

AUCC PREMIER MATCH REPORTS

It was a mixed weekend for our Premier Men`s side, one that started with a long day in the field against Waitakere City but ended with an emphatic victory over Ellerslie.

AUCC v Waitakere City – Colin Maiden Park

Our boys are facing a daunting run chase on the second day of their opening two-day Minor Championship match of the season after Waitakere City posted 330 on day one last Saturday.

Despite the game being the first of the year to be played on a grass wicket the visitors had little hesitation electing to bat first after winning the toss on a typically flat Colin Maiden Park pitch.

Our boys got off to a good start thanks to Warren Barnes, who claimed an early wicket, but that would prove to be the only success of the morning as the visitors reached 77/1 at lunch.

Varsity had more success in the second session with Vishi Jeet and Chris Dineen combining to take regular wickets. However the visitors were able to string several solid partnerships together as they reached 269/7 with still more than an hour to play.

At this stage Dineen picked up two quick wickets but University`s hopes of restricting the visitors to a sub 300 total were thwarted by Waitakere`s final pair who added 58 for the last wicket.

Jeet (4/82) and Dineen (3/44) were the pick of the bowlers and credit must also go to opening batsmen Matt Ansell and Barrington Rowland who, after spending almost 94 overs in the field, were able to bat out the final two overs of the day with little trouble.

Waitakere City 330 (V Jeet 4/82, C Dineen 3/44, A Fong 2/43) plays Auckland University 6/0 after day one.

AUCC v Ellerslie – Michaels Ave

Centuries from Barrington Rowland and Marc Ellison propelled Varsity to a Jeff Crowe Cup victory over Ellerslie at Michaels Ave on Sunday afternoon.

Ellison elected to bat first after winning the toss and Matt Ansell got University off to a flyer striking eight boundaries in an innings of 38 from just 32 deliveries. When Ansell was dismissed Ellison joined Rowland at the crease and the pair remained there for almost 30 overs adding 174 runs for the second wicket.

Rowland struck 12 fours in bringing up his century before he was eventually dismissed for 102. Ellison, after falling just two runs shy of a century in the previous one-day game, got there on this occasion hitting three sixes and 11 fours along the way.

With the pair departed the Varsity middle order went in search of quick runs with Warren Barnes having the most success with 30 from just 16 deliveries. The result was University finishing their 50 overs with a total of 309/8 which would ultimately prove too much for the hosts.

Richard Sillars struck in the first over of the reply and regular wickets meant Ellerslie were never truly in the hunt. As he did the previous day Vishi Jeet claimed four wickets while Josh Fisher chipped in with 2/35 as our boys cruised to a 149 run victory.

The result means Varsity end the first part of the Jeff Crowe Cup competition with two wins and a pair of defeats from the first four games, with three more qualifying rounds to be played after Christmas.

Auckland University 309/8 (B Rowland 102, M Ellison 100, M Ansell 38, W Barnes 30no) **defeated Ellerslie 160** (V Jeet 4/17, J Fisher 2/35) **by 149 runs.**