

# CAIRNS FUDGE CC

## Match Report

Wootton & Boars Hill vs Cairns Fudge. (Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2:00pm)

Weather: Cloudy with sunny spells.

Club captain Andrew Milne returned from the toss to tell 11 hung-over men that they have to field for the next two hours, this was met with a mixed reception.

### Bowling:

Cairns Fudge opened with their pace duo of Jensen and Jeffrey with Jensen looking eager on his first Fudge outing of the year away from his native London. After warming up with a variety of yoga positions, his personal favourite being the Sitting Pigeon, Jensen started the attack with some accurate and quick bowling. He was already causing the batsman plenty of problems, meanwhile at the other end Jeffrey had to toil with the severe hill he had to bowl up. Both batsmen were having trouble scoring and it was a slow start for WBH. The first breakthrough came surprisingly not from Jensen but from a run-out after some sharp fielding from debutant Alex Taylor-Maughan. Milne had replaced Jeffrey bowling up the hill and although not bowling to his usual standard Milne still had the two batsmen struggling to get any momentum. Jensen finished his six over spell with impressive figures (including 3 maidens in his first 3 overs) although he failed to get the wickets he deserved and WBH were still only one man down. Something big was needed and so the name "Fargher" was shouted to the scorer. Fargher (aka 'Kung Fu Panda' to some of his team-mates) looked hungry, possibly for wickets! All those hours of gym work had paid off as Fargher menaced the two batsmen, he nearly even got them out once or twice. At the other end Taylor-Maughan had replaced captain Milne who had a barren five overs. Taylor-M bowled very well and proved that the severe hill was just a minor slope to bowl up, however wickets were still not falling. Then came the turning point of the innings when Fargher was replaced by Andy Small. Fargher had bowled well with little reward. Cairns Fudge know that when Small is about wickets start falling, however he was bowling this time so we had to wait and see! It took little time for the 'walking talking wicket machine' to get going and Small's first wicket came when the WBH captain attempted to go big. Instead all the batsman achieved was to pick out Cairns Fudge in form fielder Simon Weaver. The ball had barely left the bat when Weaver, with his cat-like reactions, pounced on his prey. Small followed up with another quick wicket this time caught by Milne. Another quick wicket for Small this time lbw. Small again, this time bowled, meanwhile at the other end there was a 'Golam-like' smile and WBH had lost their sixth wicket. After some heated discussions with most of the heat coming from Andy Small's mouth and Jimmy Fargher's arse, Small was allowed to bowl another over so he could get his five wicket haul. Not surprisingly he did when ruthlessly dismissing WBH's very young batsman with the help of equally ruthless brother Mark Small behind the stumps. Fudge were now bowling at the WBH tail-end and Taylor-M was brought back on to bowl. Taylor-M made short work of the tail with some impressive bowling and got three deserved wickets with the help of Jensen and Milne both taking catches.

JENSEN - 6 overs, 3 maidens, 7 runs, 0 wickets.

JEFFREY – 7 overs, 2 maidens, 20 runs, 1 wicket.

MILNE – 5 overs, 0 maidens, 17 runs, 0 wickets.

FARGHER – 7 overs, 1 maiden, 26 runs, 0 wickets.

TAYLOR – 8 overs, 2 maidens, 25 runs, 3 wickets.

SMALL – 7 overs, 2 maidens, 27 runs, 5 wickets.

#### Batting:

Cairns Fudge were set a target of 136 to win by WBH and decided to open with Milne and Jeffrey due to an ongoing personal battle that neither batsman is likely to win. Jeffrey was the first batsman to go after he edged behind for just 3 runs and this led to the free-scoring Mark Small to join captain Milne at the crease. Small after threatening to make short work of the target went for just 8 runs, this was well below his normal scores and this was not a particularly good start for the Fudge. However Milne was still at the crease and gaining in confidence by the minute. He was now joined by Dan Williams at the crease. Williams started to shuffle and then score some runs and then shuffle some more. In the end Williams managed to shuffle himself out and was given out lbw for 3 runs. Next in was solid opening batsman Ian Francis, the Fudge were in need of someone to stay in with Milne and Francis was just the man for the job. After some time at the crease Milne eventually went for 23 runs by gloving behind and walking before even seeing the umpire's decision. Perhaps exhaustion had taken its toll on Milne, after all he did have to run a few singles during his innings. The next man to walk to the middle was mighty Nick Ragg, usually walking to the middle is the only time Raggy uses his legs during a game of cricket. This time was different though and Ragg began to grow in confidence like a fine piece of silk! Meanwhile Francis was steadily chipping away at the WBH target and Fudge were getting back on track. Ragg eventually went for 6 runs but showed signs that there could be some big runs from him in the near future. The next partner for Francis was Andy '5 wicket' Small who is renowned for upping the run rate and this is exactly what he did. Although it normally is quite easy to score runs off someone that is so young they are only slightly taller than the stumps Andy Small made it look very easy. There were 3 well struck six's from Small that took him back to the top of the 'John Deer Classic' or to most people the Cairns Fudge Six's League and the game was now Fudge's to lose. Ian Francis realising that Small was trying to steal the limelight upped the ante also hitting some fine boundaries. In the end Small and Francis knocked off the remaining runs and it became a comfortable victory for the still unbeaten Cairns Fudge by 5 wickets.

- A. MILNE – caught wicket keeper, 23
- D. JEFFREY – caught wicket keeper, 3
- M. SMALL – bowled, 8
- D. WILLIAMS – lbw, 3
- I. FRANCIS – not out, 26
- N. RAGG – caught gully, 6
- A. SMALL – not out, 46