

3rd July 2010

Frankly Digital Norfolk Cricket Alliance Premier League

Diss CC V Acle CC

On Saturday Diss completed a resounding eight wicket thrashing of Acle, which propelled them to third in the Norfolk Alliance Premier league.

Diss found themselves taking the field first for the third week in a row. Chris Germon opened proceedings keen to prove his critics wrong, and he did exactly that by trapping R. Porter LBW for zero in only the fourth ball of the match, this was a massive wicket as the same player had put Diss to the sword earlier in the season by scoring a match winning hundred.

From the opposite end Karl Gooderham bowled with venom, and was extremely unlucky not to make further inroads into the Acle line up. It wasn't long until Diss turned to their strength, spin bowling, and it wasn't long until it paid dividends as Rob Tooke had A. Mundford caught for 40. H. Nel (1) was next to fall as Mark Williamson produced a magnificent delivery, which left the South African bamboozled. A patient partnership blossomed between P. Nobbs (49) and T. Wilson (43) only for them both to fall in quick succession as Benji Spinks collected his second and third catch of the innings.

Up to this point Diss had kept the scoring rate down well, but with wickets in hand Acle were still eyeing a score well over 200 with ten overs remaining. However, Diss' trio of spinners had other ideas, as Williamson and Tooke finished brilliant thirteen over spells, it was the turn of Chris Cooper to play havoc with the Acle lower order as he finished with four wickets. The other wicket to fall was instigated by a wonderful piece of athletic fielding by Williamson as he run out D. Huggins (8). Acle fell to 192 all out after exactly fifty overs.

Diss were in buoyant mood after a brilliant comeback with the ball, and their opening batsmen of James Wilby and Henry Rush strode to the crease beaming with enthusiasm. After a very patient start the pair started to play their shots, with Rush in particular finding his touch. Overseas pro, Nel, was brought into the attack to find the breakthrough, but he was dispatched to all parts going for forty runs in a five over spell. The partnership soared past one hundred and Diss looked set for a comfortable victory. Rush eventually fell for a beautifully timed 75. James Wilby (43) was soon to follow after playing an excellent supporting role in Diss' invaluable opening partnership. This brought David Tooke and Chris Cooper together. With Tooke (20 not out) rotating the strike from one end, Chris Cooper went boundary mad, smashing 30 not out in just 20 balls. Cooper finished the match in style by striking a massive straight six to see Diss over the line with over ten overs to play.

Henry Rush collected the man-of-the-match award for his excellent return to form with the bat, but Chris Cooper can consider himself unlucky after taking four wickets, and blazing an entertaining 30 not out.

Diss 193 for 2 (H. Rush 75, J. Wilby 43) beat Acle 192 all out (C. Cooper 4 for 50, R. Tooke 2 for 26) by 8 wickets.

- Next week Diss will have the tricky fixture of travelling away to Lowestoft, where they will have their prolific South African, Mpho Sekhoto, to contend with.