ZCCC U11 v Basel Dragons U11 Report

28 January 2017

ZCCC U11 184-10 (Sasha 30, Shankar 24*; Ryan 3-14, Connor 1-26) bt. BDJCC U11 143-9 (Charlie 27, Greg 21; Arkan 1-17, Sasha 1-17) by 41 runs.

Having the fantastic ZIS Adliswil facility available, Zurich invited Basel to continue their monthly friendlies. Ryan kindly agreed to play for Basel meaning a 9 v 10 pairs format was played (9 in the field at any moment, and one Basel batsman batting twice). With 3 hours available, 5 overs were given per pair meaning a 25 over match. 5 runs were deducted for each wicket.

Basel captain Conner won the toss and elected to field. **Sasha** and **Shankar** opened, and showed their customary hitting and aggressive running. Both played all around the wicket and Shankar hitting one 4. Only one lapse meant Sasha was run out (his first dismissal in the indoor season), but the pair put on 65 in the 5 overs.

Owen and **Danyal** were next in, and Owen immediately got going, showing his batting class. A straight drive for 4 was probably the shot of the innings. Danyal found things a little tougher at first, but got his eye in and started to score. Both ended up losing their wickets, Owen chipping the ball to Xander and Danyal pulling a ball to Will who took a great catch. Danyal also ended up run out. **Arkan** and **Austin** were next in, and got going with Arkan hitting a 4 and Austin finding the wall a few times. The only blemish was Ryan bowling Austin.

Andreas and **Fynn** started carefully, hitting some runs from the walls but were reluctant to run. Unfortunately this got to them and a couple of run outs ensued (including one with Fynn setting of when the ball was in his brother's hand). **Alexander** and **Raiyan** were next in, and played very sensibly against some accurate bowling - they both managed runs off the wall and almost went without losing their wicket before Raiyan played around a straight ball from Ryan and was out LBW.

Zurich finished their 25 overs on 234-10, which meant Basel's target was 184.

Xander and George had to face the pace duo of Owen and Shankar, and then Danyal and for the first three overs couldn't get a run off the bat. With Shankar's second over, George drove him and scored four. Shankar came back the next ball however and bowled Xander. George was then run out after some sharp fielding. Arkan showed his bowling for the first time, and his quick, fizzing leggies surprised everyone and he had Charlie caught behind, with Sasha taking the ballooning ball. Aside from that, Charlie looked assured, and scored 27 in his two innings (he came back as number 10).

Riayan took his first wicket of the season, with Greg being egged on to come down the pitch and hit him, he couldn't do more than chip the ball to Sasha (Shankar replacing him behind the stumps). Greg was in attacking mood, hitting a couple of fours for his 21. Sasha bowled accurately, but was unable to get a wicket until his last over when Sai got a thick edge and Fynn took a fantastic catch at fly slip. Owen came back for a second over and got one straight and fast through Ryan to finish off the innings.

Basel batted well, and finished on 198-9 which meant that their final score was 143, which meant that Zurich won by 41 runs.

Zurich's experienced players showed what they can do: getting runs, containing with accurate bowling and sharp fielding. Arkan was a surprise newcomer, with good batting and quick leg spin. The U9 players also contributed well with Raiyan getting a wicket, Austin getting runs and bowling accurately, Fynn taking an amazing catch and Andreas bowling some unplayable deliveries. Thanks to Basel for coming - they also had some new comers and are getting stronger all the time!

Michael ZCCC U11 Coach