

MATCH REPORT
SFDWP v Park Street XI
Clarence Park
25th July 2019

Park Street Frogmore 1st XI won by 17 runs

This match will be remembered for several reasons:

- Shite match management;
- It was unbearably hot;
- Shocking and unacceptable behaviour by a Saddoe.

A stinking hot and humid evening of cricket awaited Saddoes who slowly gathered at Clarence Park for the penultimate fixture of the season.

By 6pm we were more or less assembled, but something was amiss.

Sifting through the filth of mails and WhatsApp chatter, the problem was quickly diagnosed. CRS, in charge of proceedings for the evening, had, in his excitement of looking forward to losing his match-manager cherry, become confused over the venue and directed the opposition to the VSB. Even worse for CRS, a commuter's nightmare unfolded meaning he wouldn't make it to CP until 6.30pm (subsequently downgraded to 8.30pm) to sort his mess.

The opposition, having now made contact slowly made their way back to CP, no doubt complaining that this was all part of some evil Saddoes PSYOPS designed to gain an edge.

In the meantime, Skipper Jones supervised the pre-match warm-up and handed out lifesaving tins of Heineken.

At around 6.30pm, with no toss, it was agreed that the Saddoes (now down to 9 thanks to the absent CRS) would take the field and so with bellies full of beer, the stage was set.

With Bondy opening from the Pavilion End & Roberts from the Doggers End, Park Street were soon in trouble. A few swipes later, their No. 2 was on his way back, caught by the Marshalswick keeper (now on permanent loan). Roberts, although wicketless (& trouserless), shored up the other end with a measly spell.

Skipper Jones, smelling blood or perhaps something less pleasant, possibly brought on by the pre-match Heineken, saw an opportunity to turn the screw.

Peel, replacing Bond, soon found a searching line, but suddenly reverted to type with a horrible pie. The batsman gave an excited heave; we all looked in the direction of the Crown, thinking "fuck me, that's gone a long way" but all he managed was a toe end spoon shot back to Peel for a C&B. Another wicket in his second over to cap a fine spell of 2-12.

Busted fared better. With his trademark, round the wicket, between the umpire, illegal bent arm action a maiden over was delivered. His second over yielded only a further 3 runs.

Skipper Jones, now jumping up and down with excitement, clearly felt the time was right to administer the *coup de grace*. Chucking pies from the Pavilion End, Jones himself put in a reasonable shift, and if the illegible scorebook is to be believed he even took a wicket. Even Bottom (also trouserless), with his slinky beamers kept the run rate in check. On came Pointer and Williams to do their bit, then Busted to bowl his third (and get mildly spanked).

It was all looking so promising. 32/3 off 8 overs, then 66/4 off 12 and even 95/4 off 16. However, the last three overs from the Jones-Busted-Bottom axis went for a shambolic 44 runs and somewhere in the middle of this putrid mess, a horrific fielding error resulting in 4 overthrows and 7 scored off a single delivery. I don't know who to blame for this Jonesy?

Set 142 to win, Skipper Jones announced his batting line-up. Robbo and Williams (presumably for not making any effort in the field) were sent straight back out to umpire.

Chasing over 7 /over to win, Bondy and Bottom immediately set about dismantling the Frogmore attack. Two balls later, and having noticed that the bar was open, Bondy tactically played round a straight one. A short time later and clearly smelling fresh beer Bottom departed for a very brief 6.

With Peel and Busted at the crease, some stability was restored and the runs flowed, and after 7 overs Saddoes were in touch with the run rate. Busted was eventually bowled for a well shovelled 15, most of his runs coming via Jonno Hook who put on a fielding masterclass at mid-off.

Over 9 - Post -match pizza arrived

It was at this crucial point in the match, where our fortunes turned and where our fate was sealed. It is with deepest regret that I report the following.

Jonno Hook, coming out of injury retirement and playing for the oppo sprinted in at pace. His first two deliveries were straight and true and defended well. His next two accounted for Pagett attempting to shovel a full delivery to fine leg and the next bowled Pointer for a first ball duck. A rare double wicket maiden, all from a player who claims he is un-selectable due to a 'bad back'. [Note to committee]

Whilst Jonno celebrated with whoops and high fives with his new mates, panic broke out in the Saddoes dugout as pads were hastily strapped on. Williams joined Peel and when Peel retired, was joined by Jones who briefly entertained before being caught attempting one signature helicopter shot too many, the shot being described as the 'one there you hit the ball so far in the air you had time to walk off before it was caught'.

With the run rate faltering and the light gone, enter Robbo, who bludgeoned, biffed, nurdled whatever he could see and ran between the stumps like a lunatic. Needing something ridiculous like 40 off two overs, Saddoes came within a credible 17 of victory.

One can only ponder and wonder what could have been if it wasn't for those overthrows and Jonno's treacherous performance.....

Park Street	122/4 (20 overs)		Runs	4s	6s
P Lilly	Bowled	Peel	1		
A Burns	Ct, Pagett	Bond	9		
D Illegible	Bowled	Jones	23		
R Salt	C&B	Peel	1		
A Fraser	RETIRED		25		
M Carroll	RETIRED		25		
A Allan	NOT OUT		26		
C Something	NOT OUT		12		
Extras			20		
Total			142	4 wickets	(20 overs)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bondy	3		14	1
Robbo	2		21	
Yips	2		12	2
Busted	3	1	17	
Jones	3		32	1
Bottom	3		26	
Pointer	2		15	
Williams	2		14	

SFDWP	104/6 (20 overs)		Runs	4s	6s
Bond	Bowled	Paul	0		
Bottom	Bowled	Colin	6	1	
Busted	Bowled	Mark	15	2	
Yips	RETIRED		27	3	
Pagett	Ct	Jonno Judas Hook the Bastard	6		
Pointer	Bowled	Jonno Judas Hook the Bastard	0		
Williams	NOT OUT		25	2	
Jones	Ct	D illegible	2		
Robbo	NOT OUT		24	2	1
Extras			20		
Total			142	4 wickets	(20 overs)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Paul	3		14	1
Colin	3		23	1
Andy	4		36	
Mark	2		10	1
Rob	2		8	
Jonno Judas Hook the bastard	2	1	5	2
Dan	2	1	1	1
Andy	2		14	1