

HURLEY 2nd v Littlewick Green 2nd**Date: 5th August****Played at Littlewick Green****Innings of Littlewick Green 2nd**

J Lucey		b. Nothey	12
B Green		b. Nothey	1
S Banerji	c. J Cole	b. Ali	15
A Langley		b. Nothey	102
N Middleton	Run Out	(Basharat)	1
C Leahey	c. M Walton	b. Basharat	29
D Herron		b. Basharat	0
C Sethi		b. Nothey	25
J Hesom	Not out		3
J Beckinsale		b. Nothey	0
F Herbert	Not out		2
		Extras	16
		Total	206
		For	9

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
A Ali	8	1	29	1
K Nothey	14	4	25	5
N Haines	11	0	59	0
M Basharat	10	3	30	2
H Gul	3	0	31	0
D Walton	2	0	15	0
L Cole	1	0	4	0

Innings of Hurley 2nd

M Walton		b. Beckinsale	20
D Walton		b. Banerji	5
A Ali	LBW	b. Beckinsale	15
J Cole	c. Leakey	b. Beckinsale	4
Y Gul	LBW	b. Leakey	11
M Basharat	c. Langley	b. Beckinsale	1
K Nothey	st. Green	b. Beckinsale	22
L Cole	Not out		6
J Dawson	Not out		19
H Gul	dnb		
N Haines	dnb		
		Extras	19
		Total	122
		For	7

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
C Leakey	7	3	13	1
F Herbert	5	1	13	0
J Beckinsale	12	1	46	5
J Hesom	7	0	30	0
A Langley	4	1	3	0
J Lucey	2	2	0	0
S Banerji	4	3	4	1
C Sethi	4	1	6	0

Result: Match Drawn.

One of the great things about cricket in the lower divisions of the Marrant Chilterns League is that it brings together youth and experience, allowing the veterans and the youngsters to compete, while the young lads learn from their senior colleagues. The local derby between Littlewick Green 2nds and Hurley 2nds epitomised this. Apart from one controversial incident, the match was played in a great spirit and there were some telling contributions from the junior players.

After a pre match shower, the cover was removed to unveil a reasonably dry but somewhat green pitch. Visiting skipper Nigel Haines called correctly and invited the hosts to bat first. Hurley thought they had an early wicket when John Lucey demolished his stumps while pulling Nothey to fine leg, but neither umpire had seen the moment of impact and the Hurley appeals went unanswered. Lucey's reprieve did not last long, having reached only 12 when Kuldeep Nothey pegged back the off stump. With Bill Green (1) having his off stump shaved by Nothey, Littlewick Green found themselves on 20 for 2 after six overs. An amazing catch at gully by Josh Cole off Abdullah Ali saw Banerji (15) depart at 40 for 3. A direct hit by Mo Basharat did

for Nigel Middleton (1) as the batsman's dive was not enough to save him after being sent back by Langley. A sharp shower forced the players from the pitch and six overs were lost to the weather. At 49 for 4, the visitors had the upper hand, but not for the first time this season, poor catching let the opposition off the hook. Andy Langley (102) made the most of his luck as chances went begging in the deep. A partnership of 60 for the fifth wicket between Langley and Chris Leakey (29) was ended when Basharat found the outside edge and Mike Walton did the rest behind the stumps. Two balls later, Basharat struck again to remove David Herron (0). Veteran Channi Sethi (25) joined Langley in a stand of 72 to take the game away from Hurley before the return of Nothey got the breakthrough. Langley duly reached his century with a boundary of Nothey before falling to the next delivery. Jack Beckinsale played across the line to his first ball to give Nothey his 'five for' and leaving Fred Herbert to face the hat trick ball which he safely defended. A further five runs were added as Littlewick Green finished on 206 for 9.

With the frailties in Hurley's batting over the last few weeks, they took a cautious approach sending out the Walton brothers to open the innings. Hurley's two blockers in chief batted with determination not to lose their wickets and naturally runs were few and far between. Littlewick used seven bowlers in an attempt to force a breakthrough and it was Subir Chanerji with his first delivery who got one through Dave's defences in the twentieth over. By the drinks break, Mike Walton and Abdullah Ali had advanced the score to 32. After the break, the batsmen looked to try and accelerate with the aim of gaining some batting points as victory looked well beyond them. The return of 14 year old James Beckinsale turned the tide for Littlewick. He bowled Walton (20), beaten in the flight as he advanced down the track and this precipitated a collapse as Hurley lost 4 wickets for 14 runs with Beckinsale (5-25) doing most of the damage. A partnership of 30 in four overs between Nothey (22) and Yasir Gul (11) stemmed the haemorrhage before Beckinsale struck again to have Nothey stumped by Green. The next over saw Gul leg before to Leakey, offering no shot to leave the visitors teetering on the brink at 97 for 7 with five overs remaining. Twelve year old Liam Cole (6*) played the best innings of his short career, showing immaculate judgement to leave anything missing the stumps and playing assuredly when the ball was straight. Jeff Dawson managed an unbeaten 19 from 18 deliveries despite being hampered by injury as the two batsmen safely negotiated the remaining overs to see Hurley to 122 for 7.