

The Third Man's Report

Check out our web site

Have a look at the Baulko web site. All the news about club events, fixtures, results, ladders etc are all available at the following web site - www.baulkocricicket.com.au To see your team's results, go to baulkocricicket.com.au, select 'Team Pages' then select your team. From there you can see the ladder by selecting 'Ladder'.

The site will be updated regularly, and the club history is being added to as time permits.

There have been some changes to the committee this season. You can find a list of the committee members on the website

To all Captains, Coaches and Managers

Match Results

I need match results in **following the conclusion of the game**, so they can be submitted to the PDCA. You can either drop them off at the club or email them to me at results@baulkocricicket.com.au. If no results are submitted you get **NO POINTS and may be fined!** It is up to you to get the results to me - I will not be chasing anybody. When putting in players' names, can you put in their first name as well so that I can pass this onto the PDCA.

Team Reports

Team reports for this newsletter can be put in the box at the Club or emailed to me at results@baulkocricicket.com.au by Tuesday night after the game. Newsletters will be published during the week after a game.

Team Performances:

B8	Semi-final winners	14/1A	Semi-final winners
B9	Semi-final winners	13/2A	Semi-final winners
B11	Semi-final winners	12/1	Semi-final winners
B13	Semi-final winners	11/1	Semi-final winners
16/1	Semi-final winners		

Individual Achievements

Trent Hession	A	4/50	A Battle	B11	3/26
Adam Tinley	A	34	Greg Leeson	B13	55
Pat Mamo	B2	4/38	Ash Jolly	B13	4/26
Matt Hardy	B3	6/49	Michael Bennetts	16/1	76
Dave Cope	B3	3/46	Omal Fernando	16/1	50
Mitch Walters	B3	40	Ben Delaney	16/1	30 & 4/42
Roger Deane	B7A	4/77	Praveen Samarasinghe	14/1A	51
Evan Platt	B8	41	Blake Newman	14/1A	43
C Abhayawickrama	B9	93	Ishmam Masud	13/1	29
N Goradia	B9	51 & 4/17	Jayden Stafford	13/2A	3/13
L Waniganayake	B9	43	Jackson Manning	13/2A	24
N Dias	B9	42	Brad Ripps	12/1	3/4
A Trikka	B9	6/23	James Gardiner	12/1	2/1
John Weatherall	B10	52	Ryan Chelvarajah	12/1	20 no
John Young	B10	3/16	Mark Johnson	12/3	4/14
Clint Harding	B10	3/29	Jake Smith	11/1	50
John Shannahan	B11	53no	Arsh Kapila	11/1	2/5
N Perera	B11	4/47			

Team Rosters

Canteen Roster - Ted Horwood Oval

Teams are reminded to have people available to man the canteen at Ted Horwood Reserve. The canteens raise valuable funds for our club, which help us to keep the fees down. The following teams are rostered in the next few weeks -

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
Teams have also been rostered during the semi-finals and finals.		
March 28 2009 (Saturday)	B11	12/1
March 29 2009 (Sunday)	B13	12/2

Canteen Roster – Charles McLaughlin Oval

Teams have also been rostered to man the canteen at Charles McLaughlin Oval during the semi-finals and finals. The canteens raise valuable funds for our club, which help us to keep the fees down. The following teams are rostered in the next few weeks -

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
March 28 2009 (Saturday)	No Junior Matches	12/3
March 29 2009 (Sunday)	No Junior Matches	11/1

Child Protection Issue

The following email was received from Cricket NSW a couple of weeks ago and was read at the monthly meeting. Please take note of it and refer any instances of trouble to one of the committee immediately if you experience a similar problem.

Dear cricket team manager and/or coach,

An unauthorised, adult male was seen at an u15 cricket match on Saturday 28th February 2009 in the Manly area seeking names of particular players. When approached, his explanation of being a talent scout for Cricket Victoria has again proved to be incorrect.

This is the same explanation given by an observer of junior cricket on Sunday 23rd November 2008 in the Manly area and Saturday 29th November in the Concord area [thought to be driving a BMW].

Please be more vigilant than you usually are for uncharacteristic viewers of any junior cricket you are involved in. If in doubt, request an adult [ideally a ground manager, if appointed, or home team coach/manager] to politely approach the person concerned and seek an explanation for his presence. If unsatisfied with the response and the person concerned does not leave the ground, ensure the immediate well-being of players and spectators, then undertake one of the following 2 options -

1. Council Rangers are often on-call on weekends, their numbers listed in most Council directories.
2. Ring the local Police Station, their number also listed through most phone directories [accessible by mobile telephone].

Please also report the events to your cricket Association and onto their administering body, likely to be the NSW Districts Cricket Association.

I trust none of these measures need to be taken, however, in situations like those described above it is far better to be forewarned.

CASTLE HILL **indoorSports** **CENTRE**

www.castlehillindoor.com.au

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18 Anella Ave CASTLE HILL NSW 2154



JUNIOR INDOOR CRICKET **STARTING 28 MARCH 2009!!!!**

Saturdays

U9's to U10's - 12.00 pm to 1.30 pm

U11's to U14's - 1.30pm to 4.00pm

U15's to U18's - 4.00pm to 6.15pm

(Times will depend on the number of teams and will be subject to change)

REGISTRATION DAYS

Saturday 14 March 2009 - 10.00am to 2.00pm

Saturday 21 March 2009 - 10.00am to 2.00pm

(At above address)

Registration Fee \$10.00 per Player

Match Fees \$72.00 Per Team

INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS ARE WELCOME

The President's Roundup

The semi finals were held last weekend and we have 4 senior and 5 junior teams who have made it to this weekend's grand finals. Congratulations to B8, B9, B11 & B13 in seniors and U16/1, U14/1A, U13/2A, U12/1 & U11/1 in juniors. The grand finals will be held over this weekend – Saturday and Sunday. The game locations are shown below and we wish all teams well.

Seniors:

B8 v Guildford Leagues at Ted Horwood 2

B9 v Parramatta Crusaders at Jones Park 3

B11 v Pacific Oceans at Ted Horwood 1

B13 v Rouse Hill Rams at Kellyville 1

Juniors:

U16/1 v Kings Langley at Pearce

U14/1A v Kings Langley at Allen Robertson

U13/2A v Rouse Hills Rams at North Rocks

U12/1 v Hills Barbarians at Crestwood

U11/1 v Greystanes at Masonic School

Commiserations to those teams who were defeated in the semis, but you put up a great effort. Some games were very close and unfortunately did not go our way. Well done to A Grade, B2, B3 & B7A in seniors as well as U14/1B, U14/2, U14/3, U13/1 & U12/3 in juniors. Whilst umpiring an U12/2 game on Sunday, I heard a rather funny comment from one of the players. He said "come on boys, let's hear more talk – this isn't the library!" Rather good and better than some of the tired on comments you hear every week!

Thanks to all the teams who undertook their umpiring duties last weekend. It is a duty we must carry out. Imagine if you were playing in a final and no official umpire turned up. It would be disappointing. The coaches/managers etc have more to do than worry about an umpire. This weekend, there will again be duties allocated and we ask you ensure you complete these.

Sunday night is a time to come back to the Sports Club and celebrate another wonderful season. Come along and talk about all that has happened this year as we finish up with a sausage sizzle downstairs. Hopefully we will be able to celebrate a few premierships. There will also be a meat raffle and a final member's badge draw – with \$300 up for grabs. This must be won, so to be in the draw, you need to enter in time for the final draw by forwarding us your Baulkham Hills Sports Club membership number (this is the number that will be used in the draw) by Wednesday Mar 25 at Members Draw Entry.

The Presentations will be held in late May, with Seniors on Friday 22 May and Juniors on Sunday 24 May, both at the Sports Club.

Don't forget there is another captains/coaches/managers meeting on Tuesday 7 April. It will be held at the Sports club, commencing at 8.00pm.

Please don't forget the end of season duties – including the D sheets with all your stats and the kits returned to Terry Webb ASAP (please - in a clean and tidy condition!). Also all keys must be returned and those teams with the portable sunshades are asked to return them.

Peter McLoughlin
President

Match Results and Reports

11/1	5 for 161	Wenty Leagues	6 for 86	First innings win
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Nervous coaches, 12 nervous boys and several nervous parents, grandparents and siblings all turned up early and were eager to get the business end of the season underway. RAIN! What? Didn't see that on the forecast!

Many heads turned skywards, 12 doubly nervous boys, and 1000 questions. What happens when it rains? What happens if we can't play? Who wins if it's a draw? Can we play in the rain? Who's batting first? Who's bowling first? Who's batting second? Who's bowling second? Guys, I haven't answered the first one yet!

Luckily, the light rain was a short-lived and by 9 am we commenced play. With a very heavy dew, the rain really didn't make that much of a difference.

Nathan Hamilton was captain for the semi final. Fulfilling his duties honourably he flipped the coin to perfection, ably avoiding Wenty's call of "tails". Heads it was. "We'll have a bat", he said. Great choice.

With a slow but careful start our openers Luke Jerome and Blake Peisley saw off Wenty's opening bowlers and started a solid opening partnership. Unfortunately, a good ball saw Blake bowled in the 12th over, but he had more than done his job in a defensive role, helping our score to 1/20.

Luke J lasted longer and set about building partnerships with Michael French and Jake Smith. Michael batted very aggressively and looked to be in top form and well on his way to an unbeaten fifty before he made a bad decision to run a quick single and was out for 22, which included five scintillating fours. Luke J and Michael put on 38 runs for the second wicket, Michael departing when the score was 2/58.

Moments later Luke J was out when he was trapped in front LBW, following a few earlier LBW appeals. The loss of two close wickets was concerning, as our score slipped to 3/67. Luke J showed once again that he is admirable in his role of opener, lasting 28 overs and fighting through some particularly accurate bowling.

Jake continued on from his short spell with Luke and formed a wonderful partnership with Arsh Kapila, who also batted fantastically. Together they took the score to 3/146 before Jake was forced to retire on 50 not out. Jake was the aggressor in the partnership and scored relatively freely on both sides of the wicket. Assistance with four overthrows to one of Jake's singles also helped his cause (thanks Wenty). Arsh played more of an anchor role, turning over the strike, scoring ones and twos and the odd boundary. Most impressive though was his relentless running between the wickets, even when he was obviously tiring. Finally it became too much and a quick single saw those legs not quite keeping up and Arsh was run out in a close call for a fine score of 20.

With only a few overs to go Patrick Hassarati, Jason Luther and Chris Blinman went to the crease with an order to smash everything. Patrick unluckily got a good ball early on that crashed through his stumps. Jason and Chris were luckier; each scoring a run a ball innings and putting on 12 runs for the final over.

At the end of our innings we were 5/161, a target that was always going to be difficult for Wenty to chase.

Most impressive about the innings was the determination from each batsman not to get out and to play according to the needs at a given time. Defensive play started our innings beautifully, increased aggression saw us build a defendable score with wickets in hand through the middle of the overs, and a run dash at the end saw 29 runs come from the final five overs to build a solid total.

With a quick change we went into the field with the aim of keeping Wenty's batsmen tied down and this is exactly what happened. Although wickets were difficult to come by, so were runs with the first six overs of Wenty's innings all maidens. Unbelievable! In fact, it wasn't until the 23rd over that Wenty finally broke through to a run rate of one run per over. By this time, their target run rate had soared to an unattainable 5.3 runs per over, which continued to climb throughout the remainder of their innings.

Ibteeda Masud and Arsh opened the bowling in fine style, none for none from their first six overs. Chris and Ramal Rajapakse followed on equally well, keeping Wenty under our spell. Jason and Luke McGuinness also bowled exceptionally, Jason finally getting the breakthrough in the 16th over to have Wenty 1/9, Chris taking a reflex catch at point from a firm cut shot. Chris also picked up a wicket (our third) with a nice caught and bowled in the 26th over.

From here, the bowling order was a constant change that worked to keep Wenty literally guessing where the next ball was

going to be bowled. Runs remained difficult to come by; our bowlers were absolute misers all day long.

Jake, Michael, Nathan Hamilton, Luke J and Blake rounded out our attack through the middle portion of the game, with Ikteeda, Arsh, Ramal and Jason returning for a couple of extra overs each. Jake snagged our second wicket with a catch to Jason at mid on from a flat-batted shot to a shortish ball. Arsh picked up two wickets in a return to wicket taking form, each caught by Luke M at gully, one an absolute special.

The only other wicket to fall was a run out to Luke J during Michael's bowling. Confusion and desperation to score saw Wenty chase a run that didn't exist and a good return from Luke J saw the bails off just in time. At the end of Wenty's innings they had amassed 6/86 from their 49 overs, coming up 75 runs short of our score.

A special mention also goes to Patrick, who kept wicket all day, stopping many byes and keeping his concentration 'almost' to the end. In a day of slow run scoring, Patrick probably took one and a half times as many balls as normal, which added enormously to his workload. Importantly, his role of vice captain was certainly well handled with much encouragement coming from behind the stumps right through the innings.

Although it was a bit disappointing not to bowl Wenty out, the boys certainly did enough to comfortably win the game in a tense and defensive battle. That's now two tough games in a row. What more could we ask going into a final next week? Well done boys, you've made the final in your first year of proper cricket. Congratulations. Now there's only one more game to go.

12/3	10 for 44	Hills Barbarians	9 for 113	First innings loss
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The semi began 1 hour late against the Minor Premiers Hills Barbarians after a quick deluge which meant the pitch needed some work to remove the water and sand being laid in the run ups which had become slippery.

The Baa Baa's won the toss and elected to bat. Some great bowling restricted them to 113. Mark "Powers" Johnson left his best bowling till last with a 4/14 off 6 overs.

The next day after completing the Barbarians' innings, Baulko went into bat and although each batted valiantly, the team could only amass 44 runs for their ten wickets.

The grand final had eluded the boys are being undefeated for the last five games.

Each boy can hold his head up high. The team has exceeded its own expectations by making it to the semi finals. I personally think that it is an excellent effort considering the number of new faces who had not played a competition game of cricket before. Well done.

Thank you to all of the boys and see you at the presentation.

I hope to see you all again next season. You have raised the bar high. Let's see if you can raise it higher.

12/1	3 for 37	Kings Langley	9 for 36	First innings win
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No report submitted.

13/2A	6 for 78	Greystanes	9 for 70	First innings win
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Despite the long term weather forecast of sunny skies, we arrived on day one to heavy rain. This resulted in puddles forming around the pitch, but with good teamwork by Baulkham Hills (players and parents) we managed to sweep away most of the water. We even had a train of Baulko Boys delivering pine bark to the sides of the pitch, so kindly donated from Baulkham Hills Council. Thank you boys.

At 9am we were underway. Pavan struck the first blow with Greystanes 1 for 4 after the second over. At times Greystanes seem settled with some consistent passages of play, but our bowlers did well to contain them to a total of 70 runs by the 39th over. In saying that there were a disappointing number of sundries conceded (24 in total) as well as a few missed catching opportunities. Wicket takers were Pavan 1 for 5, Jayden 3 for 15, Sean an amazing 2 for 2 off 2, Devin 1 for 7, Tanveer 1 for 5 and Daniel 1 for 0 off 2 (well done Dan). Catches were taken by Jackson, Sean, Jayden, Tanveer and Pavan. Some superb fielding was displayed by Daniel to secure him the fielding award for the match.

Baulko went into bat on day one at 11.35am. Greystanes had a pretty quick opening bowler who looked dangerous every ball. We nearly made it without loss of a wicket but unfortunately Blaine nicked an edge and was caught with just 6 minutes to go on 4, leaving us 1 for 14 heading into day two.

We lost a couple of early wickets on day two before Jackson and Jayden hit the crease. Together they put on a partnership of

37 to secure most of the runs needed for the win. When Jackson fell on 24, then Sean to a good LBW on 0, the game started to turn. When Luke followed out for 1 my stomach started to churn slightly, but I had confidence that we could secure the few extra runs we needed. With Jayden and Devin at the crease we secured the first innings win in the 25th over (Jayden not out 17, Devin not out 9). The umpires took an early break at 9.50am when it was mutually decided by Greystanes and Baulkham Hills to call it a day, with Baulko securing its place in the Grand Final.

What a great team you are Baulkham Hills. We have had so many comments from other teams about how we play in the spirit of the game and what good sportsmanship we display. You should all be very proud of yourselves for this. I know that I am very proud of you all.

Next week is just another game. Tried not to be too worried about it. If you all play to your abilities you will be fine. No matter what the result, lets keep our heads high, support each other and continue to play in the spirit of the game we love.

13/1	10 for 119	Wenty Leagues	8 for 150	First innings loss
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Baulko lost the toss once again and was sent to field. What was supposedly a fine sunny week end started off with rains and play could not be started till around 9.30. Outfield being still wet runs were coming slowly. Break through came, when in Michael's 5th over the opener lofted a straight catch to Ishmam at fine leg when their score was just 14. Ravi came into bowl and his first ball saw Wenty's other opener being out for a LBW. Next over from Josh Koski witnessed stumps being uprooted and Wenty was down 3 for 32. Wenty stabilized their innings a bit after this and added further 46 runs when they lost their 4th wicket to Sachin for a low catch behind stumps by George. Story could probably have been very different if Baulko had held many catching opportunities we had in the match. 5th wicket fell again to Josh Koski when he bowled one of Wenty's supposedly huge hitter. Josh King came into bowl and 1st ball from him was hit by the batsman into the hands of Cody and Wenty's 6th wicket was down for 109. That was stumps on Day 1.

On Day 2 Baulko had to bowl 11 more overs. Wenty added 29 quick runs to their overnight score when they lost their top scorer for a good catch by Ravi off Amar. Very next over Ravi did a direct hit and got their next wicket Run out. At the end of 49 overs, Wenty had made a score of 150.

The target set for us was still achievable. However Baulko had an early setback when we lost George with just 7 runs on board. Michael was shaping up well and looked set when he got bowled from a good ball when the score was 35. Amar followed soon and Baulko was down 3 for 45. Ishmam came in and started holding one end with Cody at the other. Wenty brought in their spinners from both end and contained our scoring to about 2 runs per over. Target started getting tougher and we lost Cody when the score was 69. Ravi fell when we were at 84. Ishmam once again was settling down scoring few quick runs but got bowled and Baulko was down 6 for 98. In the next over Baulko lost the three wickets and Baulko was down 9 for 103. Siddhant came onto the crease and added quick 11 runs before Baulko lost our last wicket and the match was won by Wenty by 31 runs.

In cricket catches always win matches. Baulko a dropped few too many opportunities in the match and what could have been probably a win slipped from our hands.

Ishmam was declared Man of the match.

Season has come to an end for us now. Our boys should be proud of their achievement during the season and am sure they would look forward to coming back next year.

14/3	10 for 131	Seven Hills RSL	8 for 135	First innings loss
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No report submitted.

14/2	8 for 121	Pendle Hill Colts	2 for 154	First innings loss
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Baulko made the semi-finals for the second year running, finishing 4th both times and facing up against the minor premiers in the semi final. Our previous games against Pendle Hill this year had seen us lose first innings at our first contest, crash and burn to an outright loss in the second round and improve significantly for a very creditable, fighting first innings loss in the third round.

The first week of the semi final was washed out due to a very heavy period of rain just before the start of the game – leaving one end of the pitch very wet and the runups under water. Hence, we all returned on Sunday for a one day game.

Winning the toss Baulko chose to bowl. This was one of those tosses you probably wish you lose, just so you don't need to make a decision! The choices were bowling first on a wet ground with a ball that would slippery within 10 overs, or letting Pendle Hill's powerful batting line-up have the best run of the ground later in the morning when the (quite long) grass dried up.

The guys put in a good effort in the field containing Pendle Hill to 2-47 at the half way mark of the innings, but unfortunately could not hold the very strong batting line up as the innings progressed. The last 10 overs unfortunately went for about 80 runs – not due to the bowling which remaining quite accurate – but because of a few missed chances and half chances in the field (both catches and runouts). With such a strong start, batsmen in form, and wickets in hand Pendle Hill could afford to throw the bat, and they did! The innings ended with Pendle Hill making 2-154. Best bowling was Haythem Shokry with 2-34.

This was always going to be a difficult run chase, but the guys embarked on the challenge with great determination. Unfortunately, we couldn't ever get the run rate up to the required target with some tight bowling from Pendle Hill and also sharp fielding. It was great to see the good running between the wickets, with many a pinched single taken. The runs were spread around with Tom Connell continuing his great late season form scoring 22, Tom Lockhart 19 (including a towering six that brought the crowd alive), Jack Marton (a fine late order innings with powerful hitting down the ground for a better than a run a ball knock), Reuben Robertson 16 and Amit Balakrishnan 13.

At the end of our allotted overs we had worked our way to 8-121. Not enough to seriously threaten Pendle Hill, but enough to keep them on their toes and to earn their respect.

The game was played in great spirit and the guys wished Pendle Hill the very best for their Grand Final appearance.

Guildford Leagues – Round 12

The last round before the semi-final brought us up against Guildford Leagues. With the team in fourth spot our place in the semi-finals was almost secure – a first innings win would almost certainly seal our place for finals action.

The team thought there was a chance of getting an outright victory if they played well. Winning the toss, we chose to bowl hoping to run through Guildford Leagues pretty cheaply. This we did, dismissing them for 60 after 28 overs. Best bowling was by opening quick Anshul Kapila (8 overs, 3-7), well supported by Taylor Stewart 2-11 and Reuben Robertson 2-12. A good all round team effort.

Batting on the first day we set out on overhauling their target, losing 3 wickets but reaching 93 by stumps. Resuming on day 2, we pushed the score to 5 dec-141 with both Tom Connell (42, his best innings by far with many elegant leg side shots) and Tom Lockhart (42, a combination of delicacy and raw power hitting) batting exceptionally well for a 104 run partnership. Partnerships win matches!! The speed of the scoring on the second day was very good with the extra 48 runs scored in only 8 overs, leaving lots of time to chase for an outright win.

The bowling in the second innings was also good, once the bowlers got their radar aligned to the stumps. Anshul was again the best bowler, with some genuinely hostile speed. His spell of 10 overs, 3-6 gave him match figures of 18 overs, 6-13! Amit Balakrishnan also contributed well with 3-19. Other wicket takers were Haytham Shokry 2-1 (off 5 overs, very tight!) and regular keeper Jack Marton 1-4. Baulko bowled Guildford out for 57 with about 10 minutes to spare (a perfectly judged declaration considering both the winning margin of 24 runs and the just-in-time finish!) to claim their first outright victory of the season.

Well done guys!

14/1B	10 for 89	Kings Langley	4 for 136	First innings loss
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We won the toss and batted in the semi final. It was a difficult start with a rain delay but then the boys settled down and batted quite well. Kings Langley was their usual disciplined attack and gave us very little. We batted through most of the morning and did well. A couple of close decisions went against us but Kings Langley bowled and fielded very well. Antonio Castellarin (33) and Joshua Stevenson (22) led the way. Tom Hughes hit a good 11.

In the field we performed very well but Kings Langley were just too strong. We claimed 2 of their stronger wickets cheaply but others stepped up and they reached the target by mid morning. Antonio Castellarin led the way with 2/9 – a great effort!

The boys did well to get to the semi finals after some disappointing early results. There are some very good players and if we put our minds to the task could perform even better.

A special 'thank you' to Tony Senior whose patience and wisdom has been greatly appreciated again this season.

14/1A	10 for 188	Rouse Hill Rams	7 dec 31,6 for 120	First innings win
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The Rams won the toss and elected to bat. Brent (0/5 off 5) and Anoop (2/2 off 5) got us on our way with an excellent opening spell. Anoop removed the Ram's most dangerous batsman with his first ball (for a golden duck) and also got the number 3 bat (also for a duck) in his and third over. For good measure Anoop also ran out batsman number 4 and it was all downhill from there for the Rams. Blake (2/3 off 5), Taseen (1/6 off 5) Jack F. (1/5 off 4.3) and Jack M. (0/4 off 4) made sure that the pressure was kept on and by morning tea the Rams were struggling at 7 for 31. To everyone's surprise they declared

their innings closed, in a hope of getting us out cheaply.

It was not the most solid start we've ever made; Jonathan was again unluckily run out for a duck with the score on 2. Jack M. and Mitchell followed in quick succession and we were 3/24 in the 10th over. Jack D. made another breezy 16 and was somewhat unusually given out LBW when struck on the shoulder whilst sweeping. Taseen (4) also made only a brief appearance before James joined Blake who'd been as solid as a rock at one end whilst wickets kept falling at the other. The pair saw us to stump on day one with the score on 5/65.

On the second morning James and Blake picked up where they had left off the day before. Both batted sensibly and with great application; with the aim of absorbing as many overs as possible and thus playing the Rams out of the game. James made a well compiled 12 before playing a loose shot to be caught with the score on 89. Brent (4) was another unfortunate recipient of an LBW and we were 7/100. Praveen coming in at number 9 played his best innings for the team to date. Not taking any unnecessary risks, but punishing the bad balls he made 51 with four 6s and four 4s. In the process he shared in partnership of 43 with Blake who was finally out for 43. Blake's innings lasted more than 2.5 hours and saw his team to certain safety, a true captain's knock when most required! After Blake's departure Praveen and Joel (13) put on 41 for the ninth wicket and it was up to Anoop to hold up one end so that Praveen could reach his maiden 50.

The game was won by great out cricket on the first morning and by a gritty batting performance by Blake and the lower order to wrest the game out of the Ram's reach.

As there was some time left the Ram's requested to have another innings and we obliged. Their coach gave all his players a turn at the crease, retiring a number of batsmen in the process. Our bowlers and fieldsmen helped their cause by bowling pies and dropping sitters. In a carnival atmosphere the Rams ended their season at noon with 6/124, we on the other hand were through to the Grand Final for the second year running.

16/1	6 for 221	Wenty Leagues	10 for 167	First innings win
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A tremendous game of cricket was played out at Harold Read Reserve between these two teams. Wenty had been 2nd all season, but we had slowly but surely been closing the gap on them, after a slow start to the season. This was always going to be a great tussle between two talented teams. The first morning saw us lose the toss and we were asked to bat first. We lost the first 45 minutes to rain, which in the end reduced the game to 54 overs per side. Taseen and Nick opened, and we lost Nick early, but Taseen went on to score a very smart 19 runs and help set up the innings. Daniel also went cheaply, but Omal scored a fabulous 50 to set up a middle order onslaught. And onslaught it was with Michael scoring a tremendous 76 and Ben Delaney and Rob Tatko a lusty 30 and 19 respectively.

Our opening bowlers, Riley and Taseen then went to work on nailing the opposition down in the first 12 overs, with some very accurate and controlled bowling. Riley was very unlucky not to get early wickets, but his just deserts came later in the day when he came back and cleaned up the tail with an awesome over. Taseen bowled very well and got the first break through courtesy of a thick edge to second slip and a scintillating grass burning catch to Nick Webber (catch of the season no doubt!!). In fact Nick ended up with 3 catches and inspired the whole team and onlookers with his sharp efforts. Probably the two bowlers with the biggest impact on the game were Ben Delaney (4/42 off 12) and Michael Bennetts (1/38 off 12). Ben broke the stumps 3 times and it was the most penetrating spell of seam bowling this season. Michael bowled with beautiful loop and controlled and choked the opposition to death at a time when they were making their charge and needed 5 runs on over to win.

In the end it was a great team effort, the talk was excellent in the field, and the boys showed they wanted the Grand Final birth badly. We are there now and if we can repeat a similar performance we will give it a hell of a shake against our old adversaries Kings Langley.

B13	10 for 166	Kings Langley	10 for 146	First innings win
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After two losses against Kings Langley (KL), Ian Renton was of the opinion that we were heading into this game as favourites. Not everyone was of the same opinion but after Adam Fahey won the toss everyone was buoyant as Ian and Ash Jolly strode to the crease. Ash went early with Ian on 1 as Mark "Gozo" Gosling joined Renton at the crease. Gozo was hungry for a few runs and dined out on some short pitched bowling and quickly moved to 30 before he was given out in controversial circumstances after it appeared the bails were dislodged prior to the ball coming into contact with the stumps.

The score at this stage was 2/39 with Ian on a modest two runs. As you could imagine, Ian's patience was frustrating KL but he continued to block out the sledging. Don Crawford then added a quick 15 but was dismissed with the score on 56. Ian was next to go without further score for 2 with the score 4/60. Ian Scollay and Greg "GL" Leeson then put on a vital match winning partnership of 76 to move the score on to 136. GL punished KL's spinner on his way to 55 which included five 6's. One of those 6's was about 1m away from hitting a cop car after some domestic altercations across the road from our ground. Scollay contributed 31 runs in his best innings of the season which included two sweetly times 6's. Adam Fahey joined Greg at the crease and the Master of Defence soon departed for a donut. In the end we were bowled out 166 with Phil "Whaddup?" Waddups adding a valuable 11 runs. In the process he copped one on the family jewels; thankfully his child production days

are over.

KL was forced to negotiate a tricky 14 over period prior to stumps and Adam got us off to the best possible start removing their opener for a duck. Both Adam and Christian Millgate kept it tight and KL was 1/16 off 13 overs. Ash then took the ball for the final over and got an LBW decision to leave KL 2/16 at the end of the first days play.

KL lost another wicket early on the second day to be 3/36. KL's best batsman came to the crease and Jimmy Attard (1/29 off 9) finally got his first wicket of the year to remove him for 22 leaving KL 4/71. Adam (3/30 off 17) then put his stamp on the game to take two wickets in the next over to leave KL reeling at 6/71. KL then put on a worrying partnership before Christian (1/32 off 16) took the match turning wicket thanks to a great catch nonchalantly taken by Ian Renton six inches off the ground at first slip. Ash (4/26 off 13) took his third wicket to leave KL 8/115. Matt "Mally Gally" Gall (0/11 off 3) then entered the attack and was certain to have taken the 9th wicket with his first ball, however a full toss was controversially ruled a no ball. With his blood boiling, he continued the over with Paul Morris adding fuel to the fire by telling Mally to "f-ing fire up!!!" KL then moved on to 146 before we enquired as to when the new ball could be taken. After a couple of minutes and referring to the rule book, we realised the new ball could be taken. Ash bowled the first couple of balls of the over and went down with cramps. Our captain Adam Fahey told him to get up and bowl and it paid off as he got the 9th wicket with the next ball. A sniper must have been present at the ground as Ash went straight to the ground after smashing through the middle pole. Ash left the field and a fired up Paul Morris, who fielded superbly all day, took the ball to complete Ash's over. For someone who was fired up, his first ball was as gentle as you are likely to see him bowl. His next ball ended KL's innings after their final batsman was deceived by a ball twice as quick as the first and Don swallowed the catch.

Special mentions go to Phil "Whaddup?" Waddups for filling in at short notice and Pat "Beep Test" Searson who fielded injured and took a great catch.

Now its time to take some of PM's advice and "fire up" for our GF against the minor premiers, Rouse Hill this weekend.

B11	10 for 128, 5 for 84	Wenty Leagues	10 for 87	First innings win
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No report submitted.

B10	10 for 90	Wenty Leagues	9 for 104	First innings loss
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No report submitted.

B9	10 for 314	Wenty Leagues	10 for 41	First innings win
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LoBaT (the Lack of Brains and Trust) have issued a media release claiming all credit for last weekend's semi final result. As you are probably aware, we won the toss, batted and scored 319. We then rolled them out for 40! So we won by 279 runs...

In fact, LoBaT go as far as saying their strategy was pure genius. The obvious question is what was this strategy. Well, it turns out the strategy was two-pronged. While the elite members of LoBaT were waiting to be rescued from the room they inadvertently locked themselves in last week, they decided to identify the winning formula of our team by reviewing the team's past victories.

They realised that all the matches where we scored a lot of runs and thrashed the opposition by an innings occurred when the top order unselfishly handed over all responsibility to the middle order who then rapidly handed over responsibility to the lower order. We then relied on the opposition to capitulate due to no fault of ours.

This meant that we were going to be reliant on the lower order to make a great contribution. Armed with this piece of intelligence, LoBaT immediately ordered Stanley to stop scoring centuries and asked him to be unselfish by allowing the rest of the team to bat. They then also announced the batting line up had Stanley at the top and the rest of players listed at number 11! This they said was a fool proof strategy to get back to our winning ways. Of course, it was not quite clear who the fools were.

A far simpler strategy would have been to have Stanley as part of the lower order, but LoBaT were not accepting any questions. Stanley kept his end of the bargain, not wanting to upset the fragile old egos of the LoBaT. He was back in the hut in the second over. Mind you, normally being back in the second over would not have stopped Stanley from scoring about 40 runs first, but in this instance, he obeyed orders and hadn't scored more than a couple.

This immediately put the cat amongst the pigeons. The skipper looked at all his number elevens and picked one of them saying he was being given a promotion, not because he deserved it, but simply to upset Ricky.

This resulted in the Dias & Las (D&L) combination once again finding themselves out in the middle. As usual, they were facing a pumped up opposition that had believed they had won the match now that Stanley was out. Truth is even if the opposition didn't believe this, everyone of us was of this opinion. We did, however, put up a brave face.

Most of you will recall that D&L are the founders of a world famous D-L formula used to calculate a fair score for each batsman. The revised 2009 DL formula now factors in the freshness of the bowlers and fielders, the sleepiness of the batsmen, the shine on the new ball, how much time the batsman had spent doing gardening and blowing leaves off the roof before getting to the grounds and a host of other intricate factors. Based on this, D&L had already put on 100 runs even before padding up.

Well, to make a short story really long, Las scored a swashbuckling 43 while his partner carried out his usual art of making simple bowling look unplayable. Eventually Las departed after setting a decent foundation. This brought the next number eleven batsman to the crease. Prasad was in no mood to bat although Rajitha kept shouting 'Stay there' between his snoring.

He departed shortly making way for Charuka who has been batting beautifully in recent times with 9 fingers. He came out and made the bowlers look like grade schoolers. His partner kept asking him to calm down so as not to make him look too bad. Nothing doing. Charuka's partner finally put an end to his misery and departed quietly.

This kicked the innings into gear. Well at least, it resulted in Rajitha waking up and making his way to the middle. Charuka and Rajitha started going hammer and tongs. Occasionally Rajitha even shouted 'Stay There' to himself to keep himself going. This was in between his kissing of his bat. He has got quite a love relationship going on with that bat. Fortunately the rubber on his bat doesn't keep coming off like Ricky's.

Eventually, however, after his standard 33 runs, he threw in the towel and asked Nirav to take over. It was not quite clear what Nirav had had for lunch, but everyone wanted some. He hit anything that was close to him to the boundary with disdain. The fielders were careful to keep their distance from him between overs. He clocked 50 in no time. Even the neighbours whose houses were pelted didn't have enough time to come out and complain.

Then Sameera went out and ran himself out unselfishly to give Ricky a chance to spend more time out there. But Rambo jogged out to the middle first and then jogged back to simply warm himself up to bowl. Amitab and Ricky were finally out there as the last pair. Ricky hammered one straight to a distant fielder and stood his ground while Amit was halfway down the pitch. There was an exchange of a variety of noises between the two of them that ended in Ricky screaming 'banchot'. They both walked back to the pavilion hand in hand – Ricky swearing and kicking the ground the whole way back while Amit was laughing along with the entire pavilion.

The scorebook was listed with 8 bowlers from our side. Unfortunately due to Rambo and the skipper's inability to bowl rubbish like the rest of the bowlers, there was a steady procession of batsmen back and forth. Rambo was on a hat trick twice and ended the day with 6 wickets. The skipper bagged the rest. The other six bowlers got to polish the ball. Sacha was promised a bowl, but as always when the skipper has the ball in hand, the next in line spends the whole innings warming up. The skipper told him that he wanted him warmed up for the finals.

Charuka and a couple of the guys then rushed to see the end of the Parramatta-Seven Hills clash and learnt that Parramatta had played Moin Khan as a keeper even though he was not on the card. So although they won, it has left a question mark as to who we will meet in the finals.

LoBat are now struggling to come up with a strategy without knowing who the opposition is. They have said, however, that whatever the strategy is, they will not be sharing it with anyone to make sure it doesn't leak to the press. Thank goodness for that – the whole team is hoping they will keep it to themselves. How's Zhat?

B8	10 for 174	Parramatta Crusaders	10 for 64	First innings win
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Baulkham Hills won the toss & batted first.

Baulkham Hills	174	Parra Crusaders	a paltry 64
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Choc	41	Choc	2-14
AG	29	Son of God	2-20
		AG	2-7
		Easy	2-2

With thunderheads circling Ted Horwood No. 2 the mighty Orphans arrived secure in the knowledge that it didn't really matter what the weather did – Minor Premiers go through in a washout.

But this team hasn't endured hours of behind-closed-doors motivation sessions with Alan Jones to want to win that way. No - a victory on the field was the only thing we wanted & selfless team man, Choc, even suggested that we all forfeit our match payments should we not do so. Naturally all agreed and went even further to undertake to donate the money to charity – Cranks Almer Mater the Holy Trinity Reform School for the Mentally Handicapped was chosen as the charity and we all

agreed Father Richard “Dicko” Grabber would put the \$5.50 to good use as incentives for his more challenged students.

They say “Pride Cometh before a Fall” and the Crusaders, it would appear, displayed a lot of it as they apparently lay down in Round 14 to finish 4th rather than 3rd so that they could play us in the Semi. Their reasoning? A highly anomalous win against us in Round 9 seemed to have bolstered their confidence. How they managed to forget the 236 to 131 shellacking we gave them in Round #2 is a mystery.

In a scene eerily similar to that game Cranks strode with a brooding menace over to the Crusader camp to say “Which of you fine gentlemen is the Captain?” On establishing that detail he produced the same 2008 20c piece that served him so well in Round #2 and barked “Your call”. After some stammering the Crusaders figurehead called “T-T-T-Tails” and up went the coin. Once again time seemed to slow as it lazily spun through the air reflecting the god-like beams of sunlight that were piercing the storm clouds. The coin bounced twice and then settled to reveal Her Majesty’s serene countenance looking up at Cranks & winking.

“We’ll bloody bat” Cranks exclaimed and turned on his heel to give the news to his loyal band of men.

Following the Motivation Coach’s decision to concentrate on bolstering the lower order Cranks & Ozzy donned the pads and strode onto the ground.

Pretty soon Cranks was striding back after being miraculously caught at reverse cow-corner. 1-16. The Holy Ghost followed not long after, as did Ozzy. 3-39 and some chinks in the armour began to show. AG & Choc then went some way to arresting the slide with a 43 run partnership. This was followed by some minor partnerships & we approached the end of the day 9 down for 145. A defendable total on Ted Horwood 2 but not the killer blow we would have liked.

It was at that point that God came to the wicket and The Motivation Coach started holding the bat at the thin end enabling him to actually hit the ball (a feat that eluded him in the early part of his innings) – and hit it he did with one backfoot cover drive over mid-wicket travelling low & flat as a Scud missile for 6 & narrowly avoiding decapitating Mini Cranks. 29 for the last wicket really broke the Crusaders spirit and set the tone for the next days play. 174 was well & truly defendable.

Sunday came & the Crusaders went. Their constant talk on Saturday evaporated and the wickets fell....& fell & fell some more – all out for 64. All bowlers bowled tightly & took wickets, the fielding was sharp & committed.

Probably the hidden gem of the game was JC’s non-duck – pretty much a first for him this season and an ominous sign for Guildford Leagues in the Final.

So The Orphans go into another Final in form & relatively injury free - The Motivation Coach is sporting a black eye after being elbowed out of the way by AG in taking the catch for the final wicket – shark attacks in Sydney are still a danger for the unwary it seems.

Can they make it back-to-back Premierships? Will Cranks get the immortality he desperately craves? Is Pauline Hanson the woman in those nude photos? These questions & more will be answered at Ted Horwood 2 this weekend. Don’t miss it.

Round 14 Match report vs Greystanes

WE WON THE MINOR PREMIERSHIP BACK TO BACK yeeehaaaaaaa !!!!!

Well avid readers, supporters and players, it finally happened. The B8’s batting machine hit top gear. We absolutely smashed the opposition bowlers to all parts of the ground and well into submission.

Stand out performances for the match.

Tony “Crank” “Crankster” scored a very quick fire 64 and we think it was off about 30 balls. Not bad for an opening batsman.

Martin “doc” “crack man” hit a personal best of 91 who was out pushing hard for his maiden century in last couple of overs. Well Batted Doc.

AN coming back to form with an enterprising 50 and sharing in unverified grade record for the 9th wicket of 108.

And Rowdy coming back into the team for a guest batting performance smashing 40 in quick time.

We were finally out at the end of the day for 304, our highest score of the season and a great way to win the minor premiership.

Our bowlers followed the example of our batsmen by destroying the feeble batting attempt for them to be all out of a poor 77.

Stand outs were

Evan "Choc" "The Man" "JJ" "Just" "Just Evan" and I think there are more names. taking 3/15

Cameron "Monty" "Cam" "skid".(we will have to forget the nick names for next season) 3/19

And James "Junior" "Junior Senior" "Dirty Shirt" taking his first senior wicket. This wicket was the prized scalp of their No.3 batsman who had no answer to the little masters swing bowling. Well done buddy...A GREAT EFFORT!

Dishonourable mention goes to "Doc" for sharking catches all day. He foiled Cranks effort of taking the catch of his son's first wicket. Bowled Senior caught Senior would have been nice for family album. Doc did also try and take a catch at deep square leg, 3rd slip and mid off....talking about sharking, Doc is the wicket keeper!! It was funny watching the keeper running to mid wicket yelling "mine". Now that's keen!!

The other was "Choc" standing at 3rd slip in his usual "high alert" state. Talk about a spring ready to be sprung!! He his like a Mongoose such is his instincts and reflexes. Any who...the ball hit his hand and went straight to ground. By the time he bent down to pick the ball up the batsmen were back for their second. We soon realised that Choc was deep in dreamland basking in his own glory of holding up trophies, girls feeding him grapes and rose petals falling from the sky.

It must be noted that we all owe this premiership to Choc. He is the greatest and we all benefit from being in the light of his cricketing genius. "we' re not worthy, we' re not worthy"

Well done guys and lets kick butts in the seme final.

B7A	10 for 125	Pendle Hill Colts	8 for 303	First innings loss
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We put up a brave fight, but Pendle Hill was far too good. On a brighter note, there were many jug penalties from the game that were enjoyed back at the club.

B3	10 for 138	Seven Hills RSL	10 for 145	First innings loss
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No report submitted.

B2	10 for 102	Hills Barbarians A	9 for 137	First innings loss
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No report submitted.

A	10 for 88	Hills Barbarians	9 for 191	First innings loss
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No report submitted.