



CONVINCING WIN FOR PATTAYA CRICKET CLUB AS RECORDS BROKEN

PCC entertained Asian Star CC at Horseshoe Point on Sunday looking to avenge their defeat from earlier in the season. Searing heat greeted the captains for the all important toss before the start of the 25 over game and to PCC's delight the King's head glinted up into the sunlight and the home team captain had no hesitation in electing to field.

Sunny and Greg Bicknell, both making their debuts, opened the innings against an aggressive new ball attack of Kamlesh and Dimple. Occupation of the crease was the objective and slowly the batsmen adjusted to the conditions and runs began to flow. The first drinks break after 12 overs, with the score at 99 for 0, represented a solid platform from which PCC could launch a concerted attack towards a total in excess of 200.

Greg, with his lips a pale shade of white due to dehydration, walked past a straight one having scored an uncomplicated 51 and Simon Philbrook joined Sunny to continue the onslaught. The pair increased the tempo further, with Sunny finding the boundary regularly to race to his fantastic hundred off only 72 balls and become the first PCC centurian. The pair put on 110 before Simon departed for 38 from 34 balls and Sunny for a brilliant 109. Salman and Hansie maintained the impetus with some lusty blows to reach an imposing total of 228 for 3, a record score at the newly formed ground.

Sunny and Pintoo needed to give the Asian Stars a good start, but Salman and Samy had other ideas. Bowling their allotted 5 overs apiece unchanged they reduced ASCC to 35 for 5 after 10 overs. Such miserly bowling accounted for the top order and they were well supported by some exemplary catching, the highlight being the full length dive and one handed catch at short cover off a fierce drive from the dangerous Dimple by the Captain Simon Philbrook, a moment that rolled back the years. Samy finished with fabulous figures of 4 for 15 off his 5 overs.

At this stage PCC were in complete control and after a welcome drinks break Earl Brown started a bemusing 4 over spell. He began as if he was trying to bowl ASCC back into the match, conceding 36 runs off his first 17 deliveries. Then, obviously fired up by the underhand comments from his teammates, he claimed the wicket of Ashok with last ball of his third over. With the confidence of his skipper behind him he returned to capture the wicket of Happy with the first ball of his fourth over and then completed his remarkable comeback by removing Ronny, caught at square leg, with his next delivery. This sequence of events meant Earl had recorded the Club's first hat-trick and everyone was treated to a 16 stone (formerly 17 stone) high five celebration that would not have looked out of place at the World T20 final. Sunny and Hansie wrapped up the last two wickets to complete a deserved 112 run victory. For the record all 10 wickets were out caught, a remarkable feat when you consider the team's catching history!