



PATTAYA CC BEAT PHUKET IN BATTLE OF BEACH RESORTS

Pattaya Cricket Club hosted Phuket Cricket Group at Horseshoe Point over the weekend in what was the first of a biannual fixture between the two clubs.

On the Saturday the teams played a 35 over game and under a cloudy sky PCG opted to bat. PCC's opening bowlers Salman and Samy used the conditions well as they swung the new ball in both directions to restrict the batsmen early on. The pressure soon mounted as the boundaries were hard to come by and wickets began to fall. Rocky, added some much needed impetus to the innings with a gutsy 32, before edging a fast rising delivery from Sonny. Samy returned to clean up the tail and end with impressive figures of 4 for 10, as PCG totaled an under par 97.

In reply PCC started calamitously and were soon 8 for 3 before Jez Lees and Giles Mongare restored some stability with some obdurate batting against hostile bowling from Mr Potato and Ping Pong. Once Jez had shuffled across his stumps and missed a straight one and Giles had fended off a short ball to slip it was left to the experienced Salman and Simon to see the side home and record a comfortable 5 wicket win.

An altogether more robust T20 contest was played on the Sunday and this time PCC batted first. The PCG bowlers, obviously benefitting from their team bonding in Soi 6 and early morning team briefing in Walking Street, reduced the home team to 20 for 4 with aggressive and straight bowling. Once again the older heads stepped up to steady the innings with Salman 42 retired, Simon 40 retired and Samy's cameo 38 not out ensured PCC posted a very competitive total of 182.

Lindon Giuffrida and Andy Emery opened the bowling for PCC and were met by an aggressive riposte from the PCG openers of Govrav and Bill. Both batsmen retired having scored the maximum 40 runs and the momentum was continued by Ping Pong and Mussolini. However, consistent and clever bowling in the middle of the innings from Earl, Samy and Hansie ensured PCC controlled the required run rate and eventually the target was too much and PCG finished on 156 for 9 to give PCC victory by 26 runs.

Notable performances over the weekend were recorded collectively by Charl 'Duck' Campbell, Adidas Earl, Rick 'Rossi' Bryant and Nelson Mandela Rob who between them managed to score absolutely no runs having each batted on both days. That dismal display of batting included three golden ducks!

A special thanks goes to Kim, George and Bob for umpiring, Mickey and Mim for scoring and all the staff at Horseshoe Point.