

Humiliating loss as batsmen crumble

BRISBANE – Australia's frailty against swing bowling and selection inconsistencies combined for a humiliating defeat in yesterday's one-day cricket clash at the Gabba.

Sri Lanka's pace attack completely embarrassed the hosts by routing Michael Clarke's full-strength team for a paltry 74 before chasing down the meagre target inside 20 overs, with four wickets left.

The day-night match was finished at 6pm local time as a crowd of 20,271 headed home in broad daylight.

It would have been over much earlier, well before the scheduled tea break, if not for a rearguard last-wicket stand of 34 by tailenders Mitchell Starc and Xavier Doherty.

They were the only Australians to make double figures as the hosts were dismissed for their third worst total in 42 years of one-day cricket.

Australia's inability to cope with quality swing and seam bowling was sadly exposed by Nuwan Kulasekara (5-22) and Lasith Malinga (3-14) who reduced them to 9-40 in the 19th over.

In scenes reminiscent of the carnage in Cape Town 15 months ago when Australia's Test team was bowled out for 47 by South Africa, the batsmen seemed incapable of countering the hooping swing.

Sri Lanka (6-75) also had problems with the sideways movement, crashing to 4-37 as Mitchell Johnson dismantled the top order with 3-4 from his first eight deliveries.

But Johnson was inexplicably taken off after the tea break.

The Australians were also left to rue three missed catches in the field, as well as a run out which went begging, to top off a forgettable display.

Clark described it as a "horrible day" but would not blame the Gabba wicket or the team's controversial resting-rotation policy.

"Our batting performance was very poor," he said.

"If we bat like that in any conditions we're not going to make any runs. I think our defence more than anything else was poor today."

Australia v Sri Lanka at Gabba, Brisbane

Australia won toss and batted

Australia

D. WARNER c Eranga b Mathews	4
P. HUGHES c Jayawardene b Kulasekara	3
M. CLARKE b Kulasekara	9
D. HUSSEY c K. Perera b Kulasekara	4
G. BAILEY lbw b Kulasekara	0
M. WADE c Dilshan b Malinga	8
M. HENRIQUES b Kulasekara	2
M. JOHNSON b Malinga	2
M. STARC not out	22
C. MCKAY c K. Perera b Malinga	0
X. DOHERTY c J. Mendis b Eranga	15
Extras (2lb 3w)	5
Total	74

Fall: 4 (Warner), 13 (Hughes), 21 (Hussey), 21 (Bailey), 28 (Clarke), 30 (Henriques), 35 (Johnson), 38 (Wade), 40 (McKay), 74 (Doherty).

Bowling: A. Mathews 4-0-1-10, N. Kulasekara 10-2-5-22 (3w), L. Malinga 7-2-3-14, T. Perera 3-0-0-14, S. Eranga 2-4-0-1-12.

Batting time: 132 mins. Overs: 26.4.

Sri Lanka

M. JAYAWARDENE c Warner b McKay	1
T. DILSHAN c Clarke b Johnson	22
L. THIRIMANNE c Warner b Johnson	7
K. PERERA not out	22
A. MATHEWS c Starc b Johnson	0
U. THARANGA c Clarke b Starc	12
J. MENDIS c McKay b Starc	2
T. PERERA not out	4
Extras (1lb 3w 1nb)	5
Six wickets for	75

Fall: 4 (Jayawardene), 33 (Dilshan), 37 (Thirimanne), 37 (Mathews), 63 (Tharanga), 71 (J Mendis).

Bowling: C. McKay 8-0-1-31, M. Starc 7-0-2-25 (2w 1nb), M. Johnson 3-0-3-11 (1w), M. Henriques 2-0-0-7.

Batting time: 94 mins. Overs: 20. Sri Lanka won by four wickets.

Man of the Match: Nuwan Kulasekara.

It was only the determined efforts by Starc (22 not out) and Doherty (15), putting on 34 for the last wicket, that saved Australia from more embarrassment.

When Doherty leg-glanced his first ball to the boundary, Australia passed the lowest total by a recognised Test nation – 43 endured in South Africa by both Pakistan (1993) and Sri Lanka (2012).

The spinner's last boundary ensured they crept beyond 70 – which Australia made in 1977 in England and also in 1986 against New Zealand in Adelaide.

It had looked to be a superb Brisbane one-day pitch and Clarke, in his first game back after a two-match rest, had no hesitation in batting after winning the toss.

While it was Angelo Mathews who struck first by having a returning David Warner caught at mid-off, man-of-the-match Kulasekara did the real damage, ripping through the bamboozled top order.

He already had Phil Hughes caught at second slip before dismissing David Hussey and



JUMP FOR JOY: Sri Lanka's uwan Kulasekara, who took 5-22, celebrates after bowling Australian's captain Michael Clarke. Picture: GETTY

George Bailey off successive inswingers in his fourth over to be on a hat-trick.

Matthew Wade survived but it wasn't long before Kulasekara clean bowled Clarke and Moises Henriques with the two best deliveries of the day to have Australia 6-30.

Lowest one-day totals made on Australian soil (team with lowest score first)
63 – India v Australia at Sydney in 1980-81.
69 – South Africa v Australia at Sydney in 1993-94.
70 – Australia v New Zealand at Adelaide in 1985-86.
71 – Pakistan v West Indies at Brisbane in 1992-93.
74 – Australia v Sri Lanka at Brisbane in 2012-13. – AAP

Redbacks to induct Grose, Freeman

THE Bendigo United Cricket Club will induct two of its greats into its Hall of Fame next Saturday when it holds its 160th anniversary reunion.

Leon Grose and Ross Freeman will be inducted into the Redbacks' Hall of Fame.

Grose – a star all-rounder – played 144 games for the Redbacks between 1969 and 1983, scoring 4909 runs and taking 316 wickets.

He ranks fourth on the list of run-scorers for the Redbacks and fifth for wickets.

Regarded as one of the greatest all-rounders in the history of the Bendigo District Cricket Association, Grose was a left-handed batsman who bowled off and leg-spin, and occasional medium-pace.

He was selected in the Redbacks' Team of the Century in 2000.

Grose was a five-time winner of



the George Mackay Trophy as club champion.

Off-field Grose, who died in 2008, had a stint as the Redbacks' president and earned the Norm Jackson Award for best clubman.

He has previously been inducted into the BDCA Hall of Fame.

Freeman played 184 games for the Redbacks between 1914 and

1940 and is one of only nine players to have played more than 150 first XI matches for the club.

He is third on the list of leading run-scorers for the Redbacks with 5130, which includes four centuries.

His score of 192 is considered the fourth highest by a Redbacks' player behind Heath Behrens' three double hundreds.

Freeman was inducted into the BDCA Hall of Fame last year.

Grose and Freeman will join inaugural inductees Ken Smalley, Neil Rasmussen, Ron Hunt, Angus Mackay and Williams Bruce in the Bendigo United Hall of Fame.

The Redbacks' 160th anniversary reunion will be held at the All Seasons Quality Resort next Saturday.

The club is expecting around 200 people to attend the event, which will be followed on the Sunday by

a legends match and family day at the club's home, Harry Trott Oval in Neale Street, Kennington.

Bendigo United is the second oldest cricket club in Victoria behind the Melbourne Cricket Club.

Its history traces back to 1853 when it was initially known as the District Club.

The club has had seven players who have played Test cricket for either Australia or England, while the Redbacks have been a powerhouse of the BDCA over the past 13 years.

Since breaking a 72-year premiership drought in 2000, the Redbacks have since gone on to win first XI flags in 2003, 2007, 2008 and 2010.

To book tickets for the reunion contact 5443 0118, or for more information log onto www.bendigounited.com

DISTRICT CRICKET EMU VALLEY ROUND 8

WHEN: Day two from 1.30pm today.

AXE CREEK 2-69 v MARONG 234

WEST BENDIGO 2-28 v SPRING GULLY 171

GOLDEN GULLY 0-0 v MAIDEN GULLY 7-337

EMU CREEK 0-45 v MANDURANG 9-260

UNITED 1-12 v SEDGWICK 196

RUNS

PLAYER	RUNS	AVR.
S. Ross (Marong)	451	75.1
F. Klemm (Utd)	411	82.2
S. Marwood (Emu Ck)	316	45.1
T. Hobbs (Emu Ck)	303	60.6
Z. Samuel (Marong)	289	36.1
C. Green (M Gully)	284	40.5
W. Behrens (Mand)	274	45.6
A. Collins (Utd)	269	38.4
T. Nolan (Axe Ck)	261	43.5

WICKETS

PLAYER	WKTS	AVR.
A. Collins (Utd)	23	12.1
D. Prange (W Bgo)	21	15.1
T. Nolan (Axe Ck)	19	16.1
S. Alcock (Sedg)	17	20.2
R. Smyth (Utd)	16	14.1
G. McCoomb (M Gully)	16	20.3
J. Knight (Sedg)	15	15.6
J. Hutchinson (G Gully)	14	18.4
L. Haw (Mand)	13	13.6

* Ladder and statistics according to EVCA website.

NORTHERN UTD ROUND 13

WHEN: One-day game from 1pm today.

HEATHCOTE v ELMORE

CALIVIL v BAGSHOT

DINGEE v GOORNONG

RAYWOOD v KAMAROOKA

LADDER

TEAM	W	L	D	PTS
Heathcote	8	2	1	147.4
Dingee	7	2	1	124.2
Raywood	6	4	1	123.9
Kamarooka	6	3	1	111.2
Calivil	5	5	1	107.4
Colbinabbin	4	6	1	92.0
Goornong	4	6	1	89.8
Bagshot	3	7	1	79.6
Elmore	1	9	0	36.1

RUNS

PLAYER	RUNS	AVR.
J. Clarke (Rwood)	371	37.1
S. Lawry (Dingee)	334	47.7
M. Gould (Rwood)	272	30.2
N. Pierce (Rwood)	266	26.6
G. Smith (Calivil)	247	35.2
B. Dwyer (Colbo)	237	23.7

WICKETS

PLAYER	WKTS	AVR.
L. Sirett (Colbo)	22	9.6
A. Smith (Calivil)	18	7.8
S. Anderson (Bshot)	18	16.2
B. Harris (Hcote)	16	7.4
C. Chilcott (Hcote)	15	10.2
A. Maher (Rwood)	14	3.5

* Ladder and statistics according to NUCA website.