

Cricket Match Highlights

by: Hasnain Eqbal and Zarmeena Riaz

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'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'; a nursery rhyme we are all too familiar with, especially since it really hits a spot with many of us working hard for over eight hours a day, six days a week. A splash of entertainment, a bit of sports, a little relaxation and fun-filled chilling out always helps to rejuvenate the soul and replenish the motivation supply. Perhaps this was the very mindset that triggered the management to show the green signal for an inter-department cricket tournament for its team, the very first in the history of NCCPL. An entertainment committee had recently been made at NCCPL, and when our former Chief Internal Auditor, Tauseef Ilyas interjected the idea of having an inter-department cricket tournament, the committee sprang into action and started working on this daunting task. After some discussions and email circulations, the department Heads came up with their teams. IT and Operations had two teams each (teams IT-1 and IT-2 and Operations-1 and Operations-2 respectively) while Finance, Audit and HR combined to form one team (team Finance).

The matches were scheduled for the night of 18th August, 2007 at Kokan Cricket Ground, Karachi. By the time the first group of people arrived, the ground was already bathed in the blue of the flood lights. A draw determined the sequence of matches and the first encounter took place at around 9:30 pm between IT-1 and Finance which was won by IT-1. The second match was played between IT-2 and Operations-2; this match was once again won by IT. Operations-1, being left without an opponent reached the final without a fight.

Hence the initial round of matches had been played and the finalists decided.

If Ten Sports were to show the match highlights, they would definitely not leave the incredibly easy catch missed by Naveed Raja. If it had been caught, IT team's Abdus Sami Khan would have been out in the start giving Operations a good advantage. That aside, Emad Shaukat, Javed Usman, Haroon

respective two teams to form one team. The final started amidst the uproar of the crowd with a touch of excitement on everybody's face. The IT team under the captainship of Faisal Faridi was ready to face the challenge. Winning the toss, IT decided to play first and they played really well. Operations team led by Asif, tried their best to contain the batting of IT tigers, but all their efforts went in vain as IT batsmen unleashed runs after runs from their bats with fours and sixes. The Operations bowlers exuded apprehension during the entire bowling session with exasperation evident on the fielders' faces as they ran hither and thither to grab hold of the whooshing ball. IT gave Operations a target of 85 runs, not an easy chase on that difficult pitch.

Award distribution ceremony had initially been planned under great fireworks after the flood lights had been turned off. But that plan had to be abandoned to avoid causing any discomfort to the surrounding residents. The trophy was given away in pitch darkness. Hence concluded the first ever cricket tournament of NCCPL. The trophy sits gloriously on Faisal Faridi's table.



Masood, Tausif Riaz and Head of Operations, Badi ud Din Akbar gave the audience a good show of action through their batting and bowling performances.

The final battle was to be fought between IT and Operations and both departments took the liberty to combine the best of their

TIME MANAGEMENT

by Shamila Junaid

The ultimate purpose of time management is to help you drastically improve your life by using your time in better ways. It's hard to find anything more elusive than time. There are only a few things in life as precious as time. I often find it unfair that we're allotted only 24 hours a day. It is the fact that I have a hard time coping with, constantly wishing to add if not another 24 then at least, 12 more hours to every passing day.

Time management is the managing of your time so that it is used to your advantage and it gives you a chance to spend your most valuable resource in the way you choose. Time management skills are essential skills for effective people. By applying them, you can optimize your effort to ensure that you concentrate as much of your time and energy as possible on the high pay off tasks. This ensures that you achieve the greatest benefit possible with the limited amount of time available to you. To achieve maximum success and productivity in the work place it is essential that we understand how we use our time at work. We all have the same amount of time each day but it is how effectively we use it that is important. That doesn't mean we have to schedule every walking second in our day, but there are several

effective time saving habits that we can use to dramatically increase our productivity.

There are certain time wasters including telephones, no planning of tasks, e-mail, web surfing, casual visitors, cluttered workplace, poor quality resource/tools etc.

Three keys to time management are: remembering, setting priorities and motivation. It's easy to fall into a trap of thinking "I won't forget that". But the important thing is not just to remember it, but to

remember it at the right time - a time when you can take the first step in doing it.

If you write a list of things to do this evening, it probably contains more things than you can actually accomplish. That's fine. The list is valuable. By looking over it, you can choose the most important things and do them first. The rest can be transferred to other lists. Now you've set goals, written lists, chosen priorities and identified what's important to do right now, but you don't feel like doing it. This is where you need motivation to do it.

Most people think of time management as a tool to save time, get organized, or get more things done. While time management does address each of these things, I like to think of time management as a tool for improving the quality of your life.



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