

MATCH REPORT

ECCS VS SACC - THE SAIGON ASHES - GAME 2

25 JANUARY 2015

By Adam Zakaroff



As Eric Carman once sang, 'Turn the radio up for that sweet sound, hold me close never let me go'.

Looking back at arguably one of the greatest games of cricket played by the ECCS, I ponder on what we did that won us the game? Was it the Captain opting for wearing black socks (which is now going to become a custom for future games).....? Guy Thwaites insisting on keeping the tradition of putting his left pad on first.....? Or was it the Long Distance Catching Practice (LDCP) that will be done every training now without fail!!! Or was it the Jockey Stock man with his horse whip

Anyway What a game!!

After losing the toss again, we were asked to bowl first and we placed a rather attacking field with Adam Z and Stu opening the bowling. Although a little wayward, but controllable, the introduction of Charlie and his left arm spin was asked for and he delivered with some crucial wickets. Great catches in the outfield by the skipper and a juggling act by Paul Rispin followed by a one handed classic by Jai on the rope that will have the Aussies seething. It was one of the best pieces of fielding that has ever been seen at RMIT and both players and supporters spectators will vouch for that.

Some great wicket keeping and fielding held the Aussies up. A great spell by John Handscomb "it's been 3 years but I'm hitting form again", backed up by with Sven and Jai being both tidy and

dangerous with the ball in hand but a big hitting cameo from Ben Daley took the SACC to 164/6 at the end of their twenty overs.

As they walked off the field , the skipper angry at Jai for letting Ben Daley smack him for 4 on the last ball, he suggested they both open the batting and smash the (fill in your own expletives here please) out of the SACC bowling attack.

The first time they have batted together, and what combination. The Aussies starting with their key bowlers, and when the pair got their eyes in the SACC found it hard to reduce the run rate. Changing bowlers didn't work either.

A Captains knock of 36 from 17 including 4 sixes only to get an inside edge hitting his off stump gave the impetus required for the batsmen following on from him. The knock also included a six over Long Off that ploughed straight into the SACC tent. Sven entered the crease with the largest bat in Christendom. Anything off the middle was gone. Jai took over from where the skipper left off hitting 45n.o. with a mixture of both power and guile who was replaced at the crease by Guy Thwaites. Guy showing the fact that once the ground dries out and hardens up, there is a point to not just putting everything aerial but playing true cricket strokes. However, just after saying to Sven, "don't f*ck up", Sven decided to sweep the Aussies slow bowler from about three quarters down the wicket resulting in an easy stumping and Sven looking like Monty Panesar trying to get back to his crease. He may have got there if he wasn't using a bat that wouldn't be out of place in a tossing the caber competition.

Guy Thwaites and Charlie Woods then shared a late cameo, keeping the run rate going so the runs were knocked off after 15.3 overs.

MoM was Jai, a great performance, as was also his performance drinking the Mug Of The Day

In true Ashes Spirit, as well as winning on the scoreboard, we won with the amount of supporters. A great BBQ at Boomarang after with the Aussie captain Steven Green handing over the trophy. A thank you has to go to the SACC players and supporters who came over to talk and enjoy a beer with us after the game and especially the ones who were able to go down to the Boomarang and join us all for a beer and something to eat. That isn't just sportsmanship. That is pure class. A round of applause has to be given to them.

Also to Steve Green (not the SACC skipper) who has paid our players match fees for the game. Thanks Steve!!!

Thank you to all our loyal supporters, a big win for the club and I only hope that this win is the start of momentum for the club.

A big thank you to Claire for scoring, Richard and John for umpiring the first game of the day and as always, our sponsors Rainbow Divers, Boomarang and Magners.

Score card to follow.

Adam Zakaroff, Skipper.