

### **Game 1 Saturday 1st May**

Ferguslie 96 Lost to Dumfries 169

First game jitters, the cold weather, conditions not exactly playable, not enough practice, any number of reasons but the first game of the season "strikes" again.

Ferguslie electing to bowl first on what was tricky batting conditions would have been happy enough if 31 extras were not conceded and did not let Stuart Corbet-Byers (55) off the hook and amass a late run fest of 30 runs. Greg Cameron started the season well with 3 for 31 and enter overseas amateur "Tosh" Paramanik who braved the cold conditions and impressed with his leg spin, 24 hours after landing from 42 degrees in Delhi.

Welcome back Paravanjan Mullick (54) the only batsmen worthy of a mention. Dumfries bowled well, with good control and on this first day of the season, deservedly walked away with all the points.

### **Game 2 Saturday 8th May**

Weirs 117 lost to Ferguslie 120/1

Albert Park blazed in sunshine, the home side elected to bat first on what looked to be a slow, low, run filled wicket.

Ferguslies opening bowlers both bagged wickets in their first over, but were really never able to drive home the early ascendancy. In fact neither could a rotation of all Ferguslies bowlers. The Weirs opener R.Murray (29) and NZ overseas amateur T. Hyser (22) appeared to be at ease. Enter the experienced Richard Rutnagur 5 wickets for 19 runs, took the pace of the ball and landed it in areas that proved difficult to hit. Overseas amateur "Tosh" Paramanik was again impressive and snared 3 wickets for 18 runs.

117 never seemed to be enough runs, but with Richard Young's left arm bowling still potent nothing could be taken for granted. In fact Ziggy did open the bowling, however, David Stafford saw no gremlins in the pitch and he perfectly bludgeoned his way to quick a fire 70 and easily took the game away from the home side. The new opening partnership of Stafford and G. Preston Jones looked solid and Josh Rutnagur debutant.

### **Ferguslie 1st XI Scottish Cup**

#### **1st Round Sunday 9th May**

Ferguslie 253/8 lost to Greenock 255/5

Ferguslie ran premier division neighbours close with a fine all round performance that belies the league positions.

Winning the toss Ferguslie elected to bat first on what again looked to be a run friendly pitch. In form openers David Stafford and newly promoted partner Gregor Preston Jones assuredly got the home team off to a good start with an opening partnership of 40. This proved to be a solid platform for a sustained flow of runs from the 50 overs. Professional Pravanjan Mullik (84) and Alan Mories (60) with an impressive 127 run 4th wicket stand ensured the home side posted an imposing run chase.

Greenock's run chase got off to a solid start A.Hislop (41), but a brace of wickets in the seventies, Greenock at 76 for 3 needed a sustained partnership from their experienced pair of Berrington (109

no) and skipper McClaren (63). The impressive and ultimately match winning 164 4th wicket partnership was a mix of well balanced rotation with measured power play hitting. An upset could have been forthcoming if either Berrington "walked" or was to be given out when young bowler Sean Docherty had him caught behind. There was no walking and the umpire just got it wrong.

Young bowlers Greg Cameron, Sean Docherty and overseas amateur all bowled with good control, spirit and heart.