

28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Norfolk Alliance Premier League

Brooke CC V Diss CC

On Saturday Diss got back to winning ways in exhilarating fashion, with a scintillating 9 wicket demolition of local rivals Brooke.

With overcast skies and a relatively green wicket Diss Skipper, Simon Cooper, was thankful to win the toss and without hesitation decided to have a bowl. Cooper himself, and James Shepherd took the new ball and immediately asked questions of the Brooke openers, and didn't have to wait long for the first wicket with Shepherd trapping J. Wills (2) LBW in his second over. Brooke's other opener, Panter (41), decided to take the attack back to Diss with some sketchy looking stroke-play but it paid off as Brooke moved the score along at a decent pace. Panter's luck ran out with the score on 58 as Simon Cooper had his opposite number excellently snaffled by Ben Spinks. This brought Brooke's paid pro, Jumat, to the crease but he didn't last long as Cooper got one to jag back sharply which trapped the South African in front of the wickets. As the players left the pitch for a brief rain break the game was very much in the balance with Brooke on 64 for three, but what was to follow would have hugely exceeded even Diss' highest expectations.

With Shepherd, and Cooper finishing their opening spells Diss turned their hopes to the Tooke brothers, with Robert immediately finding some unexpected turn he collected his first, and Diss' fourth wicket when Habershon (8) missed timed a lofted drive, and again was well collected by Spinks. The few overs that followed turned into the David Tooke show, as his controlled swing bowling was too much for the Brooke middle and lower order. He picked up a wicket in each of his first three overs as Oakey, Andrews, and O. Howes all made their way back to the pavilion with Will Dawson taking two sharp chances in the gully, and one for Robert Tooke at slip. Robert Tooke, himself, then mastered a wonderful doosra which turned away from S. Pritty to take the top of his off stump. Another wicket for each of the brothers completed a remarkable turnaround for Diss as they left Brooke in complete tatters, all out for 98.

Chasing down such a score, Diss were keen to avoid any complacency, and with James Wilby getting off to a blisteringly quick start it helped calm any nerves the visitors had. Wilby fell for a very quick 29 with the score on 43, which allowed Simon Cooper (24 not out) to join Ben Spinks (27 not out) at the crease. Together they didn't allow Brooke a sniff as they looked to capitalise on any loose bowling without being reckless. It didn't take them long to see Diss home after just 20 overs with Diss completing a resounded victory leaving their counterparts with zero points.

The man-of-the-match award was a tight run thing with so many key contributions, but was rightfully awarded to David Tooke whose game changing bowling spell set up their easy run chase. Diss will be looking to build on the momentum created as they take on Norwich and Coltishall Wanderers at the Rectory Meadow on Saturday.

Diss CC 100 for 1 (J. Wilby 29, B. Spinks 27 not out ), beat Brooke CC 98 all out (D. Tooke 4 for 7, R. Tooke 3 for 20) by 9 wickets.