

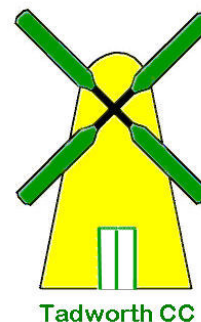
SURREYDOWNS LEAGUE - 2008

DIVISION 4 - WEEK 18 of 18

30th August 2008

TADWORTH v HORSLEY & SEND

TADWORTH 2nd Xi 149
HORSLEY & SEND 2nd Xi 106 FOR 7.



RESULT: Winning draw for Tadworth

What a pity we did not have this side out when we played at Capel last week. Sarfras putting his car keys in Sharkies bag which ended up at Tadworth before it was realised. I then had the unenviable task of running Sarfras over to Tadworth taking him and his keys back to Capel and then having to drive back through Tadworth again on my way home. If it was this weeks team with a coach and two busses in the side he could done his journeys by public transport.

Anyway back to the game, Tadworth won the toss and elected to bat but at 28 for 4 Gary Sewell must have asked himself, have I done the right thing?

Most of the recognised batsmen were back in the pavilion spending longer helping Sarah to prepare the teas than they did at the crease, but no problem this was a day for the occasional batsmen to stand up and be counted.

Ian Napier, remembering everything John Alexander had taught him, was a back to the wall mainstay and when Peter Farrington joined him they took the score on to 56 before Farrington went having hit a brisk 20. Unfortunately without another run being scored the 6th wicket fell and this saw skipper Gary Sewell stride to the wicket, well not quite stride but they were quite big steps for him. Sewell was the last of the recognised batsmen and although at the time the 29 he put on with Napier did not seem a lot it did prove to be a turning point. Sewell was out for 20 and the score had moved on to 85 for 7 but there was now however more confidence with the Tadworth batting. Ed Bellringer kept up the good work scoring 16 of the 17 runs put on with Napier before he became the 8th wicket to fall the score having moved on to 102.

Greg Buss was the next man in with Napier now starting to up his tempo, and when Buss went with the scoreboard reading 119 for 9 the home side now had something to bowl at.

With two occasional batsmen being the last pairing not a lot was expected but Napier and Gareth Walliss had other ideas, they shared the biggest partnership of the afternoon putting on 30 for the last wicket before Walliss was dismissed caught in the deep, off what was anyway going to be the last ball of the innings for 19. Stalwart Napier with his longest ever occupation of the crease, was not out at the end but his teams total had risen to 149.

Best of the Horsley and Send's bowlers was definitely Ted Creber who took 6 for 53.

The visitors had every opportunity looking at a rate of just over 3 an over but they never looked settled with Tadworth's policy of shuffling their bowling attack round at regular intervals. Spinner Sarfras made the initial breakthrough having Warwick caught behind for only 8 but at 66 for 2 and Took going well the visitors seemed to be in a favourite's position. This time it was occasional bowlers who turned the game Gary Sewell coming on having immediate success. The visitors went from 66 for 2 to 73 for 5 in only a handful of overs with mainstay Took being the vital dismissal during that spell, he had scored a fighting 44.

By now though Horsley realised that they were in danger of losing the game so by becoming cautious they fell behind the scoring rate required and the game itself as a contest started to die. Tadworth did take two more wickets but when the overs ran out Horsley were on 106 with still three wickets in hand.

Tadworth most successful bowler Sewell with 4 for 13.

The end of the league season with an interest right up to and including the penultimate game, the weather was not at its best and maybe at times the players were not at their best but we kept at it and fought hard trying to get that runners up spot, next season, who knows ?.

Percy Veerance.