

The Davidson Shield Comes Home to The Hills Sports High School

The Hills Sports High School First XI travelled to Bathurst this week to play in the 2008-2009 New South Wales CHS Cricket Knockout Finals. Four schools were vying for the Alan Davidson Shield. The shield honours the contribution of one of Australia's finest cricketers, who has given more than 50 years to the development of cricket as a player of 44 test matches, selector and administrator. Established in 1973 and described as the breeding ground for past, present and future state and Australian cricketers, this competition is the pinnacle of competitive school cricket in New South Wales. A former winner of the Alan Davidson Shield is East Hills Boys High, the home of Steve and Mark Waugh.

Entering the two-day carnival as the "dominant" team of the final 16, the Hills Sports crushed seven time champions Westfields Sports High by a massive 15 runs, in a dominant display with both bat and ball. Batting first, the Hills Sports posted 1/201 from their 40 overs. Openers Chris Brown (81 not out), Rhys Horton-Whybrow (50) and Sean Abbott (50) monstereed the Westfields attack hitting boundaries at will. In reply, Westfields were dismissed for 45, losing the last 9 wickets for just 15 runs. Australian U/19 representative Luke Doran 4/9, Robert Pasfield 3/1 and Gurinder Sandhu 2/13 were all impressive with the ball.

Team confidence was high entering the final against Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School. They had defeated Endeavour Sports High School in their semi-final. Winning the toss and batting first, the Hills Sports posted an impressive 9/187 against a strong bowling attack. The Hills Sports batting was once again led by Rhys Horton-Whybrow (74) and Sean Abbott (53). They were more than ably supported by a strong middle-order led by Trent Crittenden (22). The bowling attack was once again spear-headed by the spin of Luke Doran 5/7 (8 overs) and Robert Pasfield 2/24. Farrer were dismissed for 88.