

Tuross Head Triumphant E.D.C.A

First Grade Premiers 2007/2008



Tuross Head took on the Batemans Bay Tigers in the Eurobodalla Cricket Association 1st Grade Grand Final on the 15th of March, at Kyla Oval, Tuross Head.

As per the week before the Bay Tigers decided to have a dig on the turf and they were determined to get a bigger score than the previous weeks 142, which Tuross Head chased down.

The Bay Tigers got off to a slow, but steady start, putting on 39 for the first wicket. Things were looking good for the visitors as they

went to drinks at 1 / 59. But the game changed dramatically with the introduction of Dave Sweet who took an axe to the Tigers middle order, with three wickets in nine balls, leaving the score at 4 / 71. Steady batting revived the visitor's fortune, but it was once again Sweet returning for a second spell that pulled the rug from under the Tigers feet taking another two wickets. Young gun Tom Pavlou then knocked over the last two batsmen leaving the score at 147. Best with the ball were Sweet 5 / 22, Pavlou 2 / 26 and Mitch Smith 1 / 12.

The Tuross Head innings got off to a shaky start as Matt Guy and Leigh Coloe were both in the shade with only 19 on the board. Mitch Smith and Captain Engelbrecht steadied the wobbly ship and got the score to 44, before Engelbrecht was run out. Guy Smith joined his brother in the middle, in what is likely to be their last innings together and their last innings at the club. They were in no mood to hang around and their stroke play was a pleasure to watch as they took to the Tigers attack. At 96 and with game in the balance Guy Smith went for 21, Tim Watson followed soon after and with score at 5 / 109 the Tuross Head hearts were beating a little faster. Sweet 'the destroyer' joined Mitch Smith and they were able to chip away at the remaining runs with some patient batting. At 146 Sweet went for a gutsy 16, but the game was all ready in the bag and it was fittingly left to Smith with one last swing of the willow he blasted the ball to the boundary, to give Tuross Head the win and the Valentine Cup. Sweet and Mitch Smith shared man of match owners in a convincing win. We tamed the Tiger and smacked their furry little bums and sent them back to the Bay with their tails between their legs.

A fitting result in the context of the season, where we only lost two matches in the Eurobodalla competition, and had beaten the Tigers three out of the four encounters. In an excellent season where all players contributed to the team at different stages, a special mention must go to the captain Peter Engelbrecht who led the team

superbly and now has captained our past two triumphs 2004 / 2005 and now 2007/ 2008.

A big thank you must be extended to the following, Michael Taylor for his tireless work in preparing the wicket, The Tuross Head Country Club for their continued support, the Tuross Tavern for their sponsorship and the Tuross Head Service Station for cooling the drinks. Also a big thank you to the people who came out to support the team, and contributed to the atmosphere in a positive manner.

In a golden period at the club the team has now played in four Grand Finals in five years and won two. A pretty good effort for a small town