

AUCC PREMS MATCH REPORT – 25TH FEBRUARY

AUCC V WAITAKERE CITY – COLIN MAIDEN PARK E BLOCK

One dramatic over has put the premis on the back foot after day one of their clash with Waitakere City.

Sitting second on the minor championship ladder with three games to go the premis know every game is a must win encounter if they are to overturn Grafton United's 14 point lead at the top of the table.

After skipper Marc Ellison lost the toss the bowlers were forced to work hard on a particularly flat Colin Maiden Park pitch. At lunch Waitakere had moved to 66-2 and by drinks in the second session they had advanced to 99-2 and looked set for a huge total.

However the patience the bowlers had shown throughout the early stages would eventually be rewarded. First Vedant Zaveri removed Waitakere's English professional Aaron Jeavons before Josh Jones claimed the prized scalp of Aces one-day and T20 player Dusan Hakaraia.

Jones went on to pick up another two wickets to finish with figures of 3-27 on a fantastic return to premier cricket for the left arm spinner.

The visitors had suddenly collapsed to 132-7 through a combination of good bowling and some rather interesting shot selections and although the lower order staged a mini recovery, adding 59 for the last three wickets, the final total of 191 could still be deemed a success for the bowling unit.

Once again the star with the ball was teenage speed sensation Warren Barnes. After picking up his first five wicket haul in premier cricket last week he backed that up with a second in consecutive games. It was also hard to keep Vedant Zaveri out of the action as he claimed four catches in the field.

Uni openers Marc Ellison and Barrington Rowland strode to the crease looking to take a large chunk out of the target in the 17 overs that remained in the day. The pair eased to 29-0 but when Ellison was dismissed things took a dramatic turn for the worst.

In the over after Ellison's dismissal, the seemingly innocuous medium pace bowling of Sean Ansell accounted for three University batsmen. Tim Dineen was the first to go before brother Jonty fell three balls later and when Simon Andrews was dismissed with the very next ball Waitakere had suddenly grasped the advantage.

Night-watchman Sam Flett and coach Barrington Rowland negotiated the final two overs without concern but with the score on 36/4 the premis have it all to do on day two if they are to keep their promotion hopes alive.

Uni also didn't receive much help in the other games played in the minor championship. Top of the table Grafton amassed 307/5 against Ellerslie while Birkenhead City, the team directly below the premis on the ladder, have already secured first innings points against Eden Roskill and look well set to push for an outright next week.



Auckland University 36/4 plays Waitakere City 191 (W Barnes 5-51, J Jones 3-27) after day one.

Other games in the minor championship:

Grafton United 307/5 (M Horne 88, A Burton 67, A Lane 66, S Rajasekar 38*, C Fletcher 33, A Scott 3-56) against Ellerslie after day one.

Eden Roskill 112 (D Crook 7-32) plays Birkenhead City 213/7 (R Botadra 41) after day one.

Tom Hellaby Trophy | Minor Championship

| Rank | Team | P | W2 | W1 | D | L1 | L2 | WKTS LOST | RUNS FOR | WKTS TAKEN | RUNS AGST | Points | Points Ratio | Bonus Points |
|------|---|---|----|----|---|----|----|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|--------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 |  Grafton United | 6 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 63 | 1669 | 85 | 1685 | 67.94 | 11.323 | 37.94 |
| 2 |  Auckland University | 6 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 43 | 1658 | 65 | 1795 | 53.83 | 8.972 | 32.83 |
| 3 |  HRV Birkenhead City | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 65 | 1682 | 76 | 1607 | 52.82 | 8.803 | 35.82 |
| 4 |  Ellerslie | 6 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 76 | 1497 | 58 | 1719 | 47.47 | 7.912 | 29.47 |
| 5 | Waitakere City | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 73 | 1930 | 63 | 1803 | 47.05 | 7.842 | 35.05 |
| 6 |  Eden Roskill | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 74 | 1816 | 47 | 1643 | 44.91 | 7.485 | 29.91 |