

National Village Cup Rowledge v Findon

Rowledge progressed to the last sixteen of the National Village Cup as they edged out Sussex group winners Findon by six runs last Sunday.

The Findon side that reached the Lord's final in 2007 and whom defeated Rowledge in the quarter finals was an experienced outfit. However this team was completely different and filled with youth that certainly gave them the edge in the field. A talented side too and they beat 2009 National Champions Glynde and Beddingham in their group final.

Opting to bat first Rowledge lost Darren Mitchell in the first over and Gary Clapham in the sixth. However there were loose balls to be dispatched and Chris Yates jnr drove a number of boundaries and with good support from Dickinson, Rowledge passed a hundred inside sixteen overs.

Dickinson departed soon after but David Lloyd and Yates jnr continued Rowledge's progress and a score in excess of 250 seemed likely. However Yates jnr holed out at long off for a fine 77 and the home side then lost four wickets for 13 runs as Findon wrestled back some initiative.

Rob Smith led the consolidation and Tim Wheatley struck a couple of late lusty blows but Rowledge were disappointed to have been all out with five balls remaining for 228.

Findon's reply got off to a steady start but Dickinson struck twice in the tenth over having the well organised Bradley Bridson caught behind and then captain Barry Meaney caught in the gully.

Richard Forbes bowled with excellent control sending down his nine overs for a meagre 25 runs, which included two sixes and a four. Despite not picking up a wicket he was the pick of a Rowledge attack who performed very well.

David Lloyd ripped out the heart of Findon's middle order taking three caught and bowled chances and nearly making it a fourth as Micky Demetriou offered a tough chance. Demetriou who had looked a little troubled early on in his innings gave his side real hope with an excellent 70.

Over the last ten overs or so, Findon required eight an over and despite the wickets tumbling they were still well in the hunt and with quick running between the wickets really put the pressure on Rowledge. Smith really stepped up to the plate for Rowledge with the ball, going at just five an over. Perversely probably his worse ball was the one that ended Demetriou's innings as Lloyd clung onto an excellent catch low to the ground as he had to run in from long-on. Felix Jordan normally a top order batsman, but who came in at number nine after he split the webbing on his hand rather badly in the field put in a brave and valiant effort and got his side into a position where they needed ten from the last over to win. The first two balls yielded three runs and the third ball saw another excellent running catch as Morant held on to give Smith his second wicket. Next ball Jordan drove out to Morant again at long-off but in trying to ensure he got back on strike by taking on two, the last man was run out by a yard as Morant coolly threw in and Smith removed the bails.

Rowledge now play Hambledon (Hampshire) on Sunday 18th July.

Rowledge

G.Clapham	c Jordan	b Nielson	15
D.Mitchell	c Gettings	b Demetriou	4
C.Yates jnr	c Meaney	b Gettings	77
P.Dickinson	c G.Bridson	b Gettings	23
D.Lloyd	run out		42
R.Yates	c sub	b Gettings	5
N.Morant		b Manning	10
I.Metcalf		b Nielson	0
R.Smith		b Demetriou	17
T.Wheatley	not out		12
R.Forbes	c and	b Demetriou	4
		Extras	19
		Total	228 all out

Bowling; Demetriou 6.1-0-39-3, Nielson 9-0-60-2, Jordan 2-0-4-0, H.Metters 9-0-49-0, Gettings 9-0-46-3, Manning 4-1-25-1

Findon

B.Bridson	c Metcalfe	b Dickinson	27
J.Metters	c and	b Lloyd	21
B.Meaney	c C.Yates jnr	b Dickinson	0
M.Demetriou	c Lloyd	b Smith	70
A.Nielson	c and	b Lloyd	11
S.Gettings	c Metcalfe	b Wheatley	8
M.Judges	c and	b Lloyd	6
G.Bridson	c Metcalfe	b Dickinson	19
F.Jordan	not out		34
S.Mannings	c Morant	b Smith	13
H.Metters	run out		0
		Extras	13
		Total	222 all out

Bowling; Forbes 9-2-25-0, Dickinson 9-0-54-3, Lloyd 7-1-48-3, Wheatley 9-0-60-1, Smith 5.4-0-31-2