

GISBORNE DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION - McINTYRE CUP

Rupo sets sights on big Bacchus total



CHASE TO REEL IN 265 UNDER WAY AT MADDINGLEY PARK

Patrick Lane

RUPERTSWOOD fought back after tea to reel in a hard-hitting Bacchus Marsh on Saturday at Maddingley Park.

Rupo was grappling with a mountain-like target after Kieran Atkin (121) and Scott Wakefield (40) cracked the leather about and sent the travelling fielders to all corners of the sun-drenched ground in Round 7 of the Gisborne District Cricket Association McIntyre Shield competition.

It was tough going, especially as the Bulls coasted towards 200 with just one wicket down, but Rupertswood took 8-69 to dismiss Bacchus Marsh for a gettable 265.

"It was a day of two halves. They batted very well in the top order and we were in a fair bit of trouble at tea," Rupo captain John Lane said.

"The ground is very quick and we are 0-12. We are chasing our first win and we are pretty desperate for one so we will chase."

Rupertswood paid homage to the unlikely heroes by day's end, Lane saluting part-time go-to man Lachlan McLean (3-40) and regular gloveman Warren Hall (2-43).

Sunbury coach Jason McGann went on an incredible salvage mission at Clarke Oval, joining the action at No.9 as Sunbury slumped to 7-117

Rupertswood bowler Julian Kearney. Pictures: ANGIE BASDEKIS

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John Lane



Rupo's Warren Hall.

but cracking 123 late in the day to guide the top-flight newcomer to 323.

McGann was joined by Patrick Tyler (40) and Damien Lake (44) in careering the hosts north of 300, but there was a still a stern word at day's end to Sunbury's failed top order.

"It's disappointing we didn't get off to a good start. Bowlers fade away in the heat in these conditions and sometimes you just have to knuckle down," McGann said.

Sunbury United will chase 202 at home to Wallan, while Woodend is 0-31 chasing Riddell's 130.