

MATCH REPORT

Gerrards Cross vs. High Wycombe

24th June 2009

ECB NATIONAL CLUB T20 COMPETITION

**Gerrards Cross 173-4 (20 overs) – High Wycombe 172-10 (19.3 overs)
Gerrards Cross won by 1 run**

Gerrards Cross produced a remarkable one run victory against HCPCL Champions High Wycombe in the second round of the ECB National Club T20 Competition on Wednesday.

After the Cross had posted a very competitive total, Wycombe seemed to be cruising to victory until the lower order crumbled as the pressure mounted which led to a dramatic last over.

Wycombe won the toss and asked the Cross to bat on good track with a fast outfield. The Cross openers Alan Duncan (35 off 21 balls) and Sam Westaway (21 off 22 balls) made a rapid start to the innings, plundering 29 runs off the first two overs. They continued at a rate of more than eight runs per over until Duncan played on with the score on 59 and Westaway ran himself out in the next over.

The loss of the inform Johnny Hughes for four was a big blow, but Gary Hales (32 off 35 balls) and Hamza Taj (52 off 25 balls) kept the scoreboard moving. They shared a fourth wicket partnership of 38 in 5 overs. Although, they did struggle against the spin of Kirkby who conceded just 12 runs off his four overs.

Hales perished in the fifteenth over which brought skipper Steve Rimmer (23 off 11 balls) to the crease. They blasted 38 runs off 20 balls to take the score to 149 with one over remaining. Wycombe skipper Matt Eyles decided that Nitin Sehgal should bowl the last over instead of Steve Bird, but it went horribly wrong. Rimmer and Taj smashed 24 runs off the last over, including three sixes, and the Cross finished on 173-4.

Wycombe's innings started badly when Duncan trapped Eyles leg before with the second ball of the innings. But Keith Newell (51 off 29 balls) and Nick Robinson (32 off 21 balls) put Wycombe firmly in the driving seat with a second wicket stand of 86 in just 8 overs.

Both batsmen were dismissed going for big shots, but useful contributions from David Cranfield-Thompson (29 off 19 balls) and Kirby (29 off 23 balls) took Wycombe to 170-6.

With two overs remaining and four wickets in hand, Wycombe needed four runs to win – surely they couldn't lose! The penultimate over was bowled by Hughes. Off his second ball, he caught and bowled Bird and then three balls later has S. Hussain caught by Duncan.

Wycombe now needed three runs off the last over, to be bowled by James Webster, with two wickets left. Kirby took a single off the first ball to put number ten Downing on strike, who was bowled with the very next ball. Number eleven B. Hussain attempted to get Kirby back on strike. But Westaway swooped on the ball at extra cover and a pin-point throw to wicket-keeper Will Butterworth saw the bails whipped off with Kirkby inches short of his ground and Wycombe had lost four wickets for one run in eight balls.

This led to wild celebrations, particularly from Cross Chairman Richard Graham who was screaming with joy from outside the pavilion.

Gerrards Cross					CC vs. High Wycombe					CC At Dukes Wood					On Wed. 24th June 2009																																												
Innings of: Gerrards Cross										Innings of: High Wycombe																																																	
Batsmen					How Out					Score					Batsmen					How Out					Score																																		
1. A. Duncan					b. S. Hussain					35					1. K. Newell					c. Duncan b. Rimmer					51																																		
2. S. Westaway					Run Out					21					2. M. Eyles					lbw b. Duncan					0																																		
3. G. Hales					st. C'field-Thompson b. B. Hussain					32					3. N. Robinson					c. Westaway b. Thomas					32																																		
4. J. Hughes					c. Robinson b. Downing					4					4. N. Sehgal					c. Duncan b. Rimmer					8																																		
5. H. Taj					Not Out					52					5. D. Cranfield-Thompson					c. Taj b. Thomas					29																																		
6. S. Rimmer					Not Out					23					6. M. Morgan					c. Webster b. Hughes					3																																		
7. C. Cemlyn-Jones															7. A. Birkby					Run Out					29																																		
8. W. Butterworth															8. S. Bird					c & b. Hughes					5																																		
9. S. Litchfield															9. S. Hussain					c. Duncan b. Hughes					0																																		
10. J. Webster															10. A. Downing					b. Webster					0																																		
11. R. Thomas															11. B. Hussain					Not Out					0																																		
Fall of Wickets										Extras					6					Fall of Wickets										Extras					15																								
1		2		3		4		5		Total					173					1		2		3		4		5		Total					172																								
59		49		72		111				Wickets					4					1		87		95		97		126		Wickets					10																								
6		7		8		9		10		Overs					20					6		7		8		9		10		Overs					19.3																								
																				143		171		171		172		172																															
Bowlers										O					M					R					W					Bowlers										O					M					R					W				
1. S. Bird										3					0					31					0					1. A. Duncan										4					0					34					1				
2. A. Downing										4					0					33					1					2. J. Webster										3.3					0					36					1				
3. A. Birkby										4					1					12					0					3. S. Rimmer										4					0					35					2				
4. S. Hussain										4					0					35					1					4. R. Thomas										4					0					30					2				
5. B. Hussain										4					0					35					1					5. J. Hughes										4					0					24					3				
6. N. Sehgal										1					0					24					0					6.																													
7.																									7.																																		
8.																									8.																																		
Result: Gerrards Cross won by 1 run																																																											