

# **Richmond Hill Sports Club's Corner**

## **Richmond Hill 'thump' United**

**By Darshan Chickery**

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In what is becoming a familiar sight, Richmond Hill Sports Club (RHSC) won again, in the West Indian Softball Association's 30 Overs Premier Division competition. This time around, they 'thump' United by 61 runs to remain unbeaten with one more game to be played.

Meeting for the third time this year, Richmond Hill knew that United had, in the back of their minds, their loss in the 25 Over Division I finals to RHSC in June. United wanted this one badly and Richmond Hill knew it. The series was tied at 1-1 but United's loss to Richmond Hill in the finals was a 'heart-breaker'.

Knowing the short but rivaled history between these two teams, one would think that any advantage would be of utmost importance. United did not think so, or they still think, that Richmond Hill is 'below them'. They won the toss but ask Richmond Hill to bat.

For the first nine overs of the game United's decision to put Richmond Hill to bat made them look like a genius. Richmond Hill was restricted to 39 for 3 after those nine overs. Then all 'hell' broke loose in the eyes of United.

The 'inform' Ahmad Shazaman (Zaman), was joined by Darshan Chickery and together they put on a fourth wicket partnership of 82 runs in nine overs. Zaman provided all the 'fire-works' with some excellent cover drives and pulls to back ward point and mid wicket boundaries.

At 120, Darshan fell for 14. Zaman soon followed for 93 with the score at 129. Zaman's brilliant inning contained 12 fours and 2 sixes. He will have to start all over again to get that very elusive century in the West Indian Softball Association league.

At 129 for 5 after 18 overs, Richmond Hill knew that runs at Flushing are like runs at Bourda. It is never enough.

Imran Wahab (Vice Capt.) joined Kumar Chickery (Captain) and the two took on United's bowling attack. They added 75 for the sixth wicket partnership before Imran was caught at the long on boundary for 28 with the score at 204.

Richmond Hill ended up with 245 for 8 off their allotted 30 overs. Kumar was unbeaten on 58. His knock was highlighted with 3 fours and 2 sixes. R. Seegobin and P. Ramcharran took three wickets apiece.

United started their reply disastrously. They lost their first three wickets with less than fifteen runs on the board. Richmond Hill was never threatened by United's content to occupy the crease and a few runs from spectacular shots. They were bowled out for 185.

A. Ali top scored with 62. He was dropped at least five times making him the designated 'lucky dog' for the day. Apart from his score, extras chipped in with a healthy 55 but only 10 came via byes.

Richmond Hill's most successful bowlers were Brian Heeralall with 3 for 24 and Krishna Chickery with 2 for 8.

Richmond Hill's quest to remain unbeaten will have to come at the expense at Rising Stars in Connecticut on August 3, 2008. Rising Stars is also believed to be unbeaten.