

Controversy as Downe slump to defeat.

Another week and another glorious day awaited. This time however the game was on following last weeks Chislehurst farce when apparently it was 'too hot' for cricket.

As the team assembled everyone settled in for the long hall of beer and relaxation, catching up on some sleep following hard weeks at work. After all there's nothing like watching Spindles to send you off.

The club has few rules but some are unwritten. Namely a) always bat first when the sun is out and b) always bat first when its not.

The team were somewhat outraged then when Trub marched back to the pavilion to announce the team were fielding and the game had been reduced to 35 overs just in case we run out of daylight !!! What followed was systematic abuse and outright mutiny especially from Spindles who had already been padding up.

Body clocks were out of sync as the bowlers contemplated bowling on empty stomachs and with the strange red shiny ball few had ever seen. Surprisingly, for a team that avoids running at all opportunity, you'd have thought the reduced overs would have been welcomed, but not.

Once things began the bowling was pretty tight and on the money, for once, with Josh picking up two early wickets one jaggig back to flatten the stumps and the second a C&B after the batsmen was hurried. Parf and Spindles were next up each bowling with admirable control with an unlikely 7-2 field being spotted. The batsmen were being troubled with countless shots falling into the gaps. After Parf bowled through the Bear was immediately unlikely with one dropped at slip, with an almost instant repeat with Spindles the unlucky bowler. The breakthrough did come when the number 4 was enticed from his crease only to be beaten in flight by the Bear. The incoming batsmen was not impressed and decided to hit his first ball for 6. Trub now on soon cleaned up the opener. Sweet then took a C&B, and then somehow was refused a stone dead Lbw next ball. The batsmen enjoyed a short reprieve as he went Lbw with his next ball and another fell as Kipper hands Liam pouched an edge. Tom took the final over and glory, under duress, and soon showed his class with a wicket.

Well now the hard part was done, most of the team settled into filling the tank and frankly enjoying the sun and beer watching the teams esteemed batsmen take control.

Sadly plan A was soon in tatters as after a brief smashing cameo Trub holed out. Spindles seemed unsure what to do and was even playing some scintillating strokes so perhaps the teams new approach wasn't all bad. Clive didn't trouble the scorer and The Bear after initial promise also found a player lurking in the deep. Liam spent longer walking to and from the crease, before Spindles edged to slip after appearing to leave the ball. The innings was looking precarious and things only got worse with Sweet now pouched on the boundary a recurring theme of the innings. More runs were added by Parf, Josh and Tom, who fell to another spectacular catch, but with overs remaining the batsmen finally ran out to leave Downe 19 short !!