

Blog from the Boundary, 1st XI v Wroxton 12 July 08

What happens, the season is meandering along very nicely without incident and then... the ex-student red wine swigging bloke (playing his first game) is right in the mix when things get heated, our first brawl? Not quite but tasty! More later.

To be fair you could smell the testosterone coming out of both dressing rooms before the off, at least that is what I thought it was. GP three points ahead of Wroxton so you could call this a classic 40 pointer.

A downpour just before the bully off probably swayed Stu's decision to insert.

A sure start took the score quickly up to 30 off the first 5 overs, the only iffy point came when Ash had one edge given as a wide! God only knows what would have happened if Lee had snaffled it.

Joshi took the first wicket, bowling Naz around his legs for 21. As is his way Ash doesn't just bag the odd wicket, he gets them in clumps. Three in one over to be precise, again skilfully avoiding the jug for the hatrick. Before you knew it they had blown up and at 35-4 all looked golden.

However they had different ideas, their keeper (and skip) had watched the carnage from the other end formed a nice partnership with Abid.

At drinks the score had progressed swiftly to 103- 4 from 20 over's and a score of over 200 was on the cards.

GP responded well with Lukey taking 2 wickets in an over, leaving them on the brink at 104-6. The innings could have gone either way, tight bowling from Evo, Luke, Dave F and Rob saw them finish on 171-6, a decent score which but we would have settled on that before we started.

We did have our usual hiccups in the field but it was fair to say our ground fielding had a certain edge about it.

Our reply started a little iffy (for the first time this season), Lee miscued an off drive to point and Rob P mistiming a hook to behind square. 22 for 2 in the fifth over and our opposition sniffed the win.

Stuey and Ian P led the fight back a fine 109 partnership and you could sense Wroxton losing a little interest. Stu did have skier grassed (to the delight of the whooping, clapping Artnell in the bunker) then bosh, Ian P (35) and Stu (for a fine 64 and his first 50 of the year) went in quick time, squeaky bum time? Dessie and Artnell now let the charge, 40 odd to get in 9 over's.

Des slapped a six to mid wicket before being triggered leg before, Luke made a quick 5 before Artnell and Mark saw us home in the in the 38th over.

Now back to World War Three.

Early in our innings Dave Frimin (umpiring at square leg) had not given a close run out. A few heated cross words later and you could tell the pressure cooker was bubbling nicely. Then right at the end the lid was blown off when Davey gave a run out but when questioned the keeper admitted to not taken the stumps with the ball and Artnell didn't walk, it all boiled over, Dave did try and keep the piece to be fair but they just saw him as the baddie. Ian P (umpire) saw the incident. "He's already given it, too late now" blah blah and a standoff ensued. A fraught few minutes of finger pointing and the odd expletive later and thank goodness the game was won quickly afterwards.

OK this wasn't all Mr Frimin's doing but you know, makes a good headline and stirs him up for the big one this weekend, MK Air at home. Lovely jubbly.

More soon, Dot