

Some observations from the Under 14 Bavaria tournament in Munich

In general, Zurich showed a great team spirit and respect for other teams. The team was focussed when fielding, encouraging and motivating each other, which impressed other coaches and the spectators. They transferred coach Jaboury's essential and clear advice into great overall performances. People commented that all the Zurich player were all-rounders, making a solid team.

Batting: Haresh, Rahul, Dayn, Luke and Aryan all reached the retiring score at least once. Other batters contributed with valuable shots and runs. Dayn was probably best batsman of tournament. Batters were challenged to strike low due to the roof and side wall height limits. A ball struck well but too high = out.

Bowling: There was accurate bowling. Every player kept extras to a minimum. Rahul was probably leading wicket-taker of tournament, including one hatrick.

Fielding: Focussed, concentrated, and ready for run outs whenever the opportunity presented itself. In particular, the fast bowlers learnt the lesson of byes in Saturday's matches and the following day ensured their fielders were placed correctly and this resulted in more effective fielding. Great tactical teamwork.

The final vs Vienna was a nailbiter!

After quick retirements of our top order batsmen, Vienna's strong bowling then took effect in the middle of the game. It was Zeki and Antar who pulled the team ahead again by taking very risky runs in the last two overs, making Vienna's fielders more and more nervous. Zurich steadily approached the target. Zurich needed 2 runs off the last ball. Dayn re-entered and could turn the match into a victory for Zurich Crickets by hitting the essential runs.