

## SPX CRICKET MATCH REPORTS

### SPX U12 Blue – 03/02/18, Round 10

**SPX Blue 68 (A Sweeney 26\*) defeated by Seaforth Strikers 7/95 (B Vaccarella 2/7, A Sweeney 2/12)**

Well it was to be a tough start back after a long break for our SPX Blue team.

The Strikers started slowly but stayed consistent with their runs totalling only 95 a nice little total for our boys to chase down. There was some great bowling on display by all in the team with very few wides or no balls which was impressive and Spurr did a fabulous job in his keeper role.

With only 95 to chase down the boys felt confident within themselves that this was a game they could win - certainly achievable based on previous performances. Unfortunately though luck was on the Strikers side. We found ourselves down 2 wickets in the first 2 overs and our opposition had us 'trapped' as we struggled to get runs. The first 4 of the day didn't come until the 17th over when we were 6/34 with a great shot from Sweeney.

We didn't make our target but the boys held their heads high and vowed to come back stronger next week.

#### Highlights of the day

Spurr's keeping effort, Sweeney 26 not out  
Vacarella 2/7, Sweeney 2/12



## SPX U14 Green – 03/02/18, Round 10

**SPX Green 6/112 (O MacDonald 32) defeated St Augustines Green 80 (O MacDonald 2/1, J Brown 2/1, K Crowhen 2/9)**

After a long summer break St Pius Green returned to cricket for the top of the table clash against the St Augustine's team of the same colour. Rain afflicted the roads and ground before the start of play, but thankfully only caused a minor delay. The toss went to St Augustine's and Pius was sent in to bat.



Kaiya Crowhen and Ben O'Reilly (19no) saw off the opening bowlers and provided a good platform from which Pius could build. The run rate increased when Oscar Macdonald (32) came to the crease and was greeted by some short and loose spin bowling; boundaries ensued. After Ben's retirement and Oscar's dismissal Pius went through a rebuilding phase.

Simon Magner preserved his wicket well. Harry Melloy collected another not out – with 11 runs to his name and Will Ramsbottom hit a timely boundary in the final over. Throughout the innings St Pius' cause was assisted by a healthy contribution from sundries.

The while the boys batted well, 6-112 felt slightly below par as the Sun started to beat down. A polished performance in the field was required.

SPX Green delivered. During the 7th over St Augustine's were in deep trouble at 4-9. This came about largely through the accurate bowling of the left-right arm opening bowling pair of Josh Brown (2-1) and Harry Melloy (1-6). Harry starting the procession claiming a wicket leg before in the first over of the innings. Josh made good inroads, hitting the stumps twice in his second over to be on a hat-trick. In his first over Jaiden Speter found the stumps too. After their fourth wicket fell St Augustine's consolidated. The momentum shifted back in St Pius' favour after Will Ramsbottom drew a loose shot and Jaiden Speter took the skied ball. Shortly after, St Augustine's number 3 was unfortunately forced to retire hurt – he is a skilled batsmen and we wish him the best for his recovery.

Kaiya Crowhen (2-9) strengthened St Pius' ascendancy in the match. He secured his first wicket bowled and his second was a catch taken by James Maloney moving well to his right in the gully. Oscar Macdonald finished up the tail with a couple of wickets. The first was nick smartly taken by Ben O'Reilly at slip, the second clean bowled. Thus ended a tension filled match against a worthy opponent



The boys are to be congratulated for conceding far fewer sundries than St Augustine's. In a winning margin of 32, 25 less sundries is very significant.

With four rounds to go in the regular season this victory puts St Pius X Green in first position, a great situation to be in ahead of the finals in March. The boys will play Peninsula next week, a team that has got the better of them once already this season. The Green team will look to continue their winning ways against a possible semi-final opponent.