



TIGHT MATCH v DOGS

Division 1, SEMI FINAL: Beautiful Saturday. Sun was out. Slight breeze and Captain Gumnut lost yet another toss. Apparently tails can fail. Time to put on the whites, apply sunscreen and have a bowl. This week's team was selected for all-around depth. Our defence was set up to starve runs. Bowlers that can hit the channel and not give up cheap runs. Six front-line bowlers L. McLeod, J. Vines, Kirkland, S. Brown, Starke and young Harry Pope with all of the bowlers capable of contributing with the bat.

The plan, bowl on or outside off, nothing short, field aggressively to starve the runs and let them blink first. To the surprise of the Bulldogs openers, they had to wait for association's leading wicket-taker Luke McLeod. **Joshua Vines** opened downhill to allow his outswing to benefit from the breeze. **Scott Brown** used his experience bowling uphill, also managed to move the ball away. First two overs maidens. For the first six overs, the batters either defended or left the ball. After only three overs from each end, a double change (score 0/12). **Adam Kirtland** replaced Vines and **Harry Pope** replaced Brownie. The bowling pressure continued, score 0 for 20 after 10 overs. The first breakthrough came in the eleventh, the Bulldogs opener knocking off to keeper Cossens off Kirtland. First wicket fell with the score on 20. The two Wilsons (not the good ones) insisted on being stubborn. After a few overs from Pope, it was time for a break through before drinks, enter this season's wicket taker, **Luke McLeod**. In the 20th over L-Mac struck the pad of the number 3, adjacent and out. Drinks a few balls early, Adelaide 2 for 44.

With the attack available to Captain Gummy, the bowling was rotated in two to four over spells. After drinks the ball was thrown to the human metronome, **Brenton Starke**. Knowing the Adelaide skipper loves to dive in the air straight down the ground, Junior steadily brought his length back until Knighter. Soon he over-reached and lofted straight past the bowler, only to be caught by a diving (perhaps falling) to his right catch by the oldest bloke out there, Brownie. AL 3 for 57 in the 26th. Number 5 came and soon went, LBW McLeod.

The bowling unit toiled for a while longer. Eventually dismissing the remaining opener for a patient 62, again caught Cossens bowled Kirtland. Adelaide 5 for 101 in the 32nd. For the next eight overs, there was plenty of action. Finally the innings was closed, 7 for 144. With everyone looking like they would take wickets, the bowling unit superb; Vines 1/38 (7), Brown 0/15 (6), Pope 0/33 (8), McLeod 2/14 (8), Kirtland 3/30 (8) and Starke 1/9 (3). Including the expected flurry at the end, a run rate of 3.6 runs per over was a fantastic effort. Total to chase 144.

Bat out the overs and we make the runs. This week, **Gopi Bhujbal** opened with **Marc Cossens**. Both set about their job. Gopi looking to build an innings, was caught at cover, one-handed diving forward. ICC umpires would have reviewed the catch for twenty minutes and eventually determined that the umpires call should stand. Alas a great clean catch to dismiss our opener. Gopi's replacement, Ian Martin. Received a cracker by Nitschke, castled. Score 2 for 12 (6). Vice-Captain **Luke McLeod** joined the fight. He and Cossens put on 21 before the latter was caught cutting for 27. Again a wicket fell in the 20th over, the skipper, despite his stubborn streak, played one back to the bowler. Made him work for it, but out none the less. 4 for 44 at drinks.

There's the scenario, do what Adelaide did. Make 100 off the last 20 over. Our challenge, only six wickets left. **Josh Vines** in at 6, joined L-Mac. Vines has been in this situation many times before. His experience served him well. Five over into the second stint, Luke was caught by another one-handed diving cracker (17). Then Adam Kirtland was run out after suffering a soft tissue foot injury. Tim Wilson in at 8, played straight, timing off a little and was bowled. 7 for 96 (32). Vines the common denominator, accumulated runs at the other end.

LAST WEEK

**DIVISION 1
SEMI-FINAL**
Para Vista A 133
(Vines 56, Cossens 27)
Defeated By
Adelaide A 7/144
(Kirkland 3/30,
L.McLeod 2/14)

**DIVISION 2
SEMI-FINAL**
Para Vista White 80
(A.Martin 32)
Defeated by
Magill-Morialta 4/83
(Tonkin 2/19, Burge 2/20)



Brownie in at 9, set about keeping out the good ones and picking of the bad ones. Keeping the focused on the job at hand, Vines and Brown set about putting us in a position where we could scare and challenge for the win. The odd wide ball guided through the vacant slips cordon and a short ball dispatched for 6 over mid wicket. Former Association bowler Matthew Nitchke may be in his hay day, but was bowling well today. Brownie mis-judged a full ball and was bowled for threatening 16 runs. 38th over 8 for 131.

Brenton Starke in at 10. Last week he summed up the match perfectly, guiding the Whites home in three balls. Today was a different day. With the match on the line it was time to have a go. Vines was caught on the fence for 56. How close. A different day, the ball sails for six and we would be only 8 runs away from a win with two wickets in hand. Finally dismissed for 133. So close yet so far.

Time to re-group. The challenge with Desi's this week. A great match. Perhaps a win of the toss may be due.

PARA VISTA LUTHERAN
CRICKET CLUB

PRESENTATION
NIGHT

Saturday 24th March 2018
The Shed 7:00pm

Bar Open

FIGHTING WHITE

Division 2, Semi Final. The sun was shining when Eggs won the toss and elected to bat in just his second game as captain. Usual Captain Brenton Starke recalled to the A-Grade Semi due to player unavailabilities.

The plan of runs on the board appeared correct when **Ashley Martin** and **Tim Brown** began to look assured at the crease, putting the bad ball away and keeping out the good ball. However, an untimely blood nose to Tim saw Eggs replace him in the centre. Unfortunately, he was unable to emulate his heroics from the week before, as he fell LBW to a ball the tailed in late, for a duck. Score 1/15. This brought **Norm Tonkin** to the crease and he also fell quickly, with the ball working him over with a series of innies followed by an outie which he knicked to slip, also for a duck and Vista were teetering at 2/20. **Kiran Kumar** then also came and went, trapped in front for one, score 3/21. This saw Brownie finally return to the crease as he and Ash began to counterattack "hitting the rubbish" as Tim would put it, thus earning himself the nickname Tim "No Shots" Brown. The two put on a further 27 before Ash fell for another LBW on the stroke of drinks, posting a team high 32. Vista 4/48. This brought **Brodie Lemon-Hall** to the crease and he began to build a partnership with Tim, adding 10 before he was brought undone by the lack of pace from the spinner, chipping straight to mid on. Sanjay also came and went, suffering from a brain fade which saw him hook a short ball straight down fine leg's throat. 6/61. Tim Brown fell the next ball from a peach from the offspinner which saw him nick to first slip. This brought **Peter O'Brien** and **Sam Burge** to the crease, who, tasked with batting time and having at least another 15

NEXT WEEK
March 17th 2018

DIVISION 1
Preliminary Final
Para Vista A
VS
Desi Avengers A
at Edward Smith Reserve

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FIGHTING WHITE *cont*

overs to bat, put on an equally yoked 17. Sensing a 100+ score, the Morialta captain brought back his stroke bowlers and removed Burge with a really good ball. Sam should be proud of his efforts, and was one of Vista's best players. This wicket brought father and son together, however, this union was short lived when POB knicked to the keeper for 8. **Roger Wilkins** and **LOB** put on a final two, told by the skipper to attack their ball and keep out the good one. Junior finally lost his castle trying to smack the offspinner out of the ground. Vista all out for 80. Although the bowling attack was very strong, Vista will be very disappointed to have not put up more of a fight with the bat.

In reply, Vista were out to prove a point, and add respectability to their performance. Tasked with bowling full and straight, Eggs threw the new ball to Burge and Norm. Both bowlers settled immediately into a strong rhythm, with 2 sixes being hit and other than that very few runs coming. Norm was the first to strike. Wrapping the Morialta opener on the pad LBW. Burge then struck twice in an over first trapping the number 3 LBW. Two balls later he had the number 4 knicking off as Eggs gleefully accepted the catch. Norm then struck a second time, with a beautiful nut that saw the number 5 chop it on. Morialta lost a spectacular 4/8, being reduced to 4/24, chasing 81.

However, the joy would end there for Vista, as the opposition opener and captain saw their team home, not many more chances given. The bowlers showed great versatility and compliance, attempting bowl in the areas required of them. Vista can be proud of our bowling performance which had them under the pump early. We also fielded well, not dropping many catches. However, as it became apparent that the game was lost, players did begin to drop their heads. Vista managed to tighten the runs and kept Morialta in until after drinks despite them believing they would have the runs inside 20 overs.

Vista did well in the second innings and showed courage, fight and heart. However, the batting performance we showed was an injustice to ourselves as a team which has been largely competitive most season. Hopefully the disappointment of coming up short this season will push us onto something greater next season. Go you herders!!

GREAT EFFORTS REWARDED

This season, two outstanding performances by two Goatherders, will be recognised at the Association Presentation Dinner.

- Mark Cossens, having scored over 500 A-Grade runs this season, will be presented the Division 1 Batting Trophy.
- Luke McLeod, having taken 32 A-Grade wickets, will be presented the Division 1 Bowling Trophy.

Come along and support. Details on the next page. Let me know so we can book your place.

P.S. Premiership Shields are also presented to winners.

EVENTS



Presentation Night
Grand Final Night
Saturday 24th March

The Shed



End of Season
Fishing Trip
Destination and Date
TBC

Keep an eye on
FaceBook



Every season the *SA Churches and Community Cricket Association* hosts a dinner and presents Awards and Premiership Shields to the successful individuals and clubs.

This year's Guest Speaker is former Crow Player, Norwood Premiership Coach and current Port Adelaide Assistant Coach **Nathan Bassett**.

It is a great night to round out the season, have a few laughs and hopefully take home the Premiership Shield. **Support Cuz and let Brownie know who is coming.**

\$40 per head, payable on the night.

When: Thursday 29th March from 7pm

Where: B-Social Restaurant,
246 Fosters Road, Oakden.

Menu:

Entrée:

- Schiacciata or Pasta Fusilli

Main: Choice of

- Chicken or Beef Schnitzel
- Salt and Peller Calamari
- Pollo Avocado
- Vegetarian Options Available

