

## **Chelmsford Cricket Club**

### **Report for 26 & 27 May**

It was a pretty woeful weekend for Chelmsford as four games out of seven were lost with just one win and two draws. There were a couple of outstanding individual displays, Keith Goodman taking seven for 27 in the fourths and Phil Arnold hitting an unbeaten 134 in the fifths.

The Saturday first and second teams both lost in close contests with Brentwood. The first team finished 13 runs short of Brentwood's 214 and the seconds lost out by 2 wickets.

A fine spell from Tom Craddock (4-17) set Brentwood back after Walford (51) and Hammond (75) had set up a good position. The Chelmsford chase came up just short despite 62 from Nick Prowting and useful contributions from Chris Prowting, Matt Thurston and Nisarg Patel. Osborne (3-24) did most damage with Jones (2-32) picking up a couple of crucial wickets.

The second team found themselves in trouble when they lost three early wickets. Jack Sterland (68) and David Thrift (38) steadied the ship but the loss of Sterland and two quick run outs set progress back again. It took a good innings from Ollie Devenish (37) to get the score to 201. At 148 for two, Brentwood were cruising but when Boon (71) and Cocklin (76) were parted panic set in and six wickets went for 18 runs with Craig Thompson (4-46) and Devenish doing the damage. Brentwood's ninth wicket pair held their nerve and saw their team home.

When the third team's two under 14 stars Ben Clifford (4-33) and Aaron Beard (3-25) helped shoot Fives & Heronians out for 119, a second win of the season seemed on. The batting was abject though, mustering just 98; Wheeler (4-25) and Mirza (3-29) doing the damage. Harbord's innings of 37 for Fives proved to be the highest of the day.

Keith Goodman showed his supreme skill in a spell of seven of 27 for the fourths but they could only draw with Upminster. Straton (64) held Upminster's innings of 186 together and they were helped along by some poor fielding. After making a good start, the lack of batting depth was exposed and it was left to Goodman and James Burns to hold out for a draw.

Phil Arnold provided some hammer for the fifth team, scoring an unbeaten 134 in a total of 286 for five. Martin Daniels (51) also batted well. Old Parkonians never really contemplated the chase, Dhruv Patel making 50 before being one of four wickets for Harry Green (4-40), the visitors played out to a close at 162 for six.

The only winners were the sixth team who beat Old Chelmsfordians in a friendly. A young bowling attack did a good job in restricting the opposition to 123 from 40 overs. Zameer Panjwani with four wickets and Jack Campion three led the way but Alex Critchell and Shaun Sullivan also bowled well. The chase was successfully managed by the very experienced pairing of Bob Shortman (49\*) and Colin Miller (42\*).

Things did not improve much on Sunday. For the second successive week, the twenty 20 opposition cried off, almost literally at the last minute this time. Another week without Sunday cricket at Chelmer Park.

The seconds were involved in a fiery contest at Great & Little Warley. A very well constructed 71 not out from Miles Clark helped them post 204 for six but they were unable to defend that, losing by two wickets in the final over.

## Reports & Scores

### Saturday 26 May

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League Premier Division

Played at the Old County Ground

Brentwood	214 all out
Chelmsford	201 all out

(Brentwood won by 13 runs)

#### 2nd Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League Premier Division

Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford	201-9
Brentwood	204-8

(Brentwood won by 2 wickets)

#### 3rd Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League Premier Division

Played at the Whitbread Sports Ground

Fives & Heronians	119 all out
Chelmsford	98 all out

(Brentwood won by 21 runs)

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Division 1

Played at Chelmer Park

Upminster	186 all out
Chelmsford	152-9

(Match drawn)

The excellence of Keith Goodman was not enough to lead the fourths to a win in their opening fixture of the season. In fact he had to bat out six overs at the end to secure a draw.

Upminster passed fifty before Alistair Fergus (2-27) made the breakthrough. They continued to make good although steady progress with Straton (64) holding things together but from 141 for three, Goodman really got to work. He picked up seven wickets whilst conceding just 27 runs, five of his victims being clean bowled. They probably needed to be, Chelmsford's fielding left a lot to be desired. Mark Coups was particularly hard done by in two good spells.

The target was 187 was certainly achievable and the innings got off to a decent start, passing 70 for the loss of just one wicket. A middle order collapse against Savage (4-35) left the innings in tatters. Dave Goddard (38) then fell and defeat looked likely or a grim process of playing out time. Some useful blows from Ken Jones and James Burns managed to carry the score past 150 though.

When the eighth and ninth wicket fell in quick succession, fourteen year old Burns played with maturity and sense in combination with Goodman and those two saw off the last six overs.

#### 5th Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League 4<sup>th</sup> XI Division 1  
Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford	286-5
Old Parkonians	162-6
(Match drawn)	

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Team

Friendly  
Played at Admirals Park

Old Chelmsfordians	123-8
Chelmsford	129-3
(Chelmsford won by 7 wickets)	

#### Sunday 27 May

##### 2<sup>nd</sup> Team

Friendly  
Played at Great & Little Warley

Chelmsford	204-6
Great & Little Warley	205-8
(Great & Little Warley won by 2 wickets)	

Chelmsford lost a game that they probably should have won as they spurned several chances in the field.

Early progress was very slow and it was the 18<sup>th</sup> over before the boundary was found on what was a very slow (and uneven) outfield. Matt Davis (30) and Rupert Redman (38) put together a solid partnership but struggled to provide much tempo.

The momentum came from Miles Clark who timed the ball superbly and was quickly striking boundaries. He would finish up unbeaten on 71 and some fireworks from Alex Bailey (20\*) carried the score past 200.

The home side were given significant help early on and indeed throughout by extras with a huge number of wides being sent down. With the bat, Mahesh played very well with some meaty blows in making 58. His dismissal and the loss of two wickets in one over seemed to put Chelmsford on top but the numbers seven and nine rode their luck, struck a few nicely and saw their team to victory in the final over.

### Fixtures

#### Saturday 2 June

1sts: South Woodford (A)	SNEL 12.30
2nds: South Woodford (H)	SNEL 1.00
3rds: Hainault & Clayhall (H)	SNEL 1.00
4ths: Hornchurch (A)	SNEL 1.00
5ths: Stanford le Hope (A)	SNEL 1.00
6ths: Rayleigh (A)	F 2.00

#### Sunday 3 June

1sts: Leigh on Sea (A)	SNEL T20 2.00
2nds: Bexley (A)	F 2.00