ZCCC Summer Cup U13 Tournament Report

31 July & 1 August 2020

The second half of the 2019/20 Junior season was called off due to the COVID-19 situation. Fortunately the situation in Switzerland improved enough to allow sport to return. With many summer holidays cancelled, Zurich Crickets hosted a Summer Cup at Embrach. Roughly 40 players from around the country met to play a four team, 16 over tournament. The format was a round-robin with the top two then playing in a final and the 3rd and 4th in a play off.

Scorching weather on the Friday welcomed teams from Basel Dragons, Léman (Cossonay, Gingins and GRYCC combined), Swiss U11 and Zurich Crickets.

Match 1: Basel Dragons

ZCCC 124-0 (Avnet 23*, Shankar 22*; Connor 0-15, Vidheya 0-11) bt BDJCC 62 a.o. (Vignesh 19, Connor 16; Arya 3-14, Paarth 1-0) by 62 runs

ZCCC were asked to bat first. As Basel were short a player, new-joiner George graciously agreed to play for them. Sasha and Avneet got started watchfully, with the first boundary coming from Avneet over the square leg boundary. The bouncy pitch helped them both with a pull and a hook off Sai in the 5th over. Avneet kept going and brought his retirement with a four as well (also bringing up the 50 partnership). Shankar joined Sasha and immediately looked fluent. They both ran the singles and twos hard and the heat took its toll on Sasha who retired on 18*. Danyal joined Shankar, and the two kept up the hard running with the 100 coming up in the 13th over. Shankar retired soon after and Austin and Danyal never looked in trouble with wides helping the score along to 124-0.

Lasse and Vignesh were watchful against the opening attack of Danyal and Shankar, managing the odd single here and there, until Vignesh edged one for four. Lasse couldn't stick around however and was bowled in the next over by Shankar. Andreas came on next, but struggled with his length with a new quicker action, and was dispatched for a couple of boundaries in an expensive over. Connor also looked in good touch and hit two boundaries off Avneet. With Vignesh on the cusp of retiring, Arya found the edge and it was safely taken by Sasha behind the stumps. Avneet was fortunate the next over that Connor missed a full toss and was bowled off his pads. Shankar switched for Sasha behind the stumps, and the two combined to run out Sai taking a risky second. With two relatively inexperienced batsmen at the crease, something was likely to happen soon and Vidheya soon followed. This time the crowd was to blame with parents calling to run with the ball in Sasha's hands! Trystan's vigil ended when he chipped Paarth to Sasha, and Arya cleaned up the tail with a caught behind and LBW.

Match 2: Léman

ZCCC 116-4 (Danyal 21*, Shankar 20*; Dev 1-6, Ryan 1-8) bt Léman 73-8 (Harris 21*, Saurav 10; Shankar 2-4, Danyal 1-0) by 43 runs

Having had a 4 hour wait between matches in 35C heat, the team were a little frazzled. This time Sasha won the toss and elected to bat. Things got underway perfectly for him with a low full toss from Harris driven for 4 through extra cover. Avneet (2) however couldn't find the boundary this time and holed out at square leg. Shankar kept up his form from the first game and kept up the hard running with Sasha. Both managed to score 2s and 3s, but the heat clearly affected Sasha and he went for 14 trying to retire in one ball off Ryan. Danyal joined Shankar and his timing was notably improved, finding the boundary 4 times. They both went on to retire, bringing George (4) and Austin (3) together. They both looked good but struggled to get the ball away and both perished trying to up the run rate towards the end. Andreas (6*) and Arya (2*) saw out the remaining couple of overs to set a total of 116-4.

The second innings started well with the dangerman, Jai, out first ball treading on his stumps trying to hook Danyal. Harris looked watchful but couldn't get a run away. Shankar struck next over having Ryan caught and bowled and then bowling Jenkyn to leave Léman reeling on 4-3. Andreas bowled a better length and kept the rate under control. Will and Harris looked to steady the ship but Will soon departed, chipping Avneet back to him. Dev and Saurav looked to rebuild with Saurav managing some lusty blows before Dev was bowled by Paarth. Vir's next over was a lot tighter than his first and it resulted in chaos with two run outs and a bowled. Harris and Katie looked to stay for the overs, and this time Sasha was required to bowl. With a painful foot he switched to left-arm unorthodox and bowled 4 balls of dross which Harris gleefully accepted to set a more respectable total.

Match 3: Swiss U11

ZCCC 121-4 (Shankar 22*, Arya 22*; Anhad 1-6, Kabir 1-9) bt Swiss U11 79 a.o. (Kabir 10, Aiden 6; Avneet 3-0, Andreas 3-11) by 47 runs

With a late finish and the first match of the day, ZCCC looked a bit weary the next morning for their match against the Swiss U11s. Again they asked to bat in much more comfortable temperatures. Sasha (0) didn't look like he had woken up and played down the wrong line to a straight one from Anhad. Avneet rekindled his form from the first match and raced to 21* off only 15 balls, with the team's only 6 over square leg. Danyal (5) fell in much the same way as Sahsa to Kabir and Paarth chipped one back to Samanyu. Arya joined Shankar and started to show what he can do, stroking 3 fours. Shankar retired and Vir joined Arya and also enjoyed his time at the crease including a glorious straight drive for four. They both retired with a handful of balls left leaving Austin (3*) and Andreas (5) to try and get the score up. Andreas departed to a fantastic direct hit from Dhruv, and George (1*) saw off the last two balls without much issue to set a score of 121-4.

The U11s batting had scared the other sides on the previous day so ZCCC knew they couldn't rest easy. Austin opened the bowling and struggled with line and length to allow the

U11's off to a good start, but Arya struck in the next, bowling Joshka. Austin came back with a much tighter over and Kabir and Vendant struggled to get many runs. The pressure told with a throw from Avneet to Sasha running out Vedant. Paarth and Vir continued with the right bowling before Arya ran out Nicky. With more experienced batsmen at the crease, Danyal was wheeled out and almost struck immediately with Kabir fending off a short ball which Sasha took full stretch. However it was too short and Kabir survived. He and Aiden calmly took the runs that were on offer before Andreas came on and Aiden tried to pull him but the ball cannoned into middle stump. Two balls short of retirement, Kabir left his crease and was stumped off Andreas. Andreas struck in his next over having Aaditiya caught by Shankar. Avneet came on to bowl his first over and struck immediately, with Anhad chipping the ball to Shankar. The next ball Samanyu edged and Sasha took the catch! Anakait strode out with the fielders chirping, looking for a hattrick, but he calmly defended. Sadly for him the next ball he chipped back to Avneet to give him 3 wickets in four balls!

Final: Léman

ZCCC 118-8 (Shankar 22*, Avneet 17; Ryan 2-20, Jai 1-3) bt Léman 29 a.o. (Dev 6, Ryan 4; Arya 4-9, Shankar 2-1) by 89 runs

Having won all their round-robin games, ZCCC were through to the final. They watched the next match intently to see who their opposition would be. Léman just edged a tight match against Basel Dragons to set up the final. ZCCC won the toss and again decided to bat. Sasha and Avneet again looked fluent until Sasha decided to take on Jai's offspin and skipped down the wrong line and was stumped. Mr Dependable joined Avneet and they kept the scoring rate going with both finding the boundary, until Avneet chipped a ball from Harris to Will. Danyal came out to join Shankar and they kept the scoring going as Léman went through their bowling attack. Shankar retired (again!), bringing out Austin (3) who didn't last long before giving a catch behind. Andreas came out and was quick to punish anything short of a length, pulling Ryan behind square. The "little and large" pair put on a good partnership before Andreas (14) missed one from Ryan and was bowled. Danyal (12) followed soon after giving a catch to Ryan off Dev. Arya (8) and Vir (10) continued from the morning, scoring three boundaries. A mix up between George and Paarth saw George run out without facing a ball, bringing Shankar to the crease who came out swinging but only able to add one to the score to finish on 118-8.

The team were quietly confident but the regular fall of wickets had induced some nervousness. Danyal again tried a shorter ball to Jai but this time he got bat on it for one run. Ryan edged the next ball and Sasha couldn't get there, with it running for four. Four byes and a wide meant the score was already 11 but then Ryan chipped the ball to Shankar. Shankar struck immediately with his first ball, bowling Jai. Danyal's next over was tight and neither Harris nor Katie could score. Shankar continued and bowled Harris. Arya bowled a couple of wides but straightened up to bowl Will. Andreas removed Dev, Shankar taking a catch. Katie fell with Arya's next over, Shankar with the catch again. Arya claimed two more to leave Léman 29-8 and Austin finished the job with one ball with the catch taken by guess who to win the title!

Conclusions

In all an almost flawless execution saw Zurich Crickets win the trophy! Strength in depth meant the side putting on quick runs all the way down the order, as well as taking wickets. The bouncy pitch suited the pace heavy attack, not that the spinners were ineffective. The fielding was excellent with hardly a catch dropped or a run out chance missed.

The batting displays were usually set up by quick runs from Avneet and then Shankar and Danyal taking the game away. When the lower-middle order was required, the runs kept on coming with Arya, Vir and Andreas all having important contributions. Shankar was the star of the show, never looking like getting out and scoring at a good rate.

The bowling backed up the batting and was accurate and unrelenting. The opening pair of Danyal and Shankar were quick and accurate and made it difficult to score, as well as difficult to retain your wicket. Avneet bowled quickly too and polished off a game with a magic spell. Andreas showed spin also works, but the star was Arya with 8 wickets in the tournament, only just shy of a five-for.

The fielding was consistently good, with catches taken, runs stopped and run outs cleanly executed. The pressure was put onto the batting side to make something happen and it usually did. Shankar seemed to be involved in most wickets with catches and run outs and almost earning him the fielding MVP. He was just pipped by Sasha who took a number of caught behinds, as well as run outs. When he wasn't behind the stumps he was also in the action.

Many thanks to Zurich Nomads for the use of the Embrach Cricket Ground. Thanks also to Baljit for some wise words to the team and Ivan for his photography. A fantastic way to close out a strange season!

Results:

Position	Team
1	Zurich Cricket
2	Léman
3	Basel Dragons
4	Swiss U11

Michael ZCCC U13 Coach

Statistics

* includes performances for Basel

Bowling

			Strike	Extras per	
Bowler	Economy	Average	Rate	Over	Analysis
Andreas	5.57	9.75	10.50		7-0-39-4
Arya	4.14	3.63	5.25		7-1-29-8
Austin	4.80	20.00	25.00		4.1-1-20-1
Avneet	3.86	3.60	5.60		4.4-1-18-5
Danyal	4.14	14.50	21.00		7-2-29-2
Furqan*	3.50	7.00	12.00		2-0-7-1
George*	5.83	35.00	36.00		6-0-35-1
Paarth	2.80	7.00	15.00		5-1-14-2
Sasha	12.00	-	-		1-0-12-0
Shankar	1.33	1.60	7.20		6-1-8-5
Vir	5.20	26.00	30.00		5-0-26-1

Economy: runs conceded per over Average: runs conceded per wicket Strike rate: balls bowled per wicket

Extras per Over: number of wides or no balls conceded per over

Analysis: Overs-Maidens-Runs conceded-Wickets

Batting

Batter	Average	Runs	Strike Rate
Andreas	12.50	25	96
Arya	32.00	32	133
Austin	7.00	14	70
Avneet	31.50	63	117
Danyal	24.50	49	102
Furqan*	13.00	13	41
George*	1.25	5	25
Paarth	1.00	1	20
Sasha	13.33	40	87
Shankar	-	86	119
Vir	26.00	26	87

Average: runs scored per times dismissed

Runs: runs scored

Strike rate: scoring rate, where 100 is one run per ball faced

Fielding

Fielder	Catches	Stumpings	Run outs
Arya	1		2
Avneet	2		1
Sasha	4	1	4
Shankar	7		2
Vir			1