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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Friday, December 4, 2009**

#### **Dramatic batting collapse costs NT victory in run chase against Tasmania**

The second day of the Northern Territory v Tasmania match resumed today with NT at 3-111 chasing Tasmania's total of 241 at the Under 19 National Championships in Canberra.

Overnight not out batsmen, Alex Bleakley and Matthew Robertson resumed the NT innings steadily until Bleakley was dismissed for 27 runs (56 balls).

Nightwatchman Robertson was joined by the inform Jonno Crowe. This pair consolidated the NT innings and put them within sight of victory with a partnership of 77 runs.

Unfortunately, Robertson was dismissed last ball before lunch for an excellent 39 runs from 107 balls. The NT total was 5-212 runs at lunch.

After lunch the NT team returned and experienced a batting collapse as wickets fell quickly.

Crowe was running out of partners until he was dismissed for a well compiled 49 runs from 93 balls.

Crowe's departure left NT precariously placed at 9-220, still requiring 22 runs for victory.

Unfortunately, Matt Hanna was the last player dismissed with the score at 227.

NT lost 6-15 to hand Tasmania victory in the first innings.

A special mention must go to Darcy Short (78 runs), Jonno Crowe (49 runs) and Matthew Robertson (39 runs) who were the glue that held the NT middle order together.

Tasmania batted again and they were 5-135 when play was halted an hour early.

NT has a rest day on Saturday and will resume on Sunday with a two day match against South Australia.