

## ... Learning from mistakes

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more importantly though he managed to excel under tough conditions. More often than not he was given the ball during crunch scenarios and he rarely failed.

What was impressive about the 19-year-old was that he didn't seem to have any jitters at such a big stage. On the contrary, he was as aggressive as ever.

The full-length delivery that literally toppled Lendl Simmons was his highlight of tournament. Mashrafe Bin Mortaza has already spoken highly of the bowler, and it won't be a surprise if one sees him in the national colours very soon.

The other positive aspect of the competition was the performance of the players outside the national team. It was, in a sense, a tournament that brought them back to the scene.

Players like Jahurul Islam and Alok Kapali were the unlikely heroes for their respective teams.

An opener who has been struggling for the last one and half years primarily due to family issues, Jahurul did notch it up in the competition. There were a number of highly-rated players in the Rangpur Riders, but none of them were as consistent with the bat as Jahurul was.



PHOTO: STAR

For Kapali, it was a fairy-tale finish. Ignored after scoring two double centuries in first-class cricket earlier this year, it was a boost that the former national player required. The way he finished the final under tensed circumstances, suggests that the middle-order batsman still has it in him.

The other player who impressed was Imrul Kayes. Imrul finished as the second highest run-getter of the competition, behind Kumar Sangakkara and scored 300-plus runs.

For Imrul, it was a case of proving to the selectors that he wasn't just meant for Test cricket. In an interview follow-

ing the tournament, the left-hander did admit that he was 'hurt' to be tagged as a specialist for the longer format of the game.

Furthermore he said that he had proved his ability to play in the shorter format of the game in the past. "I was Bangladesh's highest run-getter in 2010," he had remarked.

Imrul may not be immediately drafted into the T20 side, with the likes of Soumya Sarkar and Liton Das around; however, his performance in the BPL will give selectors something to think about.

While there were several other

positives, for instance, Al-Amin Hossain seemed to be on fire and so was Mustafizur Rahman, however, the national selectors will be a little worried with the form of some of their most-sought after players.

Soumya and Liton failed to impress throughout the tournament. They were early buys in their respective franchises and they just couldn't seem to take the pressure.

Shakib Al Hasan's performance would have also spread a bit of concern. The player of the tournament of the last edition, Shakib's batting looked fragile and the team management will

hope everything gets in order ahead of the ICC World Twenty20.

On the whole, it was a kind of competition that Bangladesh required: clean, competitive and a treat for the fans. People are already looking forward to the fourth edition and that's a feeling that one didn't get after the last two seasons.

The BCB might have had two disastrous seasons, but during the third edition it seemed as though that they had finally learned from their mistakes

The writer is a reporter for the sports section of The Daily Star.

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