

## **Jubilant Indians lift TCS-SCH 2001 Cricket Trophy -by Gurjeet**

The stage was all set for the finale of the most avidly followed annual sporting event of TCS-SCH, the TCS-SCH 2001 cricket tournament. Jubilant Indians were up against India Seniors, both teams strong in their own rights.

Jubilant Indians led by the buoyant Tapan had made their way to the Finals after emerging the Top team in Group A. They had bettered Ball breakers and Bulandi in their group to meet Balltown Eagles in the Semifinal. The Eagles flight to glory was halted midway by the Jubilant Indians in a match which could have gone either way. The relentless Indians kept the pressure on the Eagles to finally whisk away the game by hairs breadth. In the end the team that kept its nerves prevailed.

India seniors had prevailed over Balltown Eagles and Niskayuna Stars in Group B and were set to play Bulandi in the semi finals. The semi final was keenly contested. But, luck did not favor Bulandi on the day and India Seniors marched on to the Finals with a thoroughly professional display.

The clash of the Titans was imminent. The weather on Sunday was expected to be a little rainy but nothing could stop the cricket lovers from watching the finals. A good crowd of spectators had assembled in the CRD ground, which was the venue for the finals. Both sides were egged on by their supporters and were determined to come out with flying colors.

India Seniors won the Toss for the first time in the tournament and elected to Bat. Their openers gave a steady start to the team's innings. Then, Karthik struck in the third over of the Innings. He bowled a perfect line and length and had the seniors on the mat by taking three quick wickets. Raghavendra, Srinath and Anil were back to the pavilion and the seniors had just 13 runs on the board. Vishy and Atlur were at the crease trying to steady the Seniors Innings. But, then Uma Struck in 5<sup>th</sup> over and Atlur was out, caught by Vinod. Gurjeet was the next batsman in. But, he too was not able to do much with the bat. He played on to his wickets the first ball but luckily for him the ball was a no ball. He then went on to hit a Six but was out bowled soon. It was another feather in Uma's cap. Meanwhile Vishy was holding on to one end but was running short of support at the other end. Santosh went in to bolster the Senior's score and got on to a promising start. He and Vishy scored some quick singles. But, then he played an indiscriminate shot and was bowled out trying to fend off Subrata. The last two wickets of Shiv and Ravi also fell soon. Shiv was run out and so was Ravi, trying to steal a quick single. The Seniors were scuttled for a paltry 43 with one over and four balls to spare.

The Jubilant Indians Innings began with a promising start. They defended well for the first two overs with Uma and Kathik at crease. But, the Seniors were soon baying for blood. In the third over Uma fell to Gurjeet caught by Santosh. The Jubilant's were on 13 then. The next batsman in was Subrata. Vishy had him ducking and dancing all over the wicket in the fourth over of the inning. The last ball of the over Vishy produced a

beautiful delivery and sent Subrata's leg stump cart wheeling. The seniors were back in the match with a bang. Senapati then joined Karthik who was holding one end steady and ticking over the score. Sreenath and Atlur bowled an economical 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> over. They contained the Jubilants score to 22-2 at half time, which was 10 runs less than the senior's score at half time. It was time for a well-deserved drink break for the seniors. After the drinks break, the pressure on the batsmen had built up. Karthik pushed a ball to the on side and Senapati was off in a flash calling for a single where there was none. In the ensuing melee Karthik was standard in the no mans land and run out. But he had already played his part and had chipped in useful 12 runs. Tapan was the next batsmen in and a Captain's knock was expected from him. The tension in the field and in the spectators was palpable. In trying to get a second run where there was none Senapati got out in the last ball of the 7<sup>th</sup> over and the match was evenly poised. Vinod was the next batsmen in. Atlur bowled the 8<sup>th</sup> over and the Indians stood at 29-4 after this over. Both the teams had their tasks cut out by then. The Jubilant Indians had to hold on to their wickets and the Seniors were determined to fight tooth and nail to get the Jubilant Indians wickets. Srinath bowled the 9<sup>th</sup> over and was probably the turning point for the Jubilant Indians. They managed to get 7 runs and breathed a little easy now with the score at 36-4. The partnership between Vinod and Tapan was going on well and the seniors were getting desperate for a break. Gurjeet went on to bowl the 10<sup>th</sup> over but could not manage to break the partnership. Three runs were scored in the over and the Indians score stood at 39-4. They needed 5 runs off the last two overs. Vishy went on to bowl the penultimate over of the match and had Tapan out caught playing his favorite shot by Atlur, but not before Tapan had chipped in with a life saving knock of 7. The score after the 11<sup>th</sup> over was 41-5 and the Jubilant Indians were just 3 short of victory. But, runs were not coming in easy. Atlur bowled the final over. Ganesh the new batsmen managed to push the ball and give the strike to Vinod who was well set by the time. An unexpected wide from Atlur had the Jubilants tie the score with the senior's score but the match was far from over. In their bid to score the winning run Ganesh was run out and one run was still needed off 3 balls. Vinod stood his ground the fourth ball of the over and took a single of the 5<sup>th</sup> ball. The Jubilant Indians were all over the field dancing and reveling in the sweet victory. The Seniors too held their heads in pride, content with the way they performed in the field.

It was a well-deserved Victory for the Jubilant Indians and the entire community shared their moment of glory. It was a victory not only of their team but also of the entire TCS community having played the tournament with such great spirit and enthusiasm.

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Note: For complete score card, please see the next page

## Score Card

### India Seniors

Ragavendar	c Senapathi b Karthik	7
Sreenadha	b Karthik	5
Anil	b Karthik	0
Vishi	not out	9
Atlur	c Uma b Vinod	0
Gurjeet	b Uma	8
Santhosh	b Subrath	4
Shiv	run out	1
Ravi	run out	2

Extras (wides only) 7

**Total Runs** (all out in 10.1 overs) **43**

### Jubilant Indians

	balls	runs	wickets	wides	nos
Uma	26	13	2	2	11
Vinod	17	19	1	2	4
Karthik	15	4	3	1	2
Subrath	21	7	1	2	1

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### Jubilant Indians

Karthik	run out	12
Uma	c Santhosh b Gurjeet	6
Subrath	b Vishi	0
Senapathi	run out	1
Tapan	c Atlur b Vishi	7
Vinod	not out	11
Ganesh	run out	2
Bushan	not out	0

Extras (wides only) 5

**Total Runs** ( 6 wkts & 11.5 overs ) **44**

### India Seniors

	balls	runs	wickets	wides	nos
Gurjeet	21	10	1	1	2
Vishi	22	10	2	1	3
Sreenadha	21	16	0	0	3
Atlur	20	8	0	3	0