

The Bar keep top after Shocking Start at Hemel

On a bright hot day the Bar won the toss on as good a track that has been prepared at Hemel decide to bat what could go wrong? Palmer pushed the first ball into the covers from Del Waterman a run on the board all is well. The next few minutes Waterman decided to pull the rug from beneath Bars legs as Tom Coughlan (LBW) Jared Norman (Bowled) and Scott Fraser (caught gully) came and went in Waterman's "hat-trick". So at 1-3 all was not right with the world. In fact the world got even worse as Olly Coughlan (Bowled) departed soon after leaving Bar at 16-4.

Mike & Kash started to put the world to rights and by lunch had moved to 96-4 after 30 overs with the only scare of Kash being dropped at extra cover on 25 which ultimately would prove Hemel costly.

Mike (27) departed soon after lunch, Lennny supported and the score moved to over 150. Copper departed for 20, Kash completed a fine stroke filled 117 then departed a few shots later caught deep towards the canal which left Nesan to shoulder the batting responsibilities. This he did with aplomb making a fine 54no with some fine shots all around the park which left Hemel chasing 251 in their 50 overs. We even had the pleasure of Macca running a quick 2, which the Guinness Book of records declined to put in on the grounds of not caring.

Hemel came out positively against McGee & Barker but moved easily to 20 in 4 overs before a loose off drive off Barker left Hemel at 22-1. Hemel appeared in little trouble then decided to commit the cardinal sin of daft run outs, not once but twice. First by prodding to Nesan's left at cover, not really a problem for a left hander with a good throw. Then deciding on a second to Kash who has a throw sponsored by Energizer and some crown green bowling from Scotty. In each case both were out by some way.

Nesan moved into the attack and took the number 5 into tea with him leaving Hemel with a big mountain to climb with nearly 2 hours to go at 50-4.

It only took an hour after lunch as Nesan and Barker shared 3 wickets and Andy Colquhoun came on to snap up 3-13, one taken by Scotty, one to Mike at 3rd slip and a nice C&B.

A good win from a decidedly shakey start. Bar and Captain Len's heart wont want that to happen too many times. Bar host Hoddesden next week.