinesh Ekanayake took 2/9 to complete a great all round performance which earned him Man of the Match.

The afternoon games pitted Mexico against Belize on the south ground while Falkland Islands, still looking for their first victory, took on Chile.

Falkland Islands won the toss and elected to bat. Martin Collins (25*) and David Pick (19) did their best to give the Islanders a respectable innings; however with little or no support from the rest of the batting side, the Falkland Islands could only manage a small target of 71/8 in their 20 overs. Jean Pierre Leford Silva was Chile's leading bowler with 2/12.

In reply Chile breezed to victory in 11.3 overs. Openers John Fecci (44) and Guy Hooper (20*) took care of victory by a comfortable 9 wickets.

In game two, Mexico won the toss and elected to field. The decision looked like a brilliant one as the Mexicans had the league leaders at 26/4 after five overs. A victory by Mexico would have opened up a four way race for the championship. Conway Young's innings of 18 runs was followed by a determine knock of 27 not out by Dirk Sutherland to give Belize a defendable target of 106/9 after their 20 overs. Tushar Gupta who had torn through the upper order of Belize's batting line up ended with solid figures of 3/10 from his four overs.

In reply Mexico lost an early wicket and when two of their most reliable batsmen, Tushar Gupta and skipper Yasir Patel came together it was just a question of how much this

partnership could produce. It looked promising for the Mexicans until Gupta was run out having contributed only 13 to the total. The Captain Yasir Patel did his best with a good knock of 35 but the middle order gave him little support as only Deepak Khurana with 19 reached double figures. Keve Flowers with 3/12 secured the win for Belize and was named Man of the Match.

The victory meant that Belize remains the only undefeated team in the tournament. Chile's victory today brought them back into hunt, but even if they defeat Belize on Friday, when the two meet, there is still the matter of net run rate which is well on the side of the team from Central America.

ICC Americas Division 3 Championship, Costa Rica 2011 (as of March 15, 2011)

Rank	Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Pts	NRR
1	Belize	3	3	0	0	0	6	+3.248
2	Chile	4	3	1	0	0	6	+0.252
3	Peru	3	2	1	0	0	4	+0.802
4	Costa Rica	3	1	2	0	0	2	+0.466
5	Mexico	3	1	2	0	0	2	+0.445
6	Falkland Islands	4	0	4	0	0	0	-4.207