

BGCC Sunday Second XI 2006 Season Report.

The Sunday league delivered a series of intriguing, tight games for the Sunday twos, often going right down to the wire. The season began at home in early May against an Asian franchise of the Worcester Taverners, with the Green ending up on the losing side by a meager 7 runs at the fall of the last wicket. Another low scoring game ensued at home to Bromsgrove, but this time with a well deserved win. Roger Thompson mopped up the Bromsgrove tail with a five-wicket haul, just when the Green had started to wobble.

At the Coombs Wood amphitheatre, following on from last year the game ended with another controversy. A wide somehow awarded by the home umpire despite shaving leg stump, consigned a ten man Green to defeat in the last over of the day, despite lively half centuries by John Sherliker & Anshuman and four wickets for Simon Ball.

The Green's low scoring effort of 177 based on a cavalier half century by Anshuman appeared inadequate at the picturesque riverside ground of Bewdley. John Sherliker produced a match winning performance of tightly controlled wrist spin, leaving Bewdley stranded six runs short at stumps. A bonanza of runs (331) was easily enough to see off Droitwich, with fifties for Robin Longmore and Dave Price and a superb century by Anshuman. The batsmen were helped in their task by some heroically inept fielding from the visitors. Another low scoring win followed at home to league runners-up Swindon, with Chris Hill bagging a five-wicket haul.

After a predictable mauling at Kidderminster, Stourbridge were overhauled at the Green despite posting a formidable 246 total. Newly promoted opener Justin McMillan claimed a maiden half-century during the run chase. A winning total of 220 at Feckenham was notable for two contrasting eighties. John Lewis applied the rapier with some clinically dispatched shots whilst Robin Longmore opted for the bludgeon, and even had the temerity to claim he was unable see the deliveries of the fast bowler, as he was dispatching him into the adjacent cornfield.

League newcomers Studley hammered the Green's attack to all parts. The carnage was ended by Dave Price and Marek Wajzer, who ran through the Studley line up in less than ten overs, ending up with four wickets apiece. However, the Green's winning run was ended as the batsmen fell well short in the their reply.

Ombersley were in deep trouble at four wickets for less than thirty, but somehow still managed to amass over two hundred due to some inept bowling and fielding by the Green. The batsmen made amends however, with all round team effort seeing the Green home in the forty-second over. The Green managed to chase down another two hundred plus total at home to Redditch, assisted by Jamie Longmore's excellent four wickets, which kept the Redditch score to a manageable level.

The season petered out with disappointing losses away to Astwood Bank and Evesham. The loss to Astwood Bank was particularly hard to bear, as their innings was restricted to a lowly 112. Suicidal batting and running between the wickets caused the Green's innings to implode for under a hundred.

Finally, thanks must go to all our match day sponsors and of course to our tea ladies who consistently managed to produce the high standards those on the field didn't always reach. Final thanks must go to groundsman Roy Mayo for his sterling efforts in providing wickets that provided a plethora of runs and a little bit for the bowlers as well.

Marek (well his interpreter anyway ...)