

OTM Finishes as Runners-up at the Rusayl Cricket Tournament



OTM Rising Stars with Runners-Up Trophy

Rusayl: Hard work not only pays dividends but also brings out the best out of the least expected. Such was the epic moment for OTM Rising Stars, who were the under-dogs but eventually made it big by reaching the Finals. Although they clinched the Runners-up Trophy, but the spirit with which they committed themselves, lifted the morale of the entire team and support staff.

Bowling first in the Finals, OTM Rising Stars, riding high with 100% success in the knockout and semi-final matches, restricted the free-flowing AOTC Batsmen to 89 leaving OTM Rising Stars with 90 to win and stamp their authority as the Winners. Batting second for the first time in the tournament, the Rising Stars attacked from the first ball. However, regular fall of wickets made it tougher to sustain the chase and OTM Rising Stars wound up for 50 in the allotted overs.

Vice-Captain Joshy Joseph was awarded the Best Batsman of the tournament amassing 91 runs in three matches. Mohammed Jolhas was outstanding with his bowling figures of 7 wickets in three matches. Sandeep Shinde also bagged an award for helping the Organizers by being one of Umpires in the panel.



Captain Fahid receiving Runner's Up Trophy

OTM Rising Stars won their knock-out match with Como's HO quite convincingly. Batting first, OTM Rising Stars scored 85 runs without losing any wicket, thanks to a blistering knock by Vice-Captain Joshy

Joseph and a productive partnership with Captain Fahid. Disciplined bowling effort with equally disciplined fielding saw the opponents choking at 26 eventually succumbing to pressure generated by OTM Rising Stars.



Joshy Joseph receiving Best Batsman Trophy

Motivated by this win, OTM went into the Semi-Final match with full confidence. Choosing to Bat first, OTM Rising Stars lost Captain Fahid early. The second wicket partnership between Vice Captain Joshy and Raghavan, however, ensured that the scoring rate was maintained. The pair started accumulating runs with Joshy continuing his form and Raghavan rotating the strike. At the end of OTM innings, wickets fell but the score was competitive enough at 83. The Opponents were cruising along nicely but suddenly they started to lose wickets frequently. This again showed OTM had the match awareness to restrict and pile up pressure for the opponent. Rising stars eventually won the match with 10 runs to enter the finals.

Playing XI: Fahid (c), Joshy (vc), Raghavan (wk), Sujesh, Vikas, Johlas, Harsh, Amar, Amit, Shinde and Chandan. On the bench: Kashem, Ramadoss, Ramshaad, Baghelu, Sridhar, Muniswaran and Gurudev.

This Cricket Tournament was organized by Masaken Al Raha (MAR) on Dec 6th from 07:00 AM onwards for the employees accommodated in the campus of MAR. A total of 8 teams had participated. The tournament comprised of 7 matches - 4 knock-out matches, 2 Semi-Final matches and a Final match.

Truly, an unforgettable day for the Rising Stars!!!

