

Chelmsford Cricket Club
Report for 16 September

The competitive cricket season closed on Sunday and Chelmsford signed off in a bit of style, the under-15s beating Loughton to win the Essex Cup. The Sunday firsts also won, beating South Woodford in the Essex Sunday League.

A decent bowling performance from the under-15s led by Tom Arnold (3-14) and Aaron Beard restricted Loughton to 100 for seven. Accomplished batting from James Clifford and Sam Trowell helped to achieve the target with just three wickets lost.

A fine opening partnership between Adil Dewan and Jack Sterland set the Sunday 1st team up for a sizeable total of 267 for six. Ken Jones struck four times and despite some big hitting South Woodford could only muster 172.

This looks like being the end of the season as unfortunately there is little appetite for friendly cricket. It proved impossible to raise 11 players for this Saturday. This is yet another sign of disconnect in the Club. The performances and results on the pitch have been fantastic but organisational issues abound. At times David Goddard and Alex Bailey have performed heroics to get teams out and the lack of Colt's team managers has left a huge burden on Bob Shortman. More help is definitely going to be needed to keep the Club in a healthy state because it is about more than just cricket.

Reports & Scores
Sunday 16 September
Under-15s

Dennis Peters (Essex) Cup Final
Played at Loughton

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|-------------------------------|-------|
| Loughton | 100-7 |
| Chelmsford | 101-3 |
| (Chelmsford won by 6 wickets) | |

An excellent partnership between James Clifford and Sam Trowell guided Chelmsford to another high profile title.

An early wicket for Ben Clifford gave Chelmsford a good start. Loughton's second wicket pair started to score well though before a silly run out gave Chelmsford the breakthrough. Ackhaul (33) had been striking the ball well but pressure told and he was well caught by Ben Clifford off Trowell.

Kemp made 21 but the innings lost momentum in the last few overs against good bowling from Tom Arnold and Aaron Beard. Beard conceded only 9 runs from his 4 over spell, Arnold picked up three for 14 from his allocation. All three of Arnold's wickets were well stumped by Bradley Green.

A decent final over for Loughton did get the score into 3 figures but Chelmsford were happy to restrict the score to 100 from 20 overs.

Nicholls (2-19) gave the batsmen a bit of a scare with two early wickets but James Clifford had already started to time the ball nicely. Clifford picked up runs fairly freely and Trowell settled in before starting to score fluently, particularly in his strong area straight down the ground.

Clifford had to retire on completing a good 50 with 16 still required. Beard was out after a couple of nice boundaries but Trowell(35*) hit the winning runs with 14 balls to spare.

1st Team

Spa Tec Essex Sunday League

Played at South Woodford

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Chelmsford | 267-6 |
| South Woodford | 172 all out |

(Chelmsford won by 95 runs)

A terrific 194 run partnership between Adil Dewan and Jack Sterland set Chelmsford up for a good score and eventually a comprehensive win.

The opening bowlers provided some challenge but Dewan looked in good touch from the off, scoring a boundary from the second ball of the game. Sterland was not finding things so easy and struggled to time the ball.

Dewan completed his half century inside an hour, having dominated the scoring. At drinks, a good platform of 91 without loss had been established. The progress after that break was rapid and this time it was Sterland to the fore. There were 96 runs scored between overs 20 and 30 as Sterland raced past Dewan. Sterland's 50 had occupied 69 balls, 20 balls later he was out but with 94 on the board, the runs including four large sixes.

Frustratingly both were out in quick succession and neither managed to make a deserved century. Sterland was bowled for 94 by the pick of the bowlers Copper (2-31) and Dewan was caught on the boundary for 87.

A little bit of momentum was lost despite some big hitting from Nick Bailey (32). R Correya (2-10) benefitted in the closing overs with a couple of wickets but 267 for six from 40 overs represented a decent score.

The chase got off to a bad start with Ken Jones striking in the opening over and again in the fifth, this time with the aid of a superb catch from Sterland. The batsmen continued to pay fairly aggressively and Alistair Fergus took wickets in successive balls, both well caught by Rob Hayto at slip.

Jones picked up two more wickets at the end of his spell to return an eye-catching four for 33 and leave the innings at 68 for six. McMullen rode his luck with Fergus (2-38) suffering from some deserved bad luck after his previous very flattering returns in this competition.

Hayto (1-16) picked up the seventh wicket at 96 and an early finish looked likely. McMullen though found an unlikely ally in Ebdon, making his cricket debut. The combination of one player hitting the ball well who had not endeared himself and another staying in despite seemingly being clueless had Chelmsford flustered for a while.

Although there were some expensive overs, the required rate did gradually increase with 105 needed from the last ten. Bailey (1-24) finally broke the partnership at 76 by bowling Ebdon (11) who had done well.

Four balls later it was all over, a fine running catch from Bradley Green ended McMullen's innings at 89 and a catch at cover from Hayto closed out the season. Ben Clifford picked up those two wickets to achieve a cheeky two for 5.