CCNSW EAST SYDNEY DIVISION 3 LMS MATCH REPORTS 2024 WINTER SEASON

Editor's Note: given the continual difficulties in raising teams, CCNSW withdrew from the Sunday morning LMS Competition after Round 6-Match report below. The Club also decided it would not be entering a team in the mid-weel summer LMS Competition

ROUND 6 : vs LAUS DEO ON SUNDAY 14 JULY 2024 AT UPPER KIPPAX, MOORE PARK: REPORT BY DAVID CRAIG

(*Ed note: "Laus Deo" is the latin motto of Sydney Grammar school and means "Praise be to God" although ironically perhaps the school has no religious affiliations. Whether this LMS team has any connection to Sydney Grammar is not known though David Craig speculates below*)

It was a fairly typical start for a CCNSW LMS fixture in recent times: *"You must be John*", *"What's your name, mate?", "How did you get my number, bro?", "Do you wanna captain?", "Nah, you do it, Luke"*. Anyway, we achieved a headcount of 8, somebody tossed a coin and Laus Deo took first use of a tired looking strip (just kidding, it was a recently laid astro-turf pitch on a field full of thick winter grass and the odd dog turd, of course). Faced with a CCNSW attack consisting of one recognized seamer, two spinners, two part timers and two unknowns, Luke Holman (captain for the day) tossed the new ball to Soren Hughes, who bowled a couple of tight overs without the reward of a wicket. At the other end ring-in John Lyons revealed a mix of well-pitched slow swingers, wides and double bouncers that we (almost) got away with.

After a sluggish start, the opening batters of Laus Deo (surely a team of overprivileged private school boys with a name like that?) began finding the middle of the bat, the boundary, and the paddock over the road: things started to look a bit grim for CCNSW. Mike Weaver was desperately unlucky; having one opener dropped twice off successive deliveries and then being hit for consecutive sixes in a textbook demonstration of exactly why catches win matches.

Desperate for a breakthrough or eight (!), Luke called yours truly into the attack, with Richard Clark and Luke himself at the other end (well, the same end, since this is LMS, but you catch my drift). I handed over the keeping gloves to John Lyons and set about ripping through these private school youngsters with the help of Soren Hughes' sure hands on the extra cover/mid-wicket boundary. Luke picked up a couple of his own (shoutout to ring-in Mike Xu for catching one at long-on…eventually), before bringing Soren back to deliver the *coup de grace* (like Laus Deo, some of we public school alumni also know foreign phrases, too even if in French!).

(Ed note: for those David Craig speculates may be private school boys: -in Latin the phrase 'coup de grace' perhaps best translates as 'plaga mortifera misericors')

We had 172 to chase, which is about par for LMS, and openers Soren Hughes and Mike Weaver gave us a good platform with a solid opening stand. We were in with a good chance at the halfway stage at around 1-80, but after Soz retired (50* off 34) we got bogged down and the run-rate-required climbed pretty quickly from *"doable*" to "*hmm, maybe*" to "*tell 'em they're dreamin'*". In the end, we finished 2-133 in a damp squib that pretty much summed up (probably).the' Last CCNSW LMS Campaign Of All Time. Thanks for coming (those that did!).

The Team was: – Soren Hughes 50* (34 balls), Mick Weaver 24 (24 balls), Timothy Jones (w) 26 (31 balls), John Lyons 16* (13 balls), Michael Xu 10* (5 balls), David Craig dnb, Richard Clark dnb, Luke Holman dnb

The Result was: –

Laus Deo: - 8-172 (D. Craig 4-34) (18.4 Overs)

Defeated

C.C.N.S.W.: - 2-133 (S. Hughes 50*) (20 Overs)

By 39 runs

The Bowling was: – S. Hughes 3-0-25-2; J. Lyons 3-0-36-0; M. Weaver 2-0-26-0; M. Xu 2-0-16-0; D. Craig 4-0-34-04; R. Clark 1-0-13-0; L. Holman 3-0-20-2

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – Nil

Catches: – Three to S. Hughes and one each to M. Weaver and M. Xu

Run outs: – Nil

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to S. Hughes; 2 points to D. Craig; one point to T. Jones

Scorecard: https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/live?fixtureid=433308

ROUND 5 : vs THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SWING ON SUNDAY 7 JULY 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP7) MOORE PARK: REPORT BY LUKE HOLMAN

It has been a sluggish start to the 2024 winter LMS season for CCNSW. With winter and wet weather plotting against us, CCNSW has been struggling to field a regular side in the East Sydney Division 3 league. Hats off to Jamie Murtha for his patience and frequent WhatsApp call outs to assemble a side each week. Round 5 against The Fellowship of the Swing was no different, with 7 players (4 on debut for the Club) found at the last minute - appreciation to Charles Sharpe (aka Johnny Cash Memorial head honcho) for securing a side (who btw has played an astonishing 676 LMS matches for 19,609 runs as well as 408 wickets, must be close to a record).

Let's set the scene. It's 9am on a drizzling grey Sunday morning and nudging 7 degrees. Sharpe (appointed honorary CCNSW skipper) won the toss and decided, *"we'll field first*", taking advantage of the sodden ground. The Fellowship of the Swing got off to an economical start applying their own youthful brand of pressure by running plenty of sharp twos, punctuated with the odd boundary and a few maximums. A shift in bowling tactics swiftly stopped the free flow of twos and by midway point the TFOTS openers had established a solid foundation of 0-75 off the first ten overs, scoring at 7.5 per over. This is when the action started. Luke Holman removed both openers Gardner for 47@ a run rate of 188 p hundred balls) and Wendt for 27 @ 96 in his first over, followed by a sharp run out by De Jay leaving Kirkland (5 @ 83) needing a heavy duty dry clean. A classic 'caught keeper Fabio Loreggian bowled Kieran McEwan got rid of Dempster (24 @114). Kumar (14 @ 200) was castled to give Holman his third scalp, and Phillip Anderson got a straight one through the gate of Lills (6 @ 150) to send him home. De

Jay clipped a wing and retired hurt attempting a catch off what would have been Holman's fourth wicket, while a rearguard act put on by Shaukat (22* @ 169) and his partner Etherington (3* @ 75) helped The Fellowship of the Swing to a very defendable 6-156 (7.8 run rate) from 20 overs.

Time for CCNSW to put the pads on, opening with Sharpe and Loreggian, and they both showed intent with a flurry of early boundaries. The scoring rate was on schedule until Loreggian (14 @run rate of 155 p hundred balls) lost his middle peg in the fifth over, sparking a dramatic collapse with CCNSW losing 4 cheap wickets – Phil Allen caught for 5 @ 62), Vyshakh Sunny caught for 2 @ 50), Phil Anderson caught for 4 @133) and Kieran McEwan lbw for 2 @ 66.

Watching the carnage unfold seemed to inspire Sharpe who turned into beast mode, dispatching everything short, wide and full for a boundary, with the odd single in between. When the supporting act Holman arrived CCNSW needed 85 from the last 9 overs at over 2 a ball *(Ed note NB 5 ball overs)*. Undeterred by the odds they dutifully went to work, breaking the back of the required run rate by taking advantage of undisciplined bowling.16 from the penultimate over put CCNSW into a winnable position, and the target was reached in the final over. Sharpe blasted one of the all-time great LMS innings (inc. 9 x fours and 3x sixes) scoring at just under 2 p ball for a magnificent 87* @ 197 *(Ed note: This was Sharpe's 196th fifty in LMS cricket to go with his two LMS centuries)*. Support act Holman chipped in with 39* @ 121, securing a classy victory with 3 balls to spare, from a mostly substitute CCNSW team.

The Team was: – Charles Sharpe (c) 87* (44 balls faced), Fabio Loreggian (w) 14 (9 balls faced), Cameron Allen 5 (8 balls faced), Vyshakh Sunny 2 (4 balls faced), Phillip Anderson 4 (4 balls faced), Kieran McEwan 2 (3 balls faced), Luke Holman 39* (32 balls faced), De Jay (injured) dnb

The Result was: –

The Fellowship of the Swing: - 6-156 (L. Holman 3-25) (20 Overs)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: – 5-157 (C. Sharpe 87*; L. Holman 39*) (19.2 Overs)

By 3 wickets

The Bowling was: – V. Sunny 4-0-26-0; P. Anderson 2-0-16-1; C. Sharpe 2-0-12-0; D. Jay 4-0-33-0, C Allen 2-0-24-0; L. Holman 3-0-25-3; K. McEwan 3-0-12-1

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – Nil

Catches: – One to F. Loreggian

Run outs: – One to De Jay

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to C. Sharpe; 2 points to L. Holman; one point to F. Loreggian

Scorecard: **https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/2nd-innings?fixtureid=433305**

ROUND 4 : vs MOZZIES ON SUNDAY 30 JUNE 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP7) MOORE PARK: REPORT BYJAMES MURTHA

It was a cold and wet Sunday, most of the team could hardly believe we got on and two unfortunately didn't believe we would so decided not to turn up. In hindsight conditions were initially quite dangerous to play in, but did get better throughout the match.

We won the toss and elected to bat given the depleted side. Jamie Murtha and Declan Thomas made a steady start scoring 40 from the first five over before a mix up saw Declan sacrifice his wicket. Jamie accelerated from here to retire, but was soon required to return to the wicket after a series of dismissals. Jamie and CCNSW legend Jim Hadley built a strong last wicket partnership to boost the total to 146 after the allotted 20 overs.

In defence, Jim opened the bowling and brought about an early wicket bowling the Mozzies' opener around his legs, the next pair however proved to be a thorn in our side.

Luke Holman took a nice catch at long-off to pick up a wicket for debutant Eric Gould (aged 13), and Jamie trapped one in front lbw, but despite great bowling from the team, the total provided too low to defend with only 6 players in the field.

Hopefully next week we can play a dry game with a full side and bounce back with a win.

The Team was (playing 6): – Declan Thomas (w) 18, James Murtha (c) 85*, Luke Holman 12, Layton Gould 3, Eric Gould 4, Jim Hadley 11*, Ryan Lynch absent; Avi Bhandari absent

The Result was: –

C.C.N.S.W.: – 4- 146 (20 Overs) (J. Murtha 85*)

Lost to

Mozzies: – 3-147 (17.4 Overs)

By 5 wickets

The Bowling was: – J. Hadley 4-0-27-1; Layton Gould 3-0-36-0; Eric Gould 3.4-0-34-1; L. Holman 3-0-28-0; J. Murtha 4-0-18-1

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – Nil

Catches: – One to L. Holman

Run outs: – Nil

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to J. Murtha; 2 points to Jim Hadley; one point to Luke Holman .

Scorecard: **https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/1st-innings?fixtureid=433301**

ROUND 3 : vs SUPER SARMS ON SUNDAY 16 JUNE 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP3) MOORE PARK: REPORT BYJAMES MURTHA

We won the toss and elected to bat on the sunny Sunday afternoon at Moore Park # 3, which is typically a low scoring ground.

Our opposition made a good start taking early wickets and our batters were unable to form partnerships, a couple made starts but conditions suited bowling. We were restricted to 107 from our 20 overs, which felt like a below par total.

In response, Super SARMS started well with the bat, but some tight overs and wickets at important times ensured that we were able to keep ourselves in the game. Through good bowling and fielding we took the match down to the last over, however the shortage of runs was apparent and we were not able to defend the low total.

We look toward the coming weeks where hopefully we can bounce back and improve our position on the ladder with a win!

The Team was: – Gaurav Runwal 7, James Murtha (c) 22, Luke Homan 11, Scott Williams 28, Mitch Sturt 9 , David Craig (w)16, Daanish Mahmud 0, Tim Jones 11

The Result was: –

C.C.N.S.W.: – 8- 107 (20 Overs)

Lost to

Super SARMS: – 2-111 (19 Overs)

By 6 wickets

The Bowling was: – S. Williams 4-0-18-1; J. Murtha 4-0-25-1; G. Runwal 4-1-11-0; M. Sturt 3-0-22-0; T. Jones 2-0-14-0; D. Mahmud 2-0-15-0

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – Nil

Catches: – Nil

Run outs: – Nil

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to S. Williams; 2 points to D. Craig; one point to M. Sturt

Scorecard: **https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/1st-innings?fixtureid=433294**

ROUND 2 : vs MOZZIES ON SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP6) MOORE PARK

Cancelled by rain

ROUND 1 : vs SUPER SARMS ON SUNDAY 19 MAY 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP8) MOORE PARK: REPORT BY WADE BUTLER

CCNSW was off to a slow start against some good bowling from the opposition. Charles Sharpe with 54* from 31 balls provided some good early hitting but after 10 overs CCNSW was only 62; it was time to accelerate and Wade Butler provided a quick fire 53 from 20 balls.

We set a total of 158 which was par and started well with the ball mainly due to Mitch Sturt's great spell of 4 overs 0-19. Charlie Sharpe chipped in with 2 overs for 2 wickets for 15. Heading into the last 10 overs the opposition needed 94 off 50 balls; than eventually 29 needed off the last 10 balls. We fell agonisingly short but full credit to our opposition. A thoroughly enjoyable game played in great spirit.

The Team was: – Charles Sharpe 54* ret not out, Joel Uddstrom 22, Andrew Davis 16, Wade Butler (c) & (w) 53* ret not out, De Jay 5, Kieren Purnell 6*, Nicholas Kochanowicz 0* and Mitch Sturt dnb

The Result was: –

C.C.N.S.W.: – 3- 158 (20 Overs) (C. Sharpe 54* ret not out; W. Butler 53* ret not out)

Lost to

Super SARMS: – 3-159 (19.3 Overs)

By 5 wickets

The Bowling was: – N. Kochanowicz 4-0-37-0 ; M. Sturt 4-0-19-0; K. Purnell 3.3-0-29-0; C. Sharpe 2-0-15-2 ; De Jay 4-0-37-1 ; A. Davis 2-0-19-0

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – Nil

Catches: – Two to De Jay

Run outs: – Nil

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to W. Butler; 2 points to C. Sharpe; one point to M. Sturt

Scorecard: https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/live?fixtureid=433280

LMS GRADING MATCH: SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2024 AT ROBERTSON ROAD (MP4): CCCNSW vs STUMPED! REPORT BY DAVID CRAIG

The weird and wonderful world of LMS has returned for another winter season, and CCNSW fielded a fresh line-up full of new talent, with youngsters Mitch Sturt, Andrew Davis and Tim Jones all playing for CCNSW in this format for the first time (probably).

Delegated skipper David Craig won the toss and batted, sending out Weaves (Mike Weaver) and Dee (Andrew Davis) to build a platform. Sadly Weaves was run out before the foundations were poured, and Declan Thomas joined Dee in a steady partnership before Dee was stumped. The most noteworthy dismissal was of top-scorer Declan: faced with a loopy leggie bowling well wide of off stump, Declan took off in the direction of point and creamed a full blooded pull shot in the direction of backward square. Unfortunately, the middle stump was now in a direct line between point of impact and the intended boundary, out bowled. Not so much a chop-on as a full-blooded slog-on! I for one applaud the innovation, if not the elevation involved. In the latter overs Mitch Sturt, Nic Kochanowicz and Luke Holman all hit out, lifting the run rate somewhat, and we posted 5/125.

While our score seemed to be ~30 under par, we gave it a red-hot go defending. Tim Jones and Mitch Sturt took the new rock, and bowled well with Mitch picking up a wicket as the batter pulled weakly to mid-wicket, an easy catch to Dutchy (David Craig). Nick Kochanowicz relieved Tim and almost immediately induced a skied ball which appeared to be perfectly placed between long-on and mid-wicket until Tim Jones, running at full tilt, threw out the right mitt and the ball stuck. Unfortunately, it was a free hit, making

this the Greatest Catch that Never Was. Luckily the batter creamed one to Dutchy at deep mid-wicket and was gone soon after.

Weaves came into the attack and immediately struck a good line and length with his fastish offies, frustrating the new batter until he advanced, swung wildly and was neatly stumped by Declan Thomas. The opposition mounted a decent partnership that looked to be taking them to a comfortable victory, although Weaver, Davis and Luke Holman kept the run rate in check through the middle overs. Eventually the partnership was broken when a lofted drive off Luke Holman was caught by a diving Dutchy at long-off, who then, still on his back, threw to the bowler for the double play (weird LMS rules, look 'em up). Their opening bat had retired not out for a classy 50*, and with 5 down now we were able to keep numbers 7 and 8 quiet for a while, bowling wide of off stump to avoid taking a wicket. Their tail enders foiled this plan by stepping back and destroying his stumps with an attempted cut-shot, bringing their gun bat back to finish the job. It was left to Weaves to bowl a dramatic last over, and in the end, they needed three off the last ball to win. It was creamed to long-on but burst through the fingertips and over the boundary for a home run last ball victory to Stumped! We put that guy down 4 times in total, and he finished 78* so doing the math – carry one, add 12 – catches do indeed win matches!

Player points could have gone to anyone, as all contributed with bat or ball and in the field.

3 points to Declan Thomas, top score with 36 and a stumping.

2 points to Mitch Sturt, 28 off 22 and a wicket in a tight opening spell

1 point to Andrew Davis for a miserly spell 4-0-17-0 that kept us in the game right to the end.

Shout outs to Mike Weaver for an excellent bowling spell, Luke Holman and Nic Kochanowicz who both hit lustily and picked up a wicket. Tim Jones bowled well with the new rock, and David Craig was involved in 5 of the 6 dismissals with three catches, a run out and a wicket. Plenty of entertainment for $20, get on board!

The Team was: – Michael Weaver 4, Andrew Davis 19, Declan Thomas 36, Mitch Sturt 28, Nicholas Kochanowicz 13, Luke Holman 15, Tim Jones 5, David Craig (c) dnb.

The Result was: –

C.C.N.S.W.: – 5-125 (20 Overs) (D Thomas 36)

Lost to

Stumped!: – 6-135 (20 Overs)

By 2 wickets

The Bowling was: – T. Jones 2-0-16-0; A. Davis 4-0-17-0; Luke Holman 3-0-22-1;M. Weaver 4-0-25-1; D. Craig 2-0-18-1; M. Sturt 3-0-12-1; N. Kochanowicz 2-0-21-1

The Fielding was: –

Stumpings: – One to D. Thomas

Catches: – Two to D Craig

Run outs: – Nil

Player points (awarded by captain): 3 points to D. Thomas; 2 points to M. Sturt; one point to A. Davis

Scorecard: https://www.lastmanstands.com/leagues/scorecard/stats?fixtureid=420850