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**Streatham & Marlborough Cricket Club**

**SMS – 30 May 2018**

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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/) | [**KIT**](http://www.allroundercricket.com/teamwear/cricket-teamwear/s/streatham-and-marlborough-cc) |
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| (Click for further information) |

Many thanks to those who supported the Karen Goodchild Memorial Game – those who stayed to the end saw a fittingly close finish with Iain Goodchild’s side taking the honours over elder brother Paul.

The next major event is our **Pavilion Fundraising party on 16 June**. Please support and encourage friends, family, random millionaires to attend! More detail to follow.

Onto the news with the match reports following at the bottom of the e-mail.

**Membership**

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| --- | --- |
| cid:image010.jpg@01D2B386.6E2A2110 | The deadline for membership has now passed. We will only be selecting those who are paid up or have made an arrangement with the membership secretary, Dan Johnson. [More details can be found here](http://streathammarlboroughcc.co.uk/index.php/membership/) but the club would like to re-iterate that **cost will not be a barrier** to play and anyone requiring assistance should contact the membership secretary, Dan Johnson (daniel.johnson11@nhs.net). |

**Selection**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| cid:image008.jpg@01D2B386.6E2A2110 | Please send your availability for the upcoming fixtures (specifying Wednesday, Saturday and/or Sunday) to the various captains or our Chair of Cricket (Justin Sbresni - justin@busbyproductions.com / 07951 601 948) before Monday evening on the week of a game. If we haven’t heard by then, we will assume you are unavailable to minimise disruption later in the week. |

**Men’s and Ladies Summer Training**

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| cid:image002.jpg@01D3D892.4D95BCC0 | Men’s and ladies senior training will continue on a Thursday evening at the club (Dulwich Common, SE21 7EX) from 18.30 and will continue (weather allowing) until the end of the season. All are welcome.  |

**Social Calendar**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 16 June | “Final Push” Pavilion Fundraising Party |
| 14 July | Club social hosted by the 2nd XI |
| 21 July | Club social hosted by the 5th XI |
| 28 July | Club social hosted by the 1st XI |
| 18 Aug | Club social hosted by the 6th XI |
| 26 Aug | President’s Day |
| 1 Sept | Final League Games Party hosted by the 4th XI  |
| 15 Sept | Junior End of Season Awards |
| 20 Oct | Senior End of Season Awards “Dinner & Dance” |
| 24 Nov | Annual General Meeting |

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If you have any questions, please let me or another member of the committee know.

Cheers,

Dan

Men’s Club Captain



Proudly supported by:




**Upcoming Fixtures: 31 May – 6 June**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Start** | **Team** | **Opposition** | **Venue** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Saturday 2 June | 12:00 | 1st XI | Churt | Away |
|  | 12:00 | 2nd XI | Chessington | Home |
|  | 13:00 | 3rd XI | Beddington | Home |
|  | 13:00 | 4th XI | Reigate Priory | Away |
|  | 13:30 | 5th XI | No game – gap week | N/A |
|  | 13:30 | 6th XI | Beckenham | Home |
|  | 14:00 | 7th XI | Wimbledon Corinthians | Away |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday 3 June | 14:00 | Ladies Trust XI | Leeds & Broomfield | Away |
|  | 13:00 | Sunday 1st XI | Cor Et Anima | Home |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| League Fixtures can be viewed on our [Play-Cricket site](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112572) |

**Results: 24 – 30 May**

**1st XI**

Lost by 7 wickets

SMCC 205-6 (50) / Epsom 208-3 (48)

1st XI League position – 7th / 10

Report: *Batting first, S&M scored a competitive 205. The innings started slowly, the opening pair reaching 60 off of the first 20 overs until Knott - who has mastered the art of scoring a single off the last ball of an over - was out for 40 just before drinks. Allardice came and went quickly, as Ellis joined Hughes at the crease. The two upped the ante a little, pushing singles wherever they could, until Ellis fell for twenty odd. Upon arriving at the crease, Catterall began to dispatch the spinners with ease, hitting three powerful drives in the first over he faced. At the other end, Hughes was struggling to score fluently but had begun to start scoring at a faster pace when Catterall smashed a drive back on to the bowler’s fingertips which ricocheted on to the stumps, leaving him run out. Catterall carried on, dispatching the bowlers with ease and reaching his fifty in no time. Pickles, Hobbis and Synclear accompanied him to see S&M over 200. It was a defendable total, but the feeling was, on a fairly benign wicket, we’d left ourselves too much to do too late in the innings and had come up 20/30 runs short.*

*The bowling performance was much improved from last week. The plan was to squeeze them, restricting runs in the hope mistakes would come. Stand in captain Pickles cleverly manipulated the field, pushing fielders out towards the end of an over, keeping boundary options to a minimum and the run rate at a miserly 3 an over. The tactic was to pay off when their overseas chipped league debutant Courtney to mid off after a period of sustained pressure. But while the bowling was accurate and the fielding lively, more wickets failed to materialise as Epsom’s 2 and 3 batted slowly but sensibly. The pair took their team to 130-1, requiring 70 odd off the last 15 overs. A wicket fell, but a period of slightly wayward bowling allowed the batting side to up the run rate and they eventually jogged over the finish line with two overs to spare. (C Hughes)*

**Ladies 1st XI**

Gap Week

Ladies 1st XI League position – 2nd / 4

Report: N/A

**Ladies Trust XI**

Lost by 3 wickets

SMCC 138-9 (30) / Spencer 142-7 (27)

Ladies Trust XI League position – 5th / 10

Report: N/A

**2nd XI**

Won by 21 runs

SMCC 216-9 (50) / Sanderstead 195-9 (50)

2nd XI League position – 2nd / 10

Report: *Sometimes as a cricket team, you have to dig deep. Sometimes it’s with the bat, sometimes with the ball and more often in the field. On Saturday, the 2s did all three.*

*The rain - more of which was to come later that night - had left the track slightly spongey and Armani Sharif naturally chose to bat first. The overhead conditions had influenced him more than the under-foot ones and the hot midday sun was his weapon of choice against the Sanderstead fielders.*

*Things started well for Daniel Johnson and the Silver Fox with the Golden Voice: Michael Rea. The latter carved Daniel Carey for several fine boundaries before missing a straight one from Richard Key to bring your correspondent to the wicket. Recognising a green seamer when presented with one, Gray dug in for the long haul, taking 25 deliveries to pass four, much to the amusement of the South African slip cordon, whose witty repartee and pithy comments made batting a true pleasure. (I sense some sarcasm here? Ed.) Despite the company, which included one man willing to read aloud anything that appeared on the multi-talented scoreboard, Gray and Johnson battled on, happy to score at three an over with so much firepower to come in the middle order: spring turned to summer, pace to mediums, seam to spin, time passed.*

*But like all good stories, there had to be a twist. In this case, a batting collapse, triggered by the irresponsibility of your scribe, skying the mysterious bowling of Sandeep Kuckreja to cover for 24. Johnson followed soon after and when Sahib Singh and Andrew Spry had been cleaned up by a slow-left-armer bowling in Ray Bans (the latter to an accidentally bowled doosra that went through his legs), SMCC found themselves in a spot of bother at 106/5.*

*Fortunately for our heroes, Kurt Lansdown and Jordan Vyas-Lee, all too keen to spend as much time not on childcare duty out in the middle (“Daddy? There!” cried his issue triumphantly throughout the innings), came to the rescue and steadied things.*

*But misfortune continued to strike. Vyas-Lee (20) thought he had four for a fine late cut only for Ian Steward in the gulley to throw a stunning left hand onto the ball which somehow stuck, and Lansdown (16) was run out after a mix-up with Jason James, who soon made amends however.*

*Anchoring the line-up at eight, James batted with composure and judgment, attacking when needed and taking his time when not, compiling 44 not out off just 36 balls to elevate SMCC to 216/9 off their 50 overs, a reasonable score and one that had taken plenty out of Sanderstead with the sun baking them through.*

*“It’s a psychological thing,” said Sharif of chasing more than 200 in the changing room, keen to assuage any feeling that the total may have been a little short, especially given the same pitch had allowed them nearly 300 last week. But the belief in his eyes was enough to convince a side ready to believe, and the defence was taken up with due application.*

*The skipper himself set the tone, leaving just one stump in the ground to clean up Josh McKinnon and roar with approval. Saifullah Sarwavkhan opened up at the other end, calf held together with gaffe tape and hot patches, and he cleaned up the other opener to leave Sanderstead 20/2. (He was, incidentally, unfortunate only to finish with one from his 10 overs that produced just 20 runs. Chapeau.)*

*The heat began to take its toll at this point as Kuckreja added runs to his two wickets and Sanderstead began to build a partnership. But dots are to bowling what the jab is to a boxer and the repeated pressure of knocking Sanderstead’s head back eventually told, Jack Sadler tempted into a loose shot by Vyas-Lee’s and Johnson pouched a fine one-handed effort behind the stumps.*

*This was when Sanderstead began to test us. Like Jesus in the desert, SMCC wrestled with the devil in the crucial middle session, trying to overcome dropped catches and a missed run out to maintain focus and energy. Most importantly, the bowlers never lost their cool. Abishek Sen and Kuckreja put on 90 for the fourth wicket but never moved at any great pace thanks to Vyas-Lee’s control, James’ bravery to toss the ball up and Tom Cavanagh’s excellent resolve. Even when we were behind, thanks to those three we were ahead. The breakthrough finally came when Cavanagh cleaned up Sen and as those South Africans love to say, one brings two. Kuckcreja, who had batted excellently for his 72, was caught calmly by Singh at cover to cue massive celebrations from the fielding side, who knew that at 134/5 and the required rate just touching a run-a-ball, this was there’s to lose.*

*And lose they would not. Every man played a role in the run-in - whether it was James coming back from an over with a couple of sixes to toss it up again and dismiss the captain Key (who had scored 30 off 28 and might have won the game), Sharif pouching two fine high catches at long-on or Johnson putting his glove on everything errant that came his way.*

*The final margin looked almost comfortable as SMCC got home by 21 runs, but in fact it felt tighter than that. It was 100 hard-fought overs and an exhibition in how to squeeze a team into submission. It has rarely felt so good to raise a beer to our efforts.*

*(J Gray)*

**3rd XI**

Won by 21 runs

SMCC 225ao (45) / Oxted & Limpsfield 204ao (45)

3rd XI League position – 2nd / 10

Report: *N/A*

**4th XI**

Lost by 3 wickets

SMCC 164-6 (45) / 166-7 (38.2

4th XI League position – 8th / 10

Report: *AB De Villiers retired from international cricket this week. I've never been more excited to see a batsman live, a complete cricketer, and a decent bloke as well. I love him so much, I will call my first-borns Abraham and Benjamin, girls or boys. But what I think I love most is his all-round sporting talent: at 18 he was good enough to represent South Africa at a whole number of sports. Thankfully golf, rugby, athletics, tennis, hockey, and synchronised swimming's loss was cricket's eternal gain.*

*Natural athletes like this are rare, but you occasionally see them in league cricket: they stand out with their strength, agility, and nerveless effectiveness. Cast back your mind back and flick through the Panini album to the late 90s, and you'll find Ian Pearce (Premier League title winner with Blackburn, 285 professional appearances), or if you'd have been at Oxted on Saturday, you'd have witnessed him mercilessly clubbing, crunching and clobbering bowling of any line and length to whichever side of the ground he wanted. His 46 off many fewer balls wrested control of a well-balanced game to Oxted.*

*Rajan Patel won the toss on a hot day, and chose to bat. Ollie Perkins (18) and Dickinson (6) started solidly, with Ollie finding the middle of the bat pleasingly, drawing impulsive gasps from the opposition spectators - but too often straight to fielders. Peter and Jim Hughes left in quick succession, bringing Andrew Brook in, joining his fellow foghorn in the middle. Ollie and Andrew leave you in no doubt it they want a run - the volume of their calling distracts seismologists - so when Brook dabbed it into the covers and bellowed "run", Perkins dutifully complied towards the danger end.*

*But it was that man Pearce again who swooped, gathered and obliterated the stumps. Brook (27) now sheepishly and John Greenwood (29) convincingly rebuilt with dabs, deflections and the occasional bludgeon, but each went shortly after they'd got set, leaving Simon Wright (31\*) and Patel (34\*) to build momentum assertively once again in the final 15 overs. Shots consistently went to fielders, and timing and a slow outfield meant that boundaries too often were twos, and we knew that 164-7 was going to need a good effort in the field to defend, especially with 10 men.*

*David Cook (1-36) and your correspondent (1-35) opened the bowling, with some good balls going past the edge, and some loose ones going to the boundary. A wicket a piece (including a stunning caught behind from Peter behind the stumps – bottom-edge, standing up) was fair reward, but opener Virley’s 58 alongside Pearce took the game away from us in the middle overs. When they both departed, the game looked gone, but a flurry of Oxted wickets gave the bowlers a glimmer of hope: Raj (2-47) bowled excellent lines for his two proper wickets – clipped top of off, and caught behind – and new buck Charlie Healy (3-30) got into a fine rhythm, and his offies look a promising addition to the club.*

*But ultimately the late excitement served only to give some respectability to the final scoreline. It’s rare to feel uplifted after a loss, but a positive energy emanates from this changing room - passionate about cricket and not giving up. Roll on next week. (M Nicholas)*

**5th XI**

Won by 10 wickets

Ex Blues 31ao (15) / SMCC 32-0 (10.2)

5th XI League position – Joint 6th / 8

Report: *A very new looking 5s team hosted the ex-blues at The Griffin last Saturday, with new boys Frazer Hembrow, Connor Grant and Michael Sherpa, as well as old boy Andrew Shackleford, all earnings their first 5s cap. Add to that 3 other players who joined the club just this season and you’ll have forgiven the skipper for not knowing entirely what to expect from his team.*

*However, the unlucky opposition skipper had real problems to face with 3 players all pulling out on the morning of the game, via a single text message reading “we’re sick”. Feeling a tad sorry for his plight I decided against asking his 8 men to run about in the sun for 40 overs, and instead asked them to have a bat. At that point the two rocks of the 5s for many years past, and present I hope, took the new cherry and set about their business. Brijesh and Shiraz both bowled with accuracy and movement, removing the two openers for a duck apiece. A further mention here to my opposite number for immediately walking to a feather through to our keeper Chris Buttler, on a day when he could have been forgiven for thinking twice about such an act, fair play won through. A great example to all of us. Brijesh finished with 1 for 12 off his 6 overs, whilst Shiraz picked up another to end his spell on 2 for 13 from 6. At that point we turned to Alan Derbyshire to continue his cricket rehabilitation, and it took him just 4 balls to pick up not just his first wicket of the day, but his first in some 28 years as the ex-blues keeper played onto his own stumps. Alan clearly enjoyed that wicket as he took another next ball, again rattling the stumps, but this time with a spearing Yorker the batsman was nowhere near. The hat-trick opportunity was missed, but next over Alan repeated his original trick, fooling another poor fellow into playing the ball onto his own stumps. Sadly though that was the end for Alan was his hamstring went, but 3 wickets for nowt off just 8 balls was a handy spell for us. Fellow injured party Vivek stepped in to finish the over, and as well as managing to get through the 4 deliveries unscathed also picked up a wicket for himself, leaving our opposition all out for just 31.*

*Now feeling rather more ruthless and run hungry than I had first thing, I decided to continue my run as an opening bat, and had debutant Frazer along for company. The runs were quickly whittled away through a series of singles and twos, and the 10 wicket victory assured. A slightly disappointing day for cricket, but a good day for us with a 2nd win on the bounce, and maximum points achieved. No game next week, but we’ll be raring to go again on the 9th June. (P Henly)*

**6th XI**

Lost by 103 runs

Sidcup 200-5 (40) / SMCC 97-8 (40)

6th XI League position – 6th / 10

Report: *A blisteringly hot day at Sidcup CC saw the 6th XI tortured by heat and the superior ability of Sidcup IV XI. Another difficult week selection wise saw us do well to get six XI's out but woefully short of ability and experience for league cricket. Sidcup IV's turned out to be a judicious mix of experience and youthful promise and aside from the first ten overs and an all too short period in our innings they were way too good for us. Barrington Wilks beat the outside edge many times in his opening seven overs and Sidcup were only 20 off the first ten overs. After that they cut loose to post 200 for 5 off 40 overs. In this they were ably abetted by wides and no-balls. Aside from Barrington's typically mean and hostile spell there was little to rejoice in. Tony Hewitt turned out to be a fine fielder taking a stunning catch at forward square and a sharply taken run out from cover point. There was no shortage of honest endeavour from everyone in the field with Dave Carey, Michael Simpson, Neil Cook and Chris Banks working hard. Rosh Patterson kept well and took a very sharp under-edge catch. After a good tea we lost wickets quickly but an increasingly fluent Kirk Smith (37) and a combative Neil Cook (25) gave a brief glimmer of hope but it was all too brief. With those two proper batters gone it was left to the others and the wickets tumbled. I am not sure either Dave Carey or I knew what we were trying to achieve at the end as we bluffed our way through the last few overs. Denying Sidcup a final bonus point was hardly worth the effort and I doubt either Dave or I could hit it far enough to get the runs we needed for a point ourselves. I guess it was just that primitive reaction to never give it away that was taught to us by our fathers and grandfathers 40 years ago when we started out in this unforgiving game. Nevermind - I remember days like this with the 5s in years gone by. Days when we were not able to compete and now they are a very tidy outfit indeed. There will be better days for us. (L Johnston)*

**Twenty20 XI**

Lost by 93 runs

East Molesey 144-5 (20) / SMCC 51ao (14.1)

Report: *The T20 side travelled to East Molesey for their second round game against the hosts on the competition’s “Super Monday”. SMCC were full of optimism as EMCC had been bowled out for just 28 on this ground a couple of days prior. Sharif lost the toss and SMCC were asked to bowl first. Sarwavkhan and Singh started tightly as the Moles batsmen struggled to take advantage of the early field restrictions. Saif “now play the music” Sarwavkhan then took two quick wickets to leave EMCC 24-2. Courtney, Allardice and Sharif all kept things just as tight by bowling to their fields and limiting the boundaries the EMCC batsmen could score. In return though, the wickets dried up and a 70 run partnership developed before Sharif trapped the EMCC number 4 LBW. A wicket for Courtney and a run out meant runs were hard to come by at the death as both Courtney and the returning Singh bowled well with discipline to close EMCC’s innings on 144 from their 20 overs.*

*SMCC started slowly and a couple of early wickets fell to put them up against the target of 29 ;). The top 4 contributed just 9 between them before Pickles entered and played a sturdy knock to ensure we reached the target in no time to cap off a brilliant win (we were subsequently bowled out for 51 but everyone knows we won by reaching 29). The magic of the cup! For some reason however, the hosts didn’t accept this as a win for SMCC and we were denied entry to the third round so we proceeded to watch Spencer get skittled by Esher :) before heading home.*

*I though the lads did really well with the ball and in the field against top quality Premier League players. On another day, with a little more batting courage and discipline, we could well have chased down their total to produce a gargantuan cupset but it just wasn’t to be. An enjoyable foray in to this year’s tournament but now it’s back to the grind as we’ve got league titles to win! (A Sharif)*