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**Streatham & Marlborough Cricket Club**

**SMS – 9 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) |
|  |
| (Click for further information) |

What excellent weather to kick off the league season! A special thanks must go to the Ladies team for kicking off the socials on Saturday and Tom Cavanagh for his excellent BBQ on Monday which capped a fine weekend of cricket.

More of the same this week with the addition of our midweek XI which takes the field for the first time this year next Wednesday. Anyone keen to play should contact the skipper, Bobby Iftikhar, on 07468 529 991.

Now, on to the news along with the match reports (which follow at the bottom of the e-mail). As ever, the quickest way to keep informed are via our [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SMCricketClub/) (not to be confused with our less used Facebook page) for updates and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/smcricketclub?lang=en) feeds so please do join/follow.

**Membership**

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| cid:image010.jpg@01D2B386.6E2A2110 | The early bird offer is now over for returning members so note when making payments. New members can continue to access ‘early bird’ pricing throughout their first season with the club.[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**

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| --- | --- |
| 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 | With the ground firming up, both men’s and ladies senior training will take place 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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| 19 May | Club social hosted by the 3rd XI |
| 27 May | Karen Goodchild Memorial Game |
| 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  |
| 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: 12 – 19 May**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Start** | **Team** | **Opposition** | **Venue** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Saturday 12 May | 12:00 | 1st XI | Staines & Laleham | Home |
|  | 12:00 | 2nd XI | Kempton | Away |
|  | 13:00 | 3rd XI | East Molesey | Away |
|  | 13:00 | 4th XI | SinjunGrammarians | Home |
|  | 13:30 | 5th XI | Chislehurst & West Kent | Away |
|  | 13:30 | 6th XI | Hartley Country Club | Home |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday 13 May | 14:00 | Ladies 2nd XI | Epsom | Away |
|  | 13:00 | Sunday 1st XI | Southwark | Home |
|  | 13:30 | Sunday 2nd XI | Old Wimbledonians | Away |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Wednesday 16 May | 14:30 | Midweek XI | Sevenoaks & District | Home |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| League Fixtures can be viewed on our [Play-Cricket site](http://stmcc.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/112572) |

**Results: 5 – 11 May**

**1st XI**

Won by 86 runs

SMCC 203-7 (50) / Old Wimbledonians 117ao (33.3)

1st XI League position – Joint 1st / 10

Report: *A much changed 2018 vintage took the field under the leadership of Neneto Davis. The pitch would prove testing in the early stages as we were inserted. Early wickets, a patient rebuild, some pinch hitting and the oppo recalling a batsmen following a poor umpiring decision (and some puppy dog eyes…) led to a defendable score of 203. Kudos to Hughes and Pickles for their patient approach (the latter proving more expansive in the final overs), Ellis (58) and the OWs captain for defending the spirit of the game with his generous gesture.*

*However, the wicket was getting easier to bat on and SMCC would have to bowl well. The early exchanges were tight as the bowlers struggled with length and OW batters adjusted to the erratic bounce. The introduction of Raj Singh (10-1-11-2) was to prove decisive as the run rate dried up and wickets came. Having swung the odds firmly in the home sides favour, he left the field early to Deliveroo to South London’s hungry and lazy. Delivering on, and off, the field… Gibbo and Davis finished off the tail and we joined OWs for a few beers on the outfield. It’s good to be back. (D Ellis)*

**Ladies 1st XI**

Lost by 95 runs

Canterbury 144-7 (40) / SMCC 49ao (23.2)

Ladies 1st XI League position – 2nd / 4

Report: *Sunday saw our debut in the Women’s Southern League Regional Division 2. After a stellar season last year, finishing top and unbeaten, we hoped for a good start. Our debut was against new team Canterbury 2, who divided their team after winning the WSL Regional Division 2 last year.*

*We won the toss and skipper R. Hassan put us into field, either way we would be facing the gorgeous bank holiday heatwave. SMCC started well with C. Hanslal (8-3-11-3) on a hat trick, taking care of their opener followed by their no. 3 for a golden duck. D. Selwyn-Kuczera (5-0-17-1) followed her lead by dispatching their other opener with a skilful caught and bowled. M Jodhan (8-0-25-3) continued the assault on their upper order, cleaning knocking out the stumps of batters 5 and 6. Batter No. 7 fell short to K. Tharby’s (4-0-22-1) deadly slower ball. With the scoreboard showing Canterbury 50-6 their whispers of ‘they were unbeaten last year’ were proving true. Unfortunately the heat then set in, largely affecting the bowling, which severely elongated overs. Their batters Mcvittie and Todd put on a great bottom order partnership of 90, off-setting SMCC’s explosive start. With the next wicket coming way too late, Canterbury ended 144-7 off 40 overs.*

*After a lovely tea we went out to bat. Unfortunately the first wicket was a run out, possibly hinting at the run of wickets to come. There were occasional nice shots showing a glimmer of hope for SMCC, but a combination of good bowling, poor choice of shots and weariness, led to SMCC’s all to quick demise. SMCC ended 49 a.o. off 23.2 overs. Not quite the start we wanted but on the upside it can only get better from here…we hope!*

*Player of the match: Crystal Hanslal (E Williams)*

**2nd XI**

Lost by 15 runs

Leatherhead 236-9 / SMCC 221-9 (50)

2nd XI League position – 6th/ 10

Report: *The start of the 2018 campaign saw the 2s make the trip to Leatherhead and 4 new players make their debuts for the club in what promises to be an exciting season.*

*After a slightly rushed warm up thanks to Saif and the M25, Sharif won the toss and gleefully decided to bowl first (early season wicket and all that). Courtney opened up on his debut with a brilliant spell of 1-9 off 6. Saif also made a breakthrough in his first spell before Lee took the third wicket in his first over and combined with Williamson to run out the dangerous looking Leatherhead number four to leave Leatherhead at 48-4 at the first drinks break. Unfortunately, this brought Leatherhead’s two most experienced players to the crease who batted sensibly to nudge the ball around for ones and twos whilst ensuring they put the bad ball away. SMCC continued to plug away in the heat but the partnership was proving a tough one to break with little swing and a very true deck. Sharif and Saif stemmed the flow of runs and generated a couple of chances which went begging before Saif broke the partnership shortly after the second drinks break with the score at 158. Lee then followed up with the big wicket of the Leatherhead number 3 and SMCC were back in the game. Lee and James bowled well at the death to ensure the damage was kept as minimal as possible whilst picking up 3 wickets between them to ensure Leatherhead finished their 50 overs with 236 on the board. So much for an early season wicket, this deck was an absolute road as 236 looked around par.*

*Our chase began with a reunion at the top of the order as Johnson and Vanderpant opened together for the first time since 2016. Early runs are almost a guarantee when these two open together, and Saturday was no different as the Leatherhead openers bowled some questionable lines and lengths to both who took the score to 24 after just 4 overs by solely dealing in boundaries. Vanderpant was then trapped LBW unexpectedly playing one of his favourite shots. Debutants Spry and Caterall had days to forget as they were bowled and given LBW either side of Johnson losing his wicket to leave SMCC in a spot of bother at 52-4 at the first drinks break. Williamson however, was on a one man mission to get SMCC back in to the game as he pummelled Leatherhead’s bowling attack to all parts of the ground in a splendid innings of aggression and power. Unfortunately for Williamson, a couple of wickets fell at the other end as he passed 50 and his luck deserted him as he was caught at long off to bring his innings to a close at 71. Lee batted well with Courtney to recover from 139-8 to 185 before Courtney fell just as it was starting to look like the pair would pull of the chase. Sharif did his best to give Lee as much of the strike as possible but there was a little too much left to do unfortunately as SMCC’s 50 overs closed with a single to Lee to take him to 50 not out.*

*A difficult one to analyse as I don’t think we did a lot wrong with the ball. It was a very flat deck and on another day, we win that game. A couple of dropped catches and one top order partnership of note and we would have gone home with all 20 points. That said, 4 debutants look like strong players for the season, Lee ended up with a 4-for and a 50, we didn’t collapse when chasing 200+ and gave it a good go in the end. For a bunch of players who’ve barely hit a ball outside all pre-season, to reach 221 is no mean feat and one that should stand us in good stead for the rest of the season. (A Sharif)*

**3rd XI**

Lost by 148 runs

Malden Wanderers 223-6 (45) / SMCC 75ao (22)

3rd XI League position – 9th / 10

Report: *Bowled ok, batted like \*\*\*\*\*\* (A Mills)*

**4th XI**

Lost by 79 runs

Wimbledon 198-9 (45) / SMCC 119ao (37)

4th XI League position – Joint 6th / 10

Report: *It was warm; it was sunny, we won the toss. It was a decent start to the day. With some tidy work from Messrs Patel and Guest, Wimbledon were losing wickets and unable to get a partnership going. Getting the ball off the square was quite difficult, and a revolving door of wickets illustrated this with c. D. Cook b. R. Patel featuring several times, and at 61/4 we were in a solid position. However, the pain was soon to set in as no one was able to hold on to a catch for the next 20 overs and Qadir for the opposition rode his luck to reach 85\*. Davies (featuring a new, streamlined hair style), probably the one to suffer the most in the wickets column while Raj and Glazier dealt with the death where the ultra-short boundary and their figures saw some punishment. From 73/6, Wimbledon made 198 - certainly not insurmountable but less than ideal considering we could have had them out for around 130.*

*However, it seemed that batting became more difficult as the day went on. It seemed to liven up or die in places making life tough for those without a net under their belt. 12/1 became 29/3 and then 95/6 as batsmen came and went. Glazier a tad unlucky with a shooter for a second ball quacker as was Mini-Armani Saini who carved one on to his pads for LBW. However, Ollie Perkins was the mainstay and sole shining light of the innings, and one point looking like carrying his bat. He brought up his fifty with eight wickets down and ended up hitting out and getting out for 56 as the tail folded around him, and SMCC finished on 119.*

*You know what they say about catches... (B Glazier)*

**5th XI (Friendly)**

Won by 8 wickets

Priory Park 112ao / SMCC 113-2 (30.1)

Report: *Last week saw the 5s not short on players, but short on opposition. With the sad demise of Old Elthamians 3rd XI leaving us without a league fixture we had a friendly against East Moseley organised, only for that to fall through due to the absence of a ground for it to be played on. Finally we landed on another friendly, against Priory Park of north London, but played in Fulham. A team comprising 5s veterans alongside a smattering of new talent looked in horror at the wicket, though some relief was provided by the captain winning the toss and deciding to bowl first. Shiraz just an hour or two late in arriving, so we let newbies Jamie Fryer and Olly Collard open the bowling. Both did Sterling work and took out the first 3 wickets with some swing bowling, assisted by the bowler friendly track, and a bowler friendly chop on. When Shiraz finally arrived he showed us what we’d been missing as he proceeded to take a wicket with his first ball of a typically miserly spell, also picking up a second wicket thanks to the casual brilliance of Jim Hughes at short cover, snaking a left hand out to take a blinder at full stretch. Spin twins Steve Horlock (2 wickets) and Chris Banks (1 wicket) did the damage from the Nursery End (featuring one of the slowest stumpings I’ve ever seen), whilst Mike Nicholas and Jamie Fryer took advantage of some shambolic “running” between the wickets with a run out apiece, and we had the oppo all out for 112. A low score for sure, but given the nightmarish track, one we were not taking for granted.*

*Owing to the nature of the friendly being at neither sides home ground, nor even within short distance, tea was provided by the players themselves - and a damn fine job we did of it to. The chairman accompanied me out to open up our innings, with each of us just hoping to survive the first ball. We did somewhat better than that though, seeing off a few tricky early overs, before cashing in as the pitch dried out a touch and got a little easier to bat on. After a brief flurry of boundaries I graciously sacrificed my wicket in order to allow others a crack, with the first wicket falling on 70. Jim Hughes practiced his graceful square driving, before guiding one straight to backward point. Another S&M debutant strode out at 4, Tim Stokes whirled the willow in an attempt to deny John his 50 with a quick burst of 8 runs, but his efforts were in vain as John finished off the chase in the next over, finishing with a fine 55\*. A good warm-up match before our league campaign kicks off this weekend against Chislehurst at the Griffin, let’s hope for a similar outcome. (P Henly)*

**6th XI**

Won by 4 wickets

Bexleyheath 62ao / SMCC 63-6

6th XI League position – Joint 1st / 10

Report: *Summer returned to the amorphous mass of South London and the tranquil backwater of the Griffin seemed a million miles from Gotham City. Clough and Taylor having left the 5s by mutual consent find themselves in charge of the 6th XI for the first time and get their reign off to a dizzying start by having no milk and forgetting how the key to the ground worked. After some moments of desperate comedy Neil Cook vaulted the security fence with ease and with a twist of his wrist opened the gates of paradise.*

*Barrington was in charge as I had to leave at 6pm to marvel at the lost genius of Michael Head and the Red Elastic Band in Islington. Nevertheless I was pleased to have a grandstand view from the scoring table. I was further pleased that Gentleman Dave Carey volunteered to umpire all day in belting sunshine. The pitch was very soft and uneven and the outfield lush and slow. The track would keep low and sticky all game.*

*Bexleyheath are a fine bunch of cricket loving folk and a pleasure to be with all day. Barrington won the toss and stuck them in. We opened up with Rory Thomas 6-2-8-1) and Omer Basir (6-1-12-1) who bowled tidy and probing, occasionally testing spells. They were replaced by Neil Cook (4-0-19-0) who looked promising, if a little rusty (and quite possibly exhausted by his gate vaulting earlier), and 'old faithful' himself Barrington Wilks. Grunting and toiling in the fierce afternoon sun the wily old sweat lumbered up like an elderly carthorse (about the same pace) and bowled his usual tight line with the sun reflecting off his impressively bald pate. The walking tribute to modern medicine managed not to curse too loudly at the three catches dropped off his fine effort and returned figures of 8-0-15-2 for his effort. Ben Hyam looks a find with his tidy and clever off break bowling (7-6-6-4) and Shreyas Gopal had time to weigh in with a useful spell at the end (3-2-1-2). Good catches from Rory Thomas at cover and Ben Hyam at slip added to Rosh Patterson's worthy keeping (two catches, 1 bye) meant we were able to keep Bexleyheath under pressure on a difficult track with a very slow outfield. Bexleyheath all out for 62.*

*After a valiant effort at tea we began our reply. The exciting opening partnership of Newton Moss and Alex Bournat did not disappoint - 27 for the first wicket took us a long way to our goal. True they were dropped a few times and rode their luck but on a track where you could never be sure of being in that's probably fair enough. Newton got a magnificent good length delivery from young star Jack Aldred to clean him up and Alex was run out after an ambitious call. Chris Buttler can bat. He looked elegant and correct. Looking to add to his neatly collected 7 he hit the ball low and hard through midwicket and was astonished to see Ram Garimella cling on to an excellent low catch. Alf Grimsey got a good one from Alfan Popalzoi, a young bowler with a lot of promise if somewhat wayward from time to time in the manner of young men everywhere. We also lost Shreyas in a clatter of wickets at this point and a few nerves started in as we went from 27 for 0 to 48-5 and the scoring rate dried up. Ben Hyam came to our rescue with a n unbeaten and gutsy 9 on a tough track. Rosh Patterson (5) helped Ben get us over the line almost before falling LBW. Rory Thomas was a reassuring presence as the winning run was scored.*

*Lovely day, tight game on an early season track. Lets do it all again soon. (L Johnston)*

**Sunday 1st XI (Friendly)**

Won by 119 runs

SMCC 183-8 (40) / Southwark Park 64ao (20.3)

**T20 XI (Cup)**

Won by 4 wickets

Cheam 127-6 (20) / SMCC 127-6 (19.5

Report: *The Twenty20 XI were drawn against Cheam on Monday in a first round tie at the Boro. Sharif lost the toss and Cheam chose to bat first on a scorcher of a day. Davis and Saif opened up to different degrees of success. Davis kept things tight as he went for just 11 in his first 3 overs while Saif leaked 25 from his first 2. After the 6 over “powerplay” with strong fielding restrictions, Cheam were 45-0 which was a solid foundation for them to build on. Cheam’s skipper was tracking quite nicely and looked like taking the game away from SMCC before he was caught in the deep by Allardice from a Sharif delivery. SMCC spread the field and protected the boundary in order to slow Cheam’s run rate and were quite comfortable in letting the Cheam batsmen knock the ball around for singles. Sharif finished his 4 overs with 1-20 and Singh bowled a tight first two, conceding just 7. Allardice replaced him and kept things tight by restricting the batsmen to singles and the odd two at worst as he leaked just 18 runs from his 4 overs. Davis and Singh returned to bowl tightly at the death to concede just 15 runs from the final 3 overs meaning Cheam had totalled 126 from their 20 overs with Davis finishing with 2-13 from his 4 and Singh 0-20.*

*SMCC found themselves in trouble early in to their reply as Williamson and Gibbens both fell early on to leave them 8-2 after 2 overs. Ellis threatened to swing the tie back in the home side’s favour by hitting a maximum and a four in 3 balls to ease the pressure. He raced to 18 off just 10 balls before he fell to leave Johnson stranded. The score stood at 34-3 and Cheam could smell blood. Pickles came in and looked a batsman in good touch as both he and Johnson began the rebuild by running well between the wickets and putting the bad ball away. Johnson who was driving the ball nicely, tried to lift one over the ring but didn’t get hold of it and fell just before drinks with the score now at 55-4, still some 72 runs short of the target. Davis joined Pickles and quickly brought the rate back under a run a ball by punishing the bad balls and forcing the issue a little with an array of strokes all around the ground. Pickles supported and kept the scoreboard ticking and they took SMCC in to a position where there were just 20 runs to win with 24 balls remaining before Pickles was trapped LBW. Knott joined Davis who continued to punish Cheam when the opportunity arose. Just as things were looking comfortable, Davis came down the track, but the ball cannoned in to his pad and the umpire’s finger went up. Cheam knew his wicket was a prize one and felt that the game was in reach with SMCC still needing 7 with 9 balls left and two batsmen at the crease. Some quick singles and sloppy bowling meant that it came down to the last over where SMCC needed 4 to win. 4 balls later and the scores were tied. Allardice on strike, needing just one to win but the ring was compact and tight, it was difficult to see where that single was coming from. The bowler bowled, gave Allardice a little bit of width and he smacked it over the top of point for 4. SMCC had won by 4 wickets on the penultimate ball of the game!*

*A great game to be a part of with a great bunch of lads, on a lovely day and we hope those that came along to watch enjoyed the tight finish. Thanks to Tom Cav & co for a stunning BBQ post match, Eileen for manning the bar, Roger for the pitch and Eddie and Doc for umpiring.*

*On to the next round on 28th May at East Molesey where we play round 2 in the morning and who knows, round 3 in the afternoon…? (A Sharif)*