

## Match Report:

**Hythe U11s played away to Sandwich** on Sunday 18/7/10 and lost by 20 runs. *This was a very close game and a pleasure to watch as the skills on display from both teams were of a high standard.*



Max won the toss and put Sandwich into bat.

**Euan** and **Harry S** opened the bowling and did a good job keeping the ball on a good line and length.

**Euan** again picked up an early **wicket** and went for very few runs from his overs. *Euan has started very strongly for us this season and has quickly become a confident and respected player in the squad.*

**Harry** was picked off a bit in his third over, but also did well to try to apply the brakes to the opening pair.

Much of the good work done by these two was undone by some fantastic running by the Sandwich openers. They chanced their arms on a number of occasions but got lucky as a number of direct throws just missed the stumps. However, I think they earned some of this luck as their decisive calling and running put our fielders under pressure.

**Jack** came on next and took a **wicket** with his first ball. He bowled a good spell, giving the batsmen very little to attack. He picked up a side injury as he bowled his last ball but played through the discomfort. As is normal in these situations, when carrying an injury, the ball followed him all over the field and he did well to play on.

**Mike** bowled next. He carried on his improvements with 2 good overs. I think a few wides were conceded but Mike mainly made the batsmen play at the ball and pitched it up to them.

**Ken** bowled 3 excellent fast overs. *He was the one player the opposition umpire commented on to me about between innings, so impressed was he by Ken's bowling and his fielding from his own bowling.* He was again unlucky not to pick up any wickets but more than did his job with the few runs conceded.

**Max** bowled the spell of the day, picking up **4 wickets** and claiming the **bowling point for the day**. He caught and bowled one of his victims and bowled the other three. This was a long overdue return for Max in the wicket column as he has bowled with no luck at all this season.

**Sam** was last up and supported Max in the last pair **wicket** blizzard by taking **3 of his own**. One was caught and bowled and the other two were bowled. He bowled 2 tight

overs but again as last week strayed on leg stump in his last over and found a batsman more than capable of playing the leg glance for a couple of boundaries.

**In all excellent bowling backed up by some good fielding.** *I was pleased to see Euan take a high catch at mid-off and make it look so simple.* I point this out as 2 other balls were played high into the covers only for the fielders there to allow the ball to bounce before fielding it.

*If the ball is in the air you must attack it and try to catch it. Remember, **CATCHES WIN MATCHES!***

*One other point on fielding is to remember to walk in as the bowler starts his run up and always anticipate that the ball is going to come to you. If the batsman blocks the ball then sprint in to pick the ball up, This will dissuade the batters from pinching quick singles.*

**Joseph** had a busy morning with the batsmen piling the pressure on him running byes every time possible. With what was a fast bowling attack Joseph was positioned a long way back so it was hard for him to get back to the stumps to field the ball.

After a drinks break Hythe started their reply to a good 300 score by Sandwich.



**Harry S and Euan** opened up and got us off to a good start. **Harry** batted with guile, attacking wide balls with real aggression and blocking anything straight. *Again, the improvements in Harry's confidence and technique this season have been great to see and, I believe, are in no small way linked to the time he has spent opening for Shepway District.*

**Euan** played well and really looks to hit the ball hard and keep the score ticking over. *He has a very good technique and I would only add he needs to be a little more selective in which ball to attack to fully realise his potential.*

**Ken and Jack** were up next and really went at the bowling. **Jack** played well and scored where possible from some straight and accurate Sandwich bowling. He ran well, but could have called a little more clearly.

**Ken** found it hard to get the ball away as much as he would have liked, but still managed to score well. He played one particular smash through extra cover for a boundary, which was the highlight of his innings. *His running and calling were excellent.*

The third pair were **Mike and Joseph**. **Mike** played a good innings and ran excellently, calling clearly and confidently. *I was impressed to see how Mike is thinking about his game in the way he takes his batting stance, putting himself into position to easily and quickly get on to his front foot.*

**Joseph** batted well, playing straight at the ball. He was a little quieter in his running but was backing up and looking to pinch singles.

*There were a few run outs in this pair and I would remind the entire team to run your bat into the crease when a run is close to give yourself the maximum chance of making your ground.*

**Max** and **Sam** were up last and were given the unenviable task of scoring 68 from the last 5 overs to win.

They both batted well, scoring freely and finding the boundary a number of times. Sadly the **48** they managed was not enough and we had to concede defeat.

The game probably came down to a few direct hits against a few near miss run outs. I also think, without ant sour grapes, the Sandwich team were obviously more used to the higher bounce of their artificial wicket and were playing back foot shots to balls of a length that our batsmen were correctly coming forward to and being beaten by the bounce.

### **Bowling Stats**

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
Euan	3	0	4	1
Harry	3	0	25	0
Jack	3	0	11	1
Mike	2	0	14	0
Ken	3	0	10	0
Max	3	0	18	4
Sam	3	0	22	3

### **Batting Stats**

	Runs
Harry S	11
Euan	10

Ken	13
Jack	7
Mike	5
Joseph	3
Sam	17
Max	19

**Both batting and bowling points go to Max.**

*Our next match is at home to Nonington this coming Sunday and I am hopeful to have a home friendly against Hawkinge the following Sunday.*

If not selected remember there is training on Sunday morning and on Thursday evenings.

**Cheers**

**Rod.**