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**Streatham & Marlborough Cricket Club**

**Midweek SMS – 10 May 2017**

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| [**Fixtures**](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112572) | [**Results**](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112573) | [**Membership**](http://www.streathammarlboroughcc.co.uk/index.php/membership/) | [**Club Kit**](http://www.allroundercricket.com/teamwear/cricket-teamwear/s/streatham-and-marlborough-cc) | [**Fantasy Cricket**](http://stmcc.fantasyclubcricket.co.uk/) | [**Batting Statistics**](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112576) | [**Bowling Statistics**](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112577) |
| (Click on these links for further information) |

Dear all,

The first league weekend saw victories recorded for the Ladies, 3rd XI, 4th XI and Under 12s. It also saw the fielding of a 7th XI at the earliest point of the season ever. A remarkable achievement. As with last year, the selection committee will be nominating a senior league player of the week and there was little argument about the first recipient of 2017. Shareef Hassan almost clawed the 1s to victory with a magnificent all-round performance; 10-4-15-4 and 86. Top effort!

Now, on to the regular news along with the match reports (which follow at the bottom of the e-mail).

**Wi-Fi**

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| Image result for wifi symbol | We now have free Wi-Fi available at the club. Ask at the bar for details.  |

**SMCC in the media**

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|  | The England vs Ireland programme featured a familiar face this weekend - our very own Raj Patel. Raj masterminded the launch of CricketForce 2017 at SMCC and his comments on the event can be found in the attachment. *“There’s such a feelgood factor in getting the membership together, working together for a greater aim,” he says. “You just can’t let that past slide by and disappear into the ether.”* – Totally agree!! |

**Membership**

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| cid:image002.jpg@01D2C42A.AE4E8E20 | Membership fees are due. As of Monday, 71 (53 men and 18 ladies) were fully paid up. If you’ve not sorted this, you may find yourself left out of starting XIs…There is also a discount available on match fees if you buy in advance – details also included on the aforementioned link. |

**Junior Coaches Wanted / Friday Evening Club Social**

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| cid:image003.jpg@01D2C42A.AE4E8E20 | The number of juniors has created a demand for additional coaches to ensure we get the best out of these sessions - if anyone is interested in coaching (particularly if you have the relevant qualifications), please contact Oliver Taylor (eastdulwichcampers@gmail.com) direct. The club would also like to extend an invite to all members to come down – there’ll be food available and the bar will be open from 5.30pm!! Parking is an issue so please park in nearby roads if driving. |

**Social Calendar**

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| 20 May | Club social hosted by the Ladies XI |
| 28 May | Karen Goodchild Memorial Game / President’s Day |
| 3 June | Champions League Final |
| 10 June | Raj Patel 40th Birthday |
| 24 June | Club social hosted by the 2nd XI |
| 8 July   | Club social hosted by the 4th XI |
| 22 July | Club social hosted by the 6th XI |
| 29 July | Club social hosted by the 3rd XI |
| 5 Aug | Streatham CC & Marlborough CC Old Boys Day |
| 12 Aug | Club social hosted by the 5th XI |
| 26 Aug | Club social hosted by the 1st XI |

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Finally, best of luck to our all our players at the weekend.

Cheers,

Dan



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**1st XI**

Lost by 11 runs

Sanderstead 214-9 (50) / SMCC 203ao (46.4)

1st XI League position – 8th / 10

Report: The 1s went down to an 11-run defeat against newly promoted Sanderstead on Saturday, a topsy-turvy and controversial start to the season. After SMCC lost the toss and were put in to bowl, opening paceman Sharad Patel tore through the Sanderstead top-order, reducing the visitors to 41-4 with a hostile and probing spell. Sanderstead's no.3 made the bizarre decision to track the fired up Patel first ball, playing all around a swinging yorker and having to walk straight back to the pavilion. First-change off-spinner Shareef chipped in with a simple caught-and-bowled to make it 56-5, before Patel completed a thoroughly- deserved 5-wicket haul, making it 64-6 and claiming the scalps of all of Sanderstead's top order. The visitors were on the ropes and Hassan knocked over another 3 in quick succession, assisted by a blinding one-handed grab by Alan Knott at slip, early contender for catch of the season.

At 98-9 it looked like curtains for Sanderstead, but numbers 9 & 11 dug in Boycott-style, aiming to see out the overs and frustrate the SMCC attack. Controversy hit at 110-9, when Sanderstead's number 11 appeared to snick off, with keeper Shakar Sobers taking a smart catch standing up after a clear noise when ball passed bat. But the umpire was unmoved and the visitors' last-man partnership continued to build. With SMCC growing increasingly frustrated and Shareef running out of sledges to induce a false shot from the stoic final pair, skipper Kash was forced off with a nasty finger injury after diving for a difficult catch, as the momentum swung to the visitors. Sanderstead finished their 50 overs 214-9, saved by the remarkable unbeaten last wicket stand of 116.

In reply, SMCC steadily lost wickets, with Sanderstead's opening bowlers finding swing and movement off the pitch. Adding to his 4 wickets earlier, Shareef was the mainstay of SMCC's chase, putting on a 50-run partnership with 1s debutante Will Williamson for the 3rd wicket, and another 50-odd with Knott for the 5th. At 156-5 and Shaz still at the crease, the game looked to be in SMCC's hands. But a flurry of late wickets, and the dismissal of Shaz for a well-constructed 86, saw the pendulum swing back to Sanderstead. Skipper Kash, heroically back at the ground after going to hospital with his broken finger, came out to bat à la Graeme Smith to try to get SMCC over the line, but it wasn't to be enough, with number 11 Jamel controversially given out LBW, even after what appeared to be a thick inside edge and half-hearted Sanderstead appeal.

So a disappointing start to the season for SMCC, overshadowed by some umpiring controversy and injuries, but with clear positives after Patel's standout bowling display and all-round performance from Shaz. Credit to Sanderstead's final batting pair for their application and tenacity, plus a solid performance with the ball. (J Mayes)

**2nd XI**

Lost by 8 wickets

SMCC 76ao (29.1) / Old Whitgiftians 77-2 (18.1)

2nd XI League position – 10th / 10

Report: N/A

**3rd XI**

Won by 2 runs

SMCC 195-6 (45) / Banstead 193-8 (45)

3rd XI League position – Joint 1st / 10

Report: The 3s got their league season off to the perfect start with a hard-earned win over Banstead in a game that went down to the very last ball. A used wicket at Banstead bore signs of a particularly acute fungal infection but skipper Matt Clark, something of an expert in these things, took it in his stride and elected to bat first with a side that promised runs all the way down the order.

Wicketkeeper Harry McNeill-Adams and James Gray opened up and were gifted 12 runs by Ram Mahbubani in an 11-ball second over that suggested bowling would not be the home side’s strong suit. At the other end, Gray tucked into some short bowling from Harvey Anear to move the score along at a steady rate. What little pace the wicket offered was mostly on show in the early stages but when the slow-left arm of Marc Cogliatti and leg-spin of George Saunders came into operation, the run-rate slowed as the designs of the wicket became clear. Gray was the first to fall, bamboozled into a leading edge by Cogliatti one short of his 50 - a noble jug avoidance - before his opening partner followed shortly after for 29 to leave Mark Bartolo and Andy Choudry to recover the innings. However, with scoring difficult neither could do so and when Dylan Kidd had slapped his first ball to mid-off, SMCC found themselves having collapsed from 80/0 to 109/5. But Clark’s deep batting order showed its true colours with Warren Little (48\*) and Ed Lawrence both showing fine form and timing of a cricket ball to put on 76 for the sixth wicket with the latter only falling in the final over. The captain added typical maximum off the final ball of the innings to take the visitors to 195/6, a score that felt some 15 runs above par.

In reply, the left-arm swing of Hitesh Naik and typically reliably pace of Luke Harris kept scoring to a minimum, McNeil-Adams producing a fine diving catch in the third over to claim the first victim. However, one did not immediately follow two despite a string of maidens and it was first-change bowler Kidd who profited to leave Banstead 34/2 after 14 overs and well behind the required rate. James Stainer led the recovery though and while Dave Gladstone claimed two fine wickets in the middle overs, the big-hitting No3 could not be removed and his 90 was the rock around which Banstead built a credible chase. But the 3s were not to be put off their task despite the fast outfield and excellent timing of the powerful Stainer. Kidd picked up two more wickets but his fourth proved the crucial one. Stainer, 10 short of a fine hundred, whipped the ball off his legs where Little, struggling with an Achilles injury sustained batting, stuck a brave mitt on it to parry it up in the air and showed great reactions to cling onto the rebound. The wicket was as much his own but it gave Kidd an excellent return of 4/26 to make up for his golden duck. Such is the life of an all-rounder. It would prove crucial as Harris bravely bowled out the last over to ensure Banstead would finish up two runs short of the total and the 3s got over the finish line.

The win was closer than it might have been after a spirited fightback but in no small part thanks to Clark’s impassioned leadership, the 3s showed they are ready to hang tough in 2017 even when things get difficult away from home. (J Gray)

**4th XI**

Won by 5 wickets

Banstead 182ao (44) / SMCC 184-5 (39)

4th XI League position – Joint 1st / 10

Report: As the new season started we welcomed Banstead to our beautiful ground to kick start our campaign to dethrone Spencer as the reigning champs. Toss won and i decided to have a bowl on a pitch that looked good for bat and ball. Up i stepped to have a bowl, no problem until i said i will bowl my ( swann style off spin tbh more like a duck out of water ) eyebrows were raised and the sound of "are you sure skip " rang around.

Nine overs later and a 999 call was put out as i burgled my 2for, at the other end Jordan Lee on debut for the 4s bowled good lines and lengths time after time as the ball kept hitting the keepers gloves instead of the bat as the batsmen struggled to score off of him, (unlucky not to get a wicket) a great effort considering its his first bowl since september and looking forward to seeing more, on came Sags and Sahib, Sags bowled with guile moving the ball around the highlight for me being the way he bowled the bat hitting top of offstump and outwitting him by changing the line on him also picking up a 4for could and should have been more, Sahib bowled with pace and movement picking up a 3for on debut for the 4s one wicket with a lovely yorker, then came Sam keenan who unfortunately picked up an injury whilst fielding but still bowled well again like Jordan with good lines and lengths picking up a wicket in the process, will be nice to see what he can do fully fit. So in the end Banstead (with the help from us dropping there best bat at least three times) with there tail being stubborn and one of there bats hitting some lovely shots through the covers and over mid on and off and getting 50 plus himself gave us a total of 182 to chase. After tea the Banstead skipper asked me was it a ploy of ours for them to enjoy our teas and eat so much as not to be able to field well. Thanks goes to savitri for that lovely tea.

So we set out to chase down the total with S.James and O.Perkins up top, both batted well against Bansteads good opening bowler from the bottom end who used the new ball and pitch well to get bounce and pace and cause problems, O.Perkins fell early and was a bit unlucky getting an outside edge and the ball still going on to hit offstump, B.Glazier up next on debut looked set playing some lovely drives through the covers, when facing the said opening bowler who got one to lift off the pitch and Ben played a drive which went straight up to the point area which was taken. S.James played some lovely drives and pulls and with a bit of luck got to thirty before he got a good one that came back and bowled him, A.Mills batted well knocking the ball around and picking the field apart with ones and twos in an well put together forty two until he hit a lovely drive over the bowler head which i began to shout " what a great shot andy" but to my dismay and bad eyesight saw the ball drop into a fielders hands just short of the rope. I was duely laughed at, but a great knock by Andy Mills. J.Hughes batted with skill and aggression smashing the bad ball with ease and power to the ropes on his way to a nice thirty one until the opening bowler came back on and he got a good yorker to end his innings. Curtis(skipper knows best) Knott came in at six and played to start with for a few overs with patience and time until it seemed he had enough and started to put the ball all around the ground with power and skill a big six towards the nets was a nice sight to see from the young man who kept well aswell and ended up on forty eight not out. S.Singh came on for a quick cameo and hit the winning runs with two fours.

All in all it was a good day for the 4s we batted and bowled well we just need to hold on to our catches and we will be contenders this year. Thanks all for making it easy and a pleasure to skipper my first league game and i am looking forward to the rest of this season. (Mark Davis)

**5th XI**

Lost by 2 wickets

SMCC 143ao (39.3) / Blackheath 146-8 (37.3)

5th XI League position – 5th / 9

Report: Temporarily homeless we find ourselves at Hilly Fields, a pleasant park in a wealthy part of South East London playing on a track that will prove a little tricky but not dangerous. Much like Mayow really.

Herculaean efforts got the game organised on time - thanks to all concerned - stumps, flags, teas, tables, chairs etc. Blackheath won the toss and sensibly put us in. 30 for 4 seemed a reasonable return for their bet until first Jim Hughes (24) then Mike Nicholas (30) and Eric Antunes (48) pulled us to a respectable score. Jim looked comfortable and classy with one perfect cover drive speeding across the green sward but perished caught in two minds. Mike batted very sensibly with great awareness of the situation and supporting Eric Antunes' mixture of caution and explosive strokes. A late flurry from Omer Basir (13) saw us up to 143 off 39.3 overs and I would have taken that at 30-4.

When Barrington and Shiraz reduced Blackheath to 16 for 4 it looked like the day was ours. But a determined 50 partnership put them back in to it and ahead really. Another flurry of wickets, mostly courtesy of Jordan Derbyshire's all action spell, put us back on top and slight favourites at 105-7. But sensibly and sometimes a little fortuitously the batters got towards our total. Another wicket fell to the mean Raj Patel at 134 but that was it and Blackheath won by two wickets with two overs to spare. A good bunch of people they seem a side likely to do well in this league.

I should mention god catches from Alex Urquhart, Barrington Wilks and Jordan Derbyshire. There was some fine cover fielding from Jim Hughes and Eric Antunes is a fine keeper. Aside from that it was not a good day for us. (L Johnston)

**6th XI**

Lost by 36 runs

Bexley 115ao (38.2) / SMCC 79ao (27.3)

6th XI League position – Joint 5th / 9

Report: N/A

**Ladies 1st XI**

Won by 106 runs

SMCC 199-8 (30) / Headley 93-9 (30)

Ladies 1st XI League position – Joint 2nd / 12

Report: We trekked to Hampshire for our first match of the season against league newcomers Headley (not Headley CC in Kent as tweeted!) After a few trips up and down mill lane the ground was found; a nice, small, but with a somewhat sloping pitch. With a host of new players joining the team this year and two players from Trinidad we were optimistic to carry on in the spirit of our winning last match of 2016.

Headley won the toss and put us into bat which last year would have filled us with dread after many collapses. This was to be quite the opposite. We started with big hits from Hassan (26) and Jodhan (5) with Jodhan dismissed earlier than she would have liked going for a huge sweep. Quade (26) came in and put on a good partnership with the skip in which Hassan scored the ladies first 6! A dubious lbw dismissed Hassan and Hanslel came in to continue the big hitting. Quade, having eyed up a weak fielder, was unlucky with a quick run out, but the middle order kept up a steady run rate with a solid display of batting. With joking that 26 was the new 27, Hanslel passed the mark and retired on 35. The lower order put on a last minute run push to try and reach 200 but SMCC ended on their highest score - 199 for 8 (30 overs).

Selwyn-Kuczera (6-2-7-0) opened the bowling alongside Quade (5-0-11-2) and applied pressure on Headley from the beginning. The opposition were struggling with the pace and in an attempt to raise the run rate the opener Todd (5) was run out by a quick combo from the opening bowlers. The fall of the second wicket took a long time with Tubb (20) and Bowers (17) putting on a steady display. After Hanslal (4-0-8-2) dismissed Tubb the wickets started to fall a bit quicker with Headley's middle order kept to low, single digits. There was some stunning catches and fielding by go-go gadget arms Quade and newcomer Slack, who took 2 catches and an amusingly casual, direct hit run-out. Jodhan (6-2-12-2) came back in from the other end to demonise the lower order who seemingly had not played against that pace before. Unfortunately the last wicket didn't come in time and Headley CC ended on 93-9 (30 overs).

A fantastic win and a more than promising start to the season! Next match this Sunday (14th) vs. Sutton at home (1pm start). (E Williams)