#### **COLORADO CRICKET LEAGUE**

## FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

### Fort Collins Cricket Club are the 2019 Premier Champions



Hello and welcome to the finals of the P40 installment of the Colorado Cricket League between two heavyweights in FCCC and LCC. Going into this finale, one phrase that springs to mind is "The North Remembers" with us Northerners (FCCC) remembering the recent past and the not so recent past where LCC handed us a beating in P40 and T20 formats. There was no betrayal involved but revenge was still in the air knowing LCC had to come to our backyard to retain their champion status. FCCC on the other hand, after failing to qualify for the playoffs for the last five seasons, sniffed sweet revenge with their eyes sparkling in anticipation knowing LCC had to come to Boltz. Would it be another loss against LCC to end the season or would it be a fairy tale in the making? Only time would tell.

FCCC won the toss and elected to bat first on a chilly morning. A bold move one could say but it's the one that paid off. Sagar and Faiq opened for FCCC and gave an unusually good start for FCCC. Faiq took his time while Sagar, knocked the ball around ticking the scoreboard, surprising for his standards. Sagar though didn't stay longer lashing lethargically at Jay's delivery and edging one to the keeper. Tejas didn't contribute much either in batting, however his part in this fairy tale was just about to begin as his batting doors were shut for the season. Naveen as well seemed jittery in batting, but his bowling did the talking in this episode. Faig on the other end was playing a steady inning, unusual for his caliber. Dipal, the man for the occasion came in, but Faiq got out soon having scored 33 off 6I balls. Omer was the next one in and he and Dipal brought back the old memories scoring briskly taking the attack to the bowlers. Both together scored a quickfire 77 run partnership in just 47 balls before Omer was bowled by Rezwan for a well made 32 off 22 balls with 3 6s and I 4. Dipal continued to soldier on and was joined by the talented Darshan who wasted no time in settling down scoring a boundary and a six in his first 4 balls. When Darshan gets going, you know he reigns havoc on opponents and so he did, scoring all over the park and also hitting a six out of the park. He scored a 27 ball 53 with 4 4s and 5 6s before being adjudged LBW. 200 seemed a good enough score on this Boltz pitch but now FCCC had 250 in their sights. Dipal finished off the innings brilliantly as well scoring 74 off 59 balls with 3 6s and 9 incredible 4s. It almost seemed he saved the best innings for the final, where he generally thrives as a big match player. The leg-side flick off of Bodha's bowling to six was eye candy to all cricket lovers. FCCC reached 254 in their allotted 40 overs. In the bowling department, Rezwan bowled well for figures of 8-2-40-3.

So, you would think 250 in a final is game over, right? Hold your horses! We have seen this movie before, and it was not a fun one nonetheless for FCCC. For neutrals, it was "paisa vasool" (money's worth) when LCC chased 300+ in Cornerstone with Bodha scoring 200+ in that game. But this was the North. For the Southerners in LCC where the South was fertile and productive for run making, the cold, hard pitch in the North was

anything but that. Nayab and Dharam started tentatively following FCCC's template to get a big score and the fact that they were each dropped in consecutive overs didn't help FCCC's cause of starting confidently. Nayab got out early to Naveen but then followed a long dearth for wickets for FCCC. Jay came in and played well disregarding it was the Boltz pitch. Dharam was playing a good anchor role on the other end until chaos struck and the wall was breached courtesy of a mix up between the pair resulting in Dharam being run out. FCCC needed this to reset and kick start their fire. Tejas was introduced into the attack and he was the Ace in the hole as his slow out swingers did the trick in getting Jay and Rezwan out within a span of 5 runs and LCC were suddenly 153 for 4 although their run rate was way above par. Jay had scored a classy 51 ball 72 with 5 6s and 6 4s. Rezwan scored a 23 ball 24 with 4 4s. In came the guy who had destroyed FCCC for the past 4 games in Bodha. But FCCC knew he would always give a chance as they were keener on finishing the game by the 30th over than take it till at least the end, which actually led to their downfall. Bodha started like he usually does scoring 32 off 13 balls before Tejas bowled a wide out-swinging ball that got Bodha out who couldn't resist the temptation of going big as he sliced the ball high in the region of covers where Venkatesh took a great running catch to get him out. There was pure elation in the faces of FCCC players as they knew had one foot in the door. Bodha had scored 3 massive 6s and 2 4s. The rest of the tail didn't stick much longer and LCC were skittled out for 203 in just 32.2 overs. Tejas was the game turner with figures of 7-49-4 Naveen also bowled well controlling the run flow with 6.2-I-I8-2.

FCCC finally had their fairy tale ending in winning the P40 championship but it was also a well-deserved one. They secured the top spot against CSCC in Springs and they defended a par score of 175 against FRCC in the semis before putting up a massive target of 255 against LCC and believing in themselves to defend that target against a formidable lineup of LCC.

Man of the Match: Tejas Tank for his bowling performance of 7-49-4.

Article by Sagar Chandra



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Did you know?

## Meet CACU VP—Surendar Reddy Lakkadi

My name is Surendar Reddy Lakkadi (AKA Suri). I have been the CACU Vice President since 2018.

I have been playing cricket in Colorado since 2016. In my first two years of playing cricket, I made some very good friends and that led me to think about forming a new cricket club. Therefore, we established a new club in late 2017 - Denver Dynamites Cricket Club (DDCC). I am so proud to say that DDCC has become my second family.

Coming to my childhood cricket journey, I did my schooling in Godavarikhani where I used to play many sports like Cricket, Badminton, Kabaddi, Carrom etc. With the infrastructure we used to have for sports in our town, one could only dream about playing at a higher level. I always dreamt about playing good organized cricket but due to some family constraints, I was not able to realize my dream in India.

I started by playing tennis ball cricket, as does every player in India. We used to play cricket under five big trees where two trees were the two ends of wickets. Most of the time we played bare feet.

Once I moved to Hyderabad, my real cricket journey began. After couple of great performances, people noticed my talent and started coming to my home to sign me up for big bet matches that used to happen in and around of Hyderabad city. Though I played a lot of cricket, I barely played about 10-15 leather ball matches in India. CCL is the one that gave me the opportunity to prove my leather ball skills and I feel my dream of playing good organized cricket has now come true.

As a CACU VP, my role has mainly been about tracking the weekly reporting. I maintain good records of all match reports and fines/penalties for each club. I also help the CACU president and Scheduler where necessary. I am

#### **Howzzat Answers**

- **1. B** Practicing on the match pitch..
- 2. C Bowling and catching practice on the outfield.
- **3.**  $\mathbf{D} \mathbf{T}$ The striker misses the ball and attempts to regain his ground.
- **4. B** From the offside to the legside because the striker changes his position for a switch-hit down the leg side.
- **5.**  $\mathbf{B}$  Call and signal no ball as soon as the bowler delivers the ball.
- **6.** B His body, his clothes and any protective equipment.



I want to make CCL the best-disciplined league in USA

always trying to be transparent and unbiased in any situation.

I feel very proud when I hear my friends from other states of USA compare the quality of cricket they are playing to what we are playing here in Colorado. We are by far, a lot better organized than most other leagues. Our well-defined rules and regulations make us stand apart from the rest. I really appreciate all the EC members and clubs for their support and interest in making us the best. I am so happy and proud to be part of CCL.

My vision for CCL in the coming years is to focus more on improving the umpiring quality and making CCL the best-disciplined league in USA cricket. All other state leagues should look up to CCL and want to come and experience playing cricket with CCL Teams in Colorado.

I am so thankful to God and my family for allowing me to do what I am passionate about. I am so happy that I get to play cricket here in the US, every week of the season with such amazing infrastructure and high quality competition. My family has made many sacrifices in letting me pursue of my passion. I would encourage all of you to also be thankful to your families.

#### **Coming Soon**

#### Colorado Cricket Hall of Fame

CCL EC plans to establish the COLORADO CRICKET HALL OF FAME. Our league has matured to a point where several players that have graced our state with their talents and dedication.

We need to honor these men as a show of gratitude. The EC is working on details of this exciting platform and will shortly present them to the LMC.

Check with your LMC representatives for updates.





Our Vision – To build and develop a Cricket club with energetic and competitive individuals representing the team in state level leagues and other competitions, keeping the core motto of unity and equality at the heart of the team.

Mile High Cricket Club (MHCC) originated in 2018 to compete in the Colorado Cricket League in the T20 format. The club at that time was an extension of the team performing in the Tennis ball league under the name of Avengers since 2016. With multiple players in the team showing interest and enthusiasm towards leather ball cricket the core members of the club (Varun Rajmohan, Rajasekaran and Arun Charles) decided to build a club from the ground up. What was talked about as an exhausting task to form a club was achieved with the help of the encouragement provided by the players and loyalty towards the club.

As a team the members have shown great exuberance and zeal in the sports and the development of the club, we wish

to continue in this path and grow with experience and skill and hopefully enter the longer format of the game in the coming years.

MHCC has now completed two successful seasons in the league with several outstanding performances. To list a few memorable moments - We had Mihir Shah and Raiat Jangid providing our highest opening stand of 133 runs in the game against CSCC Stripes with Mihir getting the top score of 99 runs. The victorious chase against CCCC Green in the semifinals to reach a target of 137 in the plate league game in 2019 was an adrenaline pumping match for the team and viewers. Another game that was extremely memorable was the bowling performance by the team against YCC in 2018 season to give the team their first win by bowling the opposition out for 75 runs.

We hope to see more such performances in the future and fly to greater heights in the coming seasons



Featured Club

Mile High
Cricket Club



#### **Colorado Cricket League**

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

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.COLORADOCRICKET.ORG

## Did you know? (Interesting 2019 CCL facts)

Almost 45,000 runs were scored in the season.

25 centuries were scored in this season —The most ever in one season.

Bodhayan Chakraborty finished the season with a batting average of 100.45 and a strike rate of 210.88.

Summet Khule (1167) and Bodhayan Chakraborthy (1105) completed 1000 runs in a season.

Sagar Chandra played the most games this year - 25 games across both formats.

Naveen KP was the bowling workhorse with 111.5 overs under his belt.

Rezwan Shivo had the best bowling performance of 2019—7 wickets for 16 runs.

# Howzaat? Laws 26, 27 & 28 (Practice on the field, the wicket keeper and the fielder) (Answers on Page 2)

- 1. Which of the following actions on the field is never allowed?
- A. The bowler having a trial runup.
- B. Practicing on the match pitch.
- **C.** Bowling practice on the square.
- 2. Before the start of play on the day of the match, in which of the following forms of practice can the players partake?
- A. Practice bowling on the match pitch.
- B. Practice bowling on the rest of the square without the umpire's approval.
- C. Bowling and catching practice on the outfield..
- 3. In which one of the following situations is the wicket keeper not allowed to move in front of the wicket before the ball has passed the wicket?
- A. The striker starts to run.
- B. A ball delivered touches the striker's bat.
- C. A ball delivered touches the striker's pad but not his bat.
- D. The striker misses the ball and attempts to regain his ground.

- 4. Whilst the bowler is in his run-up, in which of the following ways is the wicket keeper allowed to move from his original position behind the stumps?
- A. From the offside to the legside because the bowler signals he is going to bowl there. The striker has not moved.
- B. From the offside to the legside because the striker changes his position for a switch-hit down the leg side.
- C. From two yards behind the stumps up to the stumps for a stumping.
- 5. As the bowler is running in to deliver the ball, a close fielder has edged forward and now has his foot on the pitch. What should the umpire do?
- A. Call and signal dead ball immediately.
- B. Call and signal no ball as soon as the bowler delivers the ball.
- C. Do nothing.
- 6. A fielder may field the ball with any part of his person. What is included in 'his person'?
- A. His body only.
- B. His body, his clothes and any protective equipment.
- C. His body, his clothes, but not his protective equipment.