

Match Report

JTCC v. Antsy

A recurring theme has started to appear in these reports and, unfortunately, it not crushing victories over the opposition. No, even more unfortunately it's the weather. The past few reports have been a eulogy to the current glorious weather. However given the recent barometric changes this theme looked certain to end as we have already lost one game (v. The Sloop) to the torrents of rain which preceded it. The game itself could have gone ahead as the sun teasingly shone through its anticipated duration but the game had to be called off long before then.

The same fate seemed to await this season's return game against Ansty. Up until an hour before the game was due to start the weather had stayed fair. But just as the drizzly rain started to dampen everything the game's organisers declared the fixture would be played. Call it optimism, blind faith, bloody mindedness or simply stupid their decision was rewarded as all those arriving at the ground, from all points on the compass reported the same thing, it was raining but not in Ansty.

The game began under conditions that would have forced test cricketers to stay in the pavilion; nevertheless the only action taken by the captains was reduce the number of overs from 20 to 16.

Having lost the toss our innings began with **Richard** (32) & **Brian G.** Brian was shunted up the order under the new selectoral policy of rewarding a good innings with a higher batting position in the next game. So, as a result of scoring 38 not out (for the opposition) last week he scored just 10 as an opener (for us). His dismissal caused the usual batting collapse especially as **Andrew** is not so much a weak link but a missing one. The resultant score 97 (which included 31 extras) was never going to be enough but as ever we went down fighting.

Ron went down dancing. In **Pat's** absence he found himself behind the stumps and seemed to style his technique around Irish dancing i.e. there was little if any use of the gloves. But he remembered to use them once and took the most amazing, instinctive & inspirational catch. Well that's what he bribed me to write. Apart from that the fielding matched the conditions.....dull.

We were plagued by flying ants (torrential rain, ants...watch out for the plague) but the ball fizzing by our ears and ankles proved to be the more annoying element. **Fraser** was very busy at square leg and Richard (captain) was even busier trying to find somebody who could bowl. He'd already given up trying to find anybody who could bat or field.

The game drew to its unavoidable close under clearing skies. Yes it was brighter at the end of the game than the beginning. Twenty minutes later it was dark again. Well night does follow day.

Helen Back
Cricket Correspondent to the Jolly Tanners

Match Stats

JTCC lost to the Ansty.

Champagne Moments

Richard's innings.
Ron's catch....it really was that good.

Beer Moments

The weather.
Flying ants.
We lostagain.

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