



## Village CC v St Anne's Allstars CC

Albert Road Recreation Ground, Bounds Green, Saturday 30 May 2009.

Toss: Allstars

Weather: sunny.

Format: 35 overs per side; no maximum per bowler. Two of our lowest scorers bat again at 10 and 11.

### REPORT

*By Garreth Duncan*

Cup Final day took us to the North London suburbs and a battling if ultimately unsuccessful performance against the Village, captained by our friend and occasional Allstar, Paul "KP" Bowman.

Injuries and withdrawals left us with only 9 men on a tricky council pitch only recently prepared for cricket and still needing a bit of work. James Morgan and captain-for-the-day Felix Haddow-Allen started purposefully against KP and the slightly erratic Hussain, who mixed good balls with the occasional beamer. Having been bowled by a no-ball, and then dropped, Morgsy's luck finally ran out when he clipped KP to backward square-leg. On the hottest day so far this year, Felix was then forced to retire with dehydration.

Ben Hampton strode to the wicket and looked comfortable straight away, seeing off the opening bowlers. The Kiwi was batting like a million dollars, but no-one could provide him with sufficient support as Rob Jackson (finally playing his first regular Allstars game after several tour appearances), Vivek Seth and Andy Crawford all came and went quickly as the pitch continued to misbehave, mixing shooters with balls rearing off a length.

With the lesser bowlers on, we forced our way back into the game. Coming in at 56-5, I decided attack was the best form of defence and clubbed a quick 13, answering KP's "Barcelona" banter with a four over his head at mid-off. Ben continued to bat superbly, Maxie put up some resistance and the returning Felix found the gaps with some eye-catching shots. We finished on 128, which at least gave us something to bowl at.

We needed a good start with the ball, and got it. Vivek had an immediate impact on Allstars cricket with two wickets in two balls against his old college St John's, and he repeated the trick with his first two deliveries here - clean bowling both Sabi Basu and Ed Thomas: a first-baller completing a miserable day for Village's keeper and Everton supporter. After a slightly uncertain start, Andy settled into a good rhythm at the other end, and was rewarded when Morgans holed out to mid-off where our sub - none other than KP - took a good catch, having sworn he'd never take one.

Morgsy replaced Vivek at the Road end, and broke through when he bowled the dangerous Hussain. But we never had enough runs to defend, and Alan White - having starred for us against St John's - and Marcus Littlejohns saw the Village home just inside 20 overs.

**Man of the Match:** Ben Hampton. A class above any other Allstars batsman and made light of the difficult batting conditions.

**Champagne Moment:** Vivek Seth's two-in-two - quickly making a name for himself in Allstars cricket.

## SCORECARD

### St Anne's Allstars

JG Morgan	c Morgans	b Bowman	13
*FOJ Haddow-Allen	c	b Littlejohns	18
B Hampton	c	b Lucarotti	38
RP Jackson	c Basu	b Lowrie	1
V Seth		b Lowrie	2
A Crawford	c Littlejohns	b Lucarotti	6
†RJ Stephenson	c and	b Lucarotti	0
GA Duncan	c and	b Pitcher	13
MJC Haddow-Allen	c and	b Drake	1
RP Jackson (2)	not out		10
RJ Stephenson (2)	c Bowman	b Basu	4
Extras (7w, 8nb, 5b, 1lb)			21
<b>Total (31 overs)</b>			<b>128</b>

Fall: 1-17 (1), 2-37 (4), 3-43 (5), 4-56 (6), 5-67 (7), 6-88 (8), 7-96 (3), 8-114 (9), 9-?(!)

<b>Bowling</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Bowman	5	4	8	1
Basu	5	3	8	1
Lowrie	4	0	17	2
White	2	0	11	0
Lucarotti	5	1	23	3
Pitcher	4	0	32	1
Drake	2	0	5	1
Littlejohns	1	0	3	1

### Village

†				
OL Morgans	c Bowman	b Crawford	22	
S Basu		b Seth	1	
EG Thomas		b Seth	0	
B Hussain		b Morgan	34	
†M Littlejohns	not out		47	
A White	not out		9	
Extras (7w, 2nb, 4b, 3lb)			16	
<b>Total (19 overs)</b>			<b>129-4</b>	

Fall: not recorded

DNB: MMJ Lucarotti, \*PK Bowman, D Lowrie, C Pitcher, J Drake.

<b>Bowling</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Crawford	6	0	37	1
Seth	4	0	30	2
Morgan	3	0	13	1
Hampton	4	0	15	0
Duncan	3	0	28	0

Result: Village won by 6 wickets.