

The Third Man's Report

Check out our web site

Have a look at the Baulko web site. All the news about club events, fixtures, results, ladders etc are all available at the following web site – www.baulkocricicket.com.au To see your team's results, go to baulkocricicket.com.au, select 'Team Pages' then select your team. From there you can see the ladder by selecting 'Ladder'.

The site will be updated regularly, and the club history is being added to as time permits.

There have been some changes to the committee this season. You can find a list of the committee members on the website

To all Captains, Coaches and Managers

Match Results

I need match results in **following the conclusion of the game**, so they can be submitted to the PDCA. You can either drop them off at the club or email them to me at results@baulkocricicket.com.au. If no results are submitted you get **NO POINTS and may be fined!** It is up to you to get the results to me – I will not be chasing anybody. When putting in players' names, can you put in their first name as well so that I can pass this onto the PDCA.

Team Reports

Team reports for this newsletter can be put in the box at the Club or emailed to me at results@baulkocricicket.com.au by Tuesday night after the game. Newsletters will be published during the week after a game.

Team Performances:

B5	Opposition 10 for 34	10B	2 for 78
B10	6 for 213		
16/1	1 for 70		

Individual Achievements

Jason Currey	B2	52	Amol Marwah	14/2	4/17
Roger Deane	B5	5/16	Nick McConnell	13/1M	68 no
Reece Jones	B9	134 no	James Argent	12/2G	4/17
Alex Jervis	16/2	77	Owen Smith	11/1	4/8
Aidan Cousin	14/2	54	Jake Smith	10W	4/1

Canteen Roster – Ted Horwood Oval

Teams are reminded to have people available to man the canteen at Ted Horwood Reserve. The canteens raise valuable funds for our club, which help us to keep the fees down. The following teams are rostered in the next few weeks –

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
September 22	B2	16/2
September 29	B4	15/1
October 6	No junior games	15/2
October 13	B5	14/1
October 20	B8	14/2
October 27	B9	14/3
November 3	B10	13/1G

The President's Roundup

Welcome to all our players, coaches, managers, parents and supporters, especially those who are new to Baulko this year. We hope you enjoy playing cricket with us. We look forward to seeing you around the grounds and at our functions.

Thanks to all the managers, coaches, age co-ordinators and committee personnel who worked so hard to get our teams graded and entered into the PDCA competition. And a special thank you to all those who have committed to coaching and managing junior teams this season. We appreciate your commitment.

Of course, a special thanks goes out to Ian Chatman, our Junior Secretary, who has put in a massive effort to get all the junior teams entered. Thanks Ian. As well, our Senior Registrar Jason Currey has been busy grading all the senior teams. Thanks to you too Jason. Our grounds committee worked hard to ensure everything was ready for the season start, so thanks to Chris Springall & Tony Senior for their work.

We have a total of 31 teams this year, up from 28 last year. We are the largest club in the PDCA, ahead of Kings Langley who have 28 teams. We have had an increase in juniors this year, with 20 teams compared to 17 last year, while our seniors have stayed steady at 11 teams.

Well, it was déjà vu – the first day of cricket was washed out, the same as last season! But we did get underway last Saturday with a one-day game.

Mixed results in round 1. In seniors, we had victories in B1, B2, B5, B9, B10 & B11 whilst A Grade, B4, B8, B12 & B13 lost. A highlight was Reece Jones, captain of the B9's who made 134 no in a total of 183

In juniors we had wins to U16/1, U16/2, U14/2, U13/1 Gold, U13/3, U12/2 Maroon & U11/1, whilst the U15/1, U15/2, U14/1, U14/3, U13/1 Maroon, U13/2, U12/2 Gold, U11/2 & U11/3 lost. The U12/1 had a tie and in U10 there was a win and a loss on averages.

And I bet that Peter Brown, coach of the U16/2 is still smiling after knocking off the U15/1's in a cross over match!

Baulkham Hills Cricket Club is at present constructing new cricket nets at Charles McLaughlin Reserve. We have received grants from Cricket NSW (\$17,500) and the Doug Walters Club (3,000) to assist with funding. BHCC are contributing the balance – some \$14,000. The nets should be complete in two weeks. We thank both Cricket NSW & the Doug Walters club for their financial assistance. We also thank Baulkham Hills Shire Council for their co-operation and assistance with earthworks, drainage and turfing.

Due to the draw, those seniors in B4, B5 & B6 may have to umpire their own games this year. PDCA is looking at getting as many umpires as possible onto the grounds, so they may cover some of your games. Club coach Chris Springall will again be getting around to junior training during the season to assist the coaches. He may need some time off closer to Christmas, when a baby Springall is due to Karyn & Chris!

The Baulkham Hills Sports Club's Sportperson of the Year was held on September 8. Due to the renovations, the function was held at Bankstown Sports Club. Buses were provided for those who wanted them & the driver of the bus I was in certainly did not muck about. Mark Skaiffe & Craig Lowndes look out!

On the subject of the Sports Club, the renovations are going ahead full steam now. At the last update, Manager John Baresic was hopeful they would be complete by Christmas. In the short term it is a bit inconvenient, but in the end it will make the club much better. BUT, don't forget to get along the restaurant, which is still open. Restaurant Manager Fadhi is keen to see many cricketers and their families at the restaurant, so get along & tell them you're a cricket club member. The food is good too!

Also, with regard to the Sports Club, all players over 18 years of age are supposed to be members of the club. If you are not, get along & pay your \$12. You get much more back in freebies. Support the Sports Club, as they support the Cricket Club

Congratulations to our committee member Ram Raja who has passed the umpire exam and is now out on the park in his black & white strip, umpiring senior games. Best of luck Ram.

Canteen duty is now on the website, so make sure you turn up when rostered. We need to ensure the canteen is manned so we can make a few dollars to use in funding your cricket. Thanks to canteen manager Leigh Griggs for all her work stocking the canteen & getting it running.

This year, a lot of effort has been put into strengthening our A Grade team and thanks go to our captain Sumit Kalia for all his time and input. Let's hope we see some encouraging results this season. All you talented young (and old) players should be striving to get up there and play on turf with the A Graders.

Don't forget our monthly meetings, held on the first Tuesday of each month (except January). The next meeting is on Tuesday 2 October, will be at Charles McLaughlin Reserve, commencing at 8pm. This is a temporary measure whilst the club renovations take place. Oh and remember, BYO chair! Refreshments will be available at the meeting. We require a representative from each team to attend the meetings, so please make sure you attend.

Housekeeping matters

- All teams are asked to submit a match report after each game. This will then be included in the Owzatt which can be viewed on the website after each round.
- Match results are to be submitted by 12.00 Sunday. They can be emailed to Rick Thomas – results@baulkocricicket.com.au
- Whilst on the website, you should check it out – Rick Thomas has done a great job & is constantly updating the site and adding information, facts and figures from the past. Get along to: www.baulkocricicket.com.au

Enough hot air from me, so good luck for the season. We trust you will enjoy playing for or supporting Baulko this season.

Go the Kooka!

Peter McLoughlin
President

Match Results and Reports

10 Blue 2 for 78 Rouse Hill Rams 9 for 69 Win on averages

Our boys bowled first but there were still too many no balls and wides (even with the practice last week getting in 17 overs)

Conceding 54 sundries, and 15 runs, our boys did however did get 9 wickets which was great, Malachi 3 from 3 overs, Luke 2 from 3 overs with a bonus run out & Saxon with a stumping

Our batting and running between wickets was good, managing 27 runs, 51 sundries and only 2 wickets lost

Well done boys.

10 Red 11 for 30 Wenty Leagues 7 for 80 Loss on averages

The first game ever for most of our team, playing against a team that all played together last season. We struggled with our bowling & gave away a lot of extras. Our highlight was Samuel Kent taking 2 for 4 & was unlucky not to bag a hat-trick. The opposition knew how to hit the no balls & it was something that we learnt & will do next week. Bowling on the stumps will yield a much better result next game.

10 White 7 for 84 Wenty Waratahs 15 for 44 Win on averages

Welcome to a new year and welcome to our new team mates.

The boy's have been showing improvement and importantly keenness during training. Jus when we get our chance to convert the practice into results; our first day versus the Wenty Waratah's was washed out.

Day 2 saw the game revert to a one day match. Arsh was made captain for the game and went into the toss feeling confident, only to lose the toss. We were sent into field.

Arsh opened the attack and sent down two great overs, bowling two batsmen out for zero runs – sensational start.

Chris opened at the other end, using his first over to loosen up and come back in his second to claim two bowled wickets – another fantastic start. The Waratahs thought they'd been facing the Australian One Day side!!

Jake was up next and proceeded to drive the nails further into the Waratah's coffin. Jake picked up two wickets with his second and third ball, and was on a hat trick, only to be denied. His second over yielded two wickets off his first two balls, again he was denied a hat trick. In a Herculean effort Jake picked 4 wickets for only 1 run, the sensational start continued.

Michael continued to apply the pressure bowling two tight overs yielding only 4 runs.

Patrick was up next and accounted for himself by sending down two economical overs yielding only 7 runs.

Blake continued the mighty White's dominance over the Waratahs batsman by bowling two tight overs for six runs.

With the Wenty batsman starting to get frustrated and not knowing where their next runs were going to come from up stepped Nathan, who bowled a impressive two over spell ending up with 2 wickets for a miserly 7 runs.

Brendan kept the pressure on with an economical spell of two overs for only 2 runs, a great first up effort.

Brandon was up next delivering a very economical over yielding only 3 runs, keeping the pressure on the Wenty batsman.

Oliver also produced a strong first up effort, bowling a Wenty batsman out with his third ball, and a spell of 1 wicket for 5 runs.

Jason started and finished his spell off with a wicket on his first ball and last ball's finishing with 2 wickets for 2 runs, a sensational effort.

Tarush closed the innings out with a tradesman like display of a single run of his over.

The Wenty team ended their innings with 44 runs, 15 wickets and a average of 2.75 runs.

The Mighty Whites opened with Arsh & Chris. Arsh was unlucky to be bowled out on his second ball and scored a run. Arsh faced a fair deal of wayward bowling which limited his scoring opportunities. A good start. Chris was attacking every ball

Wenty threw at him and scored 4 runs and was out caught once.

Jake came in next and batted like a veteran scoring 7 runs to settle the White's innings.

Michael was up next and dominated the Wenty attack by scoring an innings high of 13 runs including three boundaries. Mike's innings lifted the team's momentum

Patrick debuted with the bat and defended his wicket solidly, until he was involved in an unfortunate run out. However Pat dispatched his last ball to the boundary for a four to finish his innings off with a great shot!

Blake strode to the crease to make a mark. The wayward bowling continued which limited Blake's scoring opportunities. Blake finished his innings with 2 runs and kept his wicket intact.

Nathan was up next and looked solid. Facing loose bowling also limited Nathan's scoring opportunities, and was not able to score any runs. Nathan kept his wicket intact.

Brandon was unlucky not to dispatch the first ball he faced to the boundary, and unfortunately guide the ball to the keeper's gloves. Brandon recovered to score a single off a glorious cover drive.

Oliver stepped up next and faced some tight bowling. Oliver responded with a solid defensive effort keeping his wicket intact for no runs- a great first up effort.

Jason was in next and produced an attacking effort of three runs for no outs. Jason was unlucky not to get some more runs.

Tarush rounded up the innings with a solid display of 1 run and losing his wicket once.

The Mighty Whites can be proud of their first up effort with eight new players, convincingly winning the game, scoring 84 runs losing 7 wickets and an game winning average of 10.5 runs.

Man of the match: Jake Smith

Encouragement Award: Brendon Starr

11/3	8 for 100	Kings Langley	3 for 101	First innings loss
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A great effort by all the boys particularly that most had not played before and not met each other until the morning of the game.

After the first week was washed out the match was reduced to one day. Baulko won the toss and elected to bat with our opening batsmen Nelson Bennet and Jamie Bugden stepping up and getting the team off to a good start. Top scorers for the day were Francis Farrell and Mitchell Gapper both with 11 runs, congratulations boys.

Three of Kings Langley's wickets were taken before they could reach the total with Jimmy Farrell, William Rose and Ziaee Sameer taking one each, great bowling. Thomas Andrews took a great catch in the covers off William's ball to dismiss their opening and best batsman.

Kings Langley was tough opponents but the boys can congratulate themselves on their team work and enthusiasm.

11/2	10 for 45	Kellyville	9 for 60	First innings loss
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What a start! First day was washed out. Second day, we turned up, with blue skies & bright Sun, with all eagerness, for a big day, only to find that the Council, in all its wisdom, had fertilized & watered the grounds, including the pitch, thoroughly, that morning. It stank to high heavens. To add insult to injury, Kellyville won the toss & sent us to field.

One thing is for sure; we are just like the Australian World Cup team, being rolled over by the minnows, in the very first round. I am sure that we will bounce back in the next round.

The Captain for this round is Cameron. He did very well. Our bowling & fielding were exceptional, considering that we had no training sessions and the fact that we were not even able to breathe, while fielding. The highlight of the day was a spectacular diving catch by our Keeper, Nathan. A catch that even Gilly would be proud of. Well done mate!

Rohit, a last minute addition to our team, thrilled us with a brilliant catch in mid wicket. Nicholas entertained the crowd with a fantastic return catch, well deserved for his great bowling effort. Our fielding efforts culminating in a couple of run outs were the icing on the cake.

To all our bowlers – Well done! Viva & James valiantly opened the bowling and got instant results. We had 2 wickets in the bag, before Kellyville even bothered to put some runs on board. Sebastian's flair in bowling was excellent. Jehan, our leg spinner, did well to turn the ball and displayed some great potential. Ritwick, was exciting and delightful in both bowling & batting. All others did a great effort, considering the difficult ground conditions. Ramal's style in bowling was scintillating and he took the honours with 2 for 3.

Our batting clearly emphasized the importance of and the desperate need for regular training sessions. We need to take out a few kinks in running between wickets, first. I am sure that with enough training & practice, we could take on any challenge.

Nathan top scored in batting. Ramal & Sebastian also displayed great natural talent & potential, in batting. Nicholas was delightful at the crease.

On the whole, we all can feel proud of our team's efforts today. Though the whole team deserves all the awards, I am in a difficult position to select a few:

- Man of the Match Award goes to Ramal.
- Most Valuable Player Award goes to Ritwick.
- Most Improved Player Award goes to Nicholas.
- Catch of the Match Award goes to Nathan.

I am sure all others will earn such Awards, in the near future.

Watch this space for more exciting things to come!

Next week we are facing Kings Langley. Bring it on!

11/1	9 for 69	Hills Barbarians	10 for 66	First innings win
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Well, an interesting game to start the season.

Unfortunately we hit the field with no training sessions under our belt, but with everyone enthusiastic to finally don the whites and forget the rugby/league/soccer for another winter.

After losing the toss and being asked to bowl, we did an outstanding job to limit the strong opposition to 66 (off 28.3 overs). Unfortunately, 34 of these runs were by way of sundries, giving us something serious to work on once we do get a chance to train together. All 11 players got to have a bowl, and show that we will be a force to be reckoned with in this discipline. What was most pleasing was the skill and attitude shown in the field. Only a couple of minor errors were made, and on many occasions, runs were saved through desperate dives, superb backing-up, or clever flick-backs on the run to supporting team mates. It was great to watch and proved that we are a very athletic side.

We started our run chase poorly losing our opener to the first ball of the innings, and it went "to pot" from there. At 5 for 15 we were looking very fragile, but at 7 for 27 it was deep trouble and like there was no way out. Luckily, we had seen off their better bowlers, and our lower order batsmen put their heads down to get us across the line to finish at 9 for 69 (off 22 overs). A great (nail-biting) win to kick-off the year.

Highlights:

Man-of-the-match Owen Smith started out as 'keeper (with a very tidy performance) then took the ball and generated our best bowling figures (4 for 8 off 3 overs) and then batted at number 10 and top-scored with 11 not out to get us across the line. (Note for coach: re-look at selection criteria).

Brad Ripps (our youngest player at 9.5 yrs) took a great forward diving catch in the covers then showed how we should all bat (great defence, patient for the loose ball) finishing with a score of 8 (after being cruelly run-out just as he was hitting his straps).

Michael Bellam, batting at number 11, made good use of his brand new bat to bludgeon the opposition all around the park just when they were about to pop the champagne corks. Finished on 8 not out to win the game for us, after having returned the figures of 2 for 3 off 3 overs earlier in the day.

Tom "I'll Never Get a Golden Duck" Waddups had nine months of non-cricket pent-up aggression and took it out on the first ball faced, only to see it skied into the covers and an expensive \$50 bet go the way of his coach/father so early in the season. He redeemed himself however as the only bowler not to give away a wide or no-ball, finishing with 0 for 2 off 4 overs in addition to an adequate stint behind the stumps.

Liam Dunshea – captained us for this first game – very unlucky when bowling (I swear that he beat the bat on 90% of his

balls) finishing with 0 for 8 off 4 overs, almost took two screamers in the slips when fielding, then misguidedly took heed of the coach's insight into his batting stance, only to be comprehensively bowled the very next ball.

We had other good performances from Troy Black (5 runs off the bat and 1 for 8 off 4 overs bowling), Nicholas Andrews (good, patient batting and 1 for 7 off 2 overs with the ball) and Michael Mc Connell (1 for 9 off 2 overs). Tim Anstee bowled really tight (0 for 2 off 2) but succumbed to a ripper first ball when batting, James Gardiner shored-up our middle-order batting (7 runs) and bowled tightly as well, and Ryan Cheveralajah had a great all-round game – a good catch in the field (and a strong arm for return throws), a couple of very tidy overs (0 for 3 off 2) and set the scene for a thrilling finish with the bat.

We have a bit to work on before our next game:

- Line and length bowling – we can't afford to give away that many extras.
- Running between the wickets – 2 run-outs hurt us at very important times in the game.
- Patience when batting – seeing off the good balls/bowlers and taking advantage of the loose balls.
- Coach – re-look at the batting and bowling orders!

Looks like we have a pretty talented team, and I'll be doing my best to get everyone a fair go with both the bat and the ball during the year. Our support from the sideline was fantastic – hope we can keep this up throughout the year.

12/2 Maroon	10 for 81	Kings Langley	5 for 50	First innings win
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With the washout last Saturday, without a ball being bowled, the game became a 1 day game. Kings Langley won the toss and decided to bat.

Hamzah and Mitchell opened the bowling and with good line and length, three of the 1st four overs were maidens. Although we had not managed to take any wickets our bowling was very tight and the opposition was finding it extremely hard to score runs. The first wicket was a run out with a good throw from Utkarsh. Bowlers to take wickets were Hamzah (1 for 7), Siddhant (1 for 2) and Ravi (2 for 6). Catches were taken by Sean and Hamzah. All bowlers bowled very well with a total of 11 maidens bowled between the bowlers. After their 31 overs Kings Langley had scored 50 runs.

Baulko's turn to bat and Sean (8) and Ravi (17) opened the batting. The openers got us off to a great start and at 1 stage it looked like we might get the runs without losing a wicket, with an opening partnership of 31. However, Kings Langley had other ideas and we started to lose wickets at a regular frequency due to some accurate bowling. Mitchell (6) and Siddhant (14) consolidated our innings and saw us score the winning runs. Other batsmen to score runs were Utkarsh (4), Michael (3) and Riaz (1 not out). The rest of our batsmen taking home Sunday's lunch!

All up it was a great start to the season. Man of the match was Ravi. Well done boys!

12/2 Gold	10 for 80	Rouse Hill Rams	10 for 105	First innings loss
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Well, the season started the same as last year; rained off on the first day, so our first game resulted in a one half day match. We won the toss and elected to field. With quite a few new players in the team I think we did pretty good overall. The first wicket of the season fell in the first over off the fourth ball bowled by Jayden; a nice catch by wicket keeper Blaine. Catches were also taken by Jackson (3), Jayden (1), Ben (1) and Ishmam (1). Bowling figures were Jayden 1 wicket for 24 runs, Ishmam 3 wickets for 16 runs, Alex no wickets for 20 runs, James 4 wickets for 17 runs, Jackson 2 wickets for 13 runs and Tim no wickets for 11 runs. Good fielding was noticed from Tim (some nice throws in to hit the stumps), James, Lucas, Blaine, Alex and Jackson in particular who took out the fielding award for the day. We need to put in a bit of practice with our fielding at training as we did let a few slip threw. We conceded 29 wides, 8 no balls, 3 byes and 1 leg bye.

Our batting didn't start out too bad. We were unlucky to lose Blaine early to a run out. I think you might need to adjust to outdoor cricket Blaine instead of trying to sneaks runs like you have been doing in indoor cricket. We were also unlucky to lose Jackson's wicket off a ball that seemed to bounce a few times. Up until then he was looking pretty dangerous. Alex, Jayden and Ishmam were also looking in good form. Overall, not a bad effort from everyone for their first game of the season. Batting figures were Blaine 3 (run out), Tim 5 (caught), Alex 12 (bowled), Ishman 11 (caught), Jackson 7 (bowled – by Manmit who played in our team last year – not happy!), Jayden 10 (bowled), Dylan 1 (bowled), James 0 (bowled – they'll be plenty to come James), Ben 2 (bowled), Lachlan 3 (unlucky to hit his wicket off a wide ball) and Bradley not out on 0 (saw big improvement in your batting Bradley).

Thanks to coach John, and thanks to Assistant Coach Bradley and Alex's dad Trevor for umpiring – much appreciated.

We ended up going down to Rouse Hill but keep your heads up boys. It's only the start of the season. Last year we lost our first game and ended the season in the grand final! Keep putting in the effort at training and you will see the results in your game.

12/1	3 for 105	Guildford Leagues	6 for 105	First innings TIE
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Baulko won the toss & elected to bat on a fine sunny day with a slightly damp outfield.

We opened with Ravi & George and both players consistently hit the middle of the bat against Guildford's opening bowling attack. Good running between the wickets and giving away very few chances saw them build an excellent partnership of 89. It wasn't until the 27th over that George was run out for 33 attempting a quick single after pushing the ball straight to the fielder at cover. Josh was next out, bowled while going for the boundary and next over Ravi snicks one to the keeper also trying to increase the total as the overs ticked by. Ravi played some delightful shots and topped the scoring with 41 well deserved runs. Michael 7 n.o. and Bryce 6 n.o. finished the innings off with a respectable 105 from our 31 overs.

We knew it would be tough to defend 105 but we were confident that good straight bowling and sharp fielding would see us through and early wickets would make chasing runs difficult for Guildford.

Michael was handed the new ball and we didn't have to wait long as 2nd ball he clean bowled their opener, a wicket maiden. Next over from Michael saw him bowl their other opener, another wicket maiden, 2 more maidens gave him the splendid figures of 4 overs, 4 maidens, 2 for 0, an outstanding spell. Backed up by fellow opening bowler Pavan's figures of 4-1-0-3 and a great caught and bowled by Devin and we had them in trouble at 3 for 23 off 16 overs.

We didn't field as well as we could have and the game went right down to the wire. Last over, Guildford needed 3 to tie and 4 to win, second last ball of the match and their batsman skyed the ball into the deep, George runs to his left under the high ball and takes a magnificent catch juggling the ball from hand to hand, bouncing off his leg as he fell to the ground. Our second tied game in as many matches after our famous Grand Final tie of last season.

Well done boys, a bit of a rusty start to the season, but Guildford showed us that to repeat the efforts of last year we will need to be on our game every match. Our new players were warmly welcomed, Alex with some fine glove work behind the stumps and Anapam's 3-2-0-2 and a run out, was a fantastic start to the season.

The Coach's award went to George for an excellent opening batting contribution, bowling and fielding effort, with a special mention to Michael finishing the day with 3 for 4 from his 5 overs.

13/3	2 for 50	Guildford Leagues	10 for 46	First innings win
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What a Super start to the season. Another early finish to a game but not the same result for a change

With 5 players making their debut to cricket we played a team which made the finals last year in the 12/3s (Guildford Leagues). Guildford batted first but our opening over (Owen) proved to all who came to cheer that we would not be walkovers. At the end of that over Guildford was 1 down for 0.

Our next over (Jeremy) kept the pace up and Guildford was reeling 2 for 0. It was several overs later that Guildford was able to connect ball to bat properly and score a run.

With last week being a washout this day was changed to a one-dayer so we only had to bowl 31 overs. At one stage we had Guildford at 9 for 21 but they dug their heels in and produced some fine cricket to end the day all out for 46. This was especially pleasing as last year our team had given an average of 2 sundries per over. All bowlers took a wicket in their first over, with 2 caught and bowled and sundries were kept below 20.

NOW all we had to do was make the runs. As mentioned before Guildford made the finals last year and they had a very good set of bowlers. Their opening pair was dangerously fast and it took a couple of overs to get off the mark. Once settled in though the openers of Jeremy and Joel were as hard to extract as wisdom teeth. Finally Guildford's breakthrough came and we sent in our next gladiator. Guildford must have been thinking they still had a chance when they were rewarded with another wicket at the fall of (Rashil). This is Rashil's first season but he had helped keep the score ticking along nicely. Yardy was next in for us and you could have told all the boys to start packing up because Yardy is next to impossible to get out. This proved to be the case this week as both he and Jeremy went on to make the winning runs and send all mums and dads home early.

13/2	6 for 76	Kings Langley	5 for 82	First innings loss
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No report

13/1 Maroon	7 for 125	Baulkham Hills Gold	3 for 127	First innings loss
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Our first game was a good all round effort by the boys. It was played under difficult conditions on day 1 with intermittent rain and a wet outfield. Our boys lost a couple of early wickets in the poor conditions but held on to be 2/24 off the 10 over that were bowled. The match was reduced to 35 overs each and the boys came out positively to score 125 off their 35 overs – a tremendous effort! Nick McConnell top scored with an outstanding 68 not out! He was ably supported through 3 very good partnerships of 28 (Josh Stevenson), 28 (Amar Subramanian) and 26 (Tom Hughes). We had three others in double figures – Josh Stevenson (12), Ashleigh Thomas (11) and Amar Subramanian (10).

Our fielding started well but the intensity dropped off and some short, wide bowling allowed BHCC Gold to take control and win comfortably.

We have some work to do in the field but a good start with the bat should encourage the boys when we take on our nemesis of last year in the next game!

13/1 Gold	3 for 127	Baulkham Hills Maroon	7 for 125	First innings win
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Our first match was against the Baulkham Hills Under 13/1 Maroon side. We won the toss and elected to bowl on a rainy Saturday morning. A great spell of bowling by our opening bowlers, Taseen (1 for 9) and Jack Farrell (1 for 7); saw both the Maroon's openers being clean bowled within four overs. The Maroons batsmen then made steady progress to be 2 for 19 when rain stopped play after 10 overs.

The match was reduced to 35 overs a side and the Maroons continued their innings on the second Saturday. Tight bowling by Brent (0 for 15), Anoop (0 for 6) and Blake (1 for 8) made scoring difficult for the opposition and kept the run rate down. With half the overs gone the Maroon's captain Nick picked up the scoring rate punishing anything short or wide from our spinners Jack Michie (2 for 20), Joel (0 for 23) and Mitchell (0 for 15). James applied the brake on the scoring by picking up 2 for 19 from five steady overs of medium pace to restrict the Maroons to 7 for 125.

With 126 required to win, our openers Joel (14) and James (29) shared a 40 run partnership in 14 over to set the platform our middle order. Jack Delaney (23 with 2 sixes and 2 fours), Blake (32 not out, with 7 fours) and Jack Michie (13 not out, with 3 fours) made short work of the runs required and we reached the target three wickets down with ten overs to spare.

It was pleasing to win the first match and to see everyone put in a good effort with bat and ball.

14/3	8 for 105	Pendle Hill Colts	5 for 157	First innings loss
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No report

14/2	6 for 113	Wenty Waratahs	8 for 107	First innings win
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For B Hills Aidan Cousin 54 runs, Amol Marwah 6 overs 2 maidens 4 for 17.

After winning the toss and electing to bat, despite losing 2 quick wickets in the top part of the order, 2 steady partnerships, 17 for the 2nd wicket between Michael Waddups and Chris Gunton and 17 for the 4th wicket between Michael Waddups and Brendon Archbold saw the team reach 4 for 36 after 17 overs. That set the scene for a marvellous attacking innings from Aidan Cousin of 54 including 9 4s. Aidan received wonderful support from Brendon Archbold (9 runs) and Blaine O'Brien (9 not out). This saw the team attain the respectable total of 6 for 113.

The Wenty innings got away to a solid start, with a 29 run opening partnership, before they built the tempo. However the team managed to take wickets at regular enough intervals to keep Wenty just behind the required run rate. The bowling highlight was a wonderful exhibition of spin bowling from Amol Marwah, featuring accuracy and control as well as sharp turn. With the last over about to start, Wenty required 7 runs to win with 5 wickets in hand. Amol's figures to this point were 1 for 17 off 5 overs. He then took 3 for 0 off the last over to finish with the outstanding figures of 4 for 17. Amol was well supported by Michael Waddups with 2 for 18 off 5 overs and James Galofaro, opening the bowling for the first time finishing with 0 for 22 off 9 overs.

Well done team, always nice to start a season with a win, helping to make it a happy birthday for Udit and Brendon.

14/1	10 for 76	Greystanes	7 for 158	First innings loss
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We lost the toss and were asked to field.

Their openers put on 77 before Tevin broke their partnership.

By the time their overs were completed they were 7 for 158.

The wicket takers were Asad 3 for 31, Saj 1 for 13, Adarsh 1 for 27 & Tevin 1 for 31.

Our teams' batting was not up to our standard. We were All Out for 76.

Tevin 16 and Asad 10 were unfortunately the only players able to get into double figures.

There definitely has to be a lot of improvement made if we are going to be finals contenders, though it is still early in the season.

15/2	7 for 105	AKA Crusaders	5 for 106	First innings loss
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No report

15/1	9 for 130	Baulkham Hills 16/2	5 for 131	First innings loss
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No report

16/2	5 for 131	Baulkham Hills 15/1	9 for 130	First innings win
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The 15/1's won the toss and elected to bat. Alex took his turn as the Captain and opened the bowling with Christian and Andrew. The boys were unlucky with a couple of catches going down following some good bowling. First change Patrick and Alex then kept the pressure on, Alex getting the breakthrough wicket with Neel taking an early contender for catch of the season, low at slip into the left hand millimetres from the grass in the 12th over. What a catch, it really turned the game on its head. Matthew then took the ball and ended a lively spell with 3/24. Our new pair of Rhys and Anthony then combined for their first wicket and first catch respectively. Christian and Andrew came back with the old ball, and with good disciplined bowling kept a very good batting side to 130.

Nelson and Andrew opened the batting and looked solid until Andrew was unfortunately run out chasing a second run. Neel was bowled by a jaffa cutting back. Alex then turned on a display of batting, carting the bowlers to all areas of the ground. A little luck went our way with the 15's dropping Alex three times during his innings of 77. With able support from Christian their partnership produced a match winning 84 runs. A couple of quick wickets in sight of the target put the frighteners through the team, but Nelson returned to the crease and hit the winning runs with Christian.

A fantastic team effort by the boys, well done.

16/1	1 for 70	Guildford Leagues	10 for 57	First innings win
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After a wash out on the first day of the season, our first game turned into a one-dayer. With the boys eager to play some cricket, they were matched up against last year's division 2 grand finalists in Guildford Leagues.

With Samira and Kieran being voted by the team as joint captains for the year, the boys lost the toss and were asked to bowl against an undermanned team.

Michael and Chamath opened up the bowling and got the team off to a good start with Chamath claiming the first wicket in his first over with Adam taking a straight forward catch at square leg. Two overs later Michael troubled the Guildford opener with a shorter delivery only to spoon the ball up for an easy catch by Hiran.

Chamath then chimed in again, finding the edge of Guildford's danger man with Scott picking up the catch to have Guildford 3/39 after 10 overs.

It wasn't long before the next wicket fell with Kieran rattling the furniture of two Guildford batsmen in the space of three balls. That had Guildford reeling at 5/44. Some good tight bowling by Samira and Teshan cleaned up the Guildford innings to be all out for 57 after 20 overs.

Keen to get the team off to a good start, Michael and Scott took their time and played very well for a 38 run opening stand. Chamath joined Scott at the crease and the boys finished off the remaining runs without any further loss in just 19 overs. Well done boys and welcome to the team.

That was a good, solid start to the year boys. Your bowling was generally very good given it was our first game. You didn't give too much away to your opponents.

We will now build on that for our next game, which (weather permitting) will be a 2 day match against Wenty Waratahs.

Statistics: Chamath 24 not out, Scott 17 not out, Michael 20. With the ball Chamath 6-0-2-14, Kieran 4-2-2-10, Michael 4-1-1-19, Samira 4-1-1-10 and Teshan 2.1-1-1-1.

B13	8 for 55	Regal	6 for 292	First innings loss
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What a woeful tale of misery these statistics present. We were hammered to all parts of the ground by Regal. They amassed 291 in 32 overs for the loss of six wickets (Ian 3/84) with one guy scoring 138.

Our cause was not helped by some very ordinary fielding (about 7 dropped catches) and two guys not turning up. However, the team deported themselves well, and even in trying circumstances, managed to enjoy the run on the oval.

Batting...with the exception of Dan (20) and Dave (13) no one else put up any resistance to a good bowling attack. In summary, we were outclassed in all areas, being defeated by 240 runs.

Always next week, things should improve.

B12	10 for 143	Wenty Waratahs	3 for 144	First innings loss
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No report

B11	7 for 131	Kings Langley	9 for 125	First innings win
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Chani Lokuge 3/19, Nirav 3/21, Sacha 2/22

Ricky Kapoor 24, Lasith Wanigaratne 29, Charuka 29 Not out

B10	6 for 213	Rouse Hill Rams	10 for 197	First innings win
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We won the toss and elected to bat. Ward and Andrew N got us off to a solid start, looking so comfortable at the crease that a few of the boys deemed it safe to duck over to the shops and grab some lunch. Our openers put on 41 before Andrew was dismissed on 19, out LBW. Ward and Daniel looked at ease at the crease, putting on 45 runs until Ward was also out LBW, finishing up with a valuable 38 runs. Tony came to the crease and asserted himself immediately, belting the bowlers all around the park. Daniel and Tony proceeded to put on a 74 run partnership which ended when Tony was yet another LBW, ending an explosive innings of 46 runs which featured 4 sixes. Not long after, Daniel was bowled, finishing up with a useful 38 runs. In the final overs of our innings Andrew G smashed the bowlers all over the park, scoring a quick fire 32 not out including six 4's and a 6. Guy, James and Eddy all chipped in with 6, 6, and 5 not out respectively. After our 32 overs we had amassed a huge total of 213.

We walked out on the field very confident, perhaps too confident, that we could restrict Rouse Hill to less than 213. Needing almost 7 an over, the Rouse Hill batsmen came out swinging from the beginning, putting on 32 runs in 4 overs before Guy claimed the first wicket. The very next over James claimed his first scalp with Chris taking a good catch behind the stumps. 36 runs later, Eddy, in his first game back after a four year break from cricket, claimed the breakthrough wicket in his first over. At this stage we were fairly confident that we had the game under control, with Rouse Hill well under the required run rate. Put simply, we were wrong. The next Rouse Hill batsman, Omar, taking advantage of several dropped catches and countless near misses, proceeded to single-handedly demolish our attack, smashing us all over the park. After 29 overs and half a dozen trips to the creek we had Rouse Hill 7 down for 197, but still hadn't taken the crucial wicket of Omar. It looked like the game had slipped from our grasp, with Rouse Hill needing 17 from 3 overs with a batsman at the crease who was very capable of achieving such a feat in just one over. Just when it looked like it was all but over, Tony took the crucial wicket of Omar, dismissing him for 95 with a cracker of a delivery that knocked his stumps over. Buoyed by a fresh sense of hope, the boys lifted and the talk in the field was rejuvenated. Any hope Rouse Hill had was soon extinguished when Ward took the final 2 wickets in consecutive deliveries, finishing up with superb figures of 3-0 off 1.2 overs. We were off the hook. We had won a game that should never have been so close, but bad fielding let us down. Nonetheless it was a good effort for the first game of the season with the boys showing a lot of promise with the bat and with a bit of practice our bowling and fielding should improve in the weeks to come.

Bowling performances: W. Koski (3-0), J. Chatman (2-31), T. Senior (2-42)

Batting performances: T. Senior (46), D. Chatman (38), W. Koski (38), A. Gay (32 N.O.)

Catches: C. Brown (2), J. Daniel (1)

Man of the match: Ward Koski and Tony Senior share the honours this week

Hall of Shame: J. Chatman (dropped catch), J. Daniel (2 dropped catches), E. Nield (dropped catch), W. Koski (dropped catch)

B9	4 for 188	Rouse Hill Rams	7 for 186	First innings win
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No report

B8	10 for 115	Greystanes	9 for 118	First innings loss
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No report

B5	5 for 155	Xenium Crusaders	10 for 34	First innings win
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No report

B4	10 for 121	Hills Barbarians	6 for 126	First innings loss
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We won the toss and batted first and simply didn't score enough runs, with only Ben Dooley (43) and Dave Danks showing some form with the bat. It was disappointing that we were dismissed without batting out our overs. We still had a positive attitude that we could bowl the opponents out, and we took some early wickets, including a bizarre stumping and a freakish runout. Ben bowled well to take three wickets and was well supported by Matt Hardy. They passed our score with a few wickets to go and five wickets down. It was basically a sluggish start to our season. One positive that both sides could take from the game was a very fair and high umpiring standard (considering we had to umpire our own batsmen). We gave a few caught behinds and an LBW, whilst they gave a couple of very close runouts/stumpings. The game was played in excellent spirit, which made for an enjoyable afternoons cricket. Now we need to start playing properly again!

B2	3 for 152	Hills Barbarians White	6 for 151	First innings win
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After the first day was washed out, the stand in skipper lost the toss and the opposition choose to put us into the field. Fine tight bowling by Sacha and Steve kept the run rate under control, and then Jono (3/28) and Troy turned the screws (1/20) as the batsmen tried to accelerate, leaving the opposition 5/54 after 19 overs and in all sorts of trouble. However a couple of decent partnerships and some lusty hitting took them to a respectable 6/151 off their 32 overs.

In response, a steady start despite losing a couple of wickets always had us within touch of the run rate - and then a blitzkrieg by Adam (48 not out - including 26 runs off one over) with the light fading allowed us to wrap up the win for the loss of 3 wickets and with 7 overs to spare. Adam was hitting the ball so hard, that the fieldsmen were appealing against the light! Good contributions from Jason with 52 (batting through the innings) and Griggsy with a classy 33.

All in all a great start to the new season, showing that we will be competitive in this grade.

S Hilbrink - 2/55, J Bocking - 3/28, T Higginbotham - 1/20

J Currey - 52, A Shearman - 48*, M Griggs - 33

B1	6 for 162	Hills Barbarians	10 for 161	First innings win
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No report

A	9 for 152	Wenty Waratahs	4 for 155	First innings loss
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On a beautiful cricketing day, we won the toss and decided to have a bat. A small ground, enticing boundaries and Twenty20 on our minds, batting our overs was the main goal at this point.

2/99 at drinks (16 overs) was a fair effort with the team looking to double that and at that point with plenty of 'big' hitters to come. After some tight bowling by the opposition and frustrating batting on our end, we were restricted to 9/152 (obviously the big hitters did not follow through).

Defending 152 on a small ground is never easy but being the 1st game of the year, relying on the opposition to be underdone was the tactic at this point. That was not to be the case, early breakthroughs followed by missed chances and average bowling allows the opposition to win with 6 wickets in hand and with 7 overs to spare.

Disappointing performance seeing as there was a lot of hype and build-up to the start of the year. A lot of thinking and preparation had gone to the 'perfect' start. Not to worry, after all it is the 1st game of the season and I'm sure we've learnt from our mistakes, otherwise you shall see captain cranky come out soon enough...

Notable Performances:

Robert Simpson 39

Adam Tinley 2/30 off 6

Chris Marj. kept exceptionally well