

2015 4th Team Captains report

1. Our record was

Played 17 Won 6 Drew 4 Lost 4 Conceded 3, and we finished mid table following last season's promotion.

2. We began the season with high expectations, confident that our bowling would be amongst the best in the Division, slightly nervous about the dept of batting and these views seemed to be validated by the first game where we were only able to post a reasonable score after a 6th wkt partnership from 2 new players, Brian Saunders and Toby Lazeris before the bowling quartet of Procter, Rose, Hodson and Hensman bowled Met Police Bushey out for 62.

3. The season though did not then go as planned...the batting proved a success, led by Jonny Lyons with a stunning aggregate of 715 runs including 3 tons, the Captain with 539 runs and Toby whose 176 at 22s reminded me on Ton Smithson's first season in adult cricket. The team ended the season with the division's second highest batting runs per wkt, an excellent 25.8

4. Our problem was we could not bowl sides out, on 4 occasions we had sides 8 or 9 down but could not close the deal....the bowling was led by Gary Proctor with 28 at 12s and we had 6 4 fors, The Chairman, Gary, the Skipper and Amy running through teams on various occasions and while it seemed we did not have the bowling strength in truth our attack was creating numerous chances but our fielding let us down. After the 1st Ricky game, their skipper described our fielding as the worst he had seen (which given he played for Ricky this must have been up against some pretty stiff competition) and dropped catches, midfields blighted our efforts all through the season. There were 2 exceptions to the critic of the fielding.....the Wicket Keeping from Jonny and Sam Hatfield was always of the high standard, they were the 2 best keepers in the division and Harry Saunders kept well in the last game , and secondly the 3 Saunders all took their catches, Brian finished top outfield catcher with 7.

5. Selection seemed easier than last season...the best thing I did all season was watch an early U13s game, from this I was able to pick up Matt Barnfather , both Saunders boys and Toby...all are good players who will progress quickly through the teams which is really encouraging. As in previous years I was helped by Sam H who came to the rescue after late drop outs.

6. Overall an enjoyable season which achieved its main aim of providing adult cricket to a promising batch of young colts.....if each year we get 4 new colts into the selection pot the future can be seen to be stable