

ZCCC in Basel U15 Indoor Tournament

2nd and 3rd April 2022

The healthy growth of junior cricket in Switzerland reflected itself in the Basel Dragons U15 Indoor Tournament, with seven teams causing some head-scratching moments for the tournament organiser. With 20 players entered across Zurich Crickets 1st, 2nd, Gingsins and the Swiss U13 sides it also reflected on the continuing growth of the club. The tournament was played out as two pools competing on Saturday for seeding in a knockout on the Sunday. ZCCC 1st and 2nds were drawn in the same pool.



Pool Stages

The two Zurich Crickets sides faced off in the first match of the pool. One issue for the 2nds was they were missing two of their players, and borrowed the Tiwari brothers for the game. The 1sts boasted a strong side with five of the team having played in the Swiss U15 1st team in the U17 tournament the weekend before. The 2nd team was also a good side with some Swiss U13 squad players, as well as a new addition to the U15 fold.

ZCCC 1st v ZCCC 2nd

ZCCC 1st 204-4 (Avneet 45, Sasha 28; Dev 2-17, Furqan 1-12) bt ZCCC 2nd 67 a.o. (Tanish 27, Jai 14*; Arya 1-13, Sasha 1-16) by 137 runs*

The 1sts won the toss and batted, and started quickly. Somewhat unbelievably this was the slowest start for the team of the tournament. Retirements came and went, but Dev, Furqan and Jai all managed some control, but there were already 155 runs on the board when Arya's wicket fell. A couple more wickets went down but all that served was to bring the retirees back and Avneet was the top scorer with 46 before a direct hit from Tanish stopped a half-century.

Fielding proved to be a differentiator, with the first three wickets all being run outs - the extra 3 yards of the U15 crease not helping the U13s in the team. Going for broke, Tanish took on Andreas' off-spin, hitting him for consecutive sixes but it was in vain. The bowling and, in particular, the fielding was too much for the 2nds, and could only get just over half way through the overs.

ZCCC 1st v Cossonay/GRYCC

ZCCC 1st 256-4 (Sasha 56, Shankar 35*; Dev 2-57, Badri 1-36) bt Cossonay/GRYCC 108 a.o. (Dev 18, Isa 16; Andreas 3-16, Austin 2-33) by 148 runs*

The 1sts batted first again, and from one end it was service as usual with Avneet retiring quickly. Sasha seemed to have lost his timing and was seemingly unable to get away with only 4 runs off 15 balls... and then he decided to go for it. He retired, but on return finished on 56* off 27 balls. With most of the players scoring and retiring at a strike rate of 200 or more, a mammoth total of 256-4 was posted.

Tight bowling and fielding restricted the opening pair of Cossonay players, and the pressure told with Arya bowling Ryan. Abid's first tournament with the U15s saw his lightning hands behind the stumps in action with two leg-side catches off Austin as well as a run out with Shankar. Shankar was also involved, catching the Tiwari brothers off the wall from the bowling of Andreas. Andreas also turned one through the gate to pin back leg stump, signalling an emphatic return after a three month break from cricket for study.

ZCCC 2nd v Cossonay/GRYCC

ZCCC 2nd 107-3 (Zac 26, Tanish 10*; Hassan 1-15, Isa 1-35) bt Cossonay/GRYCC 105 a.o. (Jai 27*, Badri 11, Isa 11; Furqan 3-22, Avik 2-15) by 4 wickets*

Negotiations were in order, as the 2nds only had 6 players and the dominant performance of the 1st team meant borrowing batters from them was considered to be too balance-altering. A compromise was reached, and the game was on. Cossonay/GRYCC batted first and with a slightly weaker bowling attack, Jai went on to retire. The next ball, Ryan was caught by Austin (sub fielder) off Tanish. The 2nd team showed they could also exact pressure and a run out with new player Jack and keeper Fynn signalled some intent. Good bowling and fielding from the team restricted Cossonay/GRYCC to 105 all out.

The batting innings started a lot better, with neither of the openers running themselves out immediately! Avik and Fynn put on a 30 run partnership before Fynn was removed by a direct hit. Zac gave a glimpse of his power with two sixes, but the star of the show was Jack. Despite very limited experience, he showed excellent intent and bravery, and on his second bite of the cherry scored the winning runs... one to watch for the future!

Knockouts

Quarterfinal 1 - ZCCC 1st v BDJCC 2nd

ZCCC 1st 238-2 (Avneet 43, Shankar 32*; Neil 1-32) bt BDJCC 2nd 21 a.o. (Ved 8*, Zaiyan 5; Andreas 3-4, Austin 1-4) by 217 runs*

An early start for both teams, and the seeding of knockouts means a strong team will face a less strong one. Basel Dragons 2nd team stuck at the task but the ZCCC 1sts gave no quarter, racking up a mammoth 238 in 15 overs, and bowled out the BDJCC 2nds for 21.

Quarterfinal 2 - ZCCC 2nd v Swiss U13

ZCCC 2nd 120-5 (Zac 38, Fynn 32*; Samanyu 2-22, Vedant 1-5) bt Swiss U13 119-5 (Aaditya 23*, Noah 17; Zac 2-20, George 1-14) by 2 wickets*

The more interesting quarterfinal was immediately after, with the ZCCC 2nds facing off against the Swiss U13 side (containing three ZCCC players). ZCCC 2nds had George back, and he was immediately effective, containing the scoring as well as taking a wicket. Zac's fielding prowess showed with catches and a bowled. Fynn and Furqan were both involved in wickets of their compatriots.

The reply didn't get underway ideally with Avik bowled at the end of the first over, but Fynn and Zac together put on a great first wicket partnership. Furqan ran hard, and while not finding the boundary, added important runs. Fynn and Zac returned with 27 needed, and both hit lofted drives for six, but Zac did his to win the game!

Semi-Final - ZCCC 1st v ZCCC 2nd

ZCCC 1st 297-3 (Avneet 55, Shankar 46; Jack 1-20) bt ZCCC 2nd 97 a.o. (Zac 56, Fynn 7; Shankar 3-1, Arya 1-23) by 200 runs*

Perhaps unfortunately for the 2nds, they met a pumped up 1st team in the semi-final. The 1sts batted first... again. This time it was Avneet that took brutality to the next level, retiring off only 6 balls. The entire team was pumped, and there was a precession of batters, smacking the ball to all parts. Unbelievably the first wicket to fall was Andreas (20) when the score was on 253. The 1sts had heard about the Basel 1st team beating their score earlier in the day and were set on 300, but direct hits from Fynn and Zac saw the end to that... with the 1sts 3 runs shy of that target.

The 2nds knew that chasing the target wasn't on, but their coach gave them the objective to bat out the 20 overs. Unfortunately the first ball showed a little bit of "U13" running with Fynn taking a run off a nice shot but Arya snaffled the ball and got it to Abid before Avik could make his ground. Shankar ran amok, taking three wickets. Zac was given assistance with brave innings from Jack and Meghna which allowed him to reach a fantastic 50 before he fell

caught by Shankar. One piece of bad news saw Sasha subbed off the field after a few overs due to what turned out to be a fractured finger.

Final - BDJCC 1st v ZCCC 1st

ZCCC 1st 60-0 (Shankar 25, Avneet 22*; Lasse 0-7) bt BDJCC 1st 59 a.o. (Vignesh 20, Lasse 12; Shankar 2-10, Arya 2-18) by 7 wickets*

ZCCC 1sts then faced their “local” rivals, the also undefeated BDJCC 1st team. ZCCC 1st were keen to show the defeat in the Gingins tournament was a one-off. BDJCC won the toss and elected to bat, meaning ZCCC had to chase for the first time. BDJCC got going comfortably enough, with some low risk cricket before Lasse was caught (on the second attempt) by Arya of a well hit ball. Perhaps feeling the scoring rate wasn’t high enough, Connor took on a run, but Vignesh was not for moving resulting in an easy run out for Shankar and Abid. Shankar then continued with the wicket taking, having Sai trapped in front and then George P caught by Danyal. Vignesh, perhaps thinking it was runs or nothing, swung and missed and was bowled by Arya. Excellent fielding from Austin saw Pratyush gone and George G fended a short ball straight to Danyal.

With 59 to chase, Avneet and Shankar cantered to bring up the win in just 4.2 overs with all wickets in hand.

Conclusions

The club had a fantastic tournament with great performances from all the players across the various teams. A joint 3rd place for the 2nds and a win for the 1st team also reflected the strength of the club.



The 2nd team were a little unfortunate to have two of their four matches against the 1st team, but were undefeated in other matches, chasing down two totals well. In his first tournament in Switzerland, Zac showed his skills with bat and ball as well as some good captaincy. Fynn, Furqan and Avik all showed why they are in the Swiss U13 squad with important contributions, and Tanish opened a few eyes with some aggressive batting. Brand new to the club was Jack, and he displayed great bravery and improved his game over the weekend. It should also be noted that Meghna was a late call up and played well for Gingins.

The 1st team, now at full strength, dominated, racking up huge totals at over 12 runs an over. The batting ran all the way down the order giving the opposing teams no respite. Perhaps no surprise to see 4 of the team in the top 10 run scorers in the tournament with two of them scoring half-centuries. Avneet was the clear leader with 195 runs at an amazing strike rate of 247, combining aggressive hitting with some intelligent running. Sasha and Shankar also cashed in with large totals themselves. But the batting kept coming with Abid, Austin, Arya and Danyal all retiring at least once. The bowling was also all down the order, but Andreas came back from a "sabbatical" from cricket in force with 7 wickets in the tournament. Shankar, Arya and Austin all took important wickets and Danyal was extremely economical. In the field, the team were razer sharp, and recent refugee, Abid, was lightning fast behind the stumps. A real team performance across all disciplines.

Many thanks to Jason and Ed and the rest of Basel Dragons for putting together a fantastic tournament with so much cricket available to all the players.

Tournament Standings

Position	Team
1	ZCCC 1st
2	BDJCC 1st
3=	Gingins
3=	ZCCC 2nd
5	Cossonay/GRYCC
6	Swiss U13
7	BDJCC 2nd

Awards

Batting - Avneet (ZCCC 1st) 195 runs, average 97.5, strike rate 247

Bowling - George P (BDJCC 1st) 8 wickets, average 8.38

Fielding - Vignesh (BDJCC 1st) 5 catches, 1 stumping, 7 run outs

Spirit of Cricket - Harris (Gingins) - recalling a batter when he realised he didn't have the ball cleanly

Statistics

Bowling

Bowler	Economy	Average	Strike Rate	Extras per Over	Analysis
Andreas	5.77	10.71	11.14	0.8	13-1-75-7
Arya	6.00	13.20	13.20	1.9	11-0-66-5
Austin	7.65	12.75	10.00	3.9	6.4-0-51-4
Avik	10.24	43.50	25.50	3.4	8.3-0-87-2
Avneet	4.60	-	-	2.4	5-1-23-0
Danyal	5.79	81.00	84.00	0.9	14-1-81-1
Furqan	9.92	23.80	14.40	1.9	12-0-119-5
George	11.29	79.00	42.00	2.1	7-0-79-1
Jack	9.29	65.00	42.00	3.4	7-0-65-1
Meghna	7.58	45.50	36.00	1.9	12-1-91-2
Sasha	8.00	16.00	12.00	0.0	2-0-16-1
Shankar	3.22	5.80	10.80	0.2	9-2-29-5
Tanish	11.92	155.00	78.00	1.2	13-0-155-1
Zac	9.50	66.50	42.00	1.3	14-0-133-2

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
Abid	102.0	102	217
Andreas	7.8	31	111
Arya	41.0	82	205
Austin	66.0	66	194
Avik	2.8	11	39
Avneet	97.5	195	247
Danyal	80.8	80	179
Furqan	8.0	16	62
Fynn	18.0	54	113
George	3.0	6	67
Jack	3.3	13	42
Meghna	6.8	27	56
Sasha	139.0	139	193
Shankar	166.0	166	210
Tanish	12.3	37	77
Zac	60.5	121	161

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
Abid	2	2	5 assists
Austin			1
Arya	1		1
Avneet			2
Danyal	2		1
Fynn			2 (and 1 assist)
Jack			1
Sasha			3
Shankar	4		2
Zac	3		1