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**Streatham & Marlborough Cricket Club**

**Midweek SMS – 31 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,

Another mixed weekend for the club in the league was rounded off with a magnificent day on Sunday with a celebration for the life of our beloved Karen Goodchild. A fantastic game was won by Karen’s eldest son, Paul, who also earned the family bragging rights by bowling younger brother, Iain.

In the league, there were some notable performances to recap. With the bat Ellis 61, Sobers 55 and Hughes 59 passed fifty whilst Sean Ryan (U14) took 4 for 19 in the 6s victory. There were also worthy all round efforts from S Hassan (39 and 8-0-32-4) and Muir (6-2-12-1 and 43\*). Sobers won the selection committee vote for a brutal 55 and an impressive performance behind the stumps.

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

**Premier Curtains**

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|  | We are happy to announce a new club sponsor has come on board – even more so as it’s through a valued member! Anindya (‘Andy’) Chowdhury’s new venture specialises in providing high quality bespoke curtains at an unbeatable price. The club is very happy to have Premier Curtains as a partner and hope this is the start of a long and fruitful collaboration.  For more information, speak to [Andy](mailto:admin@premiercurtains.com?subject=Curtains) or visit the website here… <https://www.premiercurtains.com/> |

**Membership**

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| --- | --- |
| [cid:image002.jpg@01D2C42A.AE4E8E20](http://www.streathammarlboroughcc.co.uk/index.php/membership/) | With the season well underway, we will be issuing warnings over the next couple of weeks to those who have **yet to pay** their subscriptions. If these warnings are unheeded, we will assume you are unavailable. Please make your life and the life of your captains / membership team easier by paying promptly! Remember they are all volunteers and the club has bills to pay… |

**Social Calendar**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 20160909_192229.jpg | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 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 | | 27 Aug | Presidents Day | | 2 Sep | Club social hosted by the Ladies XI | |

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

Cheers,

Dan

[](http://www.streathammarlboroughcc.co.uk/)

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**1st XI**

Won by 97 runs

SMCC 298ao (47.2)

1st XI League position – 5th / 10

Report: The day got off to a fine start when Pickles and Raj turned up to the ground an hour late for the warm up. After finally getting off the road, they were met with another at Cheam CC – a wicket far more pristine than anything Shareef had recently unearthed on Tinder. Ellis, re-assuming the captaincy for the 28th time since his first stint back in 1875, thankfully won the toss and elected to bat. Arun and the Chob started brightly, putting on 51 for the first wicket before Fifth Harmony’s biggest fan fell for a promising 29. The Ginger Prince (24) and Pickles departed soon after, leaving SMCC precariously placed at 75-3. Hassan (39) and Ellis (61) rebuilt the innings in splendid fashion, blunting the Cheam attack and then gradually asserting control in a crucial partnership worth 109. Just as they threatened to kick on, both lost their wickets in quick succession. Next in, Pulley (40) was fluent from the off, cutting with panache and launching a six over long on that concerned Heathrow’s air traffic control. Meanwhile, Shakar (55), fresh from a morning’s sculpting on the bench press, announced himself with a series of monstrous sixes. A mini-collapse ensued as SMCC went from 268-6 to 298 all out. The highlight of which was a Raj Singh run out special: he ran, he turned, he slipped, he trudged back. 298 was undoubtedly a good score, yet slightly disappointing given that three overs went unused.

Chasing a total of such magnitude was always going to require a rapid start. But Synclear and Patel had other ideas, restricting the scoring and securing an early breakthrough. Raj and Ed (whose day had largely been spent applying Factor 90 sun cream) continued to squeeze, but a troublesome partnership of 86 slowly developed. Pickles eventually intervened with a run out, and Ellis shuffled his pack once more to bring the miserly Hassan (4-32) into the attack, being instantly rewarded with an LBW. An irritable fourth wicket stand took the hosts to 164 but the rate continued to climb. Scoreboard pressure eventually told, as Synclear (2-29), Shareef, Butler (2-20) and Shakar’s sexy gloves combined well to gut the middle order. Wickets continued to fall and Cheam were eventually dismissed for 201 in the 48th over to wrap up a 97-run win. A pleasing day’s work, all in all.

On to time cricket next week, where news of Janaum’s return from university has hit team availability hard. A whip round for a one-way ticket back will be held after Saturday’s game - please give generously. (M Pickles)

**2nd XI**

Lost by 8 wickets

SMCC 174ao (48.2) / Esher 175-2 (25.2)

2nd XI League position – 10th / 10

Report: The 2s were pitted against Esher in their 4th game of the season full of determination to get their first win on the board following last year’s title win. Sharif lost the toss and SMCC were asked to bat on what was a flat deck. Esher’s skipper opened up to devastating effect, bowling both SMCC openers as well as snaring the number 3 shortly after. Acheson did his best to steady the ship but found runs hard to come by as numbers 5 and 6 departed around him. Mayes joined Acheson and both began to find a rhythm by running well between the wickets and waiting to dispatch the bad balls. Unfortunately, Acheson fell and Mayes ran out of partners at the other end with the tail struggling to wag. Mayes fell just short of a well-deserved 50 and the SMCC innings swiftly came to an end at 174.

SMCC took to the field on the offensive, hoping to make some early inroads in order to heap the pressure on Esher’s middle order. Keenan made an early breakthrough but the opening bat at the other end batted superbly to punish SMCC’s poorer deliveries. Unfortunately, at the other end, Esher’s number 3 was dropped twice and never looked back. He drove everything confidently and found the gaps in the ring or on the boundary with nearly every drive, using his ability to open the face to pinpoint accuracy. In reality, both batsmen were too good for our attack as they took the game away from SMCC in a flash. Gibbens brought a classy 50 from Esher’s opener to an end but the damage was done and the game was lost. It was one of those days where all SMCC could do was hold our hands up and say “fair play, we were beaten by the better team”.

Up until this week, I’ve said all season that we’re yet to face a standard of opposition far better than last year. This week was different, and I’m pretty confident Esher will be chasing the title come August. That said, there are more beatable teams we’ve faced and still to come but the hard work has to start soon. We are more than capable of putting up a good fight in this division but we must start showing it sooner rather than later. (A Sharif)

**3rd XI**

Lost by 9 runs

Valley End 182ao (41.1) / SMCC 173ao (39.3)

3rd XI League position – 5th / 10

Report:

**4th XI**

Lost by 5 wickets

SMCC 105ao (39) / Wimbledon 106-5 (34.4)

4th XI League position – Joint 5th / 10

Report:

**5th XI**

Lost by 2 wickets

SMCC 138-9 (40) / Roan & Lambethans CC 139-8 (39.2)

5th XI League position – 6th / 9

Report: I hate cricketing clichés. It’s why I avoid anything Michael Vaughan’s in. Avoid his clichés like the plague. Line and length, sticky wickets, scoreboard pressure, and a personal unfavourite: dot ball’s a…no, I can’t even say it. They’re hackneyed and lazy, but most annoyingly they’re right – as even the most curmudgeonly of onlookers was compelled to admit it after the 5s trip to Roan and Lambethians.

Looking at a scruffy, spongey strip, the home captain seemed delighted to put SMCC into bat, leaving Greenwood and Urquhart to concentrate steadfastly against Roan’s opening bowlers. Bashir zipped the ball past the edge, and frequently along the ground, and the experienced Pye, making a mockery of nominative determinism, bowled an unwavering line and length – a series of maidens ensuring that the run rate was a little over two after 20 overs. Alex fell shortly after drinks for 11, prompting a flurry of wickets with new batsmen trying to raise the scoring rate, all the while Jim Hughes appeared to be playing a different game, with balls guided, caressed and occasionally scythed to all parts of the ground. Typically the phrase “…over midwicket for six” begins with “shovelled”, “clubbed” or “dispatched”, but with Jim it was “ushered”, with a heartfelt apology to the fielder for the inconvenience of having to go and fetch it. He fell for 59, and some lower order thrashing from Sheikh (15) meant SMCC finished for a disappointing 138-9. Chatting with the opposition at tea, we discover this is actually par on this pitch. Spirits lift. Fish fingers then appear. Spirits soar.

SMCC bowled tidily, with frequent unplayable deliveries, only a few of which could be blamed on the strip. Sheikh (1-29) showed patience and guile, and Basir (also 1-29) and your correspondent (1-27) found some rhythm and beat the outside edge encouragingly. Stand-in skipper Wilks bowled with characteristic spirit and grunting up the hill into a gusting breeze for a very respectable 2-28, and newcomers Davies and Griffiths showed some promise in their brief spells. The Roan top order – perhaps aggrieved they were unable to watch events at Wembley – tried to score the runs as quickly as possible and fell to some unwise whooshing strokeplay and perplexing run outs. At one point, both batsmen found themselves at the same end, and after much head-scratching over the rules, the effective Pendergast Jnr was sent on his way despite his protests, all of which resulted in a tense chase all the way to the last of the 40 overs. The day was Roan’s, frustratingly, although the closeness of the result and the commitment in the field should not mask the fact that we again did not score the runs required to win games in this league. Wounds licked and hopefully lessons learned, we will go again next time. (M Nicholas)

**6th XI**

Won by 1 wicket

OD CUACO 81ao (31.4) / SMCC 82-9 (32.4)

6th XI League position – 6th / 9

Report: Walking off a ferry on a Friday night, drunk from my trip to Amsterdam was a weird experience but knowing the cricket season was just about to start, the captain skipped to the nearest Weatherspoon’s, carb loaded up and Ryan was ready for the new season ahead and a new challenge as captain of the 6th XI.

It was a new dawn and a new day, and looking at my team, I was excited for the challenge ahead and even more excited was playing on our new home at the griffin. Walking towards the pitch with the OD CUACO skipper, tossed up and Streatham were going to field first. Ruari Muir and Ryan Willmott, opened up and started with flow and grace taking 3 wickets collectively. Next the skipper called in the colts to produce the wickets we needed and Sean Ryan, William Kay and Bruno Aldridge didn’t disappoint. These fine lads produced amazing talent with the ball and with training and match time could potentially be playing at a very high standard. And with the wickets tumbling, bowling out a team for 81 in 31 overs is a dream in anybody’s books.

Now the batting…. And this is an interesting story. Mark Matzen and Alex Bournat opened up the innings with good patients, however the wickets slowly fell due to Hughie Deans skill with the ball, moving it sideward and off the seam caused havoc for all batsmen, but THANKS YOU to my cricket RUARI MUIR for an excellent 43 Not out supported by William Kay at the end brought the first win for the 6th XI and a happy skipper, even if he was still hanging from his trip to Amsterdam.

Overall, this team were amazing to be a part of and can’t wait to play again with such a young squad. Thank you to the opposition for everything and let the season begin. (R Willmott)

**Ladies 1st XI**

No Fixture

Ladies 1st XI League position – 1st / 12