

MATCH REPORT
IVYBRIDGE 2nds v. IPPLEPEN 2nds (DEVON LEAGUE C DIVISION)
SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2008 AT ERME PLAYING FIELDS, IVYBRIDGE

Ivybridge lost ground on the other teams in the Francis Clark Devon Cricket League on Saturday when their scheduled trip to Babbacombe was cancelled because of a waterlogged square and outfield at Babbacombe. Babbacombe's ground – which is shaped like a fish bowl – failed to dry following heavy overnight rain and despite a clear-up effort by Babbacombe's club members the game had to be called off.

Both sides were frustrated by the lack of action with every other side in the division taking the field.

Back in Ivybridge, the second eleven were luckier and despite a moist pitch they were able to extend their lead at the top of the 2nd XI C Division table. Ivy's skipper Gareth Stuckey won the toss and asked Ipplepen to bat first.

That soon proved to be the correct decision as Stuckey himself and the old warhorse Pete Boast were soon making inroads into the Ipplepen batting line-up. Boast bowled Partridge in the third over and then Stuckey took the vital wicket of left hander Keith Bell, who was trapped lbw to a ball moving back in. Remaining opener Allsopp soon followed, chopping a delivery from Stuckey down onto his off stump in his next over.

This left the visitors struggling on 11 for 3 from 8 overs. Harris and Forsey looked to try and dig in, but Ivybridge's bowlers gave them very little to hit and the slowness of the damp pitch made run scoring tricky.

Pete Abraham replaced Pete Boast from the pavilion end and in his third over he ended the partnership, having Forsey well caught in the gully by Toby Borrow. Despite their best efforts Ipplepen could only reach 31 for 4 at the halfway stage of their innings. With scoreboard pressure growing, Phill Harvey joined Harris and tried to get things moving. More accurate bowling, this time by Adam Warden (who had by now replaced Stuckey at the Ermington End) and Josh Mailling prevented this and Mailling soon knocked back Harvey's middle peg.

New batsman Wotton hit Mailling for a straight six on his next over, but the youngster was not put off, responding by bowling him two balls later.

Pete Boast's return to the attack yielded two more deserved wickets, bowling Hay and then having Curling caught at mid-wicket by Pete Abraham.

Batting at ten, youngster Abbot showed how it should be done, playing some nice shots in his unbeaten 14. Any hopes of reaching treble figures were lost when Abraham picked up the stubborn Harris (32 from 92 balls in just over two hours) again caught at gully by Borrow. Borrow had a little juggle at the first attempt but eventually held on.

The innings was soon over as last man Heath accidentally trod on his own stumps trying to push a delivery from Pete Abraham into the covers.

Ipplepen had stubbornly fought it out for 44 overs, but had managed to score just 89 all out.

With two extra overs available, Ivybridge set out after tea to chase down the target at under two runs per over. Ivybridge openers Toby Borrow and Tony Mailling soon got the scoreboard moving and with some loose deliveries moved to 42 for 0 from 10 overs. Youngster Abbot did pick up Mailling (18), caught at deep mid wicket as he top edged a pull shot, but thereafter Tim Lancaster (12 not out) saw the game home with Borrow. Borrow hit the winning runs after just 19.1 overs of the innings and reached his fifty in so doing. His fifty occupied just 57 balls and he hit 5 fours, mostly straight down the ground.

The result puts Ivybridge 17 points clear at the top.

Ivybridge were scheduled to have two friendly games last Sunday, but neither took place. Exeter University IV were disappointingly unable to raise a side for the game at Erme Valley and a waterlogged outfield put paid to a game at Tavistock.

Earlier this week, Ivybridge also defeated OPMs in a Plymouth & District League Premier Division match. Ivybridge's bowlers restricted OPMs to 82 for 9 in their 16 overs. Pete Abraham was again the star of the show with the ball, picking up OPMs best batsmen in a spell of 2 for 14. He also took a fine one handed catch in the deep off Jon Sparkes later in the innings. Sparkes off spin finished with 2 for 17, and there were also wickets for youngsters Dave Eadie (2 for 17) and Zak Reeves (2 for 18), with Reeves taking two wickets from the last two balls of the innings.

Michael Anderson (47 not out) and Alex Jeffery (25 not out) had no alarms in knocking off the target in just over 10 overs, Anderson finishing the match in style with a straight six.

This week Ivybridge entertain Kingsbridge on Wednesday evening in the Corinthian Cup (match report next week), visit Plymstock in the first match of this season's Ivor Dewdney's Plymouth Twenty/20 competition on Friday evening and then host Kingsbridge again in another South Hams derby on Saturday in the Devon League. Ivybridge's second string face also face Kingsbridge – this time at Kingsbridge on Saturday.

Ivybridge's first team is expected to unchanged for the visit of Kingsbridge, but there will be changes for the seconds who are without father and son Tony and Josh Mailling and Tim Lancaster. Josh Mailling has Devon Under 13 commitments. Alex Jeffery, Sam Henderson and James Willacy are expected to return to the side.

SCORECARD

				Runs	Balls
IPPLEPEN 2nds					
C Partridge			b Boast	1	(12)
D Allsop			b Stuckey	2	(20)
K Bell	lbw		b Stuckey	4	(14)
S Harris	c Borrow		b Abraham	32	(92)
S Forsey	c Borrow		b Abraham	2	(26)
P Harvey (wkt)			b J. Mailling	5	(34)
J Wotton			b J. Mailling	7	(10)
R Hay			b Boast	5	(10)
S Curling (c)	c Abraham		b Boast	1	(9)
J Abbot			not out	14	(24)
B Heath	hit wicket		b Abraham	1	(7)
Extras			(2b, 3lb, 9w, 1nb)	15	
TOTAL			(all out)	89	

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
G Stuckey	11	3	16	2
P Boast	11	5	20	3
P Abraham	6.3	3	9	3
A Warden	6	2	8	0
J Mailling	4	1	12	2
A Birch	5	0	19	0

IVYBRIDGE

T Borrow			not out	51	(57)
T Mailling	c Forsey		b Abbot	18	(32)
T Lancaster			not out	12	(24)
Did not bat : -					
A Birch					
J Mailling					
M Tuckwell					
A Tookey (wkt)					
P Boast					
P Abraham					
A Warden					
G Stuckey					
Extras			(1lb, 5w, 3nb)	9	
TOTAL			(for 1 wicket)	90	

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
R Hay	8	0	33	0
B Heath	5	2	19	0
J Abbot	3	0	19	1
S Harris	2	0	7	0
S Curling	1.1	0	11	0

IVYBRIDGE WON BY 9 WICKETS

Points: Ivybridge 20, Ipplepen 0