

Norwich & Coltishall Wanderers CC V Diss CC

Norfolk Alliance Premier Division

20th August 2011

Diss Cricket Club continued their charge up the Norfolk Alliance Premier League by demolishing Norwich & Coltishall Wanderers by 120 runs.

A fantastic team effort places the South Norfolk team fourth in the league, and only three points off third placed Downham Town.

Losing the toss Diss were asked to bat on what looked like a typically underprepared Norwich & Coltishall wicket. Ben Spinks and Simon Cooper started in uncharacteristically fluent fashion, with Spinks in particular showing some crisp timing. An absolutely unplayable delivery from Rob Steward saw the back of Spinks for 21, and Cooper soon followed suit to the same bowler for just four. David Tooke joined Will Dawson at the crease, and batting with a new lease of life it wasn't long before he was creaming Christensen over his head for consecutive sixes, followed by a four. Tooke's fun didn't last long though as Christensen got his revenge, having the left hander caught at slip for 19.

Rob Tooke was next in, and started with his usual confident approach, and along with Dawson took the score past 100 with some powerful stroke-play, but fell soon after caught on the boundary for an attractive 25. With James Wilby continuing his disastrous form, trapped LBW for a duck, Diss were wobbling on 106 for five. However, the 76 run partnership which followed between Dawson and Chris Cooper saw Diss to much safer ground. Dawson (41) continued to rotate strike, while Cooper blasted his way to a high entertaining 49 in just 38 balls; an innings which included two giant sixes. Both were dismissed in close succession caught in the outfield, which left Mike Tooke (13 not out) along with the tail to see Diss past 200 in the last over.

Diss' defence of their par score couldn't have started better as captain, Simon Cooper, led from the front as he picked up two vital wickets in his first two overs. Firstly, by trapping A. Ponder LBW, who was then followed by B. Christensen as he defended a brutal delivery only for David Tooke to take an athletic catch in the gully. James Shepherd was bowling with excellent control from the opposite end, but Diss' excitement cooled as Will Stebbings and Jeremy Elliott rode their luck for a few overs. Both openers were replaced by Robbie West and Rob Tooke, which was to prove instrumental in Diss' triumph as West bowling with renewed pace and vigour ripped the heart out of the Norwich and Coltishall middle order, while Tooke bowled with control and subtle variation. After just 26 overs West had picked three key scalps while Robert Tooke's remarkable nine over spell was rewarded with four wickets for just 15 runs, which left Norwich and Coltishall all but gone on 67 for nine. It was left for Chris Cooper to take the final wicket and complete a resounding thrashing by 120 runs.

The man-of-the-match award was a close run thing, which could have gone to one of many key contributors, but Will Dawson was granted the accolade for holding Diss' batting innings together and keeping wicket tidily.

Diss CC 204 for 9 (Chris Cooper 49, Will Dawson 41), beat Norwich & Coltishall Wanderers CC 84 all out (Rob Tooke 4 for 15, Robbie West 3 for 22) by 120 runs.