

London Erratics v Hemingford Hermits

For the second match in the weekend, match manager Nasir Khawaja was unable to play. In his absence, James Rivington invited Peter Andrews to captain, as punishment for being so annoyingly acute in his reading of the game the day before. A 35 overs game. The Erratics won the toss, and elected to field.

Former Erratic David Brook was again one of the Hermit openers. Together with his skipper, he made slow headway – partly because of tight bowling (from Michael Stephenson in particular), partly from some rather conservative running. So by the time Richards Down and Heller came on, the fact that there had been no breakthrough was not of undue concern to the Erratics. In the 19th over, the Hermit skipper finally skied to Michael in the covers; and when Richard H came off after the 23rd over, the rate was still well below 4 an over.

Then the Brook hit out: big overs against Richard D and Jim Head took him storming past fifty. Richard Masters, who had bowled so decisively against the V&A in June, had now come on; he tightened one end, and in his third over he induced a catch to James at mid-on. The new man, the Hermits keeper, hit a six and was gone; and the next did much the same.

Although the Erratics never became ragged, the run rate for the last 12 overs was almost 9 an over. As well as pushing on the Hermits score, it also took David within sight of a century. He pushed the fourth ball of the final over for a single, to take him to 99; his partner failed in his duty to get him back on strike, getting bowled instead. Richard M now deliberately bowled a no-ball which yielded a scrambled bye, enabling David to tip and run the vital single off the extra delivery. As they left the field, it was clear that not all Erratics were happy with this conduct, however well-intentioned.

As tea was taken, it was negotiated that the last ball of the Erratics' 35th over would also be called no-ball. Our loyal scorer loudly reassured the opposition that it would be immaterial, because the Erratics would be lucky to get half the total.

[report to continue...]

HEMINGFORD HERMITS — batting

1	c Stephenson	b Heller	33
2	not out		100
3	c Rivington	b Masters	26
4		b Berrigan	7
5		b Masters	7
6		b Masters	4
7	not out		0
8			
9			
10			
11			

191 for 5 in 35 overs

LONDON ERRATICS — bowling

Stephenson	8	1	25	0
Berrigan	8	0	48	1
Down	8	0	45	0
Heller	4	0	16	1
Masters	6	0	30	3
Head	1	0	19	0

Fall of wickets: 1–70, 2–138, 3–147, 4–166, 5–188

LONDON ERRATICS — batting

			4s	6s
Head	bowled	6	1	
Rivington	caught	43	2	
Masters	bowled	72	6	1
Berrigan	run out	2		
Hosken	caught	10	1	
Bush	caught	8	1	
Stephenson	lbw	7		
* Andrews	NOT OUT	10		
Down	caught	5		
† Dunabin	bowled	0		
Heller	NOT OUT	2		

191 for 9 in 35 overs

Fall of wickets: 1(Head)–7, 2(Rivington)–115, 3(Berrigan)–128, 4(Masters)–136, 5(Hosken)–151, 6(Bush)–165, 7(Stephenson)–167, 8(Down)–180, 9(Dunabin)–183

MATCH TIED