

Phoenix 2nd XI v YMCA 2nds 14/08/11

Midweek availability and the finalised eleven have proven to be a thorny issue for Chris Cavanagh this season. The latest offender was David Ford who had forgotten an important family occasion and then remembered it again or possibly had been reminded of it. Cavanagh's side to face YMCA 2nds was: M D Masud Ahmed, A Battan, T Anders, A Nazir, R Gallagher, C Cavanagh, E Cleere, N Naik, A Morshed, H Mohammed, A Jospheh. After the toss Phoenix were to field first.

The big Scot was in total control from the magazine fort end and after eleven dot balls was rewarded with the wicket of Cole in the 4th over with Joseph taking the catch. Thomas Anders was a little off form at the Chesterfield Avenue end and struggled to stay on the right side of umpire Walsh. He was rested after 4 overs. Masud Ahmed's first over saw Robinson caught and bowled but Esham Ahmed and Walker now began to make progress. Fortunately for Phoenix Esham fell to Cavanagh in the skipper's penultimate over and Cavanagh finished with figures of 10-6-10-2. Masud was rested and Harris Mohammed and Ryan Gallagher were unleashed on the batsmen. Mohammed's 2nd over saw him get an lbw verdict against McAuley and Gallagher's 3rd and 4th overs saw him bowl Walker and get an lbw verdict against Partridge although some present were unhappy with the umpire. Visiting skipper David Streek had himself low down the order at number eight but he proceeded to play the anchor role in four partnerships as he and Tector added 32 before the latter was caught and bowled by Nazir, his stand with Jehangir added 1 in 3 minutes, he made 1 in a stand of 21 with Ali and he added 5 with Smith before falling lbw to the returning Anders.

The Phoenix target was 146 and Masud Ahmed and Battan produced some big hits early on. However, Battan was the first to go for 19 lbw to Ali and Phoenix were 39 for 2 when Masud was caught by Tector off McAuley. Nazir did not last long and Gallagher and Cleere came together at 39 for 3. This pair prospered for a while against Ali and McAuley although Esham Ahmed replaced McAuley and would come very close to matching Cavanagh's figures. Cleere was lbw to Ahmed for 13 which left Phoenix on 77 for 4 in the 18th over. Naik proved adhesive and suddenly got into his stride with consecutive boundaries off Tector while the Ulsterman was patient at the other end. Naik was run out for 14 after the stand added 40 in 50 minutes and Thomas Anders was the next man in. Gallagher struck 12 in McAuley's 7th and final over and then tried a risky shot against Ahmed which did not work. Ahmed, Jehangir and Tector were tried but were unable to remove either Anders or Morshed who saw Phoenix home with a stand of 14 in 18 minutes.

Phoenix bowling C Cavanagh 10-6-10-2

Phoenix batting R Gallagher 50