

26th June 2010

Frankly Digital Norfolk Cricket Alliance Premier League

Diss CC V Old Buckenham CC

On Saturday Diss welcomed local rivals, and bottom-of-the-table strugglers, Old Buckenham, to the Rectory Meadow for what was to be a crucial game for both sides.

Diss found themselves taking the field first, on a scorching hot afternoon, as Simon Cooper lost the toss. The opening attack of Germon and Gooderham started with decent control, but very little penetration as they struggled to create chances on a benign wicket. Germon was dragged out of the attack after a pitiful four over spell, and was replaced by Chris Cooper who immediately found some exaggerated spin. However, it was Gooderham who struck first, trapping Banham (17) LBW. It was soon spin from both ends as Rob Tooke was introduced from the pavilion end. Tooke seemed to rediscover the bowling form that had deserted him this season as he struck immediately, having Harrison caught at mid-wicket by Karl Gooderham for nought. Meanwhile, stand in keeper Will Dawson was having a torrid time; troubled by the bounce and turn both bowlers were extracting from the pitch. A patient fifty run partnership then developed between Perry (62) and Matthewson (21), before Mark Williamson had the latter athletically caught in the deep by Rob Tooke to hand the youngster his first premier league wicket. At 100 for 3 Old Buckenham were eyeing a score of over 200, but Williamson had other ideas, and along with Rob Tooke ripped the heart out of the opposition middle and lower order. Tooke finished his 13 overs with highly impressive figures of three for 32, but Williamson was in dream land as he completed a magnificent five wicket haul while conceding only 37 runs. Chris Cooper took the other wicket to fall, and Diss had bundled Old Buckenham out for 176 in the 49th over.

Diss' reply got off to a poor start as the horrendously out of sorts Henry Rush was snaffled in the slips for just four. David Tooke then joined James Wilby and the pair played sensibly moving the score past fifty at a sedate pace. Wilby's innings was ended just four short of a deserved fifty as he was bowled whilst trying to up the ante. Simon Cooper (23) was next to fall after playing an attractive cameo, and was immediately followed back by Rob Tooke as he was adjudged LBW without troubling the scorers. At 107 for four Diss were conscious of how quickly their opposition collapsed from a similar position, but Diss did not suffer the same fate as Will Dawson (40) dominated a fifty run partnership between himself and David Tooke. Tooke suitably hit the winning runs, smashing 3 fours from the 45th over to see Diss sail past their target with five wickets in hand, leaving him not out on an invaluable 53.

This was a very clinical performance by Diss, as they bowled well, caught their catches, and chased the runs with efficient class. The man-of-the-match award went to Mark Williamson for his superb five wicket haul.

Diss 179 for 5 (D. Tooke 53 not out, J. Wilby 46) beat Old Buckenham 176 all out (M. Williamson 5 for 37, R. Tooke 3 for 32) by 5 wickets.