

DCC undefeated streak continues in 25 over Tournament

The club's new policy of appointing different captains for each game of the 25 over competition proved to be a very successful one. With 7 games to be played in the league phase of the tournament, the club got a chance to test out different captains with a view of bringing forth fresh ideas, shouldering responsibility and as a token of appreciation for some long standing club members.

DCC1's first game was against Plano Tigers and Vipul Jha led the team at the Russel Creek ground. It was a disastrous start as DCC were bowled out for 114 but came back strongly from a position where it looked like the Tigers were cruising towards the total. Vipul made some great bowling changes which resulted in DCC pulling off a memorable 13 run win. Patrick Winchester was the star with the ball claiming 4 wickets while Gopal top scored with 23.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345068&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

DCC's next challenge was against United at GPCC. After a sedate start, Vinod(73) and Gopal(61) blasted the United bowlers to all corners of the park with Richie(22) finishing off the innings in style as Choko's DCC managed 226/5 in 25 overs. In reply United had scored a quick 75 in 7 overs before Richie got the prize wicket of Iqbal who had blasted his way to a 54 when the rain came down and the match that was delicately poised was declared a washout.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345250&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

Hemant Lalwani led DCC admirably against NorTex at the NMCG ground in the next game as Nortex were bowled out for just 100 runs. Sashank Benegal topscored for DCC with an unbeaten 24 to ease DCC to the target score.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345262&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

Vipul, on the basis of his great captaincy against Tigers was given the job once more against Ismailia. He did the job again as DCC bowled out Ismailia for a mere 52 runs as Carl T opening the batting finished the game with minimum fuss.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345277&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

Hemant in his second stint at captaincy against C3 2nd X1 found his team in a deep hole at 35/5 before Ashwin came to the rescue with a brilliant innings of 41. Kartik(24) gave him good support and took DCC to a competitive total of 139. Peter McLarty finished the innings in style with a huge six of the last ball. Some great new ball bowling from Kartik

and Ashwin put C3 in pressure at the start of the innings with Kartik picking up 3 wickets and later Naved came in and ran through the C3 middle order to end up with 4 wickets as DCC sneaked out of this game with a 20 run win.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345297&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

DCC under the leadership of Sumit Ralli piled up a big score against Collin County Googlies with Rahul(67*), Naved (31) and Richie (48) being the chief contributors in a total of 179/4. In reply Googlies were shocked by the bowling of Vishwa who bagged 3 top order wickets and then were never in the hunt as were bowled out for 136.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345310&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

Tarang led DCC1 in the final game of the group phase to a thumping win over Fortworth Lions. DCC batting first scored 205/7 with Gopal scoring an impressive 63 with Arun Vittalla (38) giving him some good support. Impressive spells by Shail Bhatt and Ramana put an end to the Lions chase very quickly with both bagging 3 wickets each bowling out the Lions for a paltry 74 runs.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=345329&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

DCC were pitted against Lonestar in the round of 16 matchup. Batting first at GPCC, Vishwa's DCC scored a very good 166 with Choko scoring an elegant fifty and Dennis 30. In reply Lonestar were 97/2 in 16 overs when the rain came down and DCC were awarded the win owing to a higher runrate.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=351986&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

DCC again captained by Vish, took on a resurgent Carrollton in the quarterfinals. Batting first Carrollton put up a healthy score of 162 in their stipulated 25 overs. Bilal and Zahid managing some big hits and a 50+ score from Nadeem Khan helped them achieve that score. Arun Vittala bagged 4 wickets in his impressive 5 over spell. In reply, DCCC's chase got off to the worst possible start with Adil Malik falling to the ever energetic and youthful Shahanawaz for no score. DCCC clawed back with a fighting partnership between Arun Vittala and Denis Vengala. Arun fell just before the break for an excellent 42 punctuated with some fine hits and excellent running between the wickets and the score reading 81 for 2 with 13 overs to play. Denis and Halpesh carried the baton and pushed the score to 100 in quick time and just when it appeared that DCCC were cruising towards their target, Bilal came up with an inspiring performance with the ball. In fading light, Bilal, bowling with a torn cartilage in his shoulder, generated some pace and bowled with immaculate accuracy to peg back Halpesh's middle and leg stumps. This was a sign for things to come for Carrollton as Shahanawaz got Denis to play a pull but deceived him with his change of pace and got the dangerous Denis to play one on to his leg stump off the bottom edge. Billy then pulled the trigger on Big T's foot (literally) and 'added salt to the injury' by getting the LBW decision in his favor. Vishwa's leg stump was then

seen only parallel to the floor as the light started to get dimmer by the minute. At this stage, it looked like Carrollton had the game in the bag.

Naved then came in with a toe injury he sustained very early in the DCC innings and when he resumed with the pain, it was all looking too gloomy, but not in the DCCC camp. Young Karthik Vittala came to the party when it mattered the most. An early mix up with Denis (who was running for Naved) almost sealed his fate but with the bowler, Fawad fumbling an easy run out, the batsmen just managed to get in.

Karthik then started to hit some clean shots and brought the game back to DCC's favor. When 13 were needed for victory off 10 balls, Denis (running for Naved) was run out going for a near impossible second run.

Hrshikesh and Karthik then ran hard for the rest of the over and Karthik struck a brilliant boundary straight down the ground of Bilal which left 1 run required to get for victory off the last over. Hrishi then dispatched the first ball of the last over to the square leg boundary much to the delight of the DCC camp and sealed victory with 5 balls and 3 wickets to spare which takes them to the Semi-Final.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=351994&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

Semi Finals against Ismailia at Garland. Rahul won the toss and put Ismailia in to bat on a heavy outfield. Carl T bowled an incredible opening spell of 5 overs and got the wicket of Aziz well caught by Choko in 2nd slip. DCC had things pretty much under control the entire Ismailia innings with wickets falling at regular intervals. Adil got 3 and Ramana got 2. Ismailia only managed 124 off 25 overs getting bowled out with a couple balls to spare. some good catches by Dennis, Rahul, Hemant and Richie and 2 good stumpings by Rahul too.

In reply DCC started horribly with Rahul getting caught at thirdman in the first over itself but then Dennis set thing ablaze with 4 boundaries in one over and Richie then joined in with a couple of gorgeous hits to the fence. Richie was then bowled in 7th over with the score already past 50. Kartik joined Dennis and at the 13 over break, DCC were 80/2 needing only 45 runs off 12 overs. Dennis got out bowled after the break with still 35 runs needed but then Choko and Kartik finished the game off in style with 5 overs to spare with some crunching boundaries on either side of the wicket.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=351995&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

THE FINALS – DCC VS CUBS

Cubs actually did well to reach the target of 153 for DCCC considering they were 29/3 with Vivek, Hemant, Anoop in the pavillion. Kartik Vittala finally came out of his dad's shadow with his performance today. He took the wickets of Anoop (of the first ball of his over) and was unlucky to have Vivek dropped, but he kept his chin high and got Vivek to edge one to Denis at slip in the very next ball. Suniel batted well with a counter attack on DCCC's bowlers that combined well with Goutham's cool headed batting. Gouthi struck some good boundaries as well as rotated the strike with Suniel to put up a solid 90+ run partnership. Suniel scored a fifty with Gouthi not far behind. As soon as Suniel and Goutham got out for around 120 Cubs folded for 152 with some brilliant catches from Adil, Trix with 2 good catches and one mile high skier that was unfortunately a no-ball. Adil got Arjun to stretch too far out the crease and Rahul had a brilliant stumping to finish the Cubs innings at 152.

DCCC's camp felt good at the break with the target of 6 runs an over because of the tremendously deep batting order of DCCC. This match immediately was fight on with Gouthi bagging the wicket of Richie clean bowled and Srinivas managed to get an inside edge of Vish to Kannan. In walked Denis with the fall of the first wicket and played a brilliant knock which had controlled aggression as well as a touch of brilliant stroke making. Denis has been in tremendous form with 360 runs with an even average of 60. He has scored 2 big fifties against

Cubs in the 25 over league and ultimately he made the difference. He ended up with a brilliant 74 with about 12 runs to go. Trix once again showed his brilliance with his bat going in with 4 wickets down and had a good 35 run partnership with Denis. Vinod came in at the fall of Trix's wicket (bowled Anoop) and looked good from the get go. He struck 3 fine boundaries and ended up with 21 when his innings was cut short trying to be aggressive against Anoop. Halpesh walked in at the fall of Vinod's wicket and played a very compact innings with some good shots over the infield for his 17 and 6 runs needed to win the game. In walked Adil who played a few good shots. Jermaine and Adil were not out with Adil finishing the game off with a 4 of Goutham.

<http://www.ntcricket.com/showrvcontent.aspx?matchID=351997&loc=/cricket/reports/match.asp&loc1/match.asp>

And that's how the winning streak continued.....