

Hurley 2nd XI v The Lee 2nd XI 29th May 2021

The Lee Innings

	Name	How Out	Bowler	Runs
1	Ron Hedley	run out (Naeem Akhtar)		4
2	Steve Pain	ct Naeem Akhtar	b Jono Patrick	6
3	Tor Stockdale	ct Naeem Akhtar	b Phil Ridgeway	47
4	Benson D'Costa		b Naeem Akhtar	35
5	Neil Hollister*†	st Mike Walton	b Nigel Haines	35
6	Ed Clifford	ct Josh Cole	b Phil Ridgeway	5
7	Richard Clifford		b Nigel Haines	25
8	Jordan Essex		b Naeem Akhtar	0
9	James Sharman	not out		1
10	Oliver Cupit	st Mike Walton	b Nigel Haines	1
11	David Hollister	absent		
Extras	b (13), lb (3), w (6), nb (3)			25
Total				184
Wickets				9
Overs				44

	Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
1	Mo Basharat	9	1	36	0
2	Jono Patrick	6	1	17	1
3	Naeem Akhtar	8	1	26	2
4	Phil Ridgeway	9	6	25	2
5	Theo Patrick	7	1	34	0
6	Nigel Haines	5	0	30	3

Hurley Innings

	Name	How Out	Bowler	Runs
1	Naeem Akhtar	retired out		63
2	John Munday	ct Tor Stockdale	b Oliver Cupit	35
3	Clive Williams	not out		34
4	Josh Cole*	ct Tor Stockdale	b Oliver Cupit	17
5	Phil Ridgeway		b Oliver Cupit	2
6	Jono Patrick		b Jordan Essex	14
7	Matthew Williams	not out		3
8	Mike Walton†	did not bat		
9	Theo Patrick	did not bat		
10	Nigel Haines	did not bat		
11	Mo Basharat	did not bat		
Extras	b (1), lb (6), w (7), nb (3)			17
Total				185
Wickets				5
Overs				44.3

	Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
1	Ed Clifford	9	1	43	0
2	David Hollister	9	0	36	0
3	Jordan Essex	9	1	57	1
4	Oliver Cupit	9	0	29	3
5	James Sharman	6	3	10	0
6	Benson D'Costa	2.3	1	3	0

Result Hurley 2nd XI won by 5 wickets.

After three weeks of no cricket due to the May monsoons, the sun finally shone at Shepherds Lane and Hurley 2nds hosted The Lee in a Marrant Chilterns League Division 2 match. The game turned out to be an exciting affair, going down to the last over with all three results still possible. The home side won the toss and invited the visitors to bat first. With opening bowler Naeem Akhtar stuck in traffic, Jono Patrick was called on to open the attack with Mo Basharat. The Lee innings was one of fits and starts. Openers Ron Hedley (4) and Steve Pain (6) struggled to make an impression on the scoreboard and the score progressed slowly to 17 in the eighth over before Pain chipped a leg-stump full toss from Patrick to mid-wicket where Akhtar pouched the catch. Hedley soon followed. A Clive Williams miss field saw the batsmen attempting an unlikely second as Akhtar's accurate throw to the keeper left Hedley well short. This brought Benson D'Costa to the middle to

join Tor Stockdale and in characteristic fashion, the 'Barrel Chested Biffer' set about the Hurley bowlers. Phil Ridgeway's first two overs went for 23 as both batsmen went for their shots, but Ridgeway showed all his experience to respond with the wicket of Stockdale, skying to Akhtar at mid-on. Ridgeway finished his spell with six consecutive maidens to once again put the brakes on the run rate. After losing his partner, D'Costa fell in the next over to a full-length delivery from Akhtar and the next 12 overs saw only a dozen runs added due to the miserly Ridgeway and a good spell from Theo Patrick. The Lee skipper Neil Hollister and Richard Clifford gradually built a partnership, adding 63 in 15 overs to get the scoreboard moving again. Veteran left-arm spinner Nigel Haines replaced Ridgeway and picked up 3-30 to finish the innings, breaking the partnership by having Hollister (35) stumped at 179 for 6. Only 5 more runs were added as Akhtar (2-26) returned to dismiss Jordan Essex and Haines dismissed Clifford (25) and Ollie Cupit to end the innings with David Hollister unable to bat due to an arm injury.

The Hurley reply was led by Akhtar and John Munday with an opening partnership of 76 in thirteen overs to put the hosts firmly in control. Although Ed Clifford and David Hollister bowled with good pace, they were unable to stem the tide as both batsmen played some exquisite shots, with an on-drive to the boundary from Munday the best of the day. Cupit was brought into the attack to replace Hollister and got the much-needed breakthrough when Munday chipped to mid-wicket and Stockdale took the catch. Akhtar was a man in a hurry, having to leave early for work reasons, and took his personal tally to 63 from 52 deliveries before retiring. At this stage with 86 needed from 28 overs the match looked to be heading towards a Hurley victory. Josh Cole (17) joined Clive Williams and looked in good nick until a rash shot gave his wicket away. Despite losing Ridgeway for 2 and Patrick for 14, when Matthew Williams joined his father in the middle, with only 14 runs needed from 10 overs with five wickets in hand victory looked a formality for Hurley. With only 1 run coming from the next three overs, things started to get a little tense for the Hurley players and supporters. Even the sight of a badger trotting across the outfield did little to relieve the tension. Every run was cheered from the side lines as the score crept slowly up. With only 2 runs required from three overs, two maidens were played out as Matthew in particular struggled to lay a bat on the ball. The last over arrived with the senior Williams on strike, two runs needed and none of the spectators with any fingernails left. D'Costa had the job of bowling the final over and a chance of pulling off a remarkable victory for his side. The first delivery went for a single, leaving Matthew to try and find a single from five deliveries, the next ball was a dot and then, somehow from the third delivery the batsman managed to scramble the winning run much to the relief of those around the ground and others watching on face-time. A thrilling match, played in a good spirit that summed up what village cricket is about. Credit must go to Hurley groundsman Jeff Dawson for producing such a good track despite the awful weather he has had to deal with over the past few weeks.