

WIECL Junior Cup Final

17th July 2018

Quatt CC v Arley CC

Kidderminster Cricket Club, Chester Road, Kidderminster

Arley win by 8 wickets

Although it may appear we take it for granted, it is a pleasure to host games at Chester Road. A bonus for the teams reaching the finals with a ground and ball provided. I wonder should the league be providing pink balls?

This Junior Cup final was held on a less oppressive evening, lumpy clouds with a hint of menace, a watery sun and light wind. Perfect!

Quatt and Arley were the turn, arriving with light, hearty banter, an attitude worthy of praise. It gladdens the spirit to witness the way both teams embrace youth and the future of our game. Youth may lack experience, require continued encouragement (which was in plentiful supply) but do they make a difference in the field! Field placings were impressive, more often than not, plugging the extensive and lightning outfield.

Quatt accepted the batting challenge first, moving through the 12 overs with occasional fours averaging 8 runs per over with wickets falling at regular intervals closing at 95 for 6 wickets.

Arley, truly delighted to be playing Cup instead of Plate, started their reply with care and occasional singles. The fourth over proved to be the turning point when the first run two of the game became a catalyst for more expansive stroke play. With the more experienced batsmen at the crease and inexperienced bowlers in action, Arley took the airborne route and swiftly closed out the total.

Praise indeed to both clubs. With the introduction of so many young players the future of both teams looks bright and special praise should be directed towards the attitude of the more mature players in the role of coach, captain and comforter.

Observations:

- Funny how the wides flow from one end and not the other
- How some measure their run up in tiny toe to toe shuffles and run in with giant paces
- Only ones and fours in the first innings, greater variety second innings ones, 3 twos and four sixes to accompany the ones and fours.
- How some days the blinding drive finds the fielder and stays caught.
- A very entertaining two hours match
- Thanks to all concerned

Result: Quatt 95 for six, Arley 98 for 2

Man of the Match Euan Wentworth - all round batting and bowling performance.

Credit to the young bowlers from Quatt, the future, and their inspirational commander in chief.