

COLORADO CRICKET LEAGUE

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME



Memorial Tournament - A time to shine

Colorado Cricket League organized the Memorial Tournament in Colorado Springs during the Memorial Weekend. As part of CCL's team tasks program, CSCC volunteered to organize the tournament. The League was generously supported by The Sports Corp, the organizers of the Rocky Mountain State Games. Sports Corp provided us with a \$1500 sponsorship to conduct the tournament.

Our initial plan to invite out of state teams did not go well. Teams from Utah, Arkansas, California, Arizona, Texas and Nebraska were invited to the tournament but unfortunately none could make it. So we innovated and decided to let Team Colorado selectors form multiple teams from within our league members. We opened up the Team Colorado participation to all league members. About 33 players provided their availability to participate in the event. The selectors created 3 equal strength teams from these players. In addition we invited all clubs to participate in the tournament as a club team if they so desired. CSCC Rising Stars took on the challenge and fielded a club team.

The weather gods were pleased and gave us the perfect cricket weather. High 60's to go with a cool breeze was just what we needed. We decided on a T20 format with each team playing the other three teams in the tournament. Top two teams would meet in the Finals and bottom two would play for the bronze.

Sameer Chavan was the skipper of Team Colorado Red. Mike Riley led Team Colorado White and Naresh Ballampalli captained Team Colorado Blue. Raja Pandi led the CSCC Rising Stars. CSCC setup the fields and the tents. Umpires were assigned by CSCC. Bodha applied the final touches in CricClubs and all systems were GO.

Day 1

Game 1: 10 AM Sat May 25th Critrium field – CSCC Rising Stars vs Team Colorado White.

We had a minor hiccup when Team Colorado White had a last minute withdrawal. The scheduled umpire was converted into the 11th

man and we were set. After a couple of misses, Girish Nair started blasting the bowlers. He ended up with 78 runs off just 43 balls. He was ably supported by Rajdeep Dhaliwal (23 off 21), Rakesh Dash (23 off 19) and Ravi Adusumelli (16 off 20). Team White ended up with a tournament high 167 for 3 from their 20 overs. Tarun Chugh was the pick of the bowlers with 1 for 19 from his 4 overs.

Rising Stars got off to an unfortunate start when Rajesh Challagundla's inswinger hit the top of Asdeep's bat for a simple caught and bowled chance. Asdeep was gone for a golden duck. Rising Stars could not recover from the shock and ended up with 104 for 9 from their 20 overs. Tarun was the top scorer with 20. Margesh Patel (16 off 24), Vamsi Kanumuri (14 off 16) and Varun Panda (10 off 8) were the other scorers. Narender Chaudary had two for 16 and Rajesh took 2 for 30. Mike Riley's analysis read 2-1-1-1.

Game 2: 10 AM Sat May 25th Rose Bowl field – Team Colorado Red vs Team Colorado Blue.

Red and Blue started off their campaign at the grass heavy Rose Bowl. Just like in the other game, the scheduled umpire was converted to a missing Team Red player and the game started. The Team Red top order all scored but the run rate was kept very much under control. Gaurav Prativadi (20 off 25), Kaushik Natarajan (31 off 40), Viswa (22 off 26) and Sameer Chavan (33 off 22) led Team Red to a respectable 123 for 4. Naresh Ballampalli was the pick of the bowlers with 3 wickets for 20 runs.

In reply team Blue started furiously. Kranthi was in one of his massacre moods and did not spare any bowlers. He duly got his 50, ending up with 59 off just 37 deliveries that included 5 sixes. Abhijit Das (23 off 26) and Varun Konka (30 off 32) applied the finishing touches and took Team Blue home with three overs to spare. Sameer took two wickets for 28 runs.

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After a modest lunch of Domino's Pizza the teams were ready for round 2.

Game 3: 2 PM Sat May 25th Critrium field – Team Colorado White vs Team Colorado Blue.

Team White won the toss and elected to bat. Mansoor Ahmad started with the delivery of the tournament. A searing inswinging Jaffa that crashed into middle stump and Girish, the leading scorer of the morning, was back in the pavilion for a golden duck. Apart from Rajesh Challagundla (26 off 25) there was not much of a batting display by Team White. Chandra Aluru (12 off 19), Rakesh Dash (11 off 13), Narender Chaudhary (11 off 21) and Raj Manikavasagam (10 off 12) were the other contributors. Team White finished with 105 for 9. Naresh had his second three wicket haul of the day, 3 for 26.

This time Kranthi was moved down the order. Once again Rajesh started with another caught and bowled. The victim this time was Abhijit Das. However Naresh and Varun steadied the ship and kept the target in sight. Upon their quick dismissal, Poorvaj was sent in but he too departed without any impact. At 72 to 4, Kranthi was back and he and Vaibhav took the team home without further damage and with two overs to spare. Naresh was top scorer and Man of the Match with 29 runs off 34. Varun scored 28 from 33. Vaibhav 18 off 20 and Kranthi 19 off just 11. Mike Riley had two wickets for 18 runs.

Game 4: 2 PM Sat May 25th Rose Bowl field – Team Colorado Red vs CSCC Rising Stars.

Rising Stars batted first. Asdeep was determined to make up for his morning failure. He carried his bat while wickets fell steadily at the other end. Asdeep scored 71 runs off just 55 balls with 3 fours and 3 sixes. Only Vamsi (13 off 10) and Raghuram Saradka (11 of 31) provide any support. However 23 extras help Rising Stars reach a match winning score of 132 for 6.

Team Red started the chase cautiously and Rising Stars bowlers did not bowl any loose balls either. The chasing pressure kept building up and the middle order was not able to break loose. Sameer was top scorer with 35 off 29. Garnet scored a steady 26 off 36. Viswa scored 11. None of the Rising Stars bowlers went for more than 6 per over. In the end the target was too much and Team Red ended up with 104 for 8.

Day 2::

While some players soaked in hot tubs and were ready to do battle on day 2, other did not have the zeal or commitment and decide to skip the event. Team CSCC was back to the rescue and provided volunteers to the teams to make up their roster. Hamayun Zaheer and Narayan Madabusi joined Team Red, while Steve Pressdee joined Team White.

Game 5: 10 AM Sun May 26th Critrium field – Team Colorado Red vs Team Colorado White.

Both teams had just 9 players. In a show of camaraderie, the batting team decided to provide two fielders to the fielding side and the match started. Sameer (10 off 7) and Ramesh Appat (19 off 20) started briskly. Kaushik came one down and was in full flow. At the halfway mark Team Red were at 70 for the loss of 3 wickets. Kaushik completed his fifty off 33 deliveries before missing a slower delivery from Mike to be caught in front. Hamayun scored a quick 25 off 22. Gaurav chipped in with 10 off 8. Team Red were all out for 143.

Team Red had a strong bowling lineup and it was not going to be an easy chase for Team White. Rakesh kept going from one end but wickets kept tumbling from the other. Kanay Patel played a cameo scoring 31 off 17 that included 3 sixes one of which was a monster 120 yards hit that sailed over the parked cars. But in the end the chase was beyond them and despite Rakesh's top score of 33 from 40, Team White were all out for 105.



While checking the scores of the game during the break, it was determined that both teams did not have a chance to make it to the finals and so both captains mutually decided to make this game count as the third place game. Team Colorado Red, thus won bronze at the tournament. Mike Riley was kind enough to distribute the trophy and medals to his conquerors.

Game 6: 10 AM Sun May 26th Rose Bowl field – CSCC Rising Stars vs Team Colorado Blue.

Rising Stars were strengthened by the arrival of their hard hitting all rounder Lakshminarayan Rao. They won the toss and elected to bat. After seeing off the dangerous Mansoor and Pranay, Rao started toying with the rest of the bowlers. He duly completed this half century and finished with 56 off just 34 balls. Vamsi took over from Rao and keep the scoreboard ticking. He ended up unbeaten on 44 off 39 balls. Rising Stars finish with 143 for 7. Pranay Avula took 2 wickets for a miserly 13 runs. Team Colorado Blue was not giving up easily. The top 4 batsmen all had good stars but Mansoor (10 off 27) could not get going and ended up eating a lot of deliveries. Varun Konka top scored with 34 off 25. Kranthi one again was at his best upping the run rate with 32 off 17 and Abhijit also scored 32 off 36. But 144 was a bit out of reach and the final score was 129 for 9. Raja Pandi took 4 wickets for 17. Rising Stars had joined Team Colorado Blue in the finals.

We had a scary moment when Naresh was injured by a straight hit that crashed thru his palms into his forehead. Dr. Mansoor did an initial observation and Naresh was rushed to the hospital. Thankfully a CT Scan revealed no damage had been done.

On the other field, USA Cricket Project Manager, Eric Parthens stopped by to meet the players. He provided information on the current status of Cricket in the US. A lot has been going on at the national level and it was amazing to hear what was achieved by such a small staff.

USA Cricket
Project Manager,
Eric Parthens
stopped by to
meet the players
and update us on
the state of USA
Cricket.



Tom Osborne, the CEO of Sports Corp was the chief guest and distributed the trophies and medals.



FINALS: 3 PM Sun May 26th Rose Bowl field – CSCC Rising Stars vs Team Colorado Blue.

Both teams were exhausted at this point. They had each played 3 hard fought games. So the final was a battle of wills more than anything else. It came down to, which team wanted the championship more than the other!

As a passing storm rolled in and the winds picked up, the umpires conferred and decided to shorten the game to 15 over per side. Team Colorado Blue won the toss and elected to bat. In the absence of their captain, Abhijit took on the reins. Alagar from CSCC was replacing the injured captain. Abhijit and Alagar opened the inning. There was a sense of urgency in their batting. When Alagar departed for 10 off 13, Varun came in and started timing the balls so sweetly that the runs kept flowing. From his bat. Abhijit was run out for 19 off 15 and Kranti did not last long. But there was a surprise in store. Diminutive Kumaresan put on a display of power hitting along with Pramod and out of nowhere Team Colorado has scored at almost 10 an over. Kumaresan scored 40 off 17 and Pramod 20 off 12. Rao was the pick of the bowlers with 2 wickets for 17. Final score 147 off 15 overs.

Rising Stars started with their Stars – Asdeep and Rao. After hitting a boundary, Asdeep fell to Pranay. Vamsi joined Rao and fireworks were expected. But Vamsi (12 off 14) fell to a catch at covers and the rest of the batsmen were too tired to push for runs. What could have easily been 2s ended up as singles and the run rate kept climbing. These missed runs eventually made the difference. Even though wickets kept falling, Rao was keeping the team in the chase with some incredible batting display. A late burst of powerful hits brought Team Blue to their toes. Rao scored a brilliant second fifty, ending with 68 off just 44 deliveries. He showed an array of strokes included a switch hit boundary over point. But in the end, the side that was fit, won the game. Rising Stars final tally was 132 for 6. Team Colorado Blue won the championship by 15 runs.

Tom Osborne, the CEO of Sports Corp was the chief guest and distributed the trophies and medals. All the players of the top three teams were awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.

Chandra Aluru took some great pictures of the event. Check out <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/170T5Vq7bV6K7cSdon9JwvK8rhyD9wABM?usp=sharing>. Narayan Madabusi recorded the finals and third place game.

Champions – Team Colorado Blue

Runners Up – CSCC Rising Stars

Third Place – Team Colorado Red

Best Batsman - Lakshminarayan Rao: 124 runs with an average of 62 and strike rate of 157.

First runner up : Varun Konka: 122 runs with an average of 41 and strike rate of 112.

Second runner up: Kranthi Mummaneni: 115 runs with an average of 38 and strike rate of 158.

Best Bowler – Naresh Ballampalli: 7 wickets for 65 runs at an average of 9.29 and strike rate of 8.6

First Runner up: Rahul Sharma: 6 wickets for 111 runs at an average of 18.50 and strike rate of 15

Second Runner up; Mike Riley: 5 wickets for 48 runs at an average of 9.6 and strike rate of 12

Best All Rounder – Sameer Chavan: 78 runs, 5 wickets and 3 catches

First Runner up: Varun Konka: 122 runs, 1 wicket and 3 catches

Second Runner up: Rajesh Challagundla: 33 runs, 5 wickets and 4 catches



Satyam Singh

My vision for Team Colorado is to win an out of state tournament against the very best in the US.

Hello All,
I want to start by thanking the EC for giving me an opportunity to tell the league about my cricketing journey and share my vision for cricket in Colorado.

Growing up in Mumbai, the passion and sheer scale of all forms of cricket was unsurpassed by any other sport that I ever played. The need of better infrastructure for season (leather) ball cricket or rather the lack of its availability to me, lead me to find and satisfy my passion in tennis cricket. Be it underarm, box type or over arm tennis ball cricket, I loved it. The society or the compounds as we call them in Mumbai I grew up in, had gaps and empty spaces between the buildings which formed our first battle grounds.

The lack of resources and grounds led to unique experiences like playing 2 matches at the same time where I found myself fielding at short cover and short midwicket at the same time for two different batsmen in two different games.

I loved batting in tennis cricket and bowled slow and medium off spinners. My love for cricket graduated to its next level when I first played with season ball. It was a short stint in Mumbai, but it was a learning and a humbling experience. It introduced me to something I had only watched and read about: LBW. Still can't forget the lines uttered to me "yeh swing hota hai chottey, tennis ball nahin hai" by the bowler when I tried to slog sweep the first ball I ever faced in season ball and it changed trajectory on me.

Fast forward a decade and I was playing tennis cricket in Colorado when I happened to meet a player in a bus who asked me to join leather ball practice that evening with a bunch of players. This is when I was introduced to CCB and I still thank that day and player for this.

CACU Scheduler speaks

I have been with CCB for 8 years and have enjoyed every bit of cricket I have played with them in Colorado. Cricket here has not only given me satisfaction and happiness as a sport, but it has taught me life changing lessons. The best part of playing in Colorado has been the people I have got to know and the friendships that I have built that make me feel like home away from home.

At this point in my life I strongly believe that we as players owe it big to cricket for all the happiness, contentment and satisfaction that this game has given us and for all the lessons it has taught us every time we have stepped on to that field. I feel indebted to sustain this game and break any barrier and climb any ladder to make playing this game a better experience than the last game.

Our league is growing, we are getting new talent every season and the competition is getting tougher. These are positive signs for our league, however, to sustain this growth we need to get more grounds. I know that EC is working hard for this, but not just EC, every player of the league will have to pitch in and use every contact they know and pull every string they can pull to achieve this.

I have been part of Team Colorado for the last 5 years and considering the ground and the pitch conditions we play in Colorado, our performances out of state have been commendable. We have climbed up the ladder but still have some steep steps to climb. My vision for Team Colorado is to win an out of state tournament against the very best in the US.

As far as cricket in Colorado is concerned, I visualize a systematic league where cricket is played with all vigor but in boundaries of defined processes and rules.

Lastly, a whacky dream I aim to bring to life is to organize a 2 or a 3-day match in Colorado that would be played in whites with a red ball. Trust me, this is not farfetched.

Howzaat (Answers)

1. When should the toss be made?

B.

2. When should the captain make his decision to bat or field if he wins the toss?

A.

3. Once the captain make his decision can he

then reverse it?

C.

4. On the first day of a 5 day game there is no play. The Captain of the side batting first shall have the opportunity to invite the side batting second to follow-on if his team leads on the first inning be at least how many runs?

A.

Featured Club - Colorado CrossBats (CCB)



Colorado CrossBats (CCB) joined Colorado Cricket League(CCL) in 2010. The main objective of CCB is to promote the game of cricket within the central Colorado region, specifically (but not limited to) around cities of Denver, Aurora, Lakewood, Golden, Arvada, Highlands Ranch and to provide a competitive environment for individuals to develop and improve their game. We pursue this mission by participating in the Colorado Cricket League tournaments and organizing games with other clubs, in and out of Colorado, and by educating general public about the sport.

CCB is made of players from diverse background and different skill levels. CCB believes in respecting each other irrespective of skill levels and being competitive while having fun. CCB welcomes everyone who shares these values. CCB's journey started when a few cricket enthusiasts got together and started playing recreational tennis ball cricket at the Louisville ground. Venki Revanna, CCB's first president recognized the team's desire to play competitive cricket and introduced the team to CCL. CCB played it's first game in 2009 knockout and lost but it was just the beginning of a great journey. Crossbats, the name was naturally chosen considering CCB players playing style in earlier seasons. CCB always had talent but Manjeet Inamdar and Satyam Singh's arrival in 2011 brought much needed belief, confidence and competitiveness to team. With the addition of talent each subsequent year, CCB has been very competitive ever since and made it to playoffs in all seasons except 2014.

Memorable victories :

Aug 28, 2010 Vs FCCC : down 8 wickets and requiring 73 runs, Aditya Kasukurti and Rajesh Rathod pulled off an unbelievable victory against a very strong FCCC.

June 19, 2011 Vs. RBCC : In the early days CCB's biggest victory came on June 19th 2011 when CCB beat mighty RBCC chasing down 262 in 40 overs. This is when Manjeet and Saytam announced their arrival to CCL in grand fashion with Manjeet scoring a fiery century (123 off 62) and Satyam a half century (53 off 62). CCB had many memorable victories over the years but this has to be one of the biggest.

Same year, Mayur Otswal captained CCB to their first championship beating LCC in the Twenty20



Championship.

Rajesh Rathod captained the memorable 2015 season when CCB, remained unbeaten in P40 format through out the season and won the championship beating mighty LCC (their only loss in P40 championship in past 7 years), making this win even more memorable.

CCB's Best:

CCB has been lucky to have many many talented players over the years. Few of them are listed below:

Satyam Singh – Satyam has been the workhorse and backbone of CCB. With 3604 runs and 206 wickets in bag, Satyam remains best all-rounder in CCB and probably the league to date.

Manjeet Inamdar – Destructive and one of the most feared batsmen is closing in on 4000 league runs across formats, 106 wickets, 99 catches and with 29 stumpings. He remains the best all-rounder and one of the best wicket keepers and backbone of CCB.

Ashok Kulkarni, was awarded best all-rounder for 2010 season, still holds best bowling figures in CCL T20 (4-0-11-6).

Vamshi Mugatha – 1700 runs & 43 wickets.

Mayur Ostwal - 644 runs and 117 wickets.

Preetham Naik: 1244 runs and 44 wickets.

Rajesh Rathod : 1790 runs

Deepak Jammula: 731 runs, 90 wickets and 66 catches.

With young leaders in Kamal and Preetham and a good mix of fresh talent and experience, CCB is bound to reach new heights and add flavor and competition to the upcoming CCL seasons.



Colorado Cricket League

CCL-EC@GoogleGroups.com

OUR MISSION

To carry on the playing and the traditions of the game of cricket.

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.COLORADOCRICKET.ORG

Interesting facts about the world cup

- * England is the only nation which has hosted most number of World Cups (4) the next is India and Pakistan (2-both jointly)
- * The 1987 World Cup was the first ever world cup which was held outside England.
- * The 1992 World Cup was the first ever world cup which was hosted by the Southern Hemisphere countries.
- * The 1992 World Cup was the first ever world cup, where white balls were used and Day and Night games were played with colour clothings.
- * Because of the racial policy in South Africa, they could participate in the World Cup only in it's 5th edition in 1992.
- * Sri Lanka became the host for the first time in 1996 when they co-hosted the world cup in 1996.
- * Chetan Sharma of India is the first bowler to claim a hat trick in a world cup (1987).
- * Australia is the only team which has won 4 world cups in which three world cup wins came in a row (1997, 2003 & 2007).
- * After losing a round robin game against Pakistan in 1999 World Cup, Australia lost a game in a World Cup against the same team in the 2011 World Cup only.
- * Clive Lloyd and Ricky Ponting are the only captains who have won the world cup twice. Lloyd in 1975 and 1979 and Ponting in 2003 and 2007.
- * Sachin Tendulkar of India is the highest run getter in the World Cup history; he has scored 2, 278 runs in 6 world cups.
- * Glenn McGrath of Australia has claimed the highest number of wickets in the history of world cups which is standing at 72.
- * Shahid Afridi of Pakistan has a unique record of taking four wickets or more wickets in a match in four world cups.
- * The venues for the World Cup finals are Lord's (1975, 1979, 1983, 1999), Eden Gardens (1987), Melbourne Cricket Stadium (1992, 2015), Gaddafi Stadium (1996), The Wanderers (2003), Kensington Oval (2007) and Wankhede Stadium (2011)

Howzaat? Laws 13 & 14 (Innings & Follow-On)

1. When should the toss be made?
 - A. More than 30 minutes before the scheduled start of play.
 - B. Between 30 and 15 minutes before the scheduled start of play.
 - C. 15 minutes before the scheduled start of play.
2. When should the captain make his decision to bat or field, if he wins the toss?
 - A. Immediately after winning the toss.
 - B. Within 5 minutes.
 - C. Before the match starts.
3. Once the captain makes his decision can he then reverse it?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. Yes, if the other captain agrees.
 - C. No.
4. On the first day of a 5 day game there is no play. The Captain of the side batting first shall have the opportunity to invite the side batting second to follow-on if his team leads on the first inning be at least how many runs?
 - A. 150 runs.
 - B. 200 runs.
 - C. 250 runs.