

Chidham and Hambrook Cricket Club Week One match report

Leaden skies, drizzle you could cut with a knife and thick woolly jumpers. It must be the start of the cricket season!

Chidham and Hambrook CC kicked off their first full season with a 20-20 match away to Lavent. Despite the imminent risk of a wash out the pitch was declared fit to play at 5:45pm, much to the relief of the on looking players, keen as mustard to put the winter nets behind them and get onto grass.

The setting was idyllic, as the two captains went to the middle for the toss, with a lush looking out field circled with mature oak and chestnut trees.

Gareth Haskett called for Chidham and elected to bat. Game on!

Paul Walmsley and Matt Chesshire took the early overs, but despite an impressive 33 by Matt wickets fell steadily. Keith Davay, who has impressed pre season in the nets, was most annoyed with his first ball duck, particularly as he will be unavailable for the next few weeks, so will have to wait a while to exercise that demon. The middle order supported Matt well, especiall Rob Richards and Dave Loten, bating through the 20 overs and putting 85 runs on the board, 15 or so runs short of their target at the start possible due to the slow wet out field and first match nerves.

Captain Haskett opted for an all pace attack when taking the field in the hope of restricting Lavent early on and applying pressure to the openers. Steve and Josh bowled a tight 4 over spell with numerous inside edges and near misses, including a very difficult chance for a caught behind, which was latter to cost keeper Paul Walmsley a pint in the pub after the match.

Chidham had difficulty in the field spotting the ball in the poor evening light but also some strong Lavent batting kept the score ticking over well. In the gathering gloom Lavent reached the required total with the loss of only one wicket, a Haskett senior lbw late on, and 3 overs to spare.

Despite the defeat this was a vast improvement on the early season friendlies we witnessed last year and as the evenings get lighter the Rob Richards motivated fielding will shine through and surly C&H CC first victory can only be around the corner.

Next match...21st May v's DACD at West Ashling

Captain's comments:

Due to a pain in the neck (or is that what Lisa called him?), Jon Keynes was unavailable this week so the team was led by Gareth Haskett. This is his post match interview;

“Personally I thought the performances were very good against a talented and experienced side as Lavant C.C.

Matt batted exceptionally well as did Rob, David had a very good debut and our trio of quicks Steve, Josh and Matt generated a lot of pace. The bowling was very tidy by all, only 4 wides and no byes, well done Paul Walmsley; the opposition actually had 5 wides plus 5 byes/leg byes. I believe this bodes well for the forthcoming season.

A few observations on and off the pitch,

Josh almost killing the umpire and a passing starling when he thought he was bowling a piece of soap.

Neil I almost stopped that one, honest.

Paul O'D knee popping; Josh said it sounded like a gunshot.

Gareth at the end of an over looking around the field, hearing a shout heads Gareth, thanks Paul W. Word of warning Jon when you make some field changes keep an eye on the Wickey.

Gavin unable to bowl as he felt his groin in the warm-up, come on lads no more feeling of any groins anywhere we have ladies watching.

Now talking of ladies, our scorer who now wants coloured pens to use with her scorebook if this carries on she will be after the late Bill Frindle's place on TMS.

Also it was noted that when Carol heard the match was still on and looking at the rain falling in Hambrook she said all cricketers have the brains of a rocking horse, no pun Gavin, but this was said slightly more colourfully.

So all I can say is well done everyone, the first win will not be long in coming and we can then celebrate in style.”

Gareth

Hawks Scorecard V Lavant C.C. 14-05-09 Lost by 9 Wickets

1. M Chesshire	Run Out	33
2. P Walmsley	Bowled	6
3. N Phillips	Caught	5
4. R Richards	Caught	9
5. G Haskett	Caught	4
6. K Davey	Bowled	0
7. P O'Donohue	Caught	6
8. D Loten	Not Out	9
9. J Haskett	Caught	2
10. G Fisher	Caught	0
11. S Clark	Not Out	0
Extra's		10
Total		84 for 9

Bowling	Overs	Runs	Wkts
1. S Clark	3	7	0
2. J Haskett	2	9	0
3. M Chesshire	3	18	0
4. K Davey	2	17	0
5. D Loten	3	7	0
6. P O'Donohue	2	20	0
7. G Haskett	1	9	1
Extra's			4