

Mayfield Sundays vs Monken Hadley



3rd September 2017



Superstar

Mayfield 126 a/o 28 Overs

Monken Hadley 127-8 34.1 Overs

Mayfield Lost by 2 Wickets

An all to rare appearance for me this season and it was good to see the lads all parked up and standing around in the Monken Hadley car park like a group of teenagers waiting to gate crash a party. Of course the make up of our regular side these days means that for three of our party the age is accurate and the usual observations about how tall they now are and so on were fully appropriate this week as well.

The toss was lost and we were asked to bat and despite Ray showing up without cricket trousers and doing his impression of an umpire all day.



Where's my trousers then?

The story of the innings follows thusly: nearly everything we hit in the air went to a fielder and in nearly every case was caught. For example, Ray smashed a dreadful ball heading past leg stump straight to the fielder at fine leg, who took a blinding catch that a foot either way would have been uncatchable. Ravi then decided to pull a long hop to cow corner where (in the second over) Monken Hadley had already installed a fielder!! Of course it went straight down his throat. And so on and so on.

Nick and Shaf put on 50 before Shaf lobbed a catch straight to mid-off and even when Nick and Asnad got going again they were undone by a direct hit run out from cover!!

It was the sort of day that even Monken Hadley admitted after the game that they don't have, everything stuck and the run out killed our innings. The rest of the tail were shockingly bad and it was left to Asnad to try and get as many as he could while the rest of us did a terrible job at supporting him. To his credit he reached 50 just before Sachin was bowled and we were all out for 126 and perhaps more disappointingly 7 overs short of our allocation!!

A quick turnaround and a Doritos inspired team took to the field. The pitch had not played great and with drizzle around and a damp outfield, runs were not going to be easy to accumulate, that plus a coterie of bowlers on offer gave us confidence that we could get a result.



Go Mayfield Go!!

Ash and Shaf opened up and it was a real arm wrestle from the outset. Monken Hadley struggled to get runs with some excellent Mayfield fielding, but Mayfield struggled to get wickets due to some obdurate batting from the opposition.

Shaf finally got the breakthrough, with a quick length ball which was edged through to Charles. We continued to take wickets at regular intervals but Monken Hadley continued to accumulate runs. K-man showed his continuing maturity and quickening pace with a good spell which brought him a couple of wickets and Sachin also spun his way to a couple of wickets at a tricky part of the innings. Shaf was the stand out bowler though with a great spell of 3-26 and we were in with a chance of taking the game at every stage.

Even down to the last few overs we almost threatened to strangle the rate required, but a gutsy penultimate over by Hadley all but secured the win with 5 balls to spare.

It was a hard fought low scoring game which the weather always threatened to ruin but fortunately never did. We didn't quite get the same breaks as Hadley with nearly everything airborne missing fielders by miles, but ultimately both sides played their part in a competitive game that could have gone either way, but in the end it was Monken Hadley who prevailed with some

courageous batting at the death.

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
A. Jain	6	0	24	0
S. Kazi	7	2	26	3
L. Shaw	7	2	13	0
K. Sondh	4	0	12	2
S. Pooran	4	0	18	2
N. Starck	4	0	21	0
A. Kureshi	2.1	0	6	1

Man of the Match – Contenders included Shaf for his bowling and also 15 runs (one of only three Mayfield batsmen in double figures), K-man and Sachin for their wickets and Nick for his 33 (which would have certainly been more without the direct hit!), but was awarded to Asnad for a fantastic 51 no.

Golden Moment – Shaf rattling the top of off stump was a great sight to behold, I got battered several times at short cover in the name of saving runs, Asnad hit a huge six in his impressive innings and Ravi managed to have three (ultimately unsuccessful) attempts at catching out Hadley's dangerous number 7 first ball, but I think Sachin deserves the nod here for a great catch in the deep from Hadley's big hitting number 7. It came hard and low and was also laced with the twin pressures of coming at a very important time of the game but also was the same batsman that his dad had crucially (and some might say, 'game definigly' so) dropped a few overs earlier!!



Asnad's 51no is his third consecutive score of 50 following scores of 52 & 92no in the previous weeks (he scored 44 the week before that!). He stands on the precipice of an interesting and unique consecutive 50s record!!