

Chelmsford Cricket Club Report for 4 and 5 May

Chelmsford's winning start to the season survived first contact with competitive cricket as the Saturday and Sunday first teams won. Adil Dewan and Matt Thurston shared a wonderful partnership to advance the first team into the quarter-final of the league cup. A good team performance gave the Sunday first team a winning start to the league season.

Adil Dewan hit a terrific century as the first team amassed 269 for five from 40 overs against Colchester. His 134 and an impressive 96 from Matt Thurston rescued Chelmsford from a slightly perilous situation of 20 for two. Despite the efforts of Julian Russell (59) and Sam Foster (44), Chelmsford were always in the stronger position and Colchester were eventually bowled out for 218. Nisarg Patel and Paul Jones took three wickets apiece.

It would be nice to read more about it but none of the team could be bothered to write a report. The win takes them into a quarter-final at Hadleigh & Thundersley.

The seconds also beat Colchester by a fairly comfortable margin. Some rain breaks and slow play meant a late finish and no one sent me the scores. James Redman was in brutal form as he smashed 90 and Bradley Green also made a half century.

Tom Arnold's four for 8 took star billing in the third team's huge win over Hornchurch. There were also half centuries for Chris Drain, Lee Cranmer and Francis Kyan with Angus Turner making an unbeaten 48.

With the league season due to start in earnest next week it was a disappointment that the fourth team game was cancelled.

Sunday saw a good contest against Roding Valley in which Chelmsford prevailed by 13 runs. Dan Hagen (59), Liam Keaney (47) and Brad Green (30) helped Chelmsford reach 208 for six. Three wickets apiece from Craig Thompson and Andy Thurston ensured that was enough.

There was also a good win from the under-11s against Brentwood. Some very good bowling restricted Brentwood to 61 from 20 overs and Matt Cole's 39 not out was the mainstay a successful chase in which only two wickets fell.

Reports & Scores

Saturday 4 May

1st Team

Shepherd Neame Essex League Dukes Cup

Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford 269-5

Colchester 218-9

(Chelmsford won by 51 runs)

2nd Team

Friendly

Played at Castle Park

Scores not known – Chelmsford won

3rd Team

Friendly

Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford	261-4
Hornchurch	90 all out

(Chelmsford won by 171 runs)

A decent run out for the batsmen and some fine bowling from Tom Arnold were the main highlights of a comprehensive win.

Extras made a rip-roaring start, contributing heavily to a half century opening stand between Chris Drain and Paul Keaney. Lee Cranmer came to the crease on the fall of the first wicket and looked in good order from the start, timing the ball nicely and only occasionally resorting to the hoick. With Cranmer in dominant mode, Drain accumulated well and these two set the foundations for a big score.

Cranmer first and then Drain reached their half centuries and retired to give Angus Turner and Francis Kyan some time at the crease. Kyan hit the ball extremely well and made a rapid half century, Turner came up just short but was unbeaten at 48 at the conclusion of 40 overs.

Neil Raisborough bowled a good opening spell and Phil Arnold struck in his first over but it was Phil's son Tom who made a mess of the innings taking three wickets in one over. Tom Arnold finished with four for 8 and there were two wickets for Harry Green as Hornchurch were bowled out for 90 in spite of some good hitting from Anas (25*).

Sunday 5 May

1st Team

Spa Tec Essex Sunday League

Played at Chelmer Park

Chelmsford	208-6
Roding Valley	195-9

(Chelmsford won by 13 runs)

A good performance from Chelmsford in the field made the difference in a well contested match.

Chris Drain, Dan Hagen and extras got the innings off to a good start but the introduction of Asim (1-14) engineered a breakthrough and then retarded the scoring rate. Hagen became slightly frustrated and offered up a chance that ended his innings on 59.

Having taken his time to settle in, Liam Keaney began to play well and shared in a good partnership with Brad Green. Keaney fell in the closing overs for 47 and Green in the last after a breezy 30. With Shahid (0-24) bowling a good spell at the death, the final tally was restricted to 208 for six.

Roding Valley made a spectacular start with Craig Thompson hit for successive fours from his second, third and fourth balls before taking a wicket with his sixth. Thompson then settled into a good spell which was just as well with Alistair Fergus bowling complete dross at the other end. Thompson picked up the second wicket and Andy Thurston came into the attack and bowled well.

Thurston's efforts in tying the scoring up were rewarded with a couple of wickets, the first a well-taken catch by Keaney and at the halfway stage, the score was 93 for four and the game well poised.

The drinks break seemed to help the visitors and they made a good start to the second half before Thurston (3-31) struck again in his last over. Rob Hayto and Fergus took over the bowling duties and managed to stay on top of the run rate, building pressure helped by some good ground fielding. Hayto removed the dangerous Raza (34) and Fergus achieved the easy task of bowling less poorly than in his first spell.

Thompson (3-31) and Hayto (2-37) picked up a wicket each to make it 159 for nine and seemingly sew things up. A combination of a drop in intensity in the field and some good striking particularly from Shahid (26*) brought Roding Valley close but they were never really in the hunt for the win.

Fixtures

Saturday 11 May

1sts: Chingford (H)	SNEL 12.30
2nds: Chingford (A)	SNEL 1.00
3rds: Woodford Wells (A)	SNEL 1.00
4ths: Chingford (H)	SNEL 1.00
5ths: Horndon on the Hill (H)	SNEL 1.00

Sunday 12 May

1sts: Southend on Sea (A)	ESL 2.00
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