

MATCH REPORT

Gerrards Cross vs. Buckingham Town

Sat. 7th June 2008

Buckingham Town 143-10 – Gerrards Cross 144-9
Gerrards Cross won by 1 wicket

A fantastic all-round performance by Johnny Hughes gave Gerrards Cross a hard-fought victory against Buckingham Town in a tense contest at Dukes Wood on Saturday. Hughes claimed a five-wicket haul and scored a crucial half-century in a low-scoring one wicket win.

Cross skipper Jon Newell won the toss and had no hesitation in asking Buckingham to bat on a pitch which had been under water earlier in the week. The decision seemed to have backfired as Buckingham reached 51 without loss after 15 overs despite some excellent seam bowling from Hughes.

However, things changed dramatically in the sixteenth over as Hughes (5-24) ripped through the Buckingham top order. They slipped to 56-4 losing four wickets for five runs in 18 balls. The Cross soon claimed two more wickets and Buckingham reached lunch on 104-6.

The Cross had high hopes of ending the Buckingham innings quickly, but solid defence from Buckingham reduced the scoring rate to a snail's pace and wickets were few and far between. Buckingham were eventually bowled out after 58 overs for 143.

The Cross made a dreadful start to their reply losing three wickets with just nine runs on the board. 9-3 soon became 31-4 with Dewayne Bowden (3-70) and Greg Pearson (2-17) wreaking havoc.

Steve Rimmer (30) and Hughes (55) repaired the damage in a fifth wicket stand of 61, which put the Cross in the driving seat. However, Buckingham fought back and with the score on 129-6 and time running out, the Cross began to panic. Two horrible run outs and the loss of Hughes left the score on 139-9. With the Cross needing four runs off four balls, Joel Deane crashed the ball through backward point for four to give the Cross a nail-biting one wicket win.

Full credit must go to Buckingham who fought every inch of the way and did not deserve to lose.

GERRARDS CROSS v BUCKINGHAM TOWN - HCPCL Division 2 (West)

Venue: Dukes Wood, Gerrards Cross
Dates: 7th June 2008
Toss won by: Gerrards Cross
Umpires: K Mills, A English

Buckingham Town Innings

FOW

Large R *		b Wright	38	1st	51
Tomlinson L	c Westaway	b Hughes	12	2nd	51
Pearson G	c Westaway	b Hughes	0	3rd	56
Harris D		b Hughes	1	4th	56
Bowden D		b Shahid	27	5th	91
Cater J +		run out	14	6th	101
Parker S	c Shahid	b Newell	14	7th	113
Tomlinson J	c Westaway	b Newell	2	8th	130
Gear J		lbw b Hughes	20	9th	143
Ell J		not out	0	10th	143
Churms L		b Hughes	0		

Extras (2 byes, 5 leg byes, 1 wide, 7 no balls): 15

Total: 143

Bowling Figures	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts
Duncan	12	1	39	0
Hughes	12.2	5	24	5
Wright	6	1	28	1
Shahid	11	2	22	1
Newell	16	8	23	2

Gerrards Cross Innings

FOW

Shahid F	c Cater	b Pearson	2	1st	3
Westaway S +		c and b Pearson	2	2nd	9
Duncan A		lbw b Bowden	4	3rd	9
Wright M	c Cater	b Bowden	13	4th	31
Rimmer S	c Large	b Bowden	30	5th	92
Hughes J	c Tomlinson J	b Gear	55	6th	103
Dhaliwal M		lbw b Gear	1	7th	129
Purewal S		run out	9	8th	130
Graham R		not out	9	9th	138
Newell J *		run out	2	10th	
Deane J		not out	4		

Extras (5 leg byes, 2 wides, 6 no balls): 13

Total (9 wickets) : 144

Bowling Figures	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts
Bowden	23.3	7	70	3
Pearson	12	3	17	2
Churms	3	1	17	0
Gear	14	3	35	2

GERRARDS CROSS WON BY 1 WICKET