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Nambour Invitational – 3 nil win to the Fireballs

In very hot conditions, three combined Ferny teams, U11/12; U13/14 & U15/16 travelled to Nambour on Sunday 17 January for the annual Nambour Invitational an initiative by Grant ledger (Nambour) and Bill Ledger (Ferny) to give the players an opportunity to brush a few cobwebs out prior to the 2nd half of the season. It also gives our players an opportunity to gain experience playing on turf wickets at Nambour's terrific facility.

All teams and supporters had a great day with a clean sweep across all three games. Following are the results and some snaps from the day.

U11/12 – Ferny Fireballs 8/227 v Nambour 10/81 and 10/81

U13/14 – Ferny Fireballs 9/156 v Nambour 10/114

U15/16 – Ferny Fireballs 10/171 v Nambour 10/142



The victorious U13/14 team coached by Gregg Cook

U13/14 action with the centrally located Nambour Cricket clubhouse in the background. All 3 matches can be watched from the one location.



U13/14's in the foreground and the U15/16's in the background. What a great place to play cricket!

Full Match Reports:

U11/12:

Ferny Fireballs 8/227 v Nambour 10/81 and 10/81

In very hot conditions the Ferny boys travelled to Nambour and scored a convincing win by an innings and 65 runs. Tight bowling and fielding from Ferny never allowed Nambour to gain momentum in either innings.

In the first innings, Connor O'Farrell spearheaded our attack with 3 wickets and 2 wickets each were taken by Lachlan Sperling and Cameron Poulos while Jacob Lowein and Cameron Harwood took a wicket each.

In the second innings, Jacob Allison and Jordy Cabot took 2 wickets each while Andrew Parkinson, Jacob Lowein, Jimmy Futcher, Matthew Skilton-O'Kane and Connor O'Farrell chipped in with a wicket each. Good fielding in both innings saw run outs by Connor O'Farrell and Jacob Allison while Nick Boller took 4 catches, Lachlan Sperling 2 catches and a catch each was taken by Cameron Harwood and Connor O'Farrell.

Strong batting performances saw Matthew Skilton-O'Kane score 41n.o., Jacob Allison, 29n.o., Lachlan Sperling, 24 and Connor O'Farrell, 21.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable day for the boys and a great pre-season warm up. A special thanks to Michael Futcher for organising the team and making sure it happened.

U13/14:

Ferny Fireballs 9/156 v Nambour 10/114

Ferny batted first and faced a very accurate and hostile opening bowling attack, but the openers did a great job holding out the attack with the team adding runs steadily to compile 156 runs off the 50 overs. This was worth a lot more runs because of the lovely lush outfield making it hard to score boundaries.

Batting scorecard was Matt Doyle 3, Ryan Wilson 2, James Flower 20, Frankie Futcher 9, Declan Smith 24, Josh Lewis 21, Adam Cook 5 no, Matthew Waters 0, Callum Schultz 17, Tim Somerville 8, Lachlan Poulus 12 no.

Ferny's turn to bowl and Tim Somerville got the team off to a good start with a great delivery to bowl the opening bat followed by an excellent stumping by Matthew Waters (who was great behind the stumps). After 20 overs Nambour were 5/55.

Ferny's fielding and bowling was excellent and catches to Callum, Tim and Lachlan and 2 wickets to Callum, Adam and Matt had Nambour under pressure and they were eventually dismissed for 114 runs off 41 overs. Bowling figures were Callum 2/15, Tim 1/21, Josh 1/6, Lachlan 1/11, Adam 2/7, James 1/21, Matt 2/10, Declan 0/2, Frankie 1/5 & Ryan 0/6.

The team played well as a unit and really enjoyed the opportunity to play on a well prepared turf wicket and play with other Ferny cricketers. The day was enjoyed by both players and supporters.

U15/16:

The inter-club pre-season hit out proved to be a close tussle. Nambour won the toss and sent Ferny into bat. The opening pair of Craig Pereira and Dylan Poulus got off to a steady start. Some solid hitting through the lower order resulted in Ferny posting a competitive total of 171.

The opening bowling from Jonothan Skippen and Sam Sommerville pinned down the Nambour batting attack in the early stages causing Nambour to take chances through the middle order. At one stage it looked like Nambour were going to get home however Ferny hung in to get the big hitter out then wrap up the Nambour innings for 142.

The guys worked well together and everyone contributed in a solid win to start the second half of the season.

Thanks to all the parents who took the time out of their holidays to travel to Nambour so the guys could have a hit out before the competition commences.