

A satisfying win for Pirbright who were allowed to score too easily on a surface that got worse as the game progressed.

Nobody thought the match would ever be completed as both teams agreed to start play in a 86 over match. Pirbright batted first and adapted to the conditions better as the Rowledge team suffered the cold and damp conditions. The general mood was one of lack of enthusiasm! The Pirbright openers started very well and took the attack to the young opening bowlers. The first wicket did not fall until 81 when Whittell had Milton lbw, just 2 short of his half century. The strong attack continued with Connery, Westphal and Marks, with boundaries coming all too easily. Rowledge managed to slow the rate when Whittell and Brook found their lengths, and sharing 5 wickets. Beswestherick also showed commitment with 1 wickets and improved accuracy with reduced pace.

Pirbright were well aware of the potential for bad weather calling off the match and therefore sort to post a target over 200 runs as quickly as possible. They declared on 209-6 after 35 overs.

Rowledge looked comfortable initially in their response but were generally caught out by the irregular bounce from a damp and variable pitch. Brown opened well and led from the front with 29. He did not gain much support as batmen fell to the pace of Milton and then the guile of Simpson. Jones looked at home but was given out lbw to Milton. Brook coming in at six played a controlled rearguard inning and constructed a partnership with Norris that started to frustrate the opposition. It was a tall target to bat for 51 overs and the draw but it was always a possibility if batsmen had the required approach. However, the slow pace of Simpson won the day for Pirbright as Rowledge lost their control and he claimed 5 wickets, with 4 being caught. Brook finally went as the last Rowledge batsman out for 32, leaving Austin on a single.

A satisfying win for Pirbright who were allowed to score too easily on a surface that got worse as the game progressed.