



Kiwikiti 2009 – Blind Cricket.

This is the 3rd annual Blind Cricket competition that has been hosted by the Manukau South Blind Sports Club (MSBSC). The focuses of this tournament are:

- To Promote blind cricket locally and nationally.
- To create a fun and social environment while having that competitive edge.
- To Assist in the identification of players wishing to develop their Blind Cricket skills further.

This year's competition was a 3-team tournament based on a double round robin points system with a Grand Final to determine an overall winner. It was played in a 20/20 format. Each team consisted of players across the current World Blind Cricket Council (WBCC) sight classifications with the addition of sighted players to raise the competition level. Teams were not specific in region but focused on an overall team balance in terms of playing ability. The current sight classifications are B1 (Totally Blind), B2 (Partially Blind) and B3 (Partially Sighted). Teams were as follows:

- Team Brooklyn
(B1) Parveen Shankarr (Capt), Andrew McDonald; (B2) Enele Faapusa, Steve Donnelly, Nik Poole;
(B3) James Dunn, Ryan Middleton; (S) Karmen Stevens.
- Team Las Vegas
(B1) Greg Johnson, Daniel Te'o; (B2) Gary Williamson, Ese Aumalesulu; (B3) Jymal Webber (Capt);
(S) Graham Selby, Kathrine Lawler.
- Team Active
(B1) Jason Griffiths; (B2) Limoni Aumalesulu, Mohit Aurora, Michael Patterson (Capt); (B3) Ben Fellows; (S) Lafi Te'o, Terry Televave.

After the completion of the round robin it was determined that Sunday's final would be between Team Las Vegas and Team Active. Due to the early completion of the round robin competition, it was mutually agreed between captains that the final would be played in a 25-over format and from the beginning of the first innings it was obvious that the final was going to be closely fought.

Team Las Vegas won the toss and elected to field. With accurate bowling and fielding they were able to keep the score down during the first 10 overs but Team Active put on some good partnerships and were eventually all out for a total of 124. Team Las Vegas then produced some solid batting efforts and managed to chase down the required runs winning the final with 3 overs to spare having lost only 4 wickets. The cricket played over the whole weekend was of a high standard and all players made this tournament the most competitive and enjoyable to date.

In It For The Game

Team Sports – Individual Sports – Social Events – Family Days

Blind Cricket–James Dunn. Blind Hockey–Pai Solomon. Goalball–Daniel Te'o. Social–Donna McCaskill



A prize giving was completed at the conclusion of the tournament with the following recipients receiving trophies:

Best B1 Player: Jason Griffiths
Best B2 Player: Ese Aumalesulu
Best B3 Player: Jymal Webber
Best Sighted Player: Graham Selby
X-lusives Shield: Team Las Vegas

Conclusion

We are excited at what this competition has done for this sport not only locally but nationally (although currently on a small scale). It continues to grow more and more in popularity each year and is now the cricketing highlight for Blind players in New Zealand. We would like to thank the following for their strong support of this competition:

- New Zealand Blind Cricket Association (NZBCA Inc).
- Auckland Umpire's Association
- The McCaskill family

A special thank you also has to go to all the other volunteers and supporters who gave up there time to make this tournament happen. We look forward to future Kiwikiti tournaments and value the partnerships that have been established as a result of this years competition. If you would like further information on Kiwikiti or Blind Cricket in general please see the contact details below.

Thank you.

Manukau South Blind Sports Club.

Contact

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or

In It For The Game

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