

PHARMACY CRICKET

NSW VS QLD INAUGURAL MATCH FOR THE 'GUILD TRAVEL' SHIELD, ROBINA GOLD COAST SUNDAY 6TH MARCH 2005



NSW & QLD teams, Robina, Gold Coast. Trophy is the Guild Travel Shield

Driving over the crest of the hill what a wonderful sight, a cricket ground as large as the MCG, in great condition, well grassed with an outstanding pavilion. The members of the Gold Coast Cricket Club committee, from the Secretary, Treasurer, President, Groundsman, bar minder to the husband and wife lunch providers were a most hospitable group and truly wonderful people. The members of the Queensland team with their captain Darren Spina weren't a bad bunch either.

The previous night at our hotel, the NSW team enjoyed a great poolside BBQ with the Queensland boys in very pleasant conditions, balmy breeze and great food and adequate liquid refreshments. There was good fellowship and it was great to meet our opponents.



Darren Spina retires
50 not out

Sunday broke to a slightly overcast day with a steady wind. Darren Spina, Townsville pharmacist and Queensland skipper, won the toss and decided to bat. The Queensland opening pair was soon parted when Peter Hickey was out LBW to Anthony BouAntoun for 5. Queensland 1 for 10. The score moved along slowly and in the 14th over Mark Kleimeyer was caught off Andrew Douglas for 14. Enter Darren Spina, who playing a truly captain's innings, set about steering Queensland along with various partners including Matthew McLoughlin 38, and having reached 50 Spina was required to retire in the 40th over with the score at 5 for 140. At this moment we witnessed a great feat of bowling by NSW captain Peter Mikhail who having taken 2 for 17 off his first 5 overs set about demolishing the rest of the Queensland team. Mikhail finished with 7 for 28 off 9 overs. The last 4 wickets off 9 balls. Queensland out for 155.

Lunch was taken.

NSW opened their innings with new and untried openers, Matt Feros and Adrian Sobol. These two displayed great concentration and played very correctly. Sobol having hit 2 fours gave way to temptation and was caught for 20. NSW 1 for 37 in the 11th over. Feros & Andrew Douglas moved the score to 79 when Feros was out for a well-played 34, the highest score in the NSW innings. Anthony BouAntoun joined Douglas and both played well until

Douglas was bowled for 32. NSW 3 for 108. It seemed that victory was well in sight. But NO, with two ducks, a caught & bowled and one clean bowled, NSW was in trouble. Peter Mikhail coming in at No 7 kept the ship afloat. Requiring 14 runs to win enter Peter O'Reilly. In the tradition of that great cricketer name and lower order batsman, O'Reilly saw out the rest of the over, this gave the strike to Mikhail, who set about scoring the runs required, however, not quite. O'Reilly was then left at the striker's end with the score tied. With great skill and a little luck O'Reilly hit the next ball, to where he says he did not know, and Mikhail calling desperately secured his ground for the winning run. Victory to NSW by one run. Paul Mahoney, although padded up, was a little relieved he was not required to bat.

NSW captain Peter Mikhail was awarded 'Man of The Match, with 7 for 28 and 22 not out.



NSW Captain, Peter Mikhail triumphantly
returning to the pavillion after taking 7 for 28.
The last 4 wickets fell in 9 balls.

Mr Ken Bickle presented the 'Guild Travel' Shield on behalf of Pharmacy 'Guild Travel' to the captain of the winning team. Both captains spoke after the match expressing their congratulations to both teams for a great match and to those responsible for the organization.

We look forward to the next match between the 'Cockroaches' & the 'Cane Toads'.

Your Cricket correspondent



The winning team. Captain, Peter Mikhail