

MATCH REPORT

Gerrards Cross vs. Falkland

20th June 2009

**Gerrards Cross 279-3 (60 overs) – Falkland 231-10 (47.4 overs)
Gerrards Cross won by 48 runs**

Gerrards Cross returned to winning ways on Saturday with a 48 run win at home to second-placed Falkland.

Falkland won the toss and asked the Cross to bat under cloudy skies on a good batting track. Hamza Taj (79) and Sam Westaway (36) started at a decent rate reaching 51 without loss after ten overs. The Falkland bowlers then tightened up their line and length and the scoring rate slowed. After Westaway was caught in the slips for 36, the Cross reached lunch in a very healthy position of 113-1 off 31 overs.

With Matt Bowden having drilled a full toss into his foot and being unable to continue his innings after lunch, Taj was joined at the crease by Johnny Hughes. Falkland introduced spin to the attack and Hughes made his intentions clear by hitting his second ball for four.

Taj and Hughes soon began to dominate the Falkland spinners and were assisted by some poor fielding including several dropped catches and overthrows – Hughes was dropped twice in two balls by the same fielder!

Falkland, inexplicably, continued with spin for the remainder of the innings even though they were now being flayed to all corners of the ground. Hughes was caught on the boundary for 81 and a late burst from Alan Duncan (38 off 26 balls) ensured the Cross posted an imposing total of 279-3.

Falkland's innings started at breakneck speed with the hundred coming up in the seventeenth over albeit for the loss of three wickets - all taken by Duncan.

When Duncan removed Neil Gunter, for 52 off 48 balls, and Ronnie Day and Tom Hampton (2-74) cleaned up Mark Foster for a duck, Falkland were in all kinds of trouble at 143-6.

Tom Furr (75) and Chris Chandler (25) staged a revival until Steve Rimmer (2-14) had Chandler caught in the covers. Khan hit his first two balls for six but was trapped leg before by Rimmer going for another big hit and when Jon Newell (1-46) had George Trewby caught behind, the Cross were cock-a-hoop. Falkland were nine wickets down and, with a minimum of nine overs remaining, staring defeat in the face.

With the Cross spinners unable to make the final breakthrough, Hampton was re-introduced to the attack and he cleaned up Furr with a vicious in-swinging yorker to give the Cross a well deserved victory.

The Cross will want to build on this win when they travel to Thame next weekend before playing host to local rivals, and league leaders, Beaconsfield the following week.

GERRARDS CROSS v FALKLAND - HCPCL Divison 2 (West)

Venue: Dukes Wood, Gerrards Cross
Dates: 20th June 2009
Toss won by: Falkland
Umpires: S Harris, J Denton

Gerrards Cross Innings

FOW

Taj H		lbw b Zafar	79	1st	93
Westaway S +	c Chaloner	b Khan	36	2nd	215
Bowden M		retired hurt	9	3rd	258
Hughes J	c Gunter	b Trewby	81	4th	
Duncan A		not out	38	5th	
Hales G		not out	11	6th	
Rimmer S *				7th	
Litchfield S				8th	
Newell J				9th	
Fyfe R				10th	
Hampton T					

Extras (4 byes, 9 leg byes, 10 wides, 2 no balls): 25

Total (3 wickets): 279

Bowling Figures	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts
Gunter	16	1	51	0
Chandler	6	0	28	0
Khan	9	0	23	1
Trewby	15	1	96	1
Zafar	14	1	68	1

Falkland Innings

FOW

Chaloner W	c Westaway	b Duncan	15	1st	43
Gunter N	c Hales	b Duncan	52	2nd	90
Zafar K		lbw b Duncan	11	3rd	92
Heath T		b Duncan	0	4th	101
Furr T		b Hampton	75	5th	129
Day R		lbw b Duncan	14	6th	143
Foster M +		b Hampton	0	7th	194
Chandler C	c Litchfield	b Rimmer	25	8th	208
Khan M		lbw b Rimmer	12	9th	213
Trewby G *	c Westaway	b Newell	0	10th	231
Trumper N		not out	1		

Extras (14 byes, 3 leg byes, 9 wides): 26

Total: 231

Bowling Figures	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts
Hampton	11.4	1	74	2
Duncan	16	0	80	5
Newell	14	4	46	1
Rimmer	6	0	14	2

GERRARDS CROSS WON BY 48 RUNS