

JOES UK- THE CHAMPIONS OF THE 20TH FESTIVAL OF CRICKET

The Josephians were crowned Champions of the Festival of Cricket 2008, inter-school Cricket tournament held in London on 13th July 2008 – The main and the prestigious event in the Sri Lankan sporting and social calendar in the UK.

History in the making for the Joes – First time ever!!!



Joes captain, Nelanka Pieris with the Champions Trophy



The Champions, after the Awards Ceremony



The Team-Nelanka, Buddika, Sasha, Dilan, Ian, Dhanuka, Rukshan and Rangana (Sports Sec)

It was a fantastic achievement by our young lads beating St Sebastian's College in a thrilling finale with the jubilant Josephian fans cheering and supporting our heroes. It was 'Victory from the Jaws of Death'.

Under the captaincy of veteran Nelanka Pieris, the Joes openers, Ian Daniel and Dhanuka Pathirana set a target of 55 in 5 overs. The Sebastians started brilliantly having scored nearly 40 runs with two wickets down in the first two overs - Dhanuka's direct hit run out from the long on boundary and a fantastic outfield catch by Ian Daniel.

Then came Buddika Attanayake who turned the game around with an outstanding three wicket spell in the third over to put Sebastians on the back foot, deservedly winning the Man of the Match Award with his efforts. Credit also should go to our wicket keeper Sasha Selvaratnam for the two fantastic catches in that over. The score at the end of the third over was 45 for 5.

Ian Daniel finished off the proceedings with a brilliant delivery to end their innings on 49 in their fourth over – and the JOES WERE CROWNED CHAMPIONS!!!!!!

Earlier, the Joes beat Wesley College, Royal, Ananda and Maris Stella to get into the finals.

Wesley College scored 46 in their four overs and our openers Ian and Dhanuka beat that score convincingly.

Royal were restricted to a mere 20 runs in their four overs and it was a walk in the park for our openers.



The awesome two-The opening pair Ian and Dhanuka

Ananda, in the Quarter Finals - Joes scored 39 and defended that well.

Maris Stella in the Semi's - this time the Joes openers hit out and set a formidable target of 69 in four overs and we killed the game in style.

.... and then the fairytale final! Brilliant effort by the team, well done guys.



The cheering squad 'Joes-Force' with Ian

Following on from the successes that the Josephians had in sport back home, including winning the Big Match, our rugby lads beating the Thomians in style and success in swimming, this win was monumental!

Joes in the UK are proud to have been crowned Champions. Thank you team, our Sports Secretary Rangana Gunawardena and Victor Wickramasinghe for putting a winning team together, the Committee and members, family and friends for all your valuable help and support.

BRILLIANT !!!!! Let's build upon this success to take Joes in the UK to greater heights.

THE CHAMPIONS TEAM

Nelanka Pieris(C)	Dhanuka Pathirana	Ian Daniel	Buddika Attanayake	Sasha Selvaratnam	Dilan Wouterz	Rukshan Warnakula

Eranga Gunawardena

Secretary/Membership Secretary

On behalf of the Association of Old Josephians in the UK

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