

SURREY DOWNS LEAGUE – DIVISION 4

ALBURY v TADWORTH

SATURDAY 19 JULY 2008

Match Played at Holmbury St Mary Cricket Club

TADWORTH 2ND XI 163 all out (37 points)
ALBURY 2ND XI 137 all out

Tadworth won by 26 runs

The Sunday papers said it all 'shark attack', great fight shark' and 'great white strikes'. So maybe they were talking about an Australian golfing legend leading the field at Royal Birkdale but our predators shark stayed the course, playing the lead in what can only be described as a breathtaking finale.

It all began at 2 pm when golden arm Cullen again won the toss throwing down the gauntlet, and decided to bat (a gamble for those extra 10 points for a bat first and win – useful for season end)

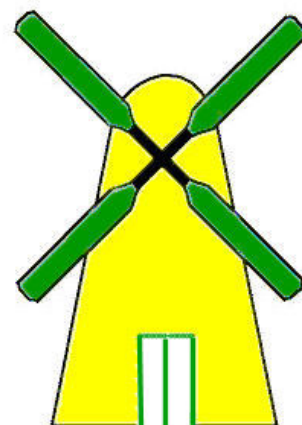
Mason and Dodsworth opened but early success went to the hosts when both batsmen were back in the pavillion with only 27 runs on the board. Davison and Richards fared little better and with the score on 46 Davison (13) was run out going for a second run which he would have made had it not been for a direct hit.

Skipper Peter Cullen then joined Sam Richards stabilising the situation they added 37 runs before Richards went for 14. It was now Cullen and Anthony and this pair followed suit by also adding 37 but with the score on 120 Tadworth's 5th wicket fell Cullen being bowled by Aston having hit a valuable 33. Only two runs later Anthony(20) was on his way and at 122 for 6 the visitors were in some trouble.

The out of form Paul Griffiths and steady Jamie Goldstein had to find something and did not let their team mates down. A confident Griffiths found his form and immediately took the game to the Albury bowlers with Goldstein sensibly showing less aggression making sure he kept his wicket intact. Griffiths eventually fell to Voss, who returned for a second spell, but not before Griffiths had boosted Tadworth's total to 156, his contribution a vital 26. Goldstein was left with the lower order who unfortunately failed to support him and Tadworth were soon all out for 163. Voss taking the bowling honours with 4 for 38.

Gary Mason and Mark Anthony opened up the bowling attack for Tadworth and the consistent Mason was soon amongst the wickets. He bowled Hern for 2 and then had Cain caught behind by Napier for 12. Anthony not looking comfortable had only a short spell and it was left to Mason to break through again with a third wicket, the home side now 52 for 3.

With Mason now off having taken 3 for 22 Cullen turned to spin using Adrian England, but the Albury middle order were now starting to settle so a further change was needed.



Tadworth CC

The introduction of Griffiths into the attack made things happen and in the space of three overs he had two wickets to his name and this with a superb direct hit run out by Goldstein put Tadworth in the driving seat, Albury in all sorts of trouble at 84 for 6.

Albury though were not prepared to lie down and Kenyon (16), Andrews (21) and Westcott (30) pushed the score on to 134, the game now in the balance, if anything Albury having the edge. Tadworth however restricted their scoring and with four overs left a draw seemed the only likely result, but then it all happened.

A rejuvenated Mark Anthony now bowling at the other end found extra pace and aggression taking two wickets in successive balls in the 87th over, 134 for 8. With the field crowding the batsman Sam Richards gave his all but still only 8 down at the end of his over. A last chance for the Tadworth shark but the best he could do was another maiden so up stepped Sam Richards, six balls to go. Success with the second, nine down and in walked the elderly experienced number eleven nervously adjusting his clothing taking his time, taking his guard, in runs Sam, an over pitched yorker (full toss) down go the stumps, game over, Albury all out for 137. Tadworth had at last beaten a side not only at home but also away, hopefully the shape of things to come.

WYNN DOUBLE

A great team effort batsmen and bowlers contributing. Mason's 3 for 22, Anthony's 2 for 25, Griffith's 2 for 15 and Richards 2 for 3.

Match report by: - Brian Chalkly

www.surreydowns.org/tadworth