

REVITALISED PATTAYA CRICKET CLUB ANNIHILATE OVER CONFIDENT BRITISH CLUB



After a week of much rainfall that threatened the fixture and an extended period of inactivity for Pattaya Cricket Club the British Club of Bangkok rolled into town for the latest installment of the Dunford/Philbrook Trophy series.

On the back of a successful league season the BC were in a somewhat confident frame of mind, so much so that they offered the option to PCC to bat or bowl first at the toss. The PCC captain, Simon Philbrook, remained poker faced and elected to bowl first. The BCC captain, Dale Lamb, even had the temerity to suggest batsmen may be asked to retire when reaching 50 runs so as to not let the game get too one sided. This was politely but firmly refused by a now rather stoic looking PCC skipper.

PCC, with two debutants representing the club, strode onto the field and Salman Senior in tandem with Salman Junior (Hamza) opened the bowling. Both bowled immaculately and Salman soon had Ben Eastwell (1) caught at point. Hamza, bowling with real pace and bounce, was too much for Parriat (0) as he gloved to the keeper and Salman struck again bowling a bamboozled Dilip (2). A purposeful Dale walked to the crease intent on establishing some stability and authority to the shambolic start but he promptly skied Mo Sheik's arm ball high to mid off where Venky held a fine running catch for a disheartening duck, score 20/4. All the while Denzel had been observing the calamitous batting from the non strikers end but even he could not resist joining the party as he holed out to long on for 17. Wickets continued to tumble thanks to a wonderful one handed catch by wicketkeeper Lee May and inept shot selection by the BC batsmen. At the end of the 15th over the debacle was concluded when Trevor Moolman knocked back Manish's (0) off stump and the BC were all out for an embarrassing 56. A resolute Sarg, 6 not out, was heard muttering as the players left the field "and we strongly suggested batsmen should retire at 50!". Rumour has it the PCC captain was heard suggesting batsmen should retire at the age 50!

In reply and struggling to contain their laughter Venky and Mo opened the PCC innings. Venky hooked the third ball of the first over into the crowd that was now increasing rapidly as news of the PCC bowling performance was beginning to filter to the city centre. Not to be out done Mo hit another maximum off the hapless Dilip. Shot the day was probably Venky's six over extra cover off the back foot, once again off the now crestfallen Dilip. It took just six overs for the winning run to be scored and provided the cue for a joyous celebration of a 10 wicket victory.

The earliest fines session in PCC history commenced immediately after the game during which the BC captain relinquished his duties after 10 years in the chair and passed the baton onto Ben. It was made very clear this was preplanned before the game and the result of the day had no bearing on this decision. Much hilarity ensued with players and supporters alike reveling in the sole searching fines session debrief. Needless to say both Dale and Ben suffered the severest fines and eventually left the ground with heads low and spinning.

PCC's next fixture is a friendly against Rugby International School on Sunday June 30th from 1pm at the Thai Polo Ground and all are welcome.

PCC thank their sponsors Outback Retox Bar, Pattaya Sports Club, Aegis International, Macallan Insurance and The Amigo Group.