

Match Report:

Hythe U11s played at home to Nonington on Sunday 25/7/10 in the Saxon Shore League and lost by 44 runs.



Max again won the toss and put Nonington in to bat. We were delighted to have **Luca** making his long overdue debut for the team and he played very well. *In fact, when he picked a well hit ball up at mid off and threw the stumps down at the bowlers end to score a run out in the first over he looked like he had been playing for many years. A great bit of fielding! **Well done Luca!***

Euan and **Harry S** opened the bowling and used the new ball well. **Euan** picked up a couple of **wickets** and his *excellent line and length* really restricted the scoring options of the Nonington batsmen.

Harry S bowled well from the pavilion end though did not pick up a wicket. He went for around 5 an over, which was a bit harsh considering how well he bowled.

I should point out that about 20 minutes into the match a very strong wind picked up, blowing across the field from the Pavilion End. This had a very disruptive effect on all the bowlers who bowled into this wind as they were buffeted on their run ins and in their delivery stride. It is always worth thinking about shortening your run up when bowling into a strong wind as this enables you to hit the wicket in the correct position to bowl. We conceded many wides from the South Rd End from bowlers who do not normally struggle with their accuracy. Practice a shortened run up in the nets and you will be better able to overcome bowling into the wind.

Oliver was first change and suffered with the wind (bowling into it, that is!). I also think he did not quite know whether to bowl medium pace or leg breaks and as a result conceded a good few wides. Always remember though, head up! It's supposed to be fun!

All bowlers should always know what they are going to try to bowl before they start their run up. Maybe in our next game I will ask Max to stop a few bowlers in their run ups and ask them what they were about to bowl. If they cannot answer immediately then maybe some sort of forfeit should be in order, or a small fine for the end of season awards!

Luca bowled his 3 overs and finished with very creditable figures for a first time out. He didn't pick up a wicket but went for less than a run a ball and conceded only a few wides.

Jack bowled his customary tight spell and bagged a good **wicket**. **Jack** has slipped into a nice rhythm with his bowling and has a very balanced run into the wicket. He doesn't try to bowl too fast but bowls straight and makes the batsmen play at most balls.

Lucie came on next and was for me our **player of the day**. *Her attitude was excellent throughout the match and I thought her bowling had really improved since I last saw her.* She suffered as she bowled her first over into the wind at its strongest. Her line was good but I had to no ball her as the wind killed the ball in the air, causing it to bounce twice. This was tough on Lucie who ploughed on gamely and tried to push the ball through a bit faster. *I noticed in the field that Lucie was very alert and was on a couple of occasions the only fielder walking in as the bowler ran in. Well done Lucie!*

Max was our last bowler and bowled *one of the best spells any bowler has produced for us this season*. He bowled his first over to the Nonington skipper who was looking to accelerate the scoring and completed a **wicket maiden**, clean bowling him between bat and pad. His next 2 overs were just as good and he went for only 6 runs from his 3 overs. *Max has certainly hit his bowling straps as the season nears its end and the competition is now on for the end of season trophies!*

A mention for **Harry W** behind the stumps. *Playing his last game of the season before heading off to more exotic parts he put in a good display as wicket keeper.* He struggled to find a helmet that fit him and the one we eventually managed to wedge on him was so tight we couldn't get it off between partnerships to relieve the pressure! Our byes conceded was very low and *Harry W can be very chuffed with his last game with the gloves of the season.* Once the concussion wears off, that is!

A mention for **Jack** in the field. He was alert at all times and scored a great run out, hitting the stumps from 30 yards with a direct hit. I did laugh when the ball was hit to him at mid wicket and the cry went up, as a couple of weeks ago, "Bowlers end!" The ball duly arrived at the bowler's end from a howitzer-like throw from Jack about 2 seconds later, just missing the stumps. The stumps were unguarded and a number of over throws were saved by **Euan** who was able to cover behind the stumps and stop the ball. *Good fielding and throwing from Jack and good covering by Euan*, but who should have been behind the wickets? Remember, when bowling as soon as you have bowled the ball you are a fielder and your priority becomes to look for a caught and bowled chance and then to get back to your wickets to field any throws.



After a quick feed and drink Hythe started their reply.

Euan and **Harry S** opened up for us and gave the innings a good start. **Euan** scored a few runs and was always looking to attack the bowling. He wasn't given much to hit on the leg side, which his favoured area, but showed good discipline in not trying to hit across the line at straight balls.

Harry S batted very well. *He has a very upright stance and high back lift which make him quite an imposing figure to bowl to.* His defence is very solid and he stays in line to

the faster bowlers. He scored well again, finding the boundary and calling and running well.

Lucie and **Oliver** came in next and did their best to keep the score moving. They chanced their luck on a couple of close runs and lost a couple of wickets, but they knew they had to try to keep the scoreboard moving.

Oliver tried his best to play some big shots but was given very little to score from. He got a couple away for twos, but was also stumped having a swish at a wide one. As with the bowling, keep your head up when things don't go right. ***You are by far the youngest in the team and are playing very well.***

Lucie batted well and stayed in line to all that was bowled at her. She played a couple of scoring shots, my favourite being a wristy little dink around the corner to fine leg. *You may find it a little easier to score runs if you get your feet moving a bit more. Try to remember what Paul and Snowy taught you about getting your foot to the pitch of the ball.*

Harry W and **Luca** were our third pair and provided an entertaining 5 overs. **Luca** did not get too much of the strike but got off the mark and showed a good insight into the game with his batting and calling. He appeared to enjoy his first outing and I hope we can get him out in the middle again before the season ends.

Harry W started slowly, getting out twice and looked a little low in confidence. Then in the last 2 overs he must have eaten some spinach or drank a Red Bull as he ***smashed 2 fantastic boundaries.*** The first one, a full-hearted pull was probably the hardest hit ball of the day and flew to the boundary. ***I hope you enjoyed your season Harry and that all goes well for you all in Tierack!*** See you next season.

Jack and **Max** brought up the rear and with slightly ironic smiles set about scoring the 80 plus runs we needed to win!

Both played well, as we have come to expect. Neither was dismissed and around 45 were added as the boundary was found and no single was left unclaimed.

We finished 44 runs short which was a shame, but the right result as Nonington were a stronger side and credit should be given to their wicket keeper who kept our batsmen (and their bowlers!) on their toes throughout.

Bowling Stats

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
Euan	3	0	13	2
Harry s	3	0	16	0

Oliver	3	0	27	0
Luca	3	0	18	0
Jack	3	0	13	1
Lucie	2	0	24	0
Max	3	1	6	1

Batting Stats

	Runs
Euan	6
Harry S	14
Lucie	2
Oliver	4
Harry W	9
Luca	1
Jack	15
Max	16

Bowling point goes to Euan.

Batting point goes to Max.

Well done to all of you and I saw we had a fairly good turn out at training as well.

Clare and Amy raised another **£80** plus and *thanks to all of those parents who are making contributions to the fare on offer and helping with the washing up. I am told it is very much appreciated though personally fail to see how it could be as busy in the pavilion as standing in the sun umpiring!*

We will need to start to plan any end of season high jinks soon as the shadow of football is upon us. The **last Sunday training session and awards will be on 29/8/10** and unfortunately there is a home game in the afternoon. There is the new U11 playing pitch over by the skateboard park which we may get away with having a kids v parents bash about on, though I will need to speak to Martin and Allan for the go ahead on that one. Let me know what you think and please come up with any ideas of your own.

I would also be grateful if all UIIs could send me their favourite moment/match of the year so we can put them together to help remember what has been an enjoyable season. So get writing!

See you all on Sunday and remember training on Thursday.

Cheers,

Rod.