

Some useful late order runs from Nisarg Patel and Mark Drain helped Chelmsford reach 161, which at the time was thought to be about par.

The Ilford innings started disastrously for the home team, losing 2 early wickets to left armer Patel with the new ball. Tom Craddock, also in his first game for Chelmsford struck almost immediately with a spinning leg-break. The Ilford players never came to terms with Craddock's variations and control in an impressive spell of two for 20 from 10. Neil Fergus was providing movement and control at the other end and took three wickets in a spell of three for 7 from 6 overs.

There was also a comedic run out as keeper Prowting threw down the stumps at the non-strikers end but the batsman was meandering around without grounding his bat. This left the scoreboard at 38 for eight and an early finish seemed likely.

Ilford's tail produced some spirited fight taking the scored to 126 all out, with Kanishk Singh unbeaten on 55 and James Clifford and Mark Drain taking the final two wickets. It was a low key end as Ilford never really looked like scoring quickly enough to threaten the total.

All in all a very satisfactory start and 20 points that could be vital come the end of the season.

Sunday 13 May

2nd Team

Friendly

Played at Sawbridgeworth

Sawbridgeworth	228-7
Chelmsford	111 all out

(Sawbridgeworth won by 117 runs)

Hopefully this was a very rusty performance from the Sunday seconds as no one really showed any great form.

The home side lost an early wicket but Yadav gave the innings impetus with a fine knock of 72 whilst Bird anchored things. Yadav was well caught by Craig Thompson off his brother Darren having set the innings up.

From there Chelmsford should have been capable of restricting the score to around 200 but some pretty rubbish fielding helped boost the score well beyond that level. Darren Thompson ended with three wickets, including Bird (65) and Gary Chidley two.

A wicket fell in each of the first two overs of the Chelmsford innings and it never really recovered. Rupert Redman (26) top scored and Matt Davis (23) played some decent shots but despite hitting five sixes the innings only mustered 111.

Fixtures

Saturday 19 May

1sts: Shenfield (H)	SNEL 12.30
2nds: Shenfield (A)	SNEL 1.00

3rds: Brentwood (H)	SNEL 1.00
4ths: Brentwood (A)	SNEL 1.00
5ths: West Essex (A)	SNEL 1.00
<u>Sunday 20 May</u>	
1sts: Old Brentwoods (H)	SNEL 20:20 2.00
2nds: Writtle (A)	F 2.00