

Crown Taverners v. Gentlemen of West London

Sunday 3 June, Crown Taverners. Crown Taverners won toss. Sunny, 27C

Won by 37 runs

Gentlemen of West London			Crown Taverners				
H. Patel	st Nayamunga	b Dale	50	Delaney	lbw	b Dubey	1
Kumar	run out		21	Huntingford		b Chatharaju	34
†Namilikonda	c Nayamunga	b Dale	22	†Nayamunga		b Gulati	9
Krishna		b Dale	18	Barapatre	lbw	b Krishna	16
Dubey	c Dale	b Grannell	6	Gomez		b Chalamalasetti	14
Gilkes		b Huntingford	15	Dale	c and	b Kumar	12
Chalamalasetti	c Worstencroft	b Grannell	21	Bannister		b Chatharaju	5
Gulati	not out		29	Overend		b Kumar	4
Chatharaju	c Huntingford	b Delaney	3	*Grannell	c Namilikonda	b S. Patel	30
Basker	c Nayamunga	b Delaney	3	Day	not out		32
*S. Patel		b Huntingford	4	Worstencroft		b S. Patel	0
Extras	b3 lb1 w13 nb3		20	Extras	b4 w13 nb1		18
Total	All out	35.3 overs	212	Total	All out	39.5 overs	175
FoW: 49, 98, 111, 129, 129, 156, 185, 194, 204, 212			FoW: 13, 31, 56, 73, 92, 105, 112, 112, 175, 175				
Bowling: Worstencroft 5-1-24-0, Day 6-0-26-0, Bannister 4-0-16-0, Overend 2-0-20-0, Dale 5-0-36-3, Grannell 7-0-42-2, Huntingford 4.3-0-32-2, Delaney 2-0-12-2			Bowling: Dubey 7-0-42-1, Krishna 8-0-24-1, Gulati 8-0-26-1, Chalamalasetti 3-0-24-1, Kumar 5-1-13-2, Chatharaju 5-2-20-2, H. Patel 3-0-20-0, S. Patel 0.5-0-2-2				

The Gents beat a Crown Taverners side fielding two firsts and five seconds players on a scorching day in deepest Surrey. Sportingly inserted by Grannell, the visitors, inspired by Hemin Patel's violent if immobile 50, passed 100 for only two down before losing wickets regularly and sometimes irresponsibly. Yet even with 27 balls wasted they penetrated the boundary often enough to set a winning total, hitting 28 4s and two 6s. Taverners, pinned back by tight bowling, managed only five 4s and two 6s before Grannell and Day added nine 4s and a 6 in the highest partnership of the day.

Patel and Kumar mixed lumbered singles with booming drives and pulls. Twos were off the menu and few were shocked when Kumar was run out after failing to ground his bat. Patel hit eight 4s, one a disturbing switch hit, went to his 50 in the grand manner with a pull for 6 but was stumped next ball, the first of three for spinner Dale and the first of three victims for 'keeper Nayamunga. Tavs' slows would go on to take all ten.

There were attractive contributions from Namilikonda, settling into the troublesome No.3 slot, Krishna, who relished his bat up the order, Chalamalasetti and Gulati, while the returning Gilkes batted with calm authority for 10 overs. The problem was that several batsmen hit an early boundary, got ideas and suffered the consequences. A word of thanks to Basker who brought along guest Chalamalasetti then ceded his place at No.7 to him in the interests of the team. Taverners were undaunted by a 20-over total of 115 for 3 and fought back hard, though seven must have been tired after Saturday exertions in fierce heat. There can have been few early seasons with such hot weather, and all coming after the freezing opener to 2018.

The wicket has been covered this season and was slow and true all day. Gents seamers used the new ball well. Krishna and the quick Gulati were impressive, taking out the hard-hitting No.3 and No.4 before they could do too much damage. Krishna struck with his last ball and Kumar with his first, Dale scooping up a c&b. Chalamalasetti took out Gomez with a swinging full-toss. Huntingford dropped anchor for 27 overs before the subtle Chatharaju, who recovered after some early wides, got him with the inswinger. Hemin Patel suffered three more drops and demanded the publication of What might have been averages before, in a numbers frenzy, consoling himself that the skipper's first-ball four had increased his batting average.

Grannell and Day provided late fireworks with a terrific stand of 63 in seven overs, only five short of the opponents' record. Sanjay Patel then came on to end a friendly, entertaining and generously-hosted match with his first wickets of the season, a top-edge taken by a sprinting Namilikonda and a bowled of young Worstencroft. Both captains tried to involve everyone and used eight bowlers.