

Dunsfold Cricket Club vs Alfold

29th May 2016

One of the biggest matches of the season is upon us, Alfold has history playing for the Bedser bat. It dates back to 1953 and the rivalry between the two teams probably goes back further still. We haven't won the trophy since 2007!!

So when I win the toss I'm keen to bat. Mike less so playing over the top of a low one out first ball!

Peter joins me and we steady the ship working the singles and punishing the bad balls. We see off one of the opening pair and the runs free up especially through deep square leg. Deep mid-wicket is dragged around to cover it exposing the obvious shot. I plant the ball over fence in cow corner. I make it to drinks for the second week on the trot 😊



There's a bit of Alfold behavior that we are used to as Dave turns down an LBW. At the end of the over Peter shows me where he hit it on the edge of his bat. I get bowled trying to swish a straight one. No back to back fifties for me, 44. 98 run partnership, so close.

Rob gets his skates on making quick runs, not quick enough for Peter, run out for sixteen runs... and half a single.

Wiggy has been hearing about all the singles that are on offer only to pass them up and start cracking fours. Peter brings up his 50 and tingles a nerve in his neck with excitement. His first for the season! Some people will do anything to get out of bowling.

Max gets promoted ahead of dad and gets on with it pulling a four, did you see that Kirsten? "No, he never does well when I'm watching" she sneaks a peek as Max skies a cut shot, out for 4. Kirsten!!

Dad has a go but the last over is right up in the block hole, so he can't punish him, not out 3. Will manages not to succumb to the last ball of the innings this week. Not out 28.

Dunsfold 6-181 off 35 overs



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Adam gets hammered towards the clubhouse for four off the first ball! Sweet revenge next ball when a poor leave sees off stump clattered. Wiggy do you know why a batsman would leave a straight line like that!? Here comes our nemesis of Alfold who had plenty to say about Dave's umpiring. First ball and Adam bowls him around his legs. Sweeeet!

2-4 needing another 178. 8 years of hurt, stay focused boys.

Right then hatrick ball we crowd the bat. Adam rears a short one that cramps the unsuspecting batsman. It flies off the shoulder of the bat. "CATCH!!!" Ross backpedals and leaps for it in gully only for it to be inches from his outstretched hand! So near.

Ross is shaving varnish off the stumps at the other end. He gets his man caught low and well by Ollie Bell at mid-on 3-12.

When Adam skittles another Alfold are on the rack 4-12. Ross bowls the newbie 5-14 with back to back wicket maidens. Adam likes some of that bowling another around his legs for a wicket maiden 6-14.

"Do you want to give someone else a go" he's playing those Yorkshire mind games. "No keep bowling till you get your fifth, no jug avoidance for you!" He stalls a bit before conceding to buy a jug in his 6th over, another take of the stumps. Adam finishes with 5-14.



I promise Max can take over from Ross but with the arrival of a junior I turn to Wigmore and Conrad. Rookie mistake, not so much that he got a hat trick in amongst his five wickets last week but that his grandmother has snuck into the crowd. I'm in for a ticking off for not letting "my dear little Maximilian bowl" :-)

Conrad is back on form eventually getting the junior. Some things never change. Junior specialist!

Wiggy finishes it in the 18th over with Ollies second catch of the match. A phrase I'm keen to repeat many a time in my match reports (on so many levels)!!



A phrase I wish NOT to repeat too often in a match report... "Ollie Bell takes advantage of me being in the shower" 😊 by getting presented with the prized "Bedser Bat". Can't a bloke even have a shower!

"Oi get your hands of ~~my~~ our bat!!"



I think Alfold may have "lost their aura"