



AUCKLAND CRICKET ASSOCIATION INC.

MEDIA RELEASE

Round Two of the 2011 Country of Origin

Round two of the 2011 'Country of Origin' saw the Indians take the field for their first match of the competition where Steve Murray posted a fine century. In other matches, the Samoans and the Cooks are two from two after winning their games.

SAMOA v FIJI

The Samoans were on a high after winning last week against the five time defending champions Pakistan, however the game against Fiji was never going to be easy. The Samoans batted first and got off to a cautious start with the Fijians bowling good channels along with their tight fielding. Once the in form batsman Cotter got his eye in he began scoring freely and was well assisted by Tonu'u.

Tonu'u was dismissed with the score at 51 which bought in the skipper Mailata. Cotter continued putting away the bad balls and managed to score his 2nd consecutive 50 of the tournament.

The Fijians good work in the field paid off as they dismissed Cotter and with some good bowling at the death managed to peg the run rate back when the Samoans had threatened to go past 180. Mailata posted his first 50 of the tournament with the Samoans reaching 161/4 off their 20 overs.

The Fijian innings didn't get off to the best start with Tiafala Alatasi striking in his first over. It didn't get any better with the Fijians losing two more quick wickets with their score at 12/3. However, some late hitting from Matthew Chamberlain and Krish Gundar gave the Fijians a glimmer of hope. But tight bowling from the Samoans managed to keep them to 123/8 and preserve their unbeaten record.

Samoa 161/4 (Ben Mailata 59not out, Sean Cotter 50) **Beat Fiji 123/8** (Matthew Chamberlain 29, Krish Gundar; Suni Luteru 2/21, Totoa Sauniatu 2/21) **by 38 runs.**

INDIA V NIUE

The Indians kicked off their campaign with a convincing win over the Niueans. However, it was the Niueans who started well running out opening batsman Vishal Kamath in the 2nd over. This only sparked India's onslaught with Steve Murray dispatching any delivery with ease to the boundary and Lala was able to

keep rotating the strike. The Indians were scoring at 10 an over and the Niueans had no answer to Murrays scoring spree. Lala was dismissed for 31 but it was Murrays fine innings of 103 that had everyone standing and applauding.

Chasing 203 in reply was always going to be a tough task. Needing 10 runs an over, the Niueans were always behind the asking rate with the Indians taking wickets at regular intervals. Skipper Chris Lakua showed some fight, scoring 27, but it was Gareth Bacon who ripped through the batting line up taking 4/20 off his 4 overs. The Niueans only managed 117 all out in what was a fairly one sided match.

India 203/5 (Steve Murray 103, Samir Lala 31) **Beat Niue** (Chris Lakua 27, Falani Taputuetoa 21; Gareth Bacon 4/20) **By 86 runs**

COOK ISLANDS V SRI LANKA

In what was undoubtedly the match of the round, the Cooks and the Sri Lankans were both looking to maintain their one hundred percent record. The Cooks batted first and got off to a disastrous start losing 4 wickets with only 41 runs on the board. But this bought the big hitting Milton Kavana to the crease. Things started to change as he hit boundaries all over the ground and he recieved good support from Davis Teinaki. Buddhika Thalakada was the best of the Sri Lankan bowlers with 4/25 with the Cooks posting 168/7.

In reply, the Sri Lankans seemed to be cruising along with all of the top order contributing to their good start. However, the Sri Lankans were losing wickets at crucial stages. Jehan Varieth was holding the Sri Lankans together but he lacked the support from the other end as Kavana was creating havoc with the ball. In the end the game went down to the last over with the Sri Lankans needing 9 runs from 2 balls. A dot ball on the second to last ball of the innings got the Cooks home and maintained their winning start to the competition.

Cook Islands 168/7 (Milton Kavana 65not out, Francis Tiavare 29; Buddhika Thalakada 4/25) **Beat Sri Lanka 162/9** (Jehan Varieth 35not out; Milton Kavana 3/19) **by 7 runs.**

PAKISTAN VS BANGLADESH

Unfortunately Bangladesh could not post enough players so Pakistan won by default

Standings after Round One

Pool A

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Cook Islands	2	2	-	4
India	1	1	-	2

Sri Lanka	2	1	1	2
Tonga	1	-	1	0
Niue	2	-	2	0

Pool B

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Samoa	2	2	-	4
Afghanistan	1	1	-	2
Pakistan	1	1	1	2
Fiji	2	-	2	0
Bangladesh	1	-	1	0

Round 2 Draw (Sunday 27 February 2011 – 3.30pm)

Pool A

Sri Lanka V India	3
Tonga V Cook Islands	1
Niue	BYE

Pool B

Fiji V Bangladesh	4
Afghanistan V Samoa	2
Pakistan	BYE

Further playing dates:

Time:

Venue:

Further details:

Contact:

Sunday 27 February & 6, 13, 20, 27 March

Matches start at 3.30pm

Keith Hay Park, Mount Roskill

Please see Auckland Cricket website at:

www.aucklandcricket.co.nz

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