

Amersham Hill v HURLEY 1XI – 23rd July 2011

HURLEY

P Ridgeway	b Rawlston	73	2x6
D Simoes	lbw Rawlston	6	
V Sharma	c Telford b McKenzie	100	5x6
D Nye	Not Out	62	2x6
P Hunjan	Not Out	49	2x6
R Brown			
T Balchin			
N Akhtar			
D Day			
J Chambers			
M Cole			
	Extras	25	
	Total	315-3	

AMERSHAM HILL

S Hamilton	c Day b Akhtar	4
R Gilfoyle	b Cole	7
G McKenzie	c Sharma b Akhtar	0
A Rawlston	c Day b Cole	28
A Hamilton	c Brown b Ridgeway	39
J Evans	Run Out (Ridgeway)	41
D Telford	b Hunjan	7
C Fletcher	c Nye b Ridgeway	4
E Hedley	b Hunjan	1
N Ahmed	c Ridgeway b Hunjan	0
D Newton	Not out	11
	Extras	28
	Total	170ao

N Akhtar	9-1-39-2	J Chambers	4-1-22-0
M Cole	7-0-35-2	P Ridgeway	6-1-19-2
R Brown	6-1-21-0	P Hunjan	3-1-14-3

Having knocked on the door of a third League win for the past two matches, and then crept away like an errant child, Hurley didn't so much knock as batter down the door at Amersham Hill storming to a 145 run win on Saturday.

Hurley's Kryptonite has been their inability for individual batsmen to build big scores, but that was put back in the box as Hurley were invited to bat and made good use of a dry pitch and short boundaries. The early loss of Dave Simoes (6) to another lbw opened the gate for Phil Ridgeway (73) and Varun 'snake' Sharma (100) to add 153 for the second wicket but not without controversy. A shout for lbw and a caught behind against Sharma early in his innings had the smooth scalped Newton (0-35) in apoplexy. The sulks and murmurings subsided as the Hurley batsmen crashed the ball to all parts moving through the gears and accelerating the pace. Ridgeway was bowled by Alex Rawlston (2-82) switching ends and action with the score on 175 in the 33rd over. Having reached a richly deserved ton, snake Sharma skied his 102nd ball to cover where Telford made a swallow dive to end the classy innings and leave a deep indentation in the outfield. Dean Nye (62not) and Pav Hunjan (49not) then crashed a withering 101 inside 11 overs to launch Hurley to 315-3 from 51 overs and give 'Veggie' Simoes work retrieving balls from the allotments and helping himself to the odd carrot like the bunny he is.

Eagerly expecting a well-deserved tea Hurley were made to wait as a post mortem was held in the home changing room. After a brief debate Hurley then helped themselves to the meagre fare.

Hurley then opened with the dream start of 2 wickets in the opening over to Naeem Akhtar (2-39). Stu Hamilton flicked the 4th ball down the leg side where Denis Day took a brilliant one handed catch and

then next ball Graham McKenzie slapped his first ball to the snake at point. No thoughts of digging in for the kolpak Alex Rawlston (28) as he slapped the openers in a brief 19 ball stay before heaving Mike Cole (2-35) and top edging to the keeper Day. From 42-3 the home side slipped to 52-4 in the 10th over but a 78 run 5th wicket stand between skipper Andy Hamilton (39) and James Evans (41) threatened to deny the visitors. The drinks break had the desired effect when the first over after the resumption saw Evans crash the ball to midwicket and attempt a second run on a misfield only for Ridgeway to outspurt the batsman to break the wicket. Cue a crash of bat on dressing room wall, copious spitting and Anglo-Saxon invective. The run out proved the catalyst for the collapse as Amersham disappeared from 130-4 to 170 all out in 10 overs. Ross Brown took an excellent catch at slip off Ridgeway's quicker ball to remove Hamilton and Pav Hunjan (3-14) cleaned up the tail with his deceptive pace. Hurley collected maximum points to get their season moving in the right direction again.

Hurley once again waited patiently for the bar to open and for the score book to be copied only to sit around once more as another, or was it a continuation of the first post-mortem was held in the home dressing room.

MotM : Pav Hunjan