

Potters Bar 3rds 151 all out (45.4 overs) lost to Ware 1sts 153-2 (40.3 overs)

Potters Bar 3rds travelled to Ware's attractive ground in the village of Widford on Saturday hoping that one of their strongest line-ups this season would prevail against inconsistent mid-table opposition.

Skipper Neil Raisborough won the toss on a humid day and elected to bat on a slow, flat wicket which offered the bowlers little assistance throughout the day.

Bar's inning got off to the worst possible start when leading run scorer Rob Daley was lbw to the second ball. He was quickly followed by Ben Scarisbrick and Adam Titmuss, and when overseas star Aditya Sheth was dismissed first ball, Potters Bar had slumped to 20-4. John Lewis proceeded to show just how benign the wicket was by compiling an effortless half century, as he and Navindra Nath compiled a stand of 63 to take Potters Bar to the relative respectability of 83-4. Unfortunately Lewis lost concentration and departed to a wild shot for 50, and when Nath and Rowlands departed in the next over Potters Bar were back in deep trouble. Hayden Rogers and Michael John set about repairing the damage adding 47 runs in 11 overs before John departed for 21. The innings closed when Rogers was bowled for 24 and Raisborough smashed a ball straight to long on.

The final score of 151 was at least 50 short of a challenging target, and the Ware openers demonstrated just how easy it was to score runs on a dead wicket by putting on 77 runs for the first wicket, before Neil Raisborough made the breakthrough bowling Dinnes for 30. When Tom Rowlands bowled Ware's star batsman Webster for a hard-hit 36 the game was effectively already lost, and Ware cantered home without further loss with 13 overs to spare. Rowlands was the pick of the bowlers with 1-28 from 10 overs.

The result means Potters Bar require 12 bonus points from their last game at promotion challengers Old Camdenians to guarantee their continued Division 6 status.