

# Dunsfold Cricket Club vs King John and the Ancient Mariners

14<sup>th</sup> June 2015



## Match Report

I send forth nobles to negotiate with the King. The Kings first knight sends the first ball in short striking ye old Mike Berry a hefty blow on his helmet. Clang!

Steve swats a long hop to mid-on for his first aggressive shot, caught 2 runs. Ye need to swing ye sword harder Steve!

Peter left a delivery to take top of off stump after the ball jags back somewhere between 2 inches and two foot depending on whether you're in the clubhouse or the pub. 2 runs. All that after hassling Matthew out of the number three spot.

Sensing it's one of those days I head to the encampment to make ready (get my whites on!) for intense negotiations. Rob has found the King and his entourage unwilling to negotiate. So he joins me to remove his armour, Bowled 5. Mike is not far behind bowled for 2.

Before we can set up the bowling machine they have sent four of our number back for 17 runs with their own bowling machines. That was actually better than last year when they had us 4-12! That's ok we have plenty of overs left. Oh hang on actually we have used up 10 overs already!

Whitney and the relegated Matthew combine to restore our pride, Paul makes the most of the aggressive fielding positions by pinging it over the bowlers head numerous times. Matthew prefers square of the wicket. At least we can get some batting practise in before it's our turn, we watch the ball retrieved near the nets on numerous occasions. The pair double our score even with the aggressive field positions retreating as far as the rope.

PAUL WHITNEY.				14	4	4	4	4
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The King turns to another of his court to find a way to scupper the trouble makers. His second over brings success bowling Whitney for a tidy 22, 5-42. Conrad has faced a few batches from the bowling machine which he puts to good effect by... Oops no bowled for a duck! Ollie has called in the fealty owed by his heir, Seb taking his place in the line-up, uttering ominously "I'll bat ahead of you Seb, I don't want to run out of partners!"



Remind me never to say something like that going out to bat with Matthew! Maybe Ollie has realised what he has said, he scores lots of singles



;-)  
Matthew on the other hand has heard none of this slur on his good name and takes over from Whitney punishing the bowlers of ye lower order pushing us along at four an over.

Kirsten turns up to watch... Ollie leaves Matthew in the 25th over bowled for 13, distracted by yonder fair maiden. Kirsten!!

I hope Matthew doesn't run out of partners! A missed timed spank sees Matthew returning to tell the noblemen how he was caught at mid-off with a much needed 28 to his name.

I join Seb who does some spanking of his own with a handsome boundary. My first ball I fire at square leg who drops it, I would like to think it was the fact that, I middled it that made it uncatchable, it did go for four runs. Second ball, I would like to think I found the gap and their lean opening bowler made exceptional ground to get a hand to it, either way two balls two drops but I'm still there.

Seb doesn't have similar luck, a snick behind for the lowest catch I've seen taken behind the stumps, 4 runs. Ross joins me and we have some fun. His majesty is not pleased and sends for his first knight to do his bidding. His lances are fast and whistle by my ears. Mostly unplayable Ross and I survive. At one point I even thrive, Bosh! The bouncer sails to cow corner.



4	5	6
4	0	0
1	4	0
7-1	12-1	13-1

Slow straight medium pace from the other end is Ross's undoing with one run, bowled like six of his team mates for just that single. It is I left stranded without a partner on 23. Dunsfold all out 111 of 33.1 overs

Negotiations seem to be going better than expected. The King is pleased with the maiden's offerings. Yes that sort, let him eat cake! Yummy thanks Lisa!

The King dismisses our demands, 112 nay! Tis but a trifle.

Ollie starts with a maiden no not that sort! Ross still grumbling about his dismissal takes care of the openers bowling both, we keep Ollie's powder dry and call forth one more his heir. Seb gets immediate results having their #3 caught behind by Whitney.

When I try my luck in the 11th they are 3-19. The King scoffs at our asking rate! His men forge onwards till Seb claims another bowled soon afterward. A third shows he means business having the big hitting Westwood clinically stumped by Whitney. Stumped by Whitney, well I don't get to write it that often ;-)

5-50 off 19 overs the King thinks he's on even terms. Coveney takes over from Seb. He has to wait till his third over before claiming the danger man on 36, bowling him.

I finish my seven without success, besides the new bat doesn't appear to have any stubble, Conrad! "It's yours to lose, what do you mean you haven't played cricket for nine months, stop your whining". He accounts for him in his first over, trapping him LBW. You know it must have been plumb when his team mate gave him out with the game so close.

King John thinks it time to make it personal, Ollie takes over from Conrad with three of his overs. 20 odd runs to get with about six overs to go, two wickets remaining. Where can they score from Ollie, third man and fine leg please?

A four off Peter's next ball isn't pleasing, should Seb stay out at the square leg boundary from where he retrieved the ball? He returns next to the umpire... Peter's next ball and he goes for the same shot... but Peter ties the batsman up with a tighter line, he only succeeds in top edging it... to Seb at orthodox square leg, whew! Lucky I hadn't concluded the debate in my mind.

When Ollie dispatches King John first ball of the next over the pendulum swings. First in line to the throne is sent out to remedy the situation paired with the menacing opening bowler who you know has seen a fair bit of cricket in his time, and probably a fair amount at the pointy end of games. With a straight bat he takes up the challenge.

The heir apparent hasn't seen much of the pointy end of his bat let alone cricket matches, we have a ray of light despite being only a couple of shots away from defeat. A maiden, no not that sort, from Peter is welcome respite. Two runs from Ollie's last leaves them still with a glimmer. Peter leaves the bowling of the last over to someone else, in the same way he left that off cutter to shred his bails! Ross, go on then have a go, and he does it! Only conceding a couple of singles for a famous 10 run win to Dunsfold.



The King retires to the public house to concede terms for the grand charter to be signed the next day. His knights have nearly nothing more to say on the matter



Ni





# MAGNA CARTA

1215 - 2015

1) A free man shall be judged by a team full of his peers if his heir bowled better than him

1	O. BELL.	0 1 0
		1 0 0
		1-13
3	S. BELL	0 A.
		3-22
		0 W 5

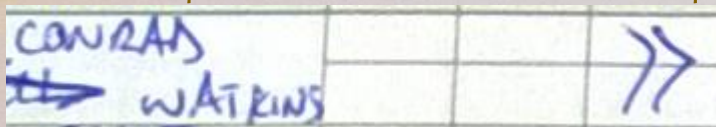
2) Thou shall inherit a lower stature in the batting order if you talk your way into a higher position only to...



a. Leave a straight one!

b. Not require any more of the tail since ye be the first one back to the pavilion!

3) No man should poach ducks on common land without recompense in the public house



4) Should ye countrymen choose 11 knights and they do battle with 11 knights of another country and then lose 5-0, then ye will deserve all public ridicule that comes ye way

That'll learn ye!

