

## Blog from the Boundary, 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Bodicote A 30<sup>th</sup> August 08

OK let's cut to the chase. We won but so did PB against our chums MK!

Whilst dabbing a tear from my cheek I will attempt to write a little narrative on our match.

We saved one of our strongest sides of the year till last. Both Bodicote sides needing points to stave off relegation from the Prem and Div 3. Stu was planning to insert if he won the toss, best laid plans and all that, he lost (only for the third time this season!) and they asked us to set a score.

Captain slow and his side kick Lieutenant slow (Stu and Lee) set the pace, when I mean set the pace you could call it snail pace. 20 odd from the first 10 over's came and went before the first casualty, Stu being caught behind for an impressive 3 ☺ Lee and Rob P went in successive over's, both caught. So this must win match was looking decidedly dodgy at 29 for 3 after 11 over's. Jase and Ian P set out their stalls to repair the innings, both started sketchy but no more alarms up until drinks, that's if you discount the let off Jase had when his was adjudged leg before after muddling it into his pads. To be fair the home skip had caught the Kilsby bug and called him back. Good for you young man!

We progressed to 60 odd at drinks and by now and you could tell both were getting in their strides. Knowing we were looking at a minimum of 150 both started to open their shoulders. Another 15 over's went by and these two put on another 115 odd, taking the score up to 171. Jase fell for what we thought was a well made 49 (jug evasion?) but when the score book had a recount he had in fact made 55. Ian P cracked on regardless, in the heat on the day he suffered a little with dehydration but a role model for anyone thinking you cannot play cricket when you hit 50. Good on you old man! ☺

Bob had a spectacular first baller; Mark made a poultry 2 and Craig an average saving 1 not out!

Ian P finished the season in style, just missing out on his first ton for the club, (more jug evasion one asks one self) to be fair Craig was doing his best to help him across the line but maybe the pressure got to him ☺ Seriously though a innings saving 98 not out and with a partnership of 140 odd between him and Jase certainly got us out of the smelly stuff. GP finishing on 193 for 6.

After the gut breaking tea at the Plough we set about the task of polishing them off. By now Bodicote had secured their second bonus point and were now safe from relegation.

A particular noisy fielding team, when I mean team I really mean Ian (who must have sucked on a few woodbines at half time) meant we were in for a colourful end of season.

Asher and Craig opened up with some tight bowling for a change, Ash and Craig both taking wickets in their first two over's already meant the odds of a successful run chase were over. Especially when they lost their 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket on 9 in the 8<sup>th</sup> over!

Body did rally for a while for the 4<sup>th</sup> wicket but when after Craig took Boulton's wicket for 18 it was just a matter of time, S. Woodruff with his trusty bat that sounded like a stick of bamboo (broken) hit the only lusty blows and eventually finished on a fine 54 and was the last man out. 'Mushy' Porter made hay with the lower order, his F&G deceived them and took 4 wickets (2 bowled, 1 stumped and 1 caught) Mark picked up a couple of cheapies before the end, one at first slip blinder from the still buzzing Peterson! Craig finished with 3 and Ash an unlucky 1.

Bodicote made a hard working 80 in the 31<sup>st</sup> over, losing by 113 runs.

As I said at the top, MK and PB have secured first and second with GP following closely in third, a mere 2 points from promotion. But let's look on the bright side we won't have to employ security next season against our chums and with our A side (my new favourites by the way) taking the Div 5 title the club have won its first title and now we have something to celebrate at the bash.

I hope you have enjoyed these little ditties during the year. If I am invited to the bash perhaps you can keep my glass topped up with the finest stout money can buy.

More next season!

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