

**HURLEY v Penn Street**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September**

**Played at Penn Street**

**Innings of Hurley**

M Walton	c. Armiger	b. Goodchild	23
M Basharat	c. Armiger	b. Cross	9
Y Gul	c. Smith	b. Semdil	13
A Ali	Run Out		43
M Hampton	c. Armiger	b. Cross	8
J Calliss		b. Fryer	2
J Graham		b. Fryer	0
H Graham	Not out		31
D Walton	Not out		0
		Extras	21
		Total	150
		For	7

**Bowling**

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
P Goodchild	7.5	0	27	1
B Cross	8	2	26	2
T Armiger	5	1	4	0
J Fryer	8	0	46	2
G Henry	7.1	2	25	0
J Semdil	4	1	21	1

## Innings of Penn Street

D Lander	c. M Walton	b. J Graham	26
J Semdil	c. J Graham	b. Basharat	13
J Tollafield		b. J Graham	2
T Armiger	c. Hampton	b. J Graham	0
W Smith	c. Gul	b. D Walton	17
R Sutherland	c. Gul	b. Calliss	19
G Henry		b. Calliss	1
J Fryer	c. Calliss	b. D Walton	1
B Cross	Not out		0
G Rankin	LBW	b. D Walton	10
P Goodchild	c. Basharat	b. D Walton	2
		Extras	12
		Total	103
		For	10

## Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
H Graham	5	0	17	0
J Graham	8	2	20	3
M Basharat	5	1	18	1
D Walton	4.5	0	28	4
J Calliss	3	1	8	2

## Result: Hurley won by 47 runs.

The match between Penn Street and Hurley was like cricket from a bygone age. A quintessential village ground, surrounded on two sides by trees, a pub at one end, no sight screens and uncovered wickets. With late dropouts on the morning of the match, Hurley turned up at Penn Street with only 8 players. Abdullah Ali answered a desperate call with a text message advising that he would do his best to get to the ground. On losing the toss and unsurprisingly being asked to bat first on a very damp pitch, Mo Basharat went out to open the batting with Mike Walton. Opposing skipper Goodchild withdrew himself from the attack after two overs where he struggled to land one in the batsman's half. Youngster Ben Cross recovered well from Basharat hitting him down the ground for a couple of boundaries in his first over to bowl a couple of maidens before picking up the wicket of the Hurley skipper, skying to extra cover. Toby Armiger replaced his skipper from the forest end and had the batsmen struggling as he made good use of the variable bounce. In these days when most clubs have covers, the art of batting on a wet pitch has almost disappeared. Luckily for Hurley, Yasir Gul (9) and Walton thrive on such challenges. Concentrating on survival as the ball behaved erratically, they could only manage 18 runs in ten overs before Gul fell to a catch by keeper Smith off Semdil. The arrival of Ali at the crease helped increase the run rate. After taking a couple of overs to get used to the vagaries of the pitch, he looked to be more aggressive. Walton (23) grew

in confidence and also started to go on the offensive as the pair added 47 in 9 overs. Walton's long vigil ended in the 29<sup>th</sup> over, looking to drive over cover, he just failed to clear Armiger to give the returning Goodchild his only success. Matt Hampton (8) became Cross' second victim to a third catch by Armiger. James Calliss had a lifeline before he had scored as Rankin spilled the easiest of chances at slip, much to the amusement of his team mates. Calliss' reprieve did not last long as the impressive Jamie Fryer bowled him and followed up next delivery with the wicket of Joe Graham. Henry Graham came in to face the hat-trick delivery and smashed it over the bowler's head for a couple of runs. Graham wasted no time playing himself in, blasting 31 from 21 deliveries, adding 42 for the seventh wicket with Ali (43) who was run out two deliveries from the end. In the conditions, the Hurley total of 150 looked to be a decent score.

With Ali having to return home after tea, the visitors took to the field with eight men and the hosts very kindly provided them with a sub fielder. With the pitch having dried a little, batting appeared to be a little easier for the Penn Street chase with openers Lander (26) and Semdil (13) managing to go along comfortably at four an over for the first ten against the Graham brothers. Basharat replaced Henry and opened with a maiden to build a little pressure which paid dividends as Lander lost patience and tried to pull Joe Graham, only succeeding in top edging over the head of Walton behind the stumps, who ran back to take the catch. John Tollafield only managed a couple of runs before playing round a straight delivery from Graham. With Basharat chipping in with the wicket of Semdil, caught at mid wicket by Joe Graham and Graham himself having Armiger caught by a diving Matt Hampton at slip, Penn Street collapsed to 55 for 4. A recovery by Will Smith (17) and Sutherland (19) got them back in the game with a stand of 28. The introduction of the Dave Walton and James Calliss turned the game dramatically with the last six wickets falling for twenty runs. Catches by Yasir Gul accounted for Smith and Sutherland. Jamie Fryer survived a confident appeal for a stumping off Walton before falling two deliveries later to a superb catch at slip by Calliss, plucking the ball millimetres from the turf. Two wickets in three balls from Walton, having Rankin leg before and Goodchild caught at mid-off by Basharat sealed the victory.