

Cawthorne B v Nortonthorpe A (24/05/08)

Nortonthorpe CC 1st XI visited Cawthorne B in their Arrow Central Cricket League Section B game on Saturday, and were looking for a 5th consecutive victory to continue their unbeaten start to the season. The match ball was kindly sponsored by Denby Dale News.

Confidence was high in the Nortonthorpe team, and expectations of another victory were high when it became apparent that Cawthorne had six under 19's in their side. As usual Nortonthorpe skipper Paul England lost the toss, making it 5 in a row, and for the first time this season bowled first on a good looking wicket. The home side got off to a reasonable start but R.Nicholson was caught out by a little extra lift from Ray Cosgrove and cut the ball to Simon Haigh at point who took a smart catch. The 2nd wicket pair took the score from 17 to 32 before L.Skelly tried one aggressive shot too many and only succeeded in mis-hitting to Steve Swap at mid on for 13.

The youngsters that followed did not have an answer to the swing bowling of Paul Wilkinson and it was a bit of a procession from and to the pavilion before W.Mott put up some late resistance with a top scoring 16 not out as his side were skittled out for just 69 off 26 overs. Wilkinson, with 5-35, and Spark with 3-13 were the most successful of the Nortonthorpe bowlers.

In reply Nortonthorpe opened with George Parkes and Simon Parton as usual, and with Cawthorne looking for an early wicket, Parton was fooled by a slow full toss and was bowled by Skelly with the score just on 6. Number 3 Simon Haigh struggled to find some form but still helped see his side halfway to their target of 70 before he was caught for just 8. There were no more scares from then on as Ash Cockhill (23 n.o) and George Parkes (29 n.o) easily negotiated the 12 overs required to score the further 35 runs needed to secure another victory and maximum points for Nortonthorpe, who continue to lead the Section B table.