

Match Report

West Chiltington & Thakeham CC

1st XI vs Findon 2nd XI

5th August 2017

With 5 games remaining in the season, and elements such as the coin and weather seeming to want to keep us in this league, we needed a weekend of positivity...and sunshine! Starting the day 23 points adrift of Broadwater who were playing an apparently very strong Middleton side and our opponents Findon having lost all 6 of their completed "timed" matches things were surely going to turn...weren't they?

Well it didn't start well with a shower before play, but when we eventually got going the main event has now become the toss. Having lost the last 7 league tosses, plus the President's day one as well Jarvis decided to go to extreme measures this time and did the "dab" as the coin was in the air.....we lost again but to our surprise Findon decided to have a bat!



Jarvis employs the dab watched by umpires Gee and Lee...wow that coin has gone high...



Quote from Mr Lee: "Ha ha its tails you lose 9 in row!"

van Noort and Hodgson opened the bowling, and after attending his first net of the season on the Friday (albeit barefoot), Jake proved that practice does make perfect and delivered what I would describe as his finest spell in recent history. He should have had at least 8 wickets, and yours truly and Hugo dropping a couple of catches unfairly made him liable for a hefty “Michelle Avoidance” fine! In slippery conditions, our ground fielding was not really up to scratch, but we did manage to take 5 catches shared between JEM (2), Jarvis, a good leg side grab by Chambers and miraculously a high ball taken by an Oakley Free Zone “Crispy” Lucking! The highlight of the innings once again involved Crispy chasing down a ball at least 50 meters away to deny the batters a single, who had clearly misjudged the slowness of the damp outfield.....tinge of village!

Findon CC managed to put on an opening stand of 51 off 10 overs, but once the first wicket fell things slowed up and with wickets then falling regularly they managed to crawl to 108/7 off 40 overs. Reuben bowled a very tight couple of overs and Money seems to be getting used to the unique English conditions and finding his fingers.....which were actually hiding in a packet of McVities biscuits! Crispy managed to bowl a few overs of assorted flavours including some pretty plain salted full tosses, long hop cheese and onions, but littered with some prawn cocktail beauties as well!

However, the thunder clouds built up and with lightning striking all around Jim “the weather doctor says wayhoo” Gee made us all grab the biggest metal object we could find and put it on the pitch! It then rained...a lot! Water got onto the wicket, but the main concern was how quickly the outfield would dry when the sun came out and umpire strikes back Gee and Lee must be given a lot of credit for getting us back onto the park a couple of hours later.



Woody and Money use the skippers towel to try and mop up the carnage.....



Crispy trying to get his new leaf blower app working to dry out the pitch! Guess who's watching him.....

Resuming play at around 6pm and the sun shining brightly, but with the premise that the match could still be abandoned if condition were dangerous the Windmills needed 109 off 22 overs...which is 4.95 per over or less than a run a ball. Fortunately, Findon missed this bit of info and had 6 on the boundary from the first ball which left a lot of space for young Hugo and Chambers to work with. Unfortunately, Hugo top edged a pull and Chambers decided to ignore the gaps and try and make a few of his own in the surrounding houses windows. Losing the skipper as well left the Windmills wobbling at 41/3 but well ahead of the rate, and with the vice skipper JEM (48*) and Reuben (21*) bringing some sanity to proceedings we chipped away at the total. With news coming in that Middleton had beaten Broadwater and the roundabouts only getting 2 points, things were hopefully taking a turn! With the winning runs coming with 4.1 overs remaining and collecting 26 point we moved to the top of the table on 322 points one ahead of Broadwater. We did everything we could today boys.....well done!



JEM wearing "Mondays Best"