



Dunsfold Cricket Club vs The Woodpeckers (H)

Sunday 22nd August 2021

After an enforced break following a soggy few weeks, cricket returned to Dunsfold on Sunday as we hosted The Woodpeckers. And more importantly, after an even longer enforced break, we welcomed back the return of match teas.



If a famous beer company did match teas I think they would look something like this....

As for the cricket, well the wait was well worth it. First of all, after losing the toss Dunsfold were put into bat with Max Bell and Peter Coveney leading from the front. With all the recent downpours the pitch was, to put it mildly, offering the bowlers some assistance, but Max and Peter managed to put on an opening stand of 33 before Peter was bowled for 17. In came skipper Max Richards whose eyes lit up to a short ball only for it to balloon over his bat before somehow falling onto the stumps, the skipper out for 0. Justin Theobald took over and he and Max settled things down before Max was given out LBW for a top score of 32 by our own umpire to one that according to Max pitched “way outside leg stump” – funny that the ball always seems to pitch outside leg when it hits your pads. Mike Berry then came and went as did the rest of the team with the only other scores in double figures coming from Dwight Cupit, making his debut, with 14 and Sebbie Bell with 15. Dunsfold all out for 122.



The skipper had plenty of time to reflect on his duck



The view from second slip as Adam opens Dunsfold's attack

Following a wonderful tea courtesy of Julie Young, Dunsfold took to the field and soon set about taking some early wickets. Max Coveney and Adam Young duly obliged with a tidy opening spell with Max picking up two wickets and reducing The Woodpeckers to 21 for 2 off 10 overs. Simon Benson replaced Max and kept up the pressure. Simon took a couple of wickets finishing with 2 for 17 and Adam picked up one wicket for 14. At the mid-innings drinks break the game was in the balance with The Woodpeckers on 66 for 5 off 23 overs, needing a further 58 off 12 overs. Sebby Bell's off-spin then produced a couple wickets but also conceded a few runs as The Woodpeckers started to hit out. Sebby was replaced by his brother Max who immediately got some success with his off-cutters, but after a couple of expensive overs from the skipper's experiment with left arm spin, The Woodpeckers could sense victory as they needed 12 off the last 4 overs with 2 wickets left. Max Coveney was brought back to get the break-through and produced a beauty to bowl The Woodpeckers' skipper. This was followed in the next over by Max Bell showing no mercy and bowling the young number 11. Max Coveney finishing with 3 for 19 and Max Bell 2 for 8. Dunsfold victorious by 9 runs.



Dunsfold looking the part in their new team shirts

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