

Barbados Cricket Tour 2022

Game Day 1

Squad 1 v St Leonards U18

St Leonards 301ao; Spragg 3/35, Kassulke 3/44

Squad 1 259ao; Hayward 61, Ford 51, Halstead 30

Lost by 42 runs

A tough start on a small ground for Squad 1. After a quick fire 50 run opening stand, which took a spectacular one-handed diving catch from Kassulke to break, and then a 50 ball hundred from their number 3, St Leonards were set for 350+. But, with some good resilience despite the heat taking its toll, we picked up a flurry of late wickets and kept them to 301. In reply, squad 1 starting positively with a dynamic opening stand from Park and Halstead going at the required rate. Ford, De Capell Brooke and Hayward continued in positive fashion and at 210-4 with 12 overs remaining it was game on! But unfortunately, after a flurry of late wickets ourselves, we came up short. A valiant effort with lots of positives to take against strong opposition.

Squad 2 v Wanderers U17

Wanderers 234-7; Ingle 3/27, Potter 1/31

Squad 2 125ao; Kemp 37, O Stanton 29

Lost by 109 runs

Squad 2 were fortunate enough to play their first match at the iconic wanderers CC, the oldest cricket club in Barbados and home of many internationals, including Jofra Archer. As with Squad 1, it was a baptism of fire for Squad 2 who came up against some powerful batsmen that put our bowlers to the sword. But a good spell from our spinners dragged us back into it and kept Wanderers to a respectable score, albeit slightly above par. Kemp and O Stanton formed a good 2nd wicket partnership but unfortunately when these both fell, the following wickets tumbled at regular intervals with squad 2 ending up 109 runs short. Welcome to Barbados!!

Squad 3 v Franklyn Stevenson Academy U15

FSCA 178-3; Woodhull 1/28, Woodrow 1/32

Squad 3 159-8; Eyre 50*, Jurdjevic 26, Spencer 22

Lost by 19 runs

A T20 for Squad 3 to start off on the same ground that we had trained on the day before. We had noticed it was a fairly small ground with a good track, so we expected a high scoring match. FSCA batting well but Squad 3 stuck it out and apart from two batters we didn't let anyone else get away from us with our bowlers certainly growing into the game and finishing strong. In reply, we came out firing and when Eyre retired on 50* at the halfway stage we were just ahead of the rate. Jurdjevic and Spencer kept things going but after Spencer was run out, the lower order failed to offer much support to Jurdjevic who also succumbed to the same method of dismissal in the last over when things had just gone beyond our reach. A great effort in a high scoring game to start.

Game Day 2

Squad 1 v Franklyn Stevenson Academy U18

FSCA 193-9; McDevitt 3/14, Tobin 2/22

Squad 1 196-8; Boston 35*, Park 29, Halstead 28

Won by 2 wickets

After having to move grounds in the morning due to our original ground not being ready, the day tee'd up a great contest. In a 35 over game, FSCA made their way to 196. 3 wickets in one over from McDevitt were the highlights from this innings. In response, a 58 run opening stand from Halstead and Park got us off to another good start, but after the top five all got starts with no one reaching 30, Boston came in at 131-6 with the match teetering in the balance. Some mature batting with Hancock and then Tobin at the other end, saw us home with two wickets to spare.

Squad 2 v St Catharine's U17

St Catharine's 141-9; Reyner 3/15, Vaz 3/28, Potter 3/30

Squad 2 141ao; Liddy 33, Daley 31

Tie

After losing the toss and being asked to field, we were encouraged by some fantastic opening bowling by Reyner and Vaz, which left St Catharine's 12-3. St Catharine's rebuilt and threatened to make a bigger score than we expected after the start was reigned back in by some fantastic spin bowling from Potter. We were confident of chasing down 141. However, things didn't go to plan when we started in similar fashion, finding ourselves at 14-3 and then 37-5. Liddy counter attacked somewhat with a quick 33 but we again found ourselves struggling at 78-8 when Daley and Reyner came together. A sensible partnership formed with Reyner playing an important supporting role. When Reyner fell at 114-9 we still had hope after a strong partnership. In came Chapman, not fazed by the situation, playing a vital role at number 11 and ticking off the runs slowly but surely. 6 were needed off the last over...!! 2 to win off the last ball.... Daley scampered through for a leg bye, but unfortunately got run out going for the match-winning run. Superb recovery; oh so close!

Squad 3 v Pickwick U15

Pickwick 138-4; N Stanton 1/9, Woodrow 1/21

Squad 3 117ao; Luttman-Johnson 26, Hunt 22

Lost by 21 runs

Pickwick CC has played a big role in West Indian cricketing history. It had to relocate their ground after their original site became the Kensington Oval. Now located within the sugar cane fields on the east of the Island, it's a beautiful ground. Bowling first again, Pitwick made their way to 138-4 which could have been so much better with Pickwick scoring 111 runs of the bat but having conceded 27 extras, this was again another daunting score on what was a big ground with boundaries hard to come by. A strong opening partnership from Luttman-Johnson (26) and Hunt (22) got us off to a great start but with only one of the remaining batsmen able to make it into double figures, the total always just seemed out of reach. But with us only coming 21 runs short in the end, this was an eye opener on how important restricting the number of extras is!

Game Day 3

Squad 1 v Empire U18

Squad 1 124ao; Hayward 47, Boston 18

Empire 126-5; Tobin 2/29, Spragg 2/29

Lost by 5 wickets

Knowing Empire would arguably be our strongest opposition of the tour, being the home club of our brilliant tour rep, Ian Perryman. Despite a classy 47 from Hayward we struggled to get going against strong bowling. A quick fire 39 off 30 balls from Ian's son, Hakeem (currently playing as an overseas pro in the Lancashire League) broke the back of the chase and despite wickets from Tobin and Spragg, Empire got home comfortably.

Squad 2 v Foundation School U18

Squad 2 176ao; Menya 42, O Stanton 31

Foundation 170-3; Reyner 1/20, Potter 1/32

Lost by 7 wickets

Batting for the first time on tour, Squad 2 batted well with Menya and O Stanton scoring the bulk of the runs. At the halfway stage it was a tough one to call and after two early wickets, things were looking good. But as we'd seen before, some hard-hitting middle order batsmen took a strangle hold on the game with an 86 and 70 run partnership from their numbers 3, 4 and 5. Our bowlers stuck with it and made life as difficult as possible with overs running out towards the end but Foundation School saw it home to win by 7 wickets.

Squad 3 v Grantley Adams School U15

Grantley Adams 59ao; Hunt 4/1, Chu 3/7

Squad 3 102-5 (batted on to 20 overs); Eyre 20*, J Kisiel 9*

Won by 7 wickets

This was a beautiful ground with amazing views from the pavilion which was set high up on the hillside. This was Grantley Adams School's first match in two years due to the pandemic. Squad 3 took advantage of this and were ruthless with the ball in hand, taking wickets regularly with Chu and Hunt taking the bulk of the wickets. In reply, Eyre continued his fine form on tour with a score of 20 retired. Once we got to their score to win by 7 wickets, we continued to bat on to gain as much valuable batting time as possible. Squad 3 were fortunate enough to have a visit from former West Indian, Tino Best at this match, most famous for being the target of Freddie Flintoff's famous sledge of 'Mind the windows Tino'.

Game Day 4

Squad 1 v Grantley Adams School U18

Grantley Adams 200ao; Park 3/18, Tobin 1/15

Squad 1 201-4; Halstead 47, De Capell Brooke 45*, Ford 40

Won by 6 wickets

Squad 1 came up against West Indian U19, Kevin Wickham who was fresh off the back of averaging 81 at the recent World Cup. Squad 1 bowled first again, with Tobin making an early breakthrough. This brought Kevin to the crease, scoring an effortless knock off 119 off 89, finally falling LBW to Ford. We continued to toil at the other end, taking regular wickets. Park was the standout bowler with everyone else chipping in with a wicket a piece. In reply to Grantley Adams' score of 200, Park and Halstead started well for the third time on tour, this time Halstead (47) was the first to fall with the score on 99. But this set the foundation for captain, De Capell Brooke (45*), to come in and steer us to a 6 wicket win with able assistance from Ford 40 and Hayward 10*. A great way to finish the tour and certainly our best performance to date, which set us up well for the start of the English season.

Squad 2 v Deighton Girffith School

Deighton Griffith 57ao; Potter 4/11, Liddy 2/1

Squad 2 141-6 (batted on to 20 overs); Henson 27*, Liddy 23

Won by 8 wickets

After a tie and two losses, Squad 2 finished off their tour with a comprehensive win against Deighton Griffith School, who again hadn't played a match for two years due to the pandemic. Potter rounded off the tour with an impressive four wicket haul which saw him finish the tour as leading wicket taker. In reply we cruised to an 8 wicket win, but then batted our remaining overs, allowing most batters to get some extra time in the middle and end the tour on a high.

Squad 3 v Foundation School U15

Squad 3 166-8; Eyre 49, Spencer 35

Foundation School 170-7; Chu 3/36, Hunt 1/22

Lost by 3 wickets

The final match for Squad 3 was their best on tour, coming up against a strong Foundation School. The quality of cricket was high throughout, and despite losing by 3 wickets in the end, it could have gone either way. Batting first for the first time on tour, Eyre continued his fine form with an agonising 49, ably supported by Spencer and A, Kisiel we posted a score that gave our bowlers a chance. At 23-3 with early wickets from Chu, things were promising, but not for the first time on tour, a couple of powerful middle order batters (with one scoring 41 off 19) did the damage and meant Foundation could creep over the line with a couple of overs to spare.
