

All off, Bar won

Potters Bar 2nd XI 200-4 Totteridge 145 all out

Potters Bar second eleven recorded an impressive win on Saturday, which was made even sweeter by the fact their game against Totteridge was the only game to be completed in Division 2.

Captain Greg Hodge lost the toss and it was no surprise when his opposite number asked him to bat first on a damp wicket. Matt Evans and Adjitya Mehta got Bar off to a good start, making an opening stand of 38 before Evans was caught behind for 11.

Mehta was joined at the crease by Oliver Coughlan, who made his attacking intentions clear early. The pair took the score to 60, before Mehta was well caught in the gully. Coughlan continued to bat aggressively as Dave Pett played himself in around two rain disruptions. With the overs reduced Bar looked to attack further and consequently lost Coughlan for 19.

With the score at 110 for 3 the match was finely balanced, however Potters Bar new boy Matt Webb and ex captain Pett took the game to Totteridge. Pett reached his fifty with a cut four, whilst Webb hit some lusty blows for 6. Pett himself joined in the 6 hitting, smashing a clubhouse window with a trademark pull.

When Webb fell for a quick fire 34, Bar were on course for a score over 200. Charlie Hodge and Pett made sure Bar reached maximum batting points, as Greg Hodge elected to declare at 200 for 4. With the game reduced in length, Hodge was keen to get as many overs back at Totteridge as possible.

Bar started with the old ball, utilising the off spin of Luke Owers and left arm slow bowler Paul McGee. Totteridge got off to a good start adding 40 for the first wicket, before Owers bowled their opener with a turning ball. Owers picked up a second wicket, a sharp catch by wicketkeeper John Pett, whilst McGee also took a wicket through a finely held catch in the deep.

With twenty overs remaining and Totteridge sitting at 80 for 3, Hodge elected to take the new ball. In slippery conditions it was difficult for the quick bowlers to run in. However Charlie Hodge managed to take three wickets in an over, as his short pitched bowling was met by some happy hookers in the Totteridge middle order. Two of the wickets were to top edge cross batted shots, one caught by keeper Pett and the other by Paul McGee.

With the seamers struggling in the wet conditions, Hodge turned back to McGee and introduced overseas leg spinner Mehta. Mehta took a wicket quickly with a well disguised googly, whilst McGee picked up his second wicket, well caught by Dave Pett at midwicket. A run out in between meant that Bar needed one wicket in the last 4 overs to win the game. It duly came, through a second googly from Mehta that beat the number of 11 through the gate. The win means Bar have leapt from 12th to 7th in the table, whilst Totteridge have slumped into the relegation zone.