



ZCCC in Gingins U15 Indoor Tournament

20 & 21 November 2021

After a two year COVID hiatus, November saw the return of the Gingins Indoor tournament, in Geneva. The tournament saw six teams competing, with two pools of three. The pool positions then put teams into 5/6th play off, 3/4th play off and the final. The Crickets were missing several of their players, and were joined over the two days by three Gingins U13 players.

Match 1: Basel Dragons

BDJCC 125-6 (Connor 28*, Pratyush 27*; Shankar 3-12, Patrick 1-0) bt ZCCC 124-4 (Avneet 29*, Shankar 18; Connopr 2-16, Neil 1-10) by 2 wickets

Due to a train cancellation, four of the team were delayed and had no time for a warm up and were straight out to bat. The team got underway tentatively, seemingly not adjusting to the indoor format, with turned down runs and shots that would have worked outdoors. Sasha (17) was the first to fall, beaten by swing and seam from Connor. Avneet started to find some fluency and retired with his second six. Shankar and Austin tried to push on, but again were very nervous about running. The pressure told when Shankar drove a ball straight to Lasse at mid-off. Reeta joined Austin, and he found a little more fluency. Austin (11) fell soon after when Connor bowled him, and Andreas' (5) finished in a similar way, but by Sai. Ayaan (5*, from Gingins) and Reeta (14*) pushed the score onto 124 in the 16 overs, which felt 20 or 30 light.

Missing two of the main bowlers in the side, Shankar took the new ball and was immediately on the money. He had Lasse caught behind and then bowled Sai two balls later. But then, Connor and Pratyush showed the indoor batting strategy and accumulated runs in a risk free approach with one over going for 18! They both retired in the 6th over, and the Crickets had two new batters to work on. Vignesh and George continued the run scoring, although slightly less fluently. The Crickets were unlucky not to have George caught behind, but Patrick (on loan from Gingins) got him soon after, with a fine underedge down the leg side. Vignesh fell soon after to a direct hit from Sasha behind the stumps. Shankar bowled Aaron, and another Sasha direct hit saw the end of Sid. With 5 needed in two overs, Sasha switched gloves with Shankar and brought himself on. The second ball struck Neil on the pad and they ran through, bringing Connor back on strike. Two dots followed, but then Connor got one away for the winning runs.

Match 2: GRYCC

ZCCC 210-6 (Avneet 56*, Shankar 39*; Shaunak 1-7, Vishisht 1-11) bt GRYCC 31 a.o. (Isa 17, Badri 4; Aaditya 2-0, Shankar 1-4) by 179 runs

After the humbling in the first game the Crickets came out with a point to prove, once again batting first. A watchful start but the fifth ball saw Sasha and Avneet pounce on hesitant fielding to score a five. They went harder the next over, swapping 4s through extra cover and similar in the third with Sasha unusually retiring first (albeit having had more strike). Shankar kept the scoring going, and scored a three of every one of his first 8 balls faced. At the other end Avneet was hitting the ball harder and straighter and with a six and a brutal straight four to bring up retirement. Austin got scoring right away, but was unfortunate to have a few big hits clip something in the ceiling and drop down for a dot. With the score already 101 after 7 overs, Shankar retired. Reeta (8) got going quickly too but was the first wicket to fall, getting caught at long on. Andreas took a few balls to get going, and Austin retired. Ayaan and Aaditya came and went quickly, which brought Sasha back. He tried to go aerial, but was caught at long on. No such issue for Avneet, who kept motoring with Andreas, who started to find his groove. While not hitting the ball as hard as Avneet, he accelerated with a six that kept rising, only to fall for 20 a few balls later, trying the same. Shankar came back and he and Avneet put on another 20 runs before Avneet brought up his 50 and retired again. Austin (31) hit his first ball back for 6 but was run out the next, bringing Avneet back out again. The pair passed 200 and posted 210, which turned out to be the highest total of the weekend.

Shankar once again was on fire and bowled a wicket maiden. Andreas then conceded a single, before Shankar ran out Anikait to put GRYCC on 2-2. The bowling kept up the pressure and some excellent fielding from Avneet at point got the ball to Sasha's gloves quickly to run Hassan out without facing a ball. Isa departed much the same way the following over. Aaditya came onto bowl and immediately was in the wickets with Badri chipping the ball to Andreas at cover. Two balls later, Sasha's quick hands took advantage of a momentary lift of the back foot to stump Vishisht, and GRYCC were all out for 31.

The format meant that the team had to wait for the next morning's match between Basel and GRYCC to know the pool standings, and with a healthy net run rate advanced needed GRYCC to beat Basel to have a hope to make the final.

3rd/4th Play Off: Cossonay/Gingins

ZCCC 165-1 (Shankar 28*, Sasha 27*; Akos 0-6. Anhad 0-16) bt Cossonay/Gingins 164-6 (Jai 51*, Ryan 44*; Sasha 1-42, Samanyu 0-3) by 6 wickets

The morning's match went with form, with Basel winning, putting the Crickets second in the group to face Cossonay/Gingins in the 3rd/4th play off. Cossonay/Gingins won the toss and elected to bat first. While the previous day the team were clinical in the field, they were quite sloppy for this game. The usually accurate Shankar and Andreas gave away several wides, and misfields saw dots turned into fours. Jai retired quickly, and the scoring rate dropped a

little. Ryan retired soon after with the score on a healthy 70-0. This brought about a change in fortunes for the Crickets however with Dev run out by Reeta and Sasha without facing a ball. Sasha then managed a direct hit to run out Aiden off a no ball. Sasha then won a sprint to run out Akos at the bowler's end and 5 balls later, Ayaan ran out Erik with a direct hit. Noah and Anhad then looked to rebuild but found scoring was difficult with Samanyu (a Gingins U13) bowling the most economic over of the match. Another keeper change saw Sasha in the field and his footwork resulted in Anhad being run out by Shankar. This brought Jai back and he hit his first six. Sasha then bowled Noah but pushed a bit too hard and gave away a number of wides. He backed himself for the last over of the innings, but both Jai and Ryan hit a six off him for the most expensive over of the game to give Cossonay/Gingins a competitive total of 164.

Sasha and Avneet strode out in a serious mood, and got started quickly with Sasha hitting Noah for a lofted-drive 6. Avneet (25*) got into the act with some crunching drives for four, and went on to retire off only 8 balls. Sasha followed three balls later with the score already 65 off only 4 and a half overs. Shankar and Austin continued with the quick scoring, with one over going for 20 runs, and the 100 was up in 8 overs. Shankar retired, bringing in Reeta (6) who wasn't quite quick enough and was run out by Aiden. Despite his quick start, Austin got a bit bogged down despite hitting the ball very cleanly, but retired with 26 runs needed off 3.3 overs. Andreas and Ayaan swapped 3's, and unfortunately it was an above waist height no ball that was caught (but not out) and a run that got the team over the line.

Conclusions

Despite missing five of the usual U15s, and therefore being light on bowling, the Crickets were quietly confident of a good performance. Travel issues certainly didn't help, but the team were strangely lacking in confidence with the running in their first match, and Basel showed exactly how to do it in their innings. The tournament format was unforgiving which meant despite scoring very well in the other two games they had no opportunity to "come back".



Once the running was sorted, the batting was excellent, with the top order happy to chase at over 11 an over, and scored the highest total of the tournament. The top four were in the top seven tournament run scorers . The batting order was nicely balanced between touch players and power players which made it difficult to defend against. Reeta did a good job as an U13 in the side, and Andreas got some time in the middle and showed his batting. Austin was able to hit very hard, although sometimes did not get the reward! Shankar and Sasha both scored quickly by working the ball into the gaps, but also had the game to go over the top too. Avneet finished the tournament as the leading run scorer and was one of two players to bring up a 50. He continued his hard hitting form, and crunched shots along the floor and in the air.

Missing the usual pace attack meant that the load had to be taken by the other players. Andreas bowled well but for limited reward and Reeta and Avneet both had good pace. Sasha even bowled his first competitive overs for over a year, although he ended up the most expensive! Shankar was generally excellent, bowling a great line and length and finished with the tournament's second best figures of 9-2-40-4. When scoring rates of 10-an-over were par, this was excellent.

On the Saturday, the fielding was generally of very high standard, and although a bit sloppy on the Sunday there were still many run outs! Despite not having kept in a long time, Shankar acquitted himself well, but Sasha displayed a consistently high standard with an involvement in 8 run outs in addition to the catches and stumping.

The team will feel this was a missed opportunity, but hopefully they can learn from the disappointment, and work hard on their game over the winter and go better in the Basel Indoor tournament in the spring. Congratulations to Basel Dragons on a well deserved win and showed the other teams how to play and win indoors. Many thanks to Ayaan, Aaditiya and Samanyu for joining the team over the weekend and contributing to the results. Many thanks to Baljit and Ivan for coaching the team and to Lester and the rest of Gingins for putting on a great tournament!

Final standings:

Position	Team
1	Basel Dragons
2	Gingins
3	Zurich Crickets
4	Cossonay / Gingins
5	GRYCC / Basel Dragons
6	Luxembourg

Statistics

Bowling

Bowler	Economy	Average	Strike Rate	Extras per Over	Analysis
Andreas	7.88	-	-	0.5	8-0-53-0
Austin	11.00	-	-	3.3	3-0-33-0
Avneet	9.43	66.00	42.00	0.3	7-0-66-1
Reeta	7.00	-	-	2.7	3-0-21-0
Sasha	11.74	45.00	23.00	4.2	3.5-0-45-1
Shankar	4.44	40.0	13.50	0.8	9-2-40-4

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	17.0	34	155
Austin	34.0	68	111
Avneet	-	110	190
Reeta	14.0	28	147
Sasha	35.0	70	146
Shankar	85.0	85	218

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
Andreas	1		
Austin	1		
Avneet			2
Sasha	2	1	4 (and 4 assists)
Shankar	1		1 (and 1 assist)