



SFDWP 2024 Election Special

Winning here!

On the evening of Tuesday 11th June 2024, it was a straight choice between SFDWP and Gardenfields CC, in match played at the sports field of Verulam Boys School, St Albans.

Prior to the game, Longers had cried off with a 'very contagious' illness and so stepped up Lib Dem Councillor **Michael Mortimer Jones** (or 'Morty' as Daisy likes to call him) to lead the side. Was Morty going to provide strong and stable leadership or a preside over a coalition of chaos?

After succumbing to a number of early season defeats and rained off games, morale in the SFDWP camp was lower than Rishi Sunak's approval rating. Drastic action was needed and the offer of an 'all you can drink night' at the Raven was enough for two candidates to defect from the Scratchers party.

As a welcoming gift, ex Scratcher, James 'Tucks' Tucker was invited to open the bowling. Grasping the opportunity, he took a wicket with his fourth ball and went on to bowl two very tidy overs.

Member of the Welsh Parliament, Williams, was bought on early into the attack but lacked his usual potency with the ball. He later admitted being at the same drug fuelled orgy with Longers and David Mellor at the weekend, which explained his limp performance.

The two GCC batsmen were starting to get set by this point and so came a change of bowling. Prath bowled with pace and was unlucky not to be rewarded, whilst Frazer's line and length saw more changes than Labour party policy under Kier Starmer and runs began to flow.

Father of the house, WG came on at the next change and as always used his vast experience to bowl some tidy stuff. The fight back was on...

With Gardenfields on the back foot, eyebrows were raised when the member for Marshalswick West removed his jumper and began limbering up. Unlike many politicians, Cllr Jones didn't rely on spin but instead used his exaggerated flight to deceive the batsmen and leave them in a trance like state. Unable to resist, his first victim danced down the wicket like Ed Balls on Strictly, only to miss the target and have his bails swiftly removed by Sads new No.1 keeper, Dan Lewis.



Despite nursing an injured ankle, Councillor Jones showed his community spirit by captaining the Saddoes XI for the evening

SFDWP
Won by 9
wickets

GCC
136/5

It was a two-horse race
on the night

***“The
difference is
clear, back
the right
team and you
get results”***

Moments later, Jones was at it again, luring his second casualty into a huge yeehaw that looked to be destined for four, only for debutant James Williams to take a stunning overhead catch. The grin on Jonesey’s face at this point was even wider than that of Daisy Cooper.

Despite impressive bowling, Chenners and James W failed to make any breakthroughs. North Mimms CC loanee, Pearly, again bowled well and took a lovely C&B chance. Winners showed no mercy trapping a nervous 13-year-old plum LBW with the penultimate ball of the innings. No further runs were scored, leaving GCC on 136/5.

All-rounders Tucker and Prath opened the batting for the Sads and made a very solid start. Jimmy T raced to 24 but had his concentration ruined by Captain Fantastic and was out next ball after being reminded he was one run short of retirement!

Winners joined Prath in the middle but his stay was even briefer than Liz Truss’ tenure as PM, being cleaned bowled first ball.

Chenners was in at four. The next few overs provided the same level of excitement as John Major at a dinner party. The Sads batters never looked in trouble but lacked the spark and counterpunching shown by John Prescott after being egged. Chenners eventually got out of second gear and limped to 25 not out, shortly followed by Prath.

Behind the run rate but with wickets in hand, Frazer and James W were given the licence ‘express themselves’ by the skipper and duly adopted the Kwasi Kwarteng ‘shit or bust’ approach. Rather than tank the economy, aggressive hitting from both players started to balance the books making an unlikely victory a possibility. 18 were required off the last two overs and the onslaught continued with both players hitting out leaving six required from the last over. The scores were tied with three balls remaining, leaving debutant Williams to launch the ball over the boundary one last time to secure a maiden victory for the Sads in 2024. Cue handshakes, high fives and hearty back slapping, under the inspired leadership of Wing Commander Jones an all-round team performance got the victory it deserved.

Election of **Man of the Match** for the 11 June '24 match vs Gardenfields CC

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross in the box next to your choice

JONES, Michael Mortimer 2 wickets, inspired captaincy	☐
WILLIAMS, James 22 n/o, winning runs, neat bowling, awesome catch on debut	☒
Tucker, James 24 runs, 1 for 6 off 2 overs	☐



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