

Time stops as Downe win again.

Some might say that working at the weekend is a tiresome chore, but occasionally it can be beneficial as I was at least able to miss the first hour and a half of a game that just would not stop.

Doubly beneficial was missing almost the entirety of Spindles innings, which is always a bonus. The rest of the team looked enthralled as they watched, eyes closed, lapping up the rays beer in hand. It appears that Dangerous had also become bewitched by his partners ability to block for 5 balls before squeezing a single, to such an extent that he was being outscored. The score board was in the region of 150 when everyone was awoken by the fielders cheers as a wicket had fallen and spindles trudged back passing his son on route. Dangerous followed almost immediately with both openers conveniently dodging a jug (100's only apparently)!

Luckily Zack has followed the wisdom of his god father as opposed to his dad and was soon unleashing an array of shots with a particularly nice drive through the covers. Marcus was doing what he does best and the ball was now being lost in the undergrowth. Both however fell again in quick succession, with the addition of Liam who no doubt didn't want his beer to get to warm.

This meant two new batsmen in the form of Parf and the Bear. This was an interesting passage of play that would be the nearest you'll get to watching morse code in action with a series of prods and almighty slashes. The score trickled to a respectable 203-6 after Parf fell in the final over.

Superb teas once again, well done Paula.

Skipper was back and a new opening partnership had Sweet and Zack first up with Zack the tidier up front. Sweet was first to strike with a snorter pouched by Marcus standing up. Josh and Denzil were next up with another piece of comedy running producing a wicket, as for the second week running both batsmen stood at the same end. This was soon followed by another edge induced by Josh to Marcus. Denzil was now moving the ball to such an extent, that he was forced to empty his pockets. The King of Swing was not to be put off as he roared through the middle order. Once again Spindles pouched a re bound, though to here him speak it was a 'full length dive'. At 70-6 the game looked comfortable until the new batsmen smashed 20 off Denzils last over, but Skiper needn't have feared as Sweet soon had his man. With 7 down and a hundred still needed there was an unconscious relaxation as the score drifted upwards. The Bear and Parf again combined in a fearsome spin partnership with both unlucky as the batsmen swung and missed. Parf picked up one and the run rate had shrunk to 6 an over off the last 5 before he picked up one more to settle the nerves.

Somehow the game would just not end as the clocks had gone well past 8 before stumps were removed. There were a few notable moments as Skipper in his first game back showed true grit as he wore one on the arm off an absolute flyer.

The Bear showed us some interesting warm up routines which were a cross between yoga and tai chi but involved no movement of the feet. He also performed two miraculous dives in the field in which he actually stopped the ball!

Doughnut also put in his best performance of the season as he managed to keep his finger in his pocket which is more than can be said for Nev as Marcus went Belly before wicket !

Report by "Sweet" aka Matt Walker