

## Match Report

### JTCC v. GPO

#### Part I

Given the day's historic test match a game of cricket between two teams of humble irregulars was always scheduled to be something of an anti-climax. However before the game had started it was obvious events were going to be interesting.

Given the distractions that Sunday brings the start time, and sometimes the decision at the toss, of our games is usually determined by the arrival of the last player(s), as most seem to think that 2pm means 2:30pm. On this Sunday those of us arriving at 1:45pm saw the entire opposition gathered, practicing in the net and very, very keen to get on. This was in stark contrast to last year when they poured themselves out of the Victory and lost. It was obvious that this year they had come for revenge and then to drink.

As usual we lost the toss and batted first. However we were not too concerned as on this occasion our batting line up was reinforced by **Mark** and **Pat** so we were quietly confident. Some might argue that with too many players causing **Ron** to umpire with **Julian** that our line up was strengthened further. Those 'some' should know better.

Your reporter is trying to find better ways of imparting this but there is only one.....as usual the batting collapsed. Now at this point many will be thinking 'Here we go, same old names, same old story.' Well it would be good to mention more names doing heroic deeds, or at least providing some humour as these are your reporter's parameters. Alternatively, I could name and shame those who do not perform but Ron's job would be even more impossible thereafter.

The openers struggled and were back in the pavilion in next to no time. The middle order was only eminently notable for Pat's innings who, having retired on 50 returned to contribute 56 out of the total of 113. **Nigel** and **Stu** also contributed 25 between them.

With such a paltry score on the board the inevitable seemed, well, inevitable. But believe it or not the game was far closer than we could have hoped for. Like the JTCC innings one batsman stood out and scored 55 out of their winning total but only one other batsman got into double figures and our extras were less than theirs. Unfortunately these cold stats cannot disguise the fact that we lost. It was the individual poor performances that mattered more and made the difference. We had basically scored too few runs which enabled their retired batsmen to finish off what the lesser players failed to do.

With the game over, a little too early, the captains decided to play an extra game over 20:20 cricket. Which was to prove just as interesting.

**Penny Foram**  
**Cricket Correspondent to the Jolly Tanners**

**Match Stats**

**JTCC lost to the GPO.**

**Champagne Moments**

Pat's 56.

Having too many players.

Playing 'spot the ringer'.

Gnome's all round performance.

Phil's 3 for 36. The curse of the son was exorcised.

**Beer Moment**

That collapsed batting.

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