

## Chelmsford Cricket Club

### Report for 6 May

#### Under-16s

Essex Matchplay

Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford	393-3
Bentley	157 all out

(Chelmsford won 236 runs)

Some outstanding batting featuring centuries from James Clifford and Vit Sapaetharan got Chelmsford off to a strong start in the Matchplay.

Chelmsford's opening pair laid the foundation for a large total with Clifford playing well from the start and James Burns providing some solidity. After Burns (33) was dismissed, Vit Sapaetharan came to the crease and he proved to be as free scoring as Clifford.

Clifford was utterly dominant and looked on course to make a double century but tiredness and a leg side strangle brought his innings to a close for a brilliant 177. Another wicket fell two balls later but the arrival of Bradley Green brought more pain for the fielding side as he and Sapaetharan are both very quick.

The runs flowed at a terrific rate but still not that much faster than the tempo that had been maintained throughout. Sapaetharan reached an excellent century in the 38<sup>th</sup> over but didn't make a run after that with Green striking out and some scrambled extras. Green looked set to make a half century on 48 with two balls left but in unselfish fashion took the single that was on offer from the penultimate ball and finished unbeaten on 49.

With a huge score on the board, Bentley were under pressure from the start. Even after a couple of productive overs, the required rate had pushed above 10 an over. Shona Keaney and Alex Critchell bowled well and picked up the opening batsmen and Jamie Matthews struck in his opening over.

With the game well out of reach, Hickey and Davis shared a good partnership of 62 with Hickey playing very well. Davis (20) was unable to cope with Harry Green's leg spin and the partnership was broken with the assistance of a good catch from James Clifford.

Hickey continued to bat well and Green to bowl well. Sam Trowell's entry into the attack started to bring regular wickets as he and Green shared the fifth to eighth wickets, Trowell (2-5) removing Hickey for 85 and Green bowling his eight over stint to return three for 24.

The opening bowlers returned to the attack and quickly closed proceedings, Critchell (2-15) grabbing the ninth and Keaney (2-24) bookending the wickets.

Overall this was a very encouraging performance from a team with power to add.

Thanks must go to Bernice Clark for scoring, Rob Hayto for umpiring and to Sam Pandya for preparing the teas.