

HURLEY 1XI v Pinkneys Green – 28th July 2018

Hurley lost by 5 wickets (W/L/D)

HURLEY			
N Akhtar	c Stemp b Akhtar	23	
P Hinnell	lbw b Akhtar	0	
V Bhagwani	lbw b Akhtar	36	
J Cole	c Ahmeed b Stokes	0	
O Dawkins	b Stokes	0	
I Dawkins	b Snapes	35	
C Dawkins	b Ahmeed	8	
A Ali	b Ahmeed	0	
P Ridgeway	lbw b Ahmeed	9	
M Cole	c&b Patel	23	
M Walton	Not out	19	
Extras		23	
Total		186ao	42.3ovs

U Akhtar	11-2-40-3	N McDonough	2-0-20-0
J Stokes	14-2-47-2	B Snapes	5-1-13-1
A Ahmeed	9-3-42-3	S Patel	1.3-0-14-1

PINKNEYS GREEN			
B Purchase	lbw b Akhtar	12	
U Tiko	b Akhtar	12	
J Stemp	c Akhtar b O Dawkins	8	
S Patel	b O Dawkins	11	
A Rafiq	c Akhtar b Ridgeway	43	
J Stokes	Not Out	55	
D Roberts	Not Out	26	
Extras		20	
Total		187-5	40.2overs

P Ridgeway	8-0-38-1	O Dawkins	9-1-45-2
V Bhagwani	4-1-10-0	I Dawkins	7-1-25-0
N Akhtar	11-3-45-2	C Dawkins	1.2-0-5-0

The flaws in Hurley's batting were compounded by crucial dropped catches to deliver Hurley's third successive defeat at home to Pinkneys Green. These matches are resembling Groundhog Day with a Hurley batting collapse and early opposition wickets followed by a match winning partnership. In recent weeks Hurley have faded faster than a cheap photo.

Much cooler conditions saw Hurley asked to bat having suffered another week of availability crisis. Pat Hinnell became the first of 3 unfortunate victims to lbw from the away umpire as he went to glance his first ball to leg and was sent back to the pavilion. Naeem Akhtar (23) and Vik Bhagwani (36) added 52 with Bhagwani slapping his first ball to the cover boundary. He was greeted rather whimsically and unimaginatively with the comment from the 'keeper 'he's only got one shot'. Bhagwani was then cut down lbw with Umar Akhtar the beneficiary of choosing the right end. Hurley then imploded losing 4 wickets in as many overs to slip from 53-1 to 64-5. Ian Dawkins (35) and nephew Chris Dawkins (8) added 40 to calm the innings before the switch to Ahmeed (3-42) clipped the top of Chris Dawkin's middle stump. Ian Dawkins was just beginning to hit the straps before falling to Ben Snapes. Ridgeway (9) was the third lbw as Hurley stuttered on 132-9. A lively last wicket stand of 54 between Mike Cole (23) and Mike Walton (19not) added some façade to another disappointing display as the home side were dismissed for 186, well below par on another baked outfield.

Hurley's experiment with the old ball and spin lasted 6 overs and the new ball taken in the 9th. Inevitably Naeem Akhtar responded removing Purchase and Tiko in the same over (29-2). Ollie Dawkins generated impressive pace removing Stemp and Patel in the 14th (47-4). Hurley then found themselves unable to shift Rafiq (43) and Stokes (55not) who added 94 in 17 overs but things might have been different if Stokes had been taken first ball behind and Rafiq dropped on 0 and 7. Rafiq finally fell swinging Ridgeway to long off with Pinkneys all but home 141-5. Stokes completed an impressive half century as Pinkneys strolled to a 5 wicket win with 7 overs to spare.