

Ferguslie 1st XI SNCL Division 2

Game 4 Saturday 29th May

Ferguslie 242 for 8 beat Kelburne 211 All out

No hesitation, win the toss and bat. Derby day, first for many years and the ground and wicket were in great order on a gloriously hot sunny day.

Ideal batting conditions openers D. Stafford (13) and G. Preston-Jones (26) got the home team off to an emphatic start 33 runs came off the first 5 over's and both looked at ease with the conditions and the opening spells from captain Stephen McLister and professional and old friend David Harper. At the fall off the first wicket on 44, Stafford clean bowled by Harper, Kelburne started to turn the screws on the free flowing batting. Scott Hamilton the pick of the Kelburne bowlers (3 for 41) ensured the home side never ran away with proceedings by keeping Ferguslie professional Pravanjan Mullick in check and picking up regular wickets in his 10 over spell. Kelburne bowlers had gained a slight control of the match at 129 for 6 in the 33rd over. However an important 7th wicket stand of 86 between Ferguslie skipper Kennedy (32) and Mullick (85) justified the "bat first" decision and in the end 242 in their 50 over's appeared satisfactory.

However the batting conditions hadn't changed and Kelburnes reply ran Ferguslie close. The early losses of Scott Hamilton and Stephen McLister probably undid Kelburnes chances of victory. Jamie Carruthers and Greg Cameron picked up 2 wickets in these early exchanges but the 100 run 5th wicket stand from David Harper (59) and David Miller (41) kept the home supporters on edge. Both David's were rewarded with their positive shot making, much to the delight of the Kelburne travelling support in this "shades of yesteryear fixture". The game witnessed some impressive fielding displays and 3 stunning catches. Bonnets 1st slip catch in the first innings, Kennedys in the gully were both surpassed by Martin McAllister's effort off his own bowling to get rid of the imposing David Harper. Diving low down to his right, he miraculously pulled off what was his second wicket in 2 balls in his first over and pretty much had won the game for the home side. Fuzzy finished 4 for 34.