

Captain's Report 2019

Andrew Hale

This season it was my privilege to captain the CERN cricket team. There were 26 games scheduled throughout the year, with many thanks to Achintya for undertaking the difficult task of scheduling our games. In 2019 we won seven games, lost 16, and three were cancelled. We started the season on a fantastic high, defeating Geneva CC at home in a friendly match. Throughout the season we fought hard in all of our games and I was immensely proud of the efforts shown by all our players.

One great highlight of the year was our commanding win over Cossonay CC in the league. We had been routed in the previous weeks' Pickwick T20 match against the same side. Our batsmen, led by Anees and Paul, posted an excellent total of 234 in which only three batsman did not reach double figures. Our bowling performance following the good work of the batsmen, was nothing short of outstanding. Wickets to Pardeep, Majid, Bilal, and Dawood made short work of the strong Cossonay batting line up, and they were ultimately dismissed for 90. This victory epitomised the the all-round capability of the team, and in particular, the strength of the team in executing our game plan.

This season, the Most Valuable Player was voted on by the players at the end of each game. For games where votes were not recorded, statistics where used. The player with the most votes per game (having played at least a quarter of games) is the MVP. This season, the MVP is Claston D'Mello. Claston's all-round performances rarely saw him fail with bat or ball, and he consistently stood up when the team needed him. Against Cossonay in the Pickwick T20 game, he played an almost lone hand: top scoring, returning the best bowling figures, and wicket keeping during the day. Across six games, he averaged 19.2 with the bat and took 9 wickets at an average of 14.9 with the ball. Congratulations Claston!

Throughout the season we had excellent contributions throughout the team, including: One five wicket haul of 5/48 by Majid against GCC in the league match, which was a fantastic achievement in a league which heavily favours batsmen. Dawood took the most wickets for the year with 19 from 13 matches. Anees took 11 wickets at an average of 10.5 and also had the best economy rate, at 4.4. Centuries to Paul and Andrew, as well as fifties to Anees, John, Matthew, Lala, Paul and Andrew. Andrew had the highest average of 55.2, scoring 883 runs in 20 innings. Matthew took the most catches, taking 11 in 11 games. We had 53 players represent the club in 2019 and 17 played five or more games. It was also a great pleasure to see many new players join the club.

I would like to express my thanks to the club for allowing me the privilege of captaining the club in 2019 and in particular, I would like to thank the following people specifically. Chris and John, as the leaders of the club and for their enthusiasm for cricket at CERN. Achintya for his dedication to the role of secretary, fixture organiser, and enthusiasm for umpiring. Pardeep as vice captain and umpire. As well, I would like to extend a thanks to all those who contributed to the club in any way during the year, whether it be umpiring, tidying the clubhouse, on and off field advice, training hard, or just generally being excited by cricket at CERN. I would also like to thank everyone for contributing to the supportive, competitive, and good sportsmanship culture of the club. I look forward to this culture continuing into the future.

I look forward to the future of the CERN cricket club, and to the start of season 2020.

Andrew