

## **Nava Shield 2009, Game 2 vs. KLCC, 18/01/2009**

There was not a cloud in the sky as we rolled up to the Selangor Turf Club on Sunday morning, we were in for an absolute scorcher. And it became quite apparent KLCC were well ready for a game of cricket as it seemed they had brought their entire club down for the pre-match warm up. The Kelawar XI slowly drifted in and upon feeling the first touch of UV rays were quite content to observe the KLCC players and warm-up by osmosis (the act of donning one's whites enough to break a sweat) in the relative comfort of the grandstand.

The captains soon met for a toss and in our first victory of the day, Geoff chose to bat. In what turned out to be the theme of the day our openers Neil Morgan and Rohit Gunavanthe got off to a great start putting together a handy partnership of 55 before Neil was caught in the deep in the 8<sup>th</sup> over. Scott Ferguson came in next and showed exactly why he has been playing representative cricket (and golf) for Zimbabwe. Scott and Rohit continued the momentum for three more overs before Rohit holed out ending up with a tidy 37 off 36 balls, we were now 2-72.

Now half-way through our innings Noel joined Scott in the middle and they combined to add another 50 runs to our score in the next five overs. Scott returned to the pavilion with a handy 27 off 29 balls and we had reach 3-122 in the 16<sup>th</sup> over. Travis Herdon arrived at the crease but unfortunately he and Noel were unable to sustain the 7 per over run-rate and when Noel got out in the 17<sup>th</sup> over they had only put on another 3 runs. With plenty of batting still to come Matt Ford went to the crease and proceeded to belt a quick 24 of 11 balls giving us a respectable and defendable final score of 4-153 off 20 overs.

After a 15 min. break we took the field confident that our bowling could restrict KLCC enough to grab a few quick wickets and put ourselves into a position to win the match. Unfortunately what eventuated was an opening stand of 102 that lasted 13 overs. It started with 11 runs off the first over (from yours truly) including a six over fine leg and the follow up remark 'I think it's safe to say don't bowl it there...' from Geoff. Willow troubled the openers early in his spell and was unlucky not to have a wicket from a screamer traveling at a whip-lash inducing pace between keeper and first slip.

Rohit's leggies provided the first breakthrough in the 13<sup>th</sup> over trapping one of their openers in front of the wicket. The change in pace seemed to be what was needed and in the 15<sup>th</sup> over Rohit ran out and bowled their next two batsmen. Rohit's spell of 2-24 off 4 overs had put us back in the hunt and the 17<sup>th</sup> over Travis gave us our next breakthrough. With KLCC needing 16 off the last two overs it seemed that we were in with a chance. Travis got another wicket in the penultimate over but unfortunately in the last they only required 2 runs and KLCC passed our score with 3 balls remaining.

### The Stats – Bowling

Bowler	Overs	Wickets	Runs
Wilson G	4	0	25
Sharrad M	3.3	0	27
De Zylva Geoff	3	0	23
Morgan N	1	0	8
Herdon T	2	2	19
Gunavanthe R	4	2	24
Barton S	2	0	25

### The Stats – Batting

Batsman	Runs	Deliveries
Morgan N	25	19
Gunavanthe R	37	36
Ferguson S	27	29
Matthews N	23	13
Herdon T	3*	14
Ford M	24*	11