

Hurley CC - 2nd XI Vs Fulmer CC - 2nd XI

Date Saturday 13th May 2023

Fulmer CC

Name	How Out	Bowler	Runs
Afzaal Raza		b Joban Singh	2
Ravi Kumar Setu	lbw	b Joban Singh	13
Sami Niese	ct Clive Williams	b Kuljit Lally	10
Arun Shankaralingam	ct Joban Singh	b Kuljit Lally	2
Brijesh Lath*	run out (Mandeep Singh)		44
Peter Bradford†	ct Joban Singh	b Kuljit Lally	1
Senthilkumar Sitheeswar	ct Mandeep Singh	b Sukh Singh	33
Biplab Sanyal	ct Jasdeep Singh	b Sukh Singh	4
Dan Randall	not out		5
Rajaram Bhuvanendran	ct Mandeep Singh	b Sukh Singh	8
Venkatesh Srinivasan		b Sukh Singh	0
Extras	b (2)		2
Total			124
Wickets			all out
Overs			42.5

* = Captain, † = Wicket Keeper

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
Joban Singh	6	2	11	2
Kuljit Lally	9	1	17	3
Gurdev Singh	7	2	25	0
Mandeep Singh	4	0	18	0
Liam Cole	9	0	38	0
Sukh Singh	7.5	1	13	4

Hurley CC

Name	How Out	Bowler	Runs	4s	6s	Balls
Clive Williams	ct Ravi Kumar Setu	b Dan Randall	0	0	0	14
Mandeep Singh	ct Senthilkumar Sitheeswar	b Dan Randall	6	0	0	17
Jasdeep Singh	ct Peter Bradford	b Rajaram Bhuvanendran	4	0	0	13
Dimple Singh		b Dan Randall	0	0	0	6
Joban Singh*	st Peter Bradford	b Sami Niese	35	3	1	37
Gurjant Singh	lbw	b Dan Randall	0	0	0	6
Kuljit Lally		b Dan Randall	0	0	0	2
Mike Walton†	not out		11	0	0	84
Gurdev Singh	ct Senthilkumar Sitheeswar	b Brijesh Lath	12	0	1	27
Sukh Singh	not out		57	7	3	46
Liam Cole	did not bat					
Extras	w (1), nb (2)		3			
Total			128			
Wickets			8			
* = Captain, † = Wicket Keeper			Overs	42.5		

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
Rajaram Bhuvanendran	9	3	29	1
Dan Randall	9	4	18	5
Brijesh Lath	9	5	14	1
Sami Niese	9	3	17	1
Arun Shankaralingam	4	1	27	0
Senthilkumar Sitheeswar	2.5	0	23	0

Result Hurley won by 2 wickets.

The rain finally held off long enough for Hurley groundsman Jeff Dawson to prepare a pitch and Hurley 2nd XI started their season with a nail-biting win over Fulmer 2nds in a low scoring affair. Home skipper Joban Singh won the toss and invited the visitors to bat first on an inevitably damp track.

The opening pair of Ravi Kumar Setu and Afzall Raza struggled against Joban and Kuljit Lally and Joban picked up the wickets of both openers inside 9 overs with only 18 runs on the board. The first few overs saw the runs struggle to keep pace with the overs and Ravi decided to go on the attack, lofting Joban back over his head for a straight six. Having played such a glorious stroke, the very next delivery he went for a hoik across the line and was trapped in front of middle stump. Kuljit then got into the act with three wickets, one to a stunning one-handed catch in the slips by Clive Williams and the other two to catches in the gully by Joban. This reduced the visitors to 30 for 5 after 16 overs. Skipper Brijesh Lath (44) joined Senthil (33) in a partnership of 74 for the sixth wicket to give the visitors hopes of posting a competitive score. A brilliant piece of fielding by Mandeep Singh affected the run out of Lath with a direct hit and precipitated a collapse as Sukh Singh took the last four wickets for the addition of only 20 more runs as Fulmer were dismissed for 124 in the 43rd over. Liam Cole (0-38) was unlucky to finish wicketless, bowling a tidy spell of off-spin from the Shepherds Lane end.

If Hurley thought chasing 125 for victory would be a stroll in the park, they were sadly wrong. Williams failed to move the scoreboard before a mistimed aerial drive failed to clear Ravi at mid-on and Mandeep contrived to carve a delivery from Randall to gully. From 8 for 2, Hurley wickets fell quicker than Conservative councillors in local elections, collapsing to 18 for 6 as Randall ran riot. When wickets tumble at Hurley, they send for Mike Walton to stop the rot, and he played his role to perfection. Together with Joban they saw off the opening attack of Randall (5-18) and Raja (1-29) and advanced the score to 47 after 20 overs. Just when it looked like Hurley were in with a fighting chance, Joban had a rush of blood to the head, charging the first delivery from Sami Niese and being stumped. This was just the boost the visitors needed. A brief dozen from Gurdev took the score to sixty and with 18 overs and two wickets remaining, the hosts required an unlikely 65 more runs to win. The first ball Sukh faced from Brijesh did not inspire confidence in the Hurley supporters as he played and missed. Three maidens followed and it looked like a mountain to climb for the hosts. The introduction of Arun proved to be a turning point as Sukh took 22 off the bowler's first over. This got the required rate back below three and over and gave renewed hope to the Hurley followers. Arun was replaced by Senthil, and he received similar treatment as Sukh hit a couple of boundaries off his over. With Sukh blasting away at one end, Walton was content to dig in at the other and let Sukh have the strike. Another big over from Sukh got the target down to 27 required from a dozen overs and the batsmen were then happy to pick up ones and twos without risk. A dropped catch on the boundary didn't help the Fulmer cause and with the score level in the 43rd over, they finally met their Waterloo as Sukh hit a boundary to win the match and precipitate wild celebrations from the Hurley contingent. This was certainly a Great Escape for Hurley and Fulmer will be left wondering how they let victory slip through their fingers.