

## Match report by BCC captain Somnath

BCC chased down another 170 odd target against ECC in a perfect display of batting and bowling (but below average fielding).

BCC asked ECC to bat first in a 35 over game under perfect playing conditions. Ravi (17 for 1) and Tyron (34 for 1) for once had an excellent start and ECC openers (Glen and Chalana) were finding it hard in the middle against both the new ball opener. Ravi was able to get that away swing from the right hander and Glen almost edged him a few time.

The first and second change were Baldev and Kalith. In the 12th over ECC score read 40 odd for no loss and both Glen and Chalana were getting anxious. It almost paid off. Tyron grassed a sitter off Kalith as Glen played an ambitious shot. The very next over Glen hit Baldev for 20 runs. No argument about poor bowling from Ballu but what matters is that he bowled it to a set batsmen who may have been out a few deliveries ago.

Introduction of Ubhaynath and Kavi did the trick. Ubhaynath (7-1-18-3) got the prize wicket of Glen, Roshan and Ed. From the other end Kavi's (7-038-2) web of spin was getting too much for ECC. He got the wickets off Chalana and Chaminda (keeping it all in the family). He was unlucky not to have a few more wickets owing to missed stumping, dropped catches and some close LBW decisions.

At one stage ECC were 100-5 off 24 over's and the game was under BCC's control. But then we let the initiative get away by some poor ground fielding and catching. No less than 4-5 chances were given and some easy singles, over throws etc.

What it meant was BCC was chasing 172 in 35 overs. Roshan (27) and Yoges (35) gave the perfect start we could have asked for. Roshan was fearless with his shot making and really putting Cliffrod and Roshan (Perera off ECC) under pressure. ECC threw everything they got at both the openers but got no where.

Yoges at the other end was simply superb. Playing every ball at its merit and scoring runs playing cricketing shots. I think Yoges has been in the best form of his life so far in this session. I hope I am not jinxing it by saying it. A captain can't ask for a better opener then him at the moment.

In the 10th over Roshan was LBW while playing a sweep shot (first ball from Chaminda) with the score reading 61 off 9.1 overs. But there was to be no respite for ECC as number 3 Baldev (43 n.o.) and number 4 Kalith (40) played sensibly and made sure we win the match without any drama.

It was a commendable performance. As a skipper I can only ask for one thing. Let's all put some effort into improving fielding. We are not only giving extra runs by being lazy in the field we are also giving chances to good batsmen by dropping them. One of these days one of the opposition batsmen will punish us severely for our under performance while fielding.

The net sessions we all did is proving its worth that can be seen in batting and bowling. But we didn't do much fielding practise and that's showing too.