**PCC defeat Lords of the Beers (LotB) by 7 wickets in a friendly at Pattana Sports Resort (PSR).**

The cricket calendar continues to be disrupted by Covid-19 with Bangkok Cricket League matches being postponed. This has left opportunities for the less frequently picked players to have a social match at PCC’s home ground, PSR, with the help of a few 1st team players. Their first victims were The Lords of the Beers who mustered a team determined to win.

The match was played in calm conditions and warm sunshine on a soft pitch with a slow-ish outfield. PCC won the toss and elected to bowl. Rickey and Terrance opened for LotB to be faced by Andy Emery and Habby Singh. Andy bowled his normal accurate and tidy medium pacers, but it was Habby that struck first bowling his quicker deliveries that removed Rickey’s off stump for 2. A good start but it brought Jannu to the crease. He and Terrance added runs at a steady pace of 6 per over until Jannu was forced to retire on 34 having clattered Trevor Moolman for two consecutive 6’s. Simon Wetherell had been bowling quite economically with his slow dibbly dobblers and forced Terrance into a rash rush down the wicket. The swing and miss resulted in Colin Clark’s first of three stumpings. Simon also decided that the best way to stop a ball was use his head – I bet that really hurt. 45 for 2 after 7 overs. Rohi batted steadily whilst Shami got battered for 18 runs, but Rohi’s partners could not stay at the crease for more than a few balls. Shami trapped Choti LBW for a Golden Duck; Luke Stokes bowled Sunny round the back of his legs for 4 and had Pavit caught for 2 in the same over and Peter Gangur joined the slaughter by getting a double wicket maiden (Rohi for stumped for 12 and Molin caught for a Duck). If anyone thought that Simon’s bowling was slow, you should see Peter - he could have bowled, run down the wicket and hit his own ball. Nonetheless, Lotb had suffered a monumental, England style collapse and gone from 65 for 3 to 75 for 8 in the space of 5 overs. The 7th Cavalry arrived in the form of Manoj who made a spirited comeback with creditable 33 not out but again he lacked support. Hardik had Anan stumped for a Duck, Richard had Rene caught for 2 and when LotB had run out of players, Jannu returned to make a superb 48 before he was caught. The LotB innings concluded at 140 all out after 23 overs.

Luke and Simon opened the PCC innings against Manoj and Jannu. The LotB pre-match catching practice didn’t appear to work as Luke was dropped on the 3rd ball, Simon was dropped on his first ball and then twice more in the next over. Eventhough the bowling from Jannu, Aman and Terrance was very economical, they didn’t take wickets and this proved to be a costly error. Luke retired on 32 having hit Pavit for 18 in one over and Simon was caught for 14 off Laxman with the score on 59 from 11 overs. Hardik and Trevor continued to push the score along against the second-tier bowlers, with Sunny being walloped for 19 in one over. Only Laxman Singh offered a threat to the PCC batsman who plundered the other bowlers. Trevor retired on 30 from 20 balls faced and Hardik retired on 32. Habby arrived and started smashing 6’s off Laxman’s final over whilst Danny made a brief appearance before being LBW to Laxman for 5, but by this stage PCC were 128 for 2 from 19 over and cruising to victory. Richard gave Choti a consolation prize by lobbing a dolly catch to Choti for a Duck and Colin helped Habby to the final runs. PCC completed their innings on 141 for 3 in 20 overs and a win by 7 wickets.

There was no MotM award but Jannu batted well for his 48. Luke and Peter lofted their way to 2 wickets apiece for 13 and 14 respectively, but Simon Wetherell got the Lucky and Unlucky awards having been dropped three times and then dropped two catches in the deep.