

Taranaki U13 Boys **Tournament 23rd – 26th January 2017 Napier**

Match Reports by Jason Elder

The Taranaki U13 Cricket Team opened their tournament against a strong Wellington team at the North Island Tournament in Napier today. After winning the toss, Taranaki elected to bowl in damp, overcast conditions. Wellington dominated the Taranaki pace attack, with the second wicket putting on 120 runs at a run a ball in the first 20 overs. The introduction of spin bowling from Keegan Boon (8-0-32-2), Hrishi Bolar (8-0-37-2) and Liam Carr (6-0-22-0) briefly slowed the run rate. Hrishi also took a catch and made a run out, while Max Dowd supported the spinners with 2 wickets. However, Wellington were still able to finish their 45 overs at an imposing 224 for 8 wickets.

Taranaki started steadily in their innings against a Wellington pace attack that bowled a tight length. Taranaki's innings was led by Jacob Mitchell who scored 56 runs. As the required run rate increased Taranaki lost wickets to eventually be bowled out for 156 in the 45th over.

The Taranaki U13 Cricket Team defeated Manawatu by 18 runs in a 50 over match in Taradale today. Taranaki lost the toss and batted first in hot conditions. Manawatu bowled a tight length restricting Taranaki to 93 for 2 after 30 overs with Shale Foy (40 runs) and Gareth Duffy putting on 52 runs for the second wicket. In the final 20 overs, Joshua Elder (60 off 82 balls) and Sam McKinstry (33 not out off 46 balls) put on a partnership of 87 runs (off 84 balls) to get Taranaki through to 203 for 5.

Manawatu started strongly in their innings, with the opening partnership putting on 94 runs in the first 25 overs. The introduction of the Taranaki spin triplets brought about a sudden collapse in the Manawatu batting order, with Liam Carr picking up 4 for 26. After a late resistant from Manawatu they were eventually bowled out for 185 in the 48th over.

Taranaki play Napier in their final pool game tomorrow at Nelson Park, which will determine play off positions for Thursday.

Earlier today, the Taranaki Under 13 Cricket Team defeated Napier by 43 runs in a 50 over game at Nelson Park, Napier. Taranaki won the toss and batted first. Taranaki had to battle hard to score runs against the Napier teams fast bowlers. Joshua Elder (24 runs) and Shale Foy (21 runs) put on 48 runs for the third wicket, while Cullum Tito (26 runs not out) and Sam McKinstry (27 runs) put on 42 runs for the fifth wicket. Taranaki collapsed losing their last five wickets for 18 runs to be bowled out for 159 in the 46th over.

In reply, Napier started off briskly, putting on 33 runs in the first seven overs. However, Taranaki applied pressure with their spinners. Hrishi Bolar bowled 9-2-23-2, while Liam Carr bowled brilliantly taking his first five wicket bag for Taranaki (8.4-3-27-5). Napier were eventually bowled out for 116 in the 35th over.

Taranaki play Western Districts (Auckland) for third place tomorrow.

The Taranaki Under 13 Cricket Team finished fourth in the North Island Tournament after losing to Western Districts (Auckland) by 7 wickets in a 50 over match today..

Taranaki won the toss and batted first on a wearing pitch at Nelson Park, Napier. Western Districts took advantage of the conditions and had Taranaki in trouble at 27 for 5 after 8 overs. Taranaki's wicketkeeper batsman Sam Mckinstry looked to rebuild the innings with the tail until Taranaki were eventually bowled out for 109 in the 35th over with Sam stranded on 49 runs.

Western Districts initially struggled in their innings losing three wickets inside the first thirteen overs. However, Keertivaasan Prakash batted brilliantly scoring 58 off 42 balls to win the game for Western Districts to finish third in the tournament. Wellington Gold won the tournament defeating Wellington Black by 13 runs in the final.