

SCMC Staff win and how !



Vishal Jokare, the star player of the Staff team hammers yet another six to remain unbeaten at 51 and take the Staff side to a spectacular win over the Students

By Our Sports Correspondent

Symbiosis Viman Nagar ground, April 21: Two batsmen, 21 balls, nine sixes, 20 minutes. That was all it took for the Staff team of SCMC to demolish the Student team to win the SCMC Staff vs Students cricket match here today.

With three consecutive sixes off the first three balls of the innings, a combative Vishal Jokare (Staff vice captain) with Sham Thopte (captain) rampaged through the Students' bowling. Set to score 65 to win, the Staff team piled up 21 in the first over itself.

The rest of the 45 runs came in the next 15 balls with no loss of wickets. The Staff team annihilated the Students' bowling to win the match by 10 wickets with more than seven overs to spare. Jokare ended up with a spectacular unbeaten 51. At the other end, Thopte hammered up 11 runs in five deliveries.

Put to bat first after losing the toss, the Students started off on a slow and cautious note. Southpaw opener Siddharth Adhichary perished early. Aniketh Dhanraj took control and played a responsible knock of 22 runs in 13 balls with two 4s and a 6.

Meanwhile, the Staff bowled indomitably to keep the run rate down. Jokare was good with the ball too, conceding barely 9 runs in two overs.

The Students' captain Sayanta Sengupta came in at number four to play a quick-fire knock of 10 in seven balls to shore up the run rate, but fell to Staffer Gangaram Mate whose line and length and tramline yorkers were causing distress for the Students. Mate ended with 1-0-2-1 causing enough damage by taking out a potentially formidable Sayanta.

Right-arm pacer Sandeep Bombe from the Staff team wreaked further havoc and devastated the remaining batting lineup of the Students taking out Atharva Agashe, Abhishek Anand and Shivansh Sharma in one overwhelming over, missing a hat-trick in the process.

At the end of the ten overs, the students were eight wickets down for 64, thus setting a target of 65 runs to win for the Staff team, which the Staff team accomplished in 3.3 overs with no loss of wickets, thus winning the match by a commanding ten wickets.

(With additional reporting by Paloma Ghate and Arman Gupta)

Strategy, biz acumen mark SCMC's first IPL auction

Vijayhardik Josyula

Sports is an essential part of life at Symbiosis Centre for Media and Communication (SCMC). After a lull due to the pandemic, sports events are back on the calendar with the IPL Auction as the first sports event this year.

The Sports Cell organized the first ever SCMC IPL Auction on April 13, 2022, with 10 teams invited to participate in the event. Modeled on the lines of the actual event, the organizers tried to keep it as authentic as possible. The organizers provided each team with a budget of 80 crores with which every team had to buy 11 players with the added requirement of at least three foreign players and one uncapped player.

While cricketing knowledge was a prerequisite for the event, the teams needed to display strategy and business acumen. At the auction, this was quite visible. During the bidding on the set of marquee players and the first lots of Grade A players, the Gujarat and Mumbai franchises bid on almost every player. They drove the prices up to decrease budgets of other teams.

Big bucks were spent by the teams on marquee players. Price tags for the players exceeded 10 crores. The highest bid for a marquee player was for Virat Kohli by The Royal Challengers Bangalore for 16.5 crores.

Grade A players attracted the most bids after that. Amidst the heavy spending, there were some smart buys as well. Chennai Super Kings got Kane Williamson for his base price, 2 crores. And Delhi Capitals did the same with Rovman Powell.

Apart from business strategy, psychology too was involved. Most teams did not show much interest in Grade B and Grade C across categories. Most bowlers, batsmen and all-rounders in these lists went unsold with a few being bought in a



Head Auctioneer Sayanta Sengupta conducting the auction in full swing

truncated set of unsold players.

Most unsold players were bought by teams to fill up remaining slots. The desperation of franchises reflected in these buys. The insane bidding war between Chennai and Gujarat franchises for Jonny Bairstow is an example where the paddle was raised until Chennai bowed out at 21.5 crores.

At the end, the teams that went hard at all players struggled towards the end. Franchises that had strategized well, had well-rounded teams. The Delhi franchise had the sound strategy of flying under the radar and swooped in on bids at the last moment leading them to victory.

The professors had high praise for conducting a successful event. The Head Auctioneer and Sports Coordinator Sayanta Sengupta remarked, "The idea became a reality with the help of 15 potent organizing committee members. Proper communication and equal division of work were the key factors in making this event a success!"



Bidders put their heads together for a buy

SCMC students for TFI Fellowship

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tunity to gain education and transform their lives for the good, and the students that get selected as teachers gain an immense amount of experience and skills that are required in leadership positions. These skills are not only essential in the education sector but in other sectors like policy making as well. Once the selected students complete the fellowship program, they are able to join a network of exceptional leaders and achievers known as the 'Alumni movement'.

Teach For India (TFI) is a non-profit educational organisation that aims to help educate children from low-income communities in under-resourced schools. The organisation was founded in Mumbai in 2009 and now serves in multiple cities across the country. Their areas of functioning include New Delhi, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Chennai. TFI is a part of the greater Teach For All network of organisations which is an international group of more than 60 similar non-profit educational organisations.

The selection process for the TFI fellowship is quite demanding, with only the to get through. Candidates must be



32,000 children along with TFI Staff and Fellows have been committed to solving educational inequity for the past decade.

in a number of important fundamental skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, academic excellence, leadership and interpersonal skills. There is a three-stage selection process that candidates must go through. The first stage is an hour-long online test, followed by a 30-minute phone interview as the second stage. The last stage requires the candidates to report to an assessment centre where they have to teach a sample class, complete a problem-solving activity and a group activity. After this, the final step is an hour-long personal interview.

All three students that have been selected for this fellowship for the cohort of '22 are in their final year in Journalism at SCMC.

SCMC student the only Indian at YJI

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I was looking online for a place where young journalists could contribute their writings and publish their work, and I came across YJI's website. I found their work very inspiring, and realised that it is the only organisation where young journalists are given priority. So I applied, gave a writing test, and got in six months later.

What are some of the projects you have worked on for YJI?

I worked for their Covid Mood Project which was a thorough investigation about how COVID-19 has affected the mental health of people stuck in the lockdown across all seven continents.

Another one was where I worked on a project about sexual assault in everyday life, where I got the chance to interview one of my school friends and present her story. Other than that, I have written some independent stories as well, like one where I wrote about how India festivals like Rath Yatra and Holi were celebrated during the pandemic.

What are some of the challenges you faced while working on the YJI projects?

Members of YJI are spread all across the world which is why there were difficulties



in communication because of time zone differences, age gap in certain teams I was in where I wasn't able to connect with my teammates because of it. Cultural differences also made cooperation difficult sometimes.

What are you currently working on and what do you expect to achieve in the future?

I am currently working on independent stories for the organisation as I have been too busy to be a part of any project of YJI. In the future, I am hoping to see more of my articles get published and gain more confidence as an independent young journalist.

What is the best part of being a part of YJI?

Ever since being part of this organisation, I have learned to be more brave in pursuing stories I believe need to be covered. I feel like I have been able to bring my community onto the global stage thanks to YJI.