

What a difference sticking to basics can make? Zurich discovered this in an amazing turnaround last weekend when a mixed U13 & 15 Zurich team took on their arch rivals Basel U13s at the ZIS hall on October 17.

Basel won the toss and elected to field first. Zurich opened with Chris and Sam. Both of them were batting for the first time together and were faced by some tight bowling by Eden and Jimmy initially. But Chris used his experience to rotate the strike frequently and with the help of some wides by the subsequent bowlers, the opening partnership reached 62.



Sam was run-out going for a quick single and Chris retired soon after. Two run-outs later, including one of Trian who was unlucky to be run-out without facing a ball, the score read 65 for 3. Zurich was in trouble. But Aryan and Luca batted sensibly, albeit a little too cautiously at times to stop any further dismissals. And aided by some more wides, the next wicket only fell on 131 when Antar got out trying to push the scoring after both Aryan and Luca had retired. After the fall of two more quick wickets, Zeki came to the crease



and immediately lifted the tempo by hitting the first ball he faced for six. He scored 22 in only 7 balls, and the mojo was back in the Zurich's innings. Chris and Aryan came back on, and by the time Chris was run out for 40, the score was a healthy 208 for 7 in 25 overs. Eden and Max were the standout bowlers for Basel. 4 of the 7 wickets fell to injudicious running.

Now it was Basel's turn to bat. Zurich got off to a great start with Luca bowling their opener in only the second over of the innings. By the 9th over 2 more wickets fell and Basel were at a comfortable 63 for 3. Westy, Aditya and Max aided by another 59 runs given as extras, took to score to 187 at the end of the 21st over. Basel were cruising at this stage, with only 21 to get in the last 4 overs. But Zurich had other ideas! Aryan threw the ball to Luca for the 22nd over, who obliged with a maiden over of perfect line and length. Aryan followed it up another gem of a maiden, in which the pressure led to a run out thanks to great fielding by Sam.



Now only 2 overs to go and 21 still to get. Chris bowled the 24th in which he only gave one run, including another run-out. The last over with 20 to get. The Basel batsmen were no match for Adi's looping off-spinners and were not able to score a single run.

This amazing display by Zurich in the last 4 overs brought to fore the value of doing the basics right, not

succumbing to pressure and more importantly believing in themselves. This passage of play could easily count as some of the best cricket produced in Zurich Cricket club's history.

Well done boys!

Pictures from the match can be found here -

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xthaubhpsg1akzy/AACLUMdvtkz2dQJlp5EZlyUsa?dl=0>