

The view from the middle: U11 Matches against Cossonay

Observations from Sunday's U11 match against Cossonay – 17 Nov '13. These observations are mine about what the boys did collectively well, and could work on for future matches. The boys played back-to-back 16-overs-a-side matches against Cossonay as a warm-up for the upcoming tournament. The U11 team was augmented with 3 U13s from GCC, and a new player from Cossonay.

Players:

Arjun Gill - captain	Gianni St Hilaire	Henry Harbottle
Ricky Bucheli	Alex Bucheli	Leo Clairs
Aidan Anderson	Max (from Cossonay)	

Overall: Our players all moved into fielding/bowling positions quickly, and that kept the innings moving along at a nice pace. We won both matches, and the second match was much closer. There were a number of positives each boy could take from these matches. There was a great amount of enthusiasm by our boys, and I thought they kept their over-all discipline very well in the long afternoon.

Fielding: The fielders ran towards the ball to pick it up quickly, and threw it in nicely. There were a number of diving stops which prevented Cossonay from getting simple runs. I think each boy had done well to save runs, and keep the pressure on the batsmen.

Things to work on:

- 1) It is also the job of the captain to ensure that the fielders move to the space where the batsmen are scoring runs.
- 2) All fielders must encourage each other in the field.
- 3) Remember to use the long-barrier to stop the ball that is rolling towards you.
- 4) Once you have fielded the ball to throw it into the wicketkeeper or to the bowlers side quickly, and at a pace and accuracy in which he will be able to catch it.
- 5) Backing up from the fielders in case the ball is not thrown accurately, to avoid overthrows.

Bowling: Overall, this area keeps improving and I thought all boys bowled well and disciplined. The bowlers did not concede very many wides or no-balls. It is important to keep the ball straight onto the wickets, if the batsmen miss we got wickets. Line and length.

Things to work on:

- 1) It is important for the bowler to be happy that his fielders are ready for the next delivery.
- 2) Each bowler should have a plan of what he wants to do with the ball on each delivery.

Batting: I thought that the boys generally batted very well. Indoors the bounce is easier to judge than outdoors.

Things to work on:

- 1) When taking the initial stance, it is important for the batsman to get back into the initial position before each delivery. The team did a lot better at this than in Basel.
- 2) Wait on the ball and hit it along the ground. Especially indoors when balls can be caught off the walls and ceiling.
- 3) Have a look where the fielders are standing and try to hit the ball through the gaps – remember indoors by hitting the walls with the ball you can score runs.

Calling and running between wickets: The calling could have been better; there were a number of runs left on the field. The batsmen need to talk to each other and call loudly and clearly.

Finally: It was a good team effort, well played boys. We have a practice tomorrow night and will work on a few of these things, before this weekend.

Arnold Bucheli