

Nortonthorpe A v Hoylandswaine A (07/06/08)

Last Saturday Nortonthorpe CC 1st XI were looking to bounce back from the defeat the prior week that ended their 5 match unbeaten start to the season and knocked them off the top spot in the Arrow Central Cricket League Section B, and Hoylandswaine B were the team they were trying to do it against. The match ball was kindly sponsored by Scissett Dental Practice.

On a lovely day at their Scissett ground, Hoylandswaine batted first and started confidently until J.Winwood, a centurion earlier in the season, played slightly across one from Ray Cosgrove and was bowled for 12 with the score on 23. C.Illingsworth was the next man in and appeared to be looking to either hit a boundary or play out a dot ball, which he was only partially successful at before being caught by Paul England off Paul Wilkinson for 12. The other opener, A.Tyas, was next man out, almost straight after, caught at mid off, which always appeared to be on the cards, by Scott Croucher off Cosgrove for 20.

From 58-3 progress was slow, except for a few big blows from I.Bailey (18), and fall of wickets was fast thanks to some good bowling from Pete Spark and Olly Cosgrove and some smart catches from Ash Cockhill and Croucher in particular, and at 101 for 8 off 37, a score of around 115 looked likely. However G.Beevers managed some lusty blows at the end and ended top scorer on 24no as the innings closed at 133 for 8. Pete Spark (4-36) was the most successful bowler, with R.Cosgrove and Wilkinson each getting 2 wickets and O.Cosgrove bowling really well but without any luck.

In the absence of Simon Parton, Ash Cockhill opened the innings for Nortonthorpe along with regular opener George Parkes, but mainly because he had to leave early at 6pm. With 23 on the board the first wicket fell as Parkes was bowled by P.Youle for 7. Steve Swap joined Cockhill and at drinks, just before 6pm, they were still together with the score at 71, and Cockhill showed no signs of leaving as a big score beckoned! 10 overs later the game was over as the home side reached their target with 2 successive 6's from Cockhill who was in a real hurry by now. He ended with 77no, including four 6's and six 4's, and Swap was also unbeaten on 40 as Nortonthorpe put the prior weeks disappointment firmly behind them.

With Denby Grange losing to Almondbury Wesleyans, Nortonthorpe returned to the top of their section and as Cartworth Moor also lost to Cawthorne the gap to 3rd place also increased.