

Diss A v Stow A

Stow A 157-8 (46 overs)

Diss A 158-9 (43.1 overs)

Diss A continued their fine early season form with a nail biting one wicket victory over a decent Stow outfit. Winning the toss and inviting the opposition to bat first, Diss opened up with the pace duo of Robbie West and debutant Clayton Merriman. Stow openers Dyer and Royale started with early caution, with West not conceding a run until his fourth over, and Merriman generating some respectable pace on a docile track. With the score on 34 off the first 10 overs, Williamson was brought into the attack, and immediately struck with his first ball, with Royale edging to stand in skipper Craig Barker at first slip. Verma was next in, and in Williamson's next over was gone for a duck, well taken again by Barker, and ending up with excellent figures of 12-3-27-4. With Dyer looking confident and playing with assurance at one end, Diss looked to attack the other, with West and Bell deserving much more than their one and two wickets respectively, Bell bowling particularly well at the death. Stow opener Dyer managed to bat through for a fabulous 86, with the next highest scorer managing a paltry 12. Diss would have been pleased to be chasing only 158 on a pretty flat track. In reply Diss opened up with Barker and the returning Blakely, and after an early beamer from paceman Butt, Blakely was yorked for 5. In came the badly out of form Williamson next, and along with Barker steadily rebuilt the innings, with the pair putting on 66 before Barker went for a well crafted 50. This started a cluster of wickets to fall, with Williamson going for a painstaking 21, and Kilian, Witting, Brawn and Betts all falling, with Betts on the wrong end of a gaffe from the umpire. With 7 wickets down, Diss were staring down the barrel, and looked to be relying on the wily old fox of Colin Atkinson. But as both him and Bell fell cheaply Diss still needed 20 from the last pair of West and Merriman. With the crowd on the edge of their seat, West hit a thunderous over midwicket, and with the competent support of young Merriman saw Diss home to a tantalising victory. On the back of two impressive wins, Diss now travel to Cromer on Saturday full of confidence.