

Match Report

JTCC v. SGC

.....And so on to our next competitive match, our seventh this season.

We were playing the SGC which is a TLA* for Shortlands Golf Club. As the name implies they do not play much cricket. In fact, though some individuals may play other games, as a unit this is their only fixture and could only muster 8 players who, while good sportsmen, did not pretend to be cricketers. They won, and here's how.

This was a Sunday afternoon game, starting at 2pm with 40 overs to be bowled per innings. As usual we lost the toss (next time we will not bother to play after a lost toss and head straight to the bar) and were invited to bat first. To make up their numbers we loaned them a couple of fielders our Colts **Ben** and **James**.

Ron and **Geoff**, who like Brain G before him was shunted up the order for having scored 32 runs for his works teams (LloydsTSB), opened the batting. Ron carried his bat (metaphorically, and the way he bats, literally) and scored 25 not out. Geoff was out for a duck!!!!

The now inevitable batting collapse ensued. This can be ascribed to 3 causes:

- 1 – We do not have our usual contingent of good batsmen.
- 2 – As a result our weaker batsmen are exposed to better bowling.
- 3 – They do not possess the required technique to build an innings.

Ron, as ever, clotted one end thus ensuring we only haemorrhaged batsmen from the other. **Andrew** forgot he could not bat and held on with Ron until the umpires stopped play because it was raining heavily. The batsmen had previously been offered the light (what they really wanted were umbrellas) but stayed out until the umpires made the decision for them.

During the enforced interval tea was taken. What a feast it was. We JTCC players are being spoilt by the fare on offer and should not only be grateful but voice our appreciation to **Pete & Angie** at every opportunity.

Play resumed with the pitch now so damp that when the batsmen remade their 'mark' the ground squelched. Andrew was then out second ball having been reminded he could not bat and the innings buckled around Ron's boot straps. The vital statistic for the innings was the extras, 41 out of 109. This volume of extras was mainly due to their bowling. This varied from one delivery that wouldn't have hit a barn, let alone its door, to the next which would be picking the lock. At times there was far too much of the former. Fortunately for us.

The rain resulted in the number of overs being reduced to 35 which we did not use and they did not need. SGC steadily knocked off the required runs. Although some of their shots resembled strokes with a 4 iron they had enough sporting nous to play well and retire thus giving all 9 of them (we loaned them Dave Petersen) a bat. Dave was not out at the end and took one wicket so eclipsing Phil, his father and our captain, yet again.

As the JTCC were somewhat deflated by their score there was little repartee in the field, however the last few overs were enlivened by a few dropped catches, near

misses by the bowlers and a wicket for **Doug**, playing his first game in anger. That the wicket involved a tricky catch by Andrew, who has received much stick for missing one in a previous game, is not all that note worthy. That the driver of a passing car yelled that his mother could have caught it if Andrew had not, is.

Vlad the Impala
Cricket Correspondent to the Jolly Tanners

**Three Letter Acronym.*

Match Stats

JTCC lost to the SGC.

Champagne Moments

Ron's stoic batting.

Stu had bought some new 'whites'.

Andrew's amnesia.

Beer Moment

That collapsed batting.

Stu's whites did not need cleaning despite the conditions.

Geoff diving away from the ball rather than catching it.

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