

## Under 12s

### Comp

Banyule 4-108 dec                      Defeated                      Edinburgh 7-102

Banyule Under 12s are into the Grand Final. No match report this week – but get down & see this weeks' action for yourself as the mini-Bears are in the GF.



*Banyule adapted to wet conditions much better.*

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## Senior Results

### A Grade

Banyule 100                      lost to                      Greensborough 6/102  
G. Anderson 32                      P. Barnes 4/51

With a weekend forecast of rain and cold weather, cricket jumpers in the warm up were a first for many months. The absence of Occa & Dasha created opportunities for JD to return to the 1's and Veally to make his debut this year. We won the toss and the weather looked fine so a decision to bat ensued. In fact jumpers were soon removed as the weather became as warm and steamy as a Navy broom closet.

Well that is where the fun ended for the Yules as Greensborough bowled us out for 100. We batted poorly with no partnerships of note, multiple wickets falling together and some indifferent shot selections. Unfortunately batting woes have dogged us for much of the year and this game proved no different. Ando ensured the Borough didn't have it all their own way hitting back with a fine 32.

From adversity comes triumph so the boys did an excellent effort of staying positive ready to have a return crack with the ball. We reminded ourselves of many Borough collapses over the years (not to mention reminding them as well!!). With plenty of fire early we had them 4/40 and they were in real froth and bubble. A large crowd at War Memorial Park had fallen silent as we began breaking through. With a bit more luck we could have had them at close of play 5/50 odd (note, read "a bit more" as "we never get any", and "luck" as "it was certainly out umpire"), but instead they struggled to 4/65.

The weather gods hit us hard on Sunday delivering muddy run-ups, slippery footmarks and a softening cricket ball. After a short delay and a large effort by the Greensborough guys to ready the pitch we got under way again at 2.20 pm. With the early wickets so desperately needed just out of reach, Greensborough climbed agonisingly towards our total. Just when they looked like passing us only 4 wickets down we

sprung again to take another couple of scalps ensuring at least that a few of their lower order went home with some dirty washing (and we're not talking about cricket whites here either!). In the end they got home posting 6/102 but we can be proud of the way we fought the match right to the finish.

In taking a brief look back over the season 3<sup>rd</sup> on the ladder was not such a bad effort considering we were virtually in a rebuilding phase after losing so many players out of last year's premiership team. There were many new players who figured prominently this year such as Damo, Daniel, JD, The Colonel and Steve and others given a taste including PD, Big Dave, Willo, Veally, Butler and Moshie. As we know at Banyule success is our business card so a more consistent effort, especially with bat, needs to be exhibited next year to return to the standards we enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who represented the 1<sup>st</sup> X1 this year and to Occa for his tireless efforts as captain & coach. Best wishes to all the boys in the 3<sup>rd</sup>s and 4<sup>th</sup>s and the U/16's, U/14's and U/12's as you go for flags this week. We will be there supporting you.



*A Grade season ends on a disappointing note.*

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### C Grade

Banyule 260                      defeated                      Heidelberg West 74

M.O'Ryan 105                      M.Harte 3/2  
G.Place 42                      W.Sier 3/32  
M.Harte 25                      S.Brandt 3/33  
W.Sier 24  
L.Willoughby 21

A good toss to win. Always bat first in the finals. At 4 for 34 we weren't too sure if it was going to turn out for the better. Billy had made 24 of these runs and was batting well before hitting a catch to long on. Scooby was now at the crease and Jed was put in to stop the fall of wickets. Together they added 116 before Jed was out. Scooby was on 50 and looking comfortable. Usher added a quick 25, Scooby was on 70 odd. Then Lucas added a classy 21 and Scooby was nearing the ton. Finally Scooby brought up a fantastic century made in very difficult circumstances before we were all out for 260 in the 77th over. A gutsy fight back against some very good opposition bowling. Heidelberg West were 0 for 2 overnight.

Next day was a rain-delayed start. Heidelberg West progressed to 35 despite a blistering spell from both Simo and Billy. After drinks Simo bowled one of their stubborn openers and rot set in. Simo and Billy went on a rampage and terrorised the opposition, the ball was moving all over the place and sometimes it didn't even bother to hit the ground. Rick Adams behind the stumps was sensational and Usher came on and proceeded to take 3 for 0 in his second spell. Two of these wickets falling to great slips catches by man of the match, Scooby O'Ryan. We play traditional rivals Rosanna in the Grand Final for the 3rd year in a row. At Christmas they were top and we were ninth. Let the BCC 3rds Juggernaut continue on its merry way.



*A young Dutch girl hears of Scooby's knock.*

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### D Grade

Banyule 272      Def      Clifton Hill 218

R Kernaghan 146      K Gehan 4/28

A Clapton 47 no

L Taylor 22

Up against last season's Grand Finalist Clifton Hill we were ready for a tough encounter and that's exactly what we got.

Winning the toss and batting first we lost "Leader" early which brought Ralph to the crease who has dominated the Hill's attack in past matches. Once again he was not to be outdone, batting 70 odd overs for 148 runs which included a record 6th wicket partnership of 125 with "Spud" who finished on 47 N.O. This follows their record partnership of 116 from the previous week. On the large Ford Park Oval Ralph was tested having to run 3's on 6 occasions as the ball stopped at the fence line. Luke Taylor showed a glimpse of his talent with an entertaining 22, finishing with 272 for the loss of 9 wickets from our 80 overs placed us in a confident frame of mind but also recognising we had to bowl tight on Sunday.

With conditions not ideal for our young tearaway opening bowlers we struggled to make inroads with Clifton Hill averaging 4 per over. Shane Ando must have thought he was playing in the World Cup emulating Waqar's 2 beamers and was given a warning, we took the risk and finally he got one to land to knock over the openers stumps. With the ball beginning to dry out Luke was starting to get his line right and troubling the batsmen (or was it that he had changed into Graham Bennett's runners which provided him with better

traction than what was on display at Albert Park?). Leader began to put the screws down on the run rate but with Clifton Hill on 3/133 we needed to start making some breakthroughs; this was provided by Luke "Love Child" – fielding a straight drive that went between then Umpires legs, picking up the ball, he took aim and threw the ball straight over the Umpires head to take out middle stump with the Captain of the Hill's short of his crease. If this couldn't inspire us nothing would. Scott bowled a spell that provided us with the encouragement that we have another bowler that will give us the flexibility to maintain the pressure on opposition batsmen. It was time for the spin twins, Wizard and Ralphie to do their thing, and that's exactly what they did, tying down the batsmen, increasing the scoreboard pressure and collecting wickets. Ralph took it one step further by collecting Spud with a quicker ball in the kisser. Spud was helped from the ground by Tim Veal and received lots of support from the ever-increasing gallery who were providing much needed vocal support. As the game progressed Goosy must have thought footy season had already started, chest marking the ball to place the Hill's on the rack. He swears though he took it cleanly in his hands. Wizard continued to make inroads to finally have Clifton Hill all out for 218 after 71 overs of pressure cricket, his form along with his spinning partner will put fear in our Grand Final opposition Olympic Colts.

This was the perfect game for going into the most important game of the year, but we must not rest on our past performances and step up that extra bit for this weeks encounter.

Thanks to those who come down and supported us especially the A Grade players who would have been finding things tough after their match. We are up against quality opposition this week and need to be performing to the level that saw us finish on top of the ladder at the end of the home and away rounds.



*Kev really is The Wizard.*

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2002/03

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