

SFDWP v Roundwood at Flamstead Cricket Club on Tuesday 25th May 2026

The hottest May day on record saw the unbeaten 2026 Saddoes make their way to Flamstead to try to extend their winning run to two games. Having surveyed the physical fitness of his team, Chenner was relieved to win the toss and elected to bat against the ten man opposition. Protecting the youngsters against risk of heat stroke, WG was sent out to umpire for what turned out to be a marathon session. Sensibly, he conserved his energy for his batting by not raising his finger of death for the rather optimistic LBW appeals from the Roundwood opening bowlers. Lalit and Winners made a solid start, the latter hitting four fours and a six on his way to retiring on 26 not out. Double figure scores also followed for Clampers, Tucks, and Chenner who witnessed a lower order collapse that included both CRS and Nairne start their race to the Saddoes Ducks trophy. WG was finally relieved of his umpiring duties to prepare for his turn at the crease. Emerging battle-ready from the changing rooms he was dismayed to find the response to his question "How many balls left?" was "one." He slunk back into the pavilion chuntering about wasting his time. The scoreboard read 116-7, a sub-par score.

Taking to the field, Saddoes replicated their opening bowling partnership sharing nearly 130 years experience. Paggers took to his position behind the stumps resplendent with new "super sticky" wicketkeeping gloves signed by three West Indies greats. However, the stickiness of the gloves had turned to butter in the extreme heat as he made the ground to a looping shot from the Roundwood opener, only for the ball to fail to stick. WG bowled tidily as Roundwood progressed to 26-1 after 4 overs. Redemption for Paggers was not far away as he cleanly caught the edge by the Roundwood opener induced by a fiery Tucks. The latter's delight was short-lived as his next ball was dispatched over the boundary for a maximum, the batsman's only scoring shot as he was bowled by Tucks in his next over. Jonesy continued his wicket taking with an interesting LBW decision - the batsman protesting that he'd been hit in the box whilst advancing down the wicket. This event induced our favourite Roundwood player to provide a bootcamp on the LBW laws to his umpire. His next lesson was to his batting partner about calling etiquette which ended with him running out his erstwhile partner thanks to a sharp throw by captain Chenner to Richard "sticky gloves" Pagett who whipped off the bails with the batsman short of his ground. Lalit, Dan, Chenner and Clampers all turned their arms over, as Chenner having successfully bowled all Saddoes players, graciously ushered the last two balls from the 16th over over the boundary to bring the game and the Saddoes winning run of one game to an end.

SFDWP 116-7 (Winfield 26*) (20 overs) Roundwood 117-5 (Tucker 2-8)

Things we learned from the Roundwood player with a sense of humour bypass:

- Law 21.7 pertaining to a No Ball
- "The umpire shall call and signal No ball if a ball...bounces more than once or rolls along the ground before it reaches the popping crease" - Winners you were right!
- Calling: If the ball is in front of square it's the striker's call to run, if the non-striker is run out it's the non-striker's fault.
 - Don't stand anywhere near the sight screen - ever!

- Make the away team feel welcome in the bar after the game by ensuring that all the home team has their drinks before the away team are served - extra points for going behind the bar and taking over the serving of the drinks from the server to maximise confusion.