



## PATTAYA CRICKET CLUB BOWLERS SECURE UNLIKELY VICTORY

On an unusually overcast and damp morning Pattaya Cricket Club hosted last year's league champions Kerala Strikers at the outstanding Thai Polo Ground. Having lost the toss and being asked to bat first it was always going to be a testing session.

And so it proved in the face of an aggressive opening attack with Venky (2), Sam Nethery (2) and the retired hurt with a broken wrist Avi Singh (0) effectively reducing PCC to 24/3. Andy Emery (19) and the PCC captain Simon Philbrook (15) battled hard against a relentless bowling unit that showed no let up in aggression to take the score to 50 before Andy skied a bouncer to long leg. The skipper soon followed as he was caught on the deep cover boundary and the score at 79. Bernard Lamprecht (18no) and a cameo of huge importance including two enormous sixes from Dave Samways (23) meant PCC posted a modest 118/7.

The Kerala openers started in confident fashion with three early boundaries and the score cruised to 23 without any alarms. That all changed when David Scott, the veteran left arm spinner, was introduced to the attack and he struck with his first delivery, clean bowling Brijith (16) with an arm ball. Two more wickets in his second over again one with the arm ball to trap Sreejith (8) lbw and a more flighted delivery to have the dangerous Akhil (4) caught at mid on brought PCC right back into the contest. When Sam Nethery demolished Nishant's (0) stumps Kerala were suddenly 31/4. Then a spirited fight back began as Amal and Manoj ran excellently between the wickets to move the score ominously to 61. David Scott struck again just when his team needed it as he had Manoj (19) trapped lbw again with his deadly arm ball. Amal now had to bat with the tail and was ably supported by Sajesh (9) before he was unceremoniously cleaned up by Sam, 90/6. A tense finish was now a certainty and it was a balancing act as to whether Manoj could manipulate the strike to try and get his side over the line. Andy Emery, PCC's trusted death bowler, proved his metal with a superb three over spell including a run out and a bowled as the pressure mounted for both teams. Peter Bass returned to send Rubesh (0) back to the tent. Two boundaries and a single from Amal put Kerala (107/9) within sight of the target but with Abdul, the last man, needing to survive three balls from the fearsome 6'9" Bernard Lamprecht. Bernard proved to be too good as, to the relief of all the PCC players, Abdul edged his second ball to the keeper and PCC won a thrilling yet unlikely match by 10 runs. David Scott was the obvious man of the match with game changing figures of 4/17 from his 5 overs.

PCC would like to thank the continued the support of the PSC and welcome anyone wishing to get involved with the club to contact then either via the website [www.pattayacricketclub.com](http://www.pattayacricketclub.com) or visit the club Facebook page. The fixture is Sunday 17th versus Siam CC at home from 11am.