

HURLEY 1st XI v DENHAM 1st XI

5th September 2020

Venue: Shepherds Lane
Toss: Denham
Weather: Dry, sunny intervals

Innings of Hurley

1 Kelvin Baillie		b Mian	50
2 Naeem Akhtar	lbw	b Madabushi	27
3 Mandeep Singh	c Lupton	b Weerasinge	17
4 Josh Cole	c Shokat	b Weerasinge	5
5 Ian Dawkins	not out		16
6 Umar Zaman	run out		35
7 Greg Double	not out		17
8 Faisal Mahmood)			
9 Phil Ridgeway*)	did not bat		
10 Mike Walton+)			
11 Raheem Dad)			
Extras	(1 nb, 4 w, 4 b, 2 lb)		11
Total			178-5
Overs			40

Bowling

I Gahunia	8-0-36-0
F Mahmood	8-1-17-0
R Madabushi	8-0-36-1
S Bhatia	6-0-28-0
A Mian	6-1-32-1
V Weerasinge	4-0-23-2

Innings of Denham

1 Chris Lupton		c&b Zaman	3
2 Ricky Butt	c Zaman	b Akhtar	2
3 Sravan Bandela		b Akhtar	0
4 Ansuman Swain	c Walton	b Zaman	2
5 Adnan Mian*	c Walton	b Dad	6
6 Simar Bhatia		b Akhtar	0
7 Inderjeet Gahunia		b Dawkins	60
8 Ikki Shokat+	lbw	b Dad	7
9 Vihaan Weerasinge		b Baillie	29
10 Faisal Mahmood	c Walton	b Baillie	20
11 Raghu Madabushi	not out		1
Extras	(1 nb, 3 w, 2 b)		6
Total			136
Overs			35.5

Bowling

N Akhtar	8-1-32-3
U Zaman	8-5-6-2
R Dad	8-2-21-2
P Ridgeway	5-0-42-0
I Dawkins	6-0-31-1
K Baillie	0.5-0-2-2

Result: Hurley won by 42 runs

For the penultimate game of the 1st XI league season, Hurley welcomed Denham to Shepherds Lane once again. There were five survivors from the 2nd XI match at Denham at the previous weekend. The absence of a 2nd XI game this weekend enabled Hurley to field a strong team for this match, which also featured a successful return to action for a three-time players' player award winner. The armband was worn by Phil Ridgeway.

Following the toss, Denham invited Hurley to bat. Kelvin Baillie and Naeem Akhtar compiled the highest opening stand of the season over the first half of the Hurley innings against some accurate Denham bowling. Inderjeet Gahunia opened the bowling from the Farm end. Faisal Mahmood bowled left-arm seam from the Lane end. Denham also fielded a trio of right-handed spinners, which ensured a good over-rate, and captain Adnan Mian bowled leg-spin from the Lane end. Baillie played another classy innings and was the dominant partner, while Akhtar hit two sixes and offered catching chances which weren't taken. The pair were finally separated in the nineteenth over with the score on seventy-two when Akhtar mistimed a sweep shot and was adjudged lbw to Raghu Madabushi. Baillie completed his half-century in the 25th over and was bowled shortly afterwards by Mian when looking to up the tempo. Mandeep Singh kept the scoreboard ticking over but was caught in the covers by Chris Lupton off Vihaan Weerasinge. Josh Cole could consider himself unlucky to be caught behind by the vocal Ikki Shokat off Weerasinge when the ball became trapped in the keeper's pad (the dead ball law applies only to batsmen and umpires). At this stage Hurley were 110 for 4 wickets after thirty overs and Ian Dawkins and Umar Zaman had just arrived at the crease. Dawkins steadied the ship after a mini-collapse and Zaman ensured that Hurley set a competitive total, scoring three sixes in an entertaining knock, which included a huge straight shot into the field and another over long-on into the Lane. Zaman was run out at the Lane end with the score on 150, and Dawkins and Greg Double added twenty-eight in the last six overs.

After the interval Denham went out to bat. Hurley opened the bowling with Akhtar and Zaman, but there was no hint of the carnage to come. Zaman caught and bowled Lupton with the last ball of the second over. In the next over Zaman took a lightning catch at square leg off Akhtar to dismiss Ricky Butt, and three balls later Akhtar bowled Sravan Bandela for a duck. In the sixth over Mike Walton took the first of three catches when he held a chance from Ansuman Swain off Zaman, and in the next over Akhtar bowled Simar Bhatia, also without scoring. Akhtar was saved for a late-innings burst, but Zaman bowled out and conceded only three scoring shots in his spell. Raheem Dad replaced Akhtar from the Lane end and had Mian caught behind in the eleventh over. The fall of the fifth wicket in the seventh over with the score on eleven brought Gahunia to the crease, and he played a defiant innings to help repair the Denham innings. Gahunia batted quietly with Shokat for ten overs until the latter, mistiming a sweep shot, fell lbw to Dad with the score on forty-six. By the mid-point of the Denham innings the asking rate had increased to 6.6, and it is a tribute to the courage of Gahunia, Weerasinge and Mahmood that Denham got as close to the Hurley score as they did. Gahunia scored sixty out of eighty in twenty-two overs when he was bowled by Dawkins, and Weerasinge and Mahmood added forty-four for the ninth wicket to add some respectability to the almost inevitable defeat. Baillie gave another reminder of his talents with the ball when he dismissed both Weerasinge and Mahmood within the space of four balls in the 36th over to seal the Hurley victory.

This result leaves the 1st XI currently on a high, having won consecutive league matches for the first time for two years and having won consecutive home matches for the first time since 2017-18. Next week Hurley are due to host Cadmore End.

Umpire: Howard Mansell

Scorers: Mike & Liam Cole; Phil Ashworth