

2XI Match Report

Ferguslie 2XI v Clydesdale 2XI

On Sat 24 Apr 10

The 2XI started their 2010 WDCU Division 1 league campaign with a home match against Clydesdale 2XI on a grey afternoon and a wicket with a bit of green on it which would benefit the bowlers early on. The all important coin toss was won by Clydesdale who put the home side into bat and soon they reaped the benefit of the conditions ripping through the home sides top and middle order batsmen by reducing them to 26-6 after 15 overs through a combination of good swing bowling and excellent catching. While all this carnage was going on young Gregor Preston-Jones who was celebrating his 17th birthday (sharing it with our Honorary President Mr Jack Kennedy who was celebrating his 80th birthday) watched on from the non strikers end.

With plenty of overs left in the innings it was clear that a substantial partnership was required and it came from young Gregor and the Major who together over a period of 19 overs steadied the ship and put on a 97 run partnership taking the score to 123 when the Major was caught on the boundary for a fine 33. This dismissal brought Gavin Mories to the wicket and he continued the good work by seeing Gregor through to an excellent century played with plenty of composure with Gavin himself contributing a quick fire 54 causing many on looking supporters running for cover with his hard hitting shots into the clubhouse putting on 125 in the meantime before they were both dismissed in quick succession in the last few overs of the innings with Gregor finishing on exactly 100 demonstrating his ability as an excellent young batsmen. Therefore, this brilliant fight back took the team from 26-6 to 262-9 when the innings closed and very much now in control of the game.

After a pleasant tea the team took to the field with plenty of confidence, however, that did not last long due to some indifferent bowling we allowed the opposition to get off to good start and it was not until the 13th over did the break through come when James Ellis clean bowled one of the openers with the score on 54. This wicket gave us confidence and by drinks we had taken control of the game with Clydesdale on 132-5. Keen to keep the pressure on it was imperative that we took an early wicket after the drinks break and it came in the very first over courtesy of the Major and from then onwards the result was never in any doubt as David Sturgeon tore through the lower order taking 5-35 in the process bowling Clydesdale out for 168 and setting up an outstanding victory by 97 runs with other contributions with the ball coming from Martin McAlister 2-23, The Major 2-34 and James Ellis 1-49. This victory was certainly not on the cards after 15 overs into the game; however, typically, Ferguslie failed to give in and through hard work, determination and a good team spirit turned round a game that at one time seemed lost. Well done to everyone and thank you to the support that the team got from club members.