

Captain's Report 2023 - Cricket Season

As the captain of CERN Cricket Club, I am proud to present our report for the 2023 season. This year has been a record-breaking one, with the highest ever participation of 65 players across 31 games, showing the depth and breadth of talent within our club.

Team Performance: Our season in the Pickwick T20 was a standout, with the team coming tantalizingly close to the semifinals, missing out by just one game. Though we faced some disappointments in the CSPL, these moments were far outweighed by the invaluable experience and growth they provided.

Youth Integration: The integration of youth into our squad has been a cornerstone of our strategy, and the results have been nothing short of inspiring. The young talent has brought a refreshing dynamism to our team, infusing energy into every practice and match. They are the bedrock upon which the future of CERN CC is built.

Top Batting Performances:

- **Leo Joseph** has been our batting stalwart, amassing 570 runs at an impressive average of 31.66 and holding the season's high score of 86*.
- **Partha Paul** has been a force to reckon with, scoring 527 runs with a solid average of 27.73 and a top score of 81.
- **Muhammad Bilal Kiani** has delivered performances of a lifetime, including a stunning century, and racked up 323 runs at an average of 26.91.

Top Bowling Performances:

- **Irsalan Ahmed** has led our bowling attack with distinction, taking 31 wickets at an average of 24.93.
- **Dawood Ahmed** has been a consistent wicket-taker with 27 dismissals to his name and impressive figures of 4/25.
- **Pardeep Kumar** has shown his class with 27 wickets, including a best of 4/67, demonstrating his wicket-taking abilities. In addition, **Pardeep Kumar** has been the standout bowler for CERN, claiming 22 wickets in CSPL and PT20 games.

Emerging Players:

- **Hugo Elder** has shone brightly as an all-rounder, contributing significantly with both bat and ball.
- **Drewdan Quimby** has emerged as a batting talent, laying down a solid foundation for the team in crucial matches.
- **Alex Dann** has displayed great potential with the bat, indicating a bright future ahead with CERN CC.

Most Valuable Player: Saud Ahmed, our MVP, shone as a true all-rounder with 318 runs, a high score of 45, and 25 wickets at an economical rate, including a match-winning 4/5, demonstrating his vital role in CERN CC's 2023 season.

Challenges and Learnings: The season brought its share of challenges, each one teaching us valuable lessons in resilience and adaptability.

Future Goals: We are already looking forward to building on our strengths, refining our strategies, and continuing to nurture our young talents.

Acknowledgements: I extend my heartfelt thanks to **Chris Onions**, the President of CERN Cricket Club, for his unwavering support and expert guidance.

We close this season with a sense of achievement and anticipation for the future. Our club is stronger, our players are more experienced, and our passion for the game burns brighter than ever. Here's to carrying this momentum forward and reaching new heights in the seasons to come.

Best regards,

Paul Partha