

This weeks fixture was an early opportunity to right some wrongs from the shock defeat to Cudham and as expected selection would be key. Importantly skipper was back to steady the ship and snoozeville opener Spindles was dropped. Due to some fixture incompetence at our 'feeder club' Leigh, skipper also had the pick of their finest with Sam considered the best of the bunch, as Tom and Bish wondered what they could do to impress the great man.

As a late arrival I have no idea what occurred in the first hour but frankly with Spindles elsewhere it was probably not a week to miss the opening overs.

Skipper had clearly found the right pair as Dave and Dangerous rattled along at 6 an over. On my arrival Dangerous and Doughnut were back in the shed with Dave and Trub progressing nicely mixing sound defence with lusty blows with the odd amble between the wickets. Both reached half centuries before they departed. At 161-4 the famous middle order had the opportunity to power forward. Sadly there was not much power involved as the team were shortly on 168-9 with it looking like an early tea would be taken. Skipper and Nev then showed the others the benefit of straight bat to nudge their way to tea unbeaten.

Sweet was partnered in attack with speedster Sam, who was a little disappointed when told he would be running up hill into the force nine gale. Sweet on the other was rather pleased as he soon moved from the 'medium slow' to 'lightening fast' bracket as he stormed down the slope. First ball of the innings and a brute of a delivery took an edge. Sadly our hero's from last week were not quite ready as they had only reached the 'winning is our aim' part of their anthem and the catch was shelved. Sam soon cleaned up the other opener and a period of superb line and length followed.

With this week being a time game there was no limit on the bowlers and Sweet completed a 9 over spell with remarkably only one run to the leg side 😊

Doughnut having replaced Sam went even further as he was made to trudge up the hill for a straight 13 overs.

The score board was frankly stagnant as some impressive bowling tied the batsmen down. Dave picked up the next wicket with a superb catch by Doughnut taking the ball over his shoulder as he back peddled. After this it was all Doughnut as he picked up the teams first 'five for' of the season with a mixture of bowled, Lbw's and a superb steeper from Sweet. An opportunity for a sixth wicket sadly went awry after the batsmen smashed the ball low to deep mid off. Sweet going for a spectacular, and frankly heroic effort, dived forward and somehow deflected the ball off the back of his hand for 6 which was somewhat ironic in the circumstances. Cudham then held firm to scrape a draw despite some strong appeals.