



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Maiden Twenty20 Championship a Close Contest

Australian University Sport (AUS) have joined the cricketing world's appetite for the face paced Twenty20 cricket competition format with their own event, the Australian University Championship – Twenty20 Cricket.

The Championship was launched on Monday with matches played until Friday 7/12/07 at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) Village green and David Phillips Ovals.

"The University Championship has attracted high profile teams within university sport. Teams were required to comply with selection criteria specific to the event, which in turn has been able to offer a great inaugural platform to showcase the elite level of cricket that exists within the fiercely competitive university community," expressed Kathryn Prescott, AUS National Programs Coordinator.

With the support of Cricket Australia and a line up of teams that have decades of university sport rivalry to settle, the atmosphere around the Pavilion has been thrilling. Despite storms affecting Monday and Tuesday's play, the fast paced action and big hits have continued to fly throughout the Championship and after only three days of play, Macquarie University (MQU) have a handy lead going into the finals.

Standout games from Monday include, UNSW taking on the University of Sydney (USYD) and just getting by in an upset. UNSW set USYD 161 to chase and with 10 runs required in 4 balls, USYD came close but ended up 1 run short. Southern Cross University (SCU) and the University of New England (UNE) was a one sided affair with UNE gaining a bonus point, as did MQU against the Australian College of Physical Education (ACPE).

In order to gain 1 bonus point the winning team must obtain a run rate 1.25 times greater than the opposing team and to gain 2 bonus points the winning team would have a run rate at least 2.0 times greater. The bonus point rule has been an incentive for some big hitting, providing plenty of action for spectators.

On Tuesday UNSW gained 2 bonus points after thrashing SCU (UNSW 482 defeated SCU 81 all out). However, USYD went down to MQU by 62 runs (MQU 4/203 defeated USYD 141 all out) and UNE beat ACPE in the second thriller of the Championship, winning in the last over with 1 wicket in hand (UNE 8/127 defeated ACPE 126 all out).

Yesterday's morning matches saw an upset with undefeated Championship hosts UNSW going down to ACPE by 6 wickets (ACPE 4/136 off 15.2 overs def UNSW 7/132). USYD (8/171) gained 2 bonus points in their match against SCU (10/64) and the match between MQU & UNE at the Village Green was washed out and a draw declared.





The afternoon match between MQU & UNSW at the Village Green produced the first century of the Championship with MQU wicket keeper Brad Rasool scoring 119 runs. MQU went on to win by 68 runs giving UNSW their second loss for the day. Over at David Phillips Ovals USYD gave UNE their first defeat in the Championship by winning in the last over.

In the SCU & ACPE match, SCU bowler Dominic Marsh dug deep and scored a hatrick against ACPE taking 3/23. But that wasn't enough for SCU as they fell 35 runs short of the 140 target set by ACPE.

The Championship continues today with critical games for the five top teams vying for the 4 semi final positions. The last of the pool matches were played this morning with the semi-final matches being played out this afternoon.

For the latest scores and results go to [www.unigames.com.au](http://www.unigames.com.au).

The Ladder at the end of yesterday's play:

:: Pool Pool A	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
MQU	3	0	1	543	410	132.44%	13
UNE	2	1	1	497	446	111.43%	8
USYD	2	2	0	629	586	107.34%	8
ACPE	2	2	0	530	494	107.29%	8
UNSW	2	2	0	516	586	88.05%	8
SCU	0	4	0	413	606	68.15%	0

-End-

**IMAGE CAPTIONS:** MQU Vs UNSW during Tuesday's play. Volunteers from England, Lee and Chris, enjoying the experience.

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