

Round 10 - 18th December - Swannanoa 3RD 11 vs Southbrook, Swannanoa

On Friday night the weather forecasters had called for rain, so it was with some surprise that we turned up to the 'Noa in 34 degree heat. It got even hotter as the afternoon progressed, with the temperature varying between 34 and 36 right up until after 6pm.

Swannanoa again won the toss and decided to bat, figuring that 40 overs in the sapping heat would tire out the Southbrook boys. However, after a punishing start from Drake and Lang of 69/0 after the first 10 overs, it was the batsmen who were tiring.

Scoring slowed but remained steady, with Nathan surviving an extremely confident run-out shout after a quick single, until at 107/0 in the 20th over he succumbed to some very sharp fielding, unfortunately just two runs short of what would have been a well-earned half century. Derek Scott came out at number 3 but it was Rusty who took all the strike for the next four overs, belting several boundaries and a six.

A double strike from Southbrook , with Scotty and then Rusty both caught in quick succession, Rusty walking off with a superb score of 79 in the conditions. It was 3/132 after 24 overs, with two fresh batsmen at the crease: the youngster Matt O'Rourke, and Geoff Olsen.

O'Rourke played a sound innings with several nice strokes, despite a large amount of heckling from the fielders. Consecutive steady partnerships of 30-odd followed, taking the team to 184/5 after 36 overs. Rhys Kinder and Eddie Tirikatene did not trouble the scorers, but a flashy finish from Mike Martin (including three fours and a six from consecutive balls faced), raced the side past the goal of 200, and in fact up to 210/8 in the 39th over when Martin finally missed one and had his castle rattled.

A solid knock from Mike Hamilton, including a boundary, got us up to 217, including a stolen single off the final ball when the ball was played aerially to the slips and only partially stopped. The Southbrook boys were understandably very relieved to get to the tap and hose themselves down after 40 overs under the hot sun.

After the break, Swannanoa came out to field, opening up with slow bowling from both ends. Although McNabb took no wickets, the bowling was fairly tight from both ends, and Eddie knocked off the first four of the Southbrook batsmen, ending up with figures of 27/4 from his eight overs.

Tim Parrot and Mike Hamilton picked up where they left off, taking one wicket each in their six-over spells. With the Southbrook total at 129/6 after 28 overs, it was just a matter of time until the game was over, but we were all hoping that we could crack into the cold ones sooner rather than later (none more than myself, who ran into some severe dehydration problems).

Fortunately, a tidy final spell from Geoff (17/1 from 4 overs) and Russell (10/2 from 3 overs) wrapped up the tail and we all hurried off the park. A stirring effort from Drake on the hot day, who batted for 20 overs, umpired, and bowled, all the while astutely captaining the field.

SWANNANOA INNINGS 217/8 (40.0 ov)

R Drake 79(83) c./ Luke
N Lang 48(52) run out
D Scott 3(9) c./ M Smith
M O'Rourke 9(28) c./ Ryan
G Olsen 22(25) b. Matt
M Martin 27(20) b. Dion
R Kinder 0(3) c./ Dion
E Tirikatene 0(1) c./ Matt
M Hamilton 10(12) not out
M McNabb 1(2) not out

Extras 17 (13 w, 1 lb, 3 nb)

SOUTHBROOK BOWLING (O-M-R-W)

Dion 8-0-57-2
Matt 7-0-46-2
Dan 8-1-38-0
M Smith 8-0-40-1
Ryan 4-2-15-1
Luke 5-0-21-1

SOUTHBROOK INNINGS 157 all out (35.4 ov)

Dan Dev 14 c./ Eddie
Matt K 33 c./ Eddie
Dave 0 lbw. Eddie
Dion 4 lbw. Eddie
Luke 31 c./ Hamilton
Sam P 5 c./ Parrott
Matt S 10 st. Scott b. Olsen
Brett 26 c./ Olsen
Bubs 4 b. Drake
Tom 19 not out
Casey 0 b. Olsen

Extras 9 (6 w, 2 lb, 1 b)

SWANNANOA BOWLING

E Tirikatene 8-1-27-4
M McNabb 8-0-35-0
T Parrott 6-1-26-1
M Hamilton 6-0-39-1
G Olsen 4.4-0-17-1
R Drake 3-0-10-2