



NPL CRICKET CLUB

The Lab Report

06.05.2019

A Tale of Two Prodigies

1st XI sixth change bowler James Churchman sheds some light on early-season selectors' strife, and the hot debate surrounding two of the NPL Academy's greatest outputs.

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Picking Apart the Middle Order

Lampard v Gerrard, Brexit v Bremain, Robson v Haji - once again we find our little island divided.

Since they first graced the field together as mere Lab-colts, these two stalwarts of the game have had selectors far and wide scratching their balding bonces, quivering in their old boots at the prospect of answering, "But what if you could only pick one...?" Of course, the savvy Fantasist might endeavour to feature both players - fair play - but this week we take a look at the nitty-gritty detail to help inform the less experienced selectors amongst us:

The Story of 2018

Amaan Haji (£4m)

207 runs @ 25.88 | HS: 62 |

Weakness: Too quick > runouts.

Ali Robson (£3.5m)

270 runs @ 19.29 | HS: 63 |

Weakness: Sunburn

*"Both men carry genius deep within,
propensity to go big, and the cool heads
to steady the oh-so-rocky ship"*

The Verdict

It's no secret that Fantasy is about return on investment. Chim's unwavering availability gives him the advantage in this regard, alleviating any need for substitution. He also comes in at £500,000 cheaper; an important consideration considering the revision of Gallyer's value to the effect of a 33% hike year-on-year. That said, the 23 runs per innings that Amaan promises to Robbo's 19 could prove significant in a league that last year was anyone's to win come Week 18.

I'm afraid we simply cannot call it. Both men carry genius deep within, propensity to go big, and the cool heads to steady the oh-so-rocky ship/ top-order. That said, it would take a fool to rule out a few moments of madness. In a selection battle that no man can call, *bonne chance à vous!*

James Churchman

Work Experience

