

ZCCC (North) dominate the Under 19 Indoor Tournament in Geneva

The EC Aimee Stitelmann indoor hall in Geneva was the wonderful location for the U19 Indoor Tournament. Four teams contested the trophy: Gingins CC, Nestlé CC that included several senior Cossonay players, Léman that was a mixture of Geneva Region Youth CC and Cossonay juniors, and North that was comprised of 7 ZCCC players and one Basel player.

Match 1: North vs Léman

North 170 for 6 (Osama 54*, Ruan 27, Asad 25) won vs Léman 148 for 5

After an excellent batting performance that produced a clearly above par score, North struggled to find line and length with their bowling. The team gifted an alarming 71 in extras! Despite this, Oli produced four economical overs, Khawar shocked Léman's Jai into throwing away his wicket with a catch to the keeper, while captain Ashwin was dramatically run out with a perfect throw by keeper Nic to the bowler's end. Despite the extras, the fielding was sharp and made any running between the wickets for the opposition a tough call. This was to continue throughout the tournament and was a factor that set this team apart. When Léman's overs came to an end, there was a sigh of relief. The team had awoken and the team's bowling never looked back.

Match 2: North vs Nestlé

North 155 for 4 (Asad 52*, Ruwan 23, Ruan 31) won vs Nestlé 104 for 6)

Another good demonstration with the bat, even though North were forced to reverse the batting order, and with 155 on the board the team was confident of defending the total. Wickets fell regularly with two for Asad and one apiece for Oli, Ruan, and Ruwan, while the fielding was tight, watertight, making it very difficult for any team to score much off the bat. Regulation catches for Moaz and keeper Nic were snapped up.

Match 3: North vs Gingins CC

North 172 for 2 (Osama 50*, Nic 42*) won vs Gingins CC 32 all out (Osama 5 for 4 off 2 overs, Asad 2 for 13)

With 152 runs scored before the first wicket fell, North had posted another total beyond the reach of the opposition. The Gingins bowling had not helped and never posed enough threat. In reply North's bowling was devastating and Gingins never recovered. Osama's first over produced the first wicket, but in his second he cleaned bowled 4 batsmen. It was an awesome display with the ball, and one not easily forgotten. A wonderfully taken catch by Khawar off Asad's bowling added to batting side's misery. Asad's second wicket finished the match. The game was done and dusted in the 7th over, the match won, and the tournament with it.

With the other teams all losing two matches each the result was clear. Osama was awarded Best Batsman and Best Bowler, while Asad took Best Fielder. Despite these deserved awards, the team had played well together, showed huge energy and commitment in the field and apart from the bowling in the opening match were dominant throughout in all departments.