

HURLEY 2nd v Knotty Green 2nd

Date: 22nd July

Played at Knotty Green

Innings of Hurley

M Walton	c. J Patel	b. L Patel	13
M Cole	LBW	b. Blunden	1
A Ali	Not out		41
G Double	c. N Patel	b. J Patel	9
J Cole	Run out		8
A Iqbal	c. Coppock	b. I Patel	0
Y Gul	Run out		1
A Jabbar	Not out		11
R Brown)		
K Nothey)- dnb		
N Haines)		
		Extras	6
		Total	90
		For	6

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
C Blunden	7	4	11	1
D McLeish	5	2	4	0
L Patel	14	1	40	2
J Patel	12	4	32	1

Innings of Knotty Green

A Patel	c. &	b. Brown	22
N Patel	Not out		16
J Crump	Run out	(Jabbar)	1
J Patel	c. Jabbar	b. Haines	19
C Blunden	Not out		14
		Extras	20
		Total	92
		For	3

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
R Brown	4	0	20	1
K Nothey	3.4	0	23	0
N Haines	2.2	0	10	1
A Jabbar	3	0	13	0
A Iqbal	0.2	0	6	0

Result: Knotty Green won by 7 wickets.

The most farcical cricket match witnessed by this correspondent in over 40 years took place at Knotty Green on Saturday. The day started with armed police called to an alleged incident of littering by one of the players outside the ground. This waste of the Thames Valley Police's considerable talents was soon resolved and the covers were removed to reveal a pitch that was obviously unfit to play on. A new pitch was marked on an adjacent strip and for the second year running; Hurley lost the toss and were asked to bat first on a wet Knotty Green track. Openers Mike Cole and Mike Walton predictably found life difficult with the ball behaving unpredictably. Only three runs had been recorded when Cole was adjudged leg before to Colin Blunden in the seventh over. With the match being played in persistent drizzle, conditions were not at all conducive to good cricket. Abdullah Ali (41*) and Walton (13) added 21 for the second wicket. Walton's innings was brought to an end in curious circumstances. The batsman played at a wide delivery from Loki Patel which went to Jack Patel at slip. The batsman stood his ground believing he had hit the ball into the ground but on consultation between the umpires he was given out caught. Greg Double (9) looked in good nick before finding Nikesh Patel on the mid wicket boundary. Josh Cole survived a confident appeal for a stumping before heavy rain forced the players from the field after 28 overs with Hurley struggling at 49 for 3. Prospects for a resumption did not look good but with Knotty Green sitting at the top of the Division 4 table and a victory looking very likely if play resumed, their captain would not agree to call the match off. A rare lull in the rain around five o'clock prompted the captains to agree to a restart despite the treacherous underfoot conditions. Hurley batted for another 10 overs finishing on 90 for 6. With Knotty Green having 15 overs to chase down the total, there was only realistically going to be one winner. With the bowlers struggling to stay on their feet and fielders

sliding in the outfield, the game was played to a conclusion with the hosts losing three wickets on their way to a hollow victory inside fourteen overs.