

## 2014 – Game 1 – Rob Champion Trophy (Manics vs. Depressives)

So the 2014 season began. First game of the season for Cricket Peru was the Rob Champions Trophy, a game to be played in a good mood with the teams to be named the Manics and the Depressives. The game was programmed to begin at 1pm with players to arrive at 12 pm. By 12:45 we only had 16 players, it was decided to start with 8 a side, a 25 over match, 5 over maximum for bowlers and batters to retire at 30. At 1:08:34 there were 11 players for each side. By 1:23:13 it was a 12 a side game. As stated everyone would get a game that actually turned up. Harikrishna did not turn up, along with 3 or 4 others. The toss was won by the Manics who chose to bat. Diego de la Puente, the South American champion of the under 13's (who scored the winning runs, 12 in the final over, against Argentina) and Henry Harris, a debutant to Cricket Peru (and perhaps a better photographer evident by the fotos included) opened the batting. Henry was soon bamboozled by the pace, or lack of, of the pitch, out caught off Jon Heyman's bewildering medium-slow ball, as was Bobby a few balls later. Diego opened with some intent but was later clean bowled by David Chaplin another debutant who bowled faster and faster into his spell. Alex Neufeld, eventually bowled by Jaggi, and Suyash then pushed the score slowly onto 50 before who was then bowled by Zulfi, a skiddish fast bowler. He also accounted for Sonu and Hiro both being bowled. Chris Mahoney on a high from enjoying Australia's 5-0 drubbing of England shone briefly with a massive six before being given LBW. Buesst and Walter then added 36 for the 9<sup>th</sup> wicket. These were useful runs as it turned out, taking the score to 106 before JW was run out well short by an accurate throw from Gerhard Buttner. He was quite relieved to be out as the partnership had consisted of many quick singles. This also brought in Tiagi, a big hitter, but had arrived late due to a rather late night with Johny Walker..... He was out for a golden bowled by Tony Sanford, Tiagi had hit Tony for 24 runs in an over in a recent game. Must have been the sandals he was wearing. Miles and Farook added 18 runs before Miles was brilliantly run out by Tony Sanford from point. Manics had scored 124 in 23 overs. Not really near enough.

Depressives began their batting with Indar and Divyansh. With just a few runs on the board Div was caught at point flashing at one. Gerhard was then caught by Julian jumping 5 feet in the air at short mid on. Atif and Indar tucked into some buffet bowling from Farook and Buesst; however Farook eventually had Atif LBW. Buesst was rather expensive with 13 going off his one over, and as runs were at a premium, he suggested Walter bowl. Walter, who was hit for four off his first ball then had Jaggi LBW of his 3<sup>rd</sup> ball, bowled Simon Parker fifth ball and had David Chaplin for a golden after moving Mahoney into a short midwicket position, taking a smart catch low down on his sixth- Depressives in trouble from 54-3 to 55 – 6. Zulfi hung about a bit before some pressure bowling from Sonnu brought about a catch for Farook at long on. Buesst then had Indar retired out for scoring 33, and then having the skipper Steve Hallett caught by the opposing skipper Julian Walter for a duck. Mahoney was brought on to try his hand at his left arm specials, so promising in nets, yet rarely replicating on the pitch. An over that brought 4 wides also brought 2 wickets from the spin factory, Sanford and Heyman. Marcus Gee and Indar then

tried to wrest back the initiative for the Depressives, but the target was just beyond them with Farook clearing up Gee's wicket. They were 21 runs short.

What was learnt? Patience is a virtue, runs come. There is no ex-county player here. Matches can turn in an over. Beer is drunk afterwards.

Written by Julian Walter after a couple of celebratory pints and the trophy safely on his mantelpiece at home☺



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