

2th July 2011

Norfolk Alliance Premier League

Lowestoft CC V Diss CC

On Saturday Diss recorded their second successive victory with a scintillating performance away at Lowestoft, winning by eight wickets.

Diss welcomed back Liam Brown after a lengthy absence, replacing the badly out-of-sorts David Tooke who has requested some time out to reflect on his game.

Diss, confident in chasing, won the toss and put Lowestoft into bat. In only the fifth ball of the match James Shepherd, bowling with menacing swing, found the edge of Storey's bat gifting Rob Tooke a simple chance at slip. This brought Mumps Sekhoto to the crease. The Lowestoft overseas professional, who was the leading run-scorer in the league last year, looked to be positive and was helped by the wayward Robbie West who couldn't find his length.

However, Diss were celebrating their second wicket in the eighth over as West forced McAvoy into a poor short, with Chris Cooper plucking the catch from high above his head. From the other end, Shepherd continued to trouble the batsmen and Lowestoft's number four, Garrod, didn't last long as Will Dawson took a sharp chance in the gully. Dawson was in on the act again for Diss' fourth wicket as he ran out B. Brice with an electric piece of fielding at backward point. By this time Diss' spinning duo of Tooke, and Mark Williamson were into the attack. As much as Sekhoto looked fluent, the rest of Lowestoft's line up looked completely at sea, seemingly trying to hold up an end; none more so than Sims, who was embarrassingly dismissed for just six after facing almost fifty balls by Williamson with Dawson taking another catch. Tooke picked up Diss' next wicket, thanks in no small part to a fantastic effort in the deep by Ben Spinks, which left Lowestoft reeling on 102 for six; amazingly Sekhoto had scored 82 of them. A frustrating 45 run stand then followed between the South African and Fletcher, only for C. Cooper to clean bowl the former for a quite brilliant 96.

Lowestoft's final three wickets put up little resistance, with another wicket and run out via the golden arm of Chris Cooper, which left Williamson to claim the final scalp; clean bowling Reid in the final over.

Diss' new look opening partnership of Brown and Simon Cooper started cautiously, but it wasn't long before runs were coming at a decent lick. Cooper was peppering the off-side boundary with a wonderful array of cut shots, while Brown drove the ball down the ground with authority and precision. With the score on 77, Brown was first to go, LBW for 28. Cooper (33) followed not long after, being stumped off a wide. However, this only made things worse for the Lowestoft bowling attack, as Rob Tooke joined James Wilby and the pair set about dismantling any bowling that came their way. Tooke was in a particularly brutal mood as he dispatched Garrod for a 96 meter DFL maximum. In the six overs they were together Wilby (34 not out) and Tooke (29 not out) scored 60 runs and saw Diss home with more than 20 overs spare.

Rob Tooke put in another man-of-the-match performance, and in doing so dedicated his performance to his brother David who will be looking to re-build his dwindling season in the third team next week.

Diss CC 158 for 2 (J. Wilby 34 not out, S. Cooper 33), beat Lowestoft CC 155 all out (J. Shepherd 2 for 13, C. Cooper 2 for 27) by 8 wickets.