

SEPCL Division 2

Rowledge v Andover

The recreation ground at Rowledge played host to a boundary frenzy last Saturday as Andover amassed an SPL record 412 for 4, before Rowledge's 289 all out in reply took the days aggregate to 701 runs from just 89.3 overs.

On a sweltering day and belting track, batting first was a no-brainer and Andover were more than grateful to win the toss. Ali Hooper set the tone for the day, hitting the first ball of the day clear over the recreation road for six, an additional twelve more runs came from the first over as Andover got off to a flier and then simply didn't stop as the Rowledge attack were put to the sword.

Pete Dickinson bowling for the first time this season after injury and in the absence of Simon Bonser and Tim Wheatley dismissed Hooper for a rapid 54. At this point former Purbrook and Havant batsman Will Prozesky had barely got going. He soon took centre stage though to dominate proceedings. He was given a reprieve when in the sixties and then just after passing 150, but apart from this he was in complete control and at times he looked to score a boundary with every ball he faced and he more or less did!

Kiwi James Gorman, was for the much part a spectator to the Prozesky fireworks in their 215 run partnership, but after Prozesky's departure Gorman upped his rate, eventually falling seven runs shy of a hundred. Mark Copleston who had walked out at 282 for 2 after 35 overs was really in no mood to slow the rate and he smashed and unbeaten 64.

Rowledge were clearly not at their best with the ball, either bowling too full or too short on a wicket for such a small margin for error. To their credit they kept going though and maintained their spirit admirably and applaud the quality batting that they were up against.

Rowledge had to get off to a flier themselves and went after deliveries they may not normally play so attackingly at. Andover bowled good areas and Rowledge's top three all fell looking to force the ball off the front foot and at 39 for 3, a remarkable run chase looked hugely unlikely.

Ricky Yates and Dickinson shared a 123 run stand, but Yates fell just after reaching 50. Up with the run rate, Rowledge fought to keep up the chase and were doing enough to have Andover concerned. Dickinson was in top form hitting seven 6s and 14 fours in a fantastic innings of 144, but without any more telling contributions Rowledge were all out for 289 in the 40th over but despite such a heavy defeat they were able to take seven points from the game.

This week Rowledge will look to get their title defence back on track as they visit table topping and form side New Milton.

Andover

A.Hooper		b Dickinson	54
W.Prozesky		b Sharp	177
J.O’Gorman	c Bunyan	b R.Yates	93
M.Copleston	not out		64
R.Taylor	run out		14
J.Hadfield	not out		0
		Extras	10
		Total	412

Bowling; Sharp 6-0-89-1, Forbes 9-1-83-0, Dickinson 10-1-67-1, Lloyd 10-0-50-0, Smith 10-0-60-0, R.Yates 5-0-59-1

Rowledge

C.Yates jnr	c Hooper	b Graham	18
G.Clapham	c R.Hadfield	b Taylor	8
D.Lloyd	c R.Hadfield	b Taylor	5
R.Yates	c Adams	b J.Hadfield	50
P.Dickinson	c and	b J.Hadfield	144
A.Sharp	run out		7
I.Metcalf		b Adams	8
R.Smith		b Graham	19
M.Bunyan		b Graham	3
R.Forbes		b Adams	1
C.Bloomfield	not out		3
		Extras	23
		Total	289

Bowling; Taylor 10-0-52-2, Graham 8.3-0-80-3, O’Gorman 6-0-41-0, J.Hadfield 10-0-52-2, Adams 5-0-47-2