



HEAT MATCH REPORTS

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Round 8 - Ben Clements notches maiden Premier century

An unbeaten century from Ben Clements highlighted Round 8 action for Frankston Peninsula last weekend. His knock led the first eleven to victory against Essendon, who came close to securing an outright victory at Windy Hill.

Clements scored 100 not out off 139 balls, including 9 boundaries. He resumed at 70* on day two after securing first innings points for the Heat in the last over of day one.



Clements notches his maiden Premier Century

Clements reflected after the game "I'm certainly very tired after spending the entire weekend on the ground, but it's great to have notched a century to help secure the win". Clements eclipsed his previous highest score of 88 and added his first century to his 10 career first eleven half centuries since his debut in 2005/06.

The Heat successfully chased down Essendon's first innings total of 10/143, declaring their first innings at 3/217 with a lead of 74 runs. Clements and captain Nick Jewell pushed hard early on day two, setting up the lead by adding 71 runs from a lively 10 overs until the declaration prompted by Jewell's dismissal for 54 (37 balls, 5 fours, 1 six).



Captain-Coach Nick Jewell congratulates Clements

The Heat threw everything at the Bombers for the outright victory, but conceded late on Sunday afternoon with Essendon sitting at 9/222 with a lead of 148. Earlier, an outright result looked very promising for the Heat with the Bombers reduced to 8/148 (only a lead of 74) with 29 overs still remaining in the day.

However the Bombers fought hard to avoid being bowled out for a second time, led by skipper Craig Berger (73), Aaron Mato (38), Steven Reid (25*) and Rory Collins (18).

The Heat bowlers toiled hard all day Sunday in the 30 degree heat, led by Scott Boland (4/51 off 22 overs), Matt Chasemore (2/23), and Jon Holland (1/72 off 26 overs). Dale Elmi also contributed well in the field, collecting 4 catches including 3 at short leg.



One of many unsuccessful appeals late on Day 2



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During Saturday's play, Frankston Peninsula's new ball brigade adequately covered the loss of club stalwart Darren Groves (quad injury) with Boland continuing his good recent form with 4/34 and James Miller capturing 3/23. Victorian left arm spinner Holland played a crucial role at one end, capturing 1/27 off 20 overs.

Heat openers Dale Elmi and Clements then got off to a flying start, putting on 47 for the first wicket before Elmi (22) was caught behind. Matt Gapes (33) then took the score to 2/127 with Clements, where captain Jewell then came in to ensure first innings points were secured on Day 1.

In other games, the seconds (10/193) fell short in their run chase of Essendon's 10/296. Sam Wiese (57), Glyn Trueman (32), and Chris Dew (32) were the main contributors with the bat, with Mitch Drummond (4/38) and Chris McCormick (3/65) getting good results with the ball.

The thirds came away from Cross Keys Reserve with a fighting two wicket victory. Chasing 120, the Heat managed to scrape together 8/128 on an extremely slow outfield with long grass and clumps of dead grass clippings. Brad McDonald (39), Nathan Martin (21*) and Sean Wilson (20*) saw home the run chase, with Ben Ashkenazi (3/11 of 14.1 overs), Peter Sofra (2/32) and Robbie Fisher (2/17) getting the job done with the ball.



Brad McDonald square drives at Cross Keys Reserve

The fourths, backing up from their appearance in the one day grand final loss on November 28, were not able to defend their total of 10/209 (Bart Hudgson 55, Nathan Harford 40, Sam Glenn 26, Joel Reid 26) against Essendon 10/242 (Matt Ryan 2/27). Interestingly in this match, the Heat were able to produce 4 run outs, and also found the opportunity to give 11 players of the 12 man team a bowl!

Focus now turns to the Twenty20 format, with the next 4 rounds involving the short game. This Saturday (December 11), the Heat take on Ringwood. The 3rds will play a curtain raiser on Butler Oval at 11am, followed by the 1sts at 2:30pm. The 2nds and 4ths will play at Ringwood.

On Sunday (December 12), the Heat take on Melbourne, the reigning 1st XI premiers. The 1sts and 3rds will be at the Albert Ground, with the 2nds and 4ths at the Butler Oval.

Excitingly for the Heat, all four Round 11 fixtures against Dandenong on December 18 will be played at Frankston, making that day a bonanza of Twenty20 cricket for spectators.

Keep in mind the second Heat in the Kitchen Luncheon for this season, with ex AFL premiership player Steven King the guest speaker at the Lunch this Saturday December 11. Contact Mark Dunsford (9788 5788) or the club if you are interested in a ticket (\$50). The federal member for Dunkley, Bruce Billson MP, will also be speaking at the luncheon.

For more information, photos and live score updates from the Frankston Peninsula Cricket Club, make sure you also check www.facebook.com/frankpenc

---Glenn Davey



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