

London Erratics v Balliol Erratics

A time game (20 overs from 6.30pm). The London Erratics won the toss and elected to field.

Balliol scored briskly in the first few overs. But Lords & Commons recruit, Matthew Woolston, yorked Jim Head, then Mohsin Mufti trapped occasional London Erratic Simon Thwaite – and everything fell apart. Good bowling, sharp fielding (including a stunning low catch by Jaspar Khawaja at point), and some shocking running saw the home side slump to 50 all out (in 19.2 overs).

With so much time left, the captains agreed that the London Erratics would bat on, and it would become a two innings match.

When Peter Andrews snicked behind early on, James Poole had the opportunity to see if he could finally score a run for the London Erratics with his Mongoose bat – which he achieved with a thumping four into the tennis courts netting. And so it continued: the modest bowling and indifferent fielding were blown away by James P's fierce strikes. His fifty was scored in 28 minutes, his hundred in 63 minutes. James Rivington was largely a spectator during this (and in contrast his innings contained no boundaries).

At the start of the 20th over, the London Erratics total was 180, with James P on strike. A four and a six off the first two balls took the partnership to 186, equalling the record set by Jim Head and James R in 2005. Skipper James R almost declared at that moment, but agreed to see out the over – so that James P (now on 125) could have a tilt at Jim Head's record 141, set in that same 2005 match. A six, a two and another six took him to 139 (and the partnership to 200). Off the final ball James P had another big pull, but this time was caught at deep backward square leg. Poignantly, James P's 7 sixes equalled the record set back in 1982 by the late John Graham (whose funeral had taken place on the previous Thursday).

At tea, it was agreed that the Balliol Erratics would have to pass the visitors' total in order to draw the match. When Jamie Scudamore took a wicket in each of his first three overs, this seemed unlikely. However, the middle order proved much more adhesive this time round, and with the ball getting softer and the bowlers losing their zip, it chipped away at the target. At the start of final 20 overs, the score was 60 for 3. Batting at No. 5, Simon Thwaite played a beautifully paced innings, and the home side passed the London Erratics total in the 19th of the last 20 overs – at which point the game was declared a draw.

Cumulative overview:

Balliol Erratics scored 207 for 15 in 49.1 overs.

London Erratics scored 204 for 2 in 20 overs.

(The 200 partnership was scored in 17.3 overs)

JR

'MATCH DRAWN'

BALLIOL ERRATICS — 1st innings

1		b Woolston	11
2	run out		12
3	lbw	b Mufti	0
4	c Khawaja J	b Woolston	1
5		b Mufti	4
6	run out		2
7	run out		0
8	run out		0
9		b Eltringham	1
10		b Khawaja J	7
11	not out		0

50 all out

LONDON ERRATICS — bowling

Woolston	6	3	9	2
Mufti	5	2	21	2
Khawaja J	4.2	1	9	1
Eltringham	4	1	7	1

Fall of wickets: 1–24, 2–25, 3–27, 4–34, 5–34, 6–35, 7–35, 8–36, 9–49, 10–50

LONDON ERRATICS — 1st innings

			4s	6s
Andrews	caught	2		
* Rivington	NOT OUT	40		
Poole	caught	139	16	7
Scudamore				
Penfold				
Berrigan				
† Khawaja N				
Eltringham				
Woolston				
Khawaja J				
Mufti				

204 for 2 dec

Fall of wickets: 1(Andrews)–4, 2(Poole)–204

BALLIOL ERRATICS — 2nd innings

1	c Woolston	b Scudamore	0
2		b Scudamore	15
3	c Poole	b Scudamore	6
4	run out		35
5	not out		69
6		b Mufti	0
7	not out		16
8			
9			
10			
11			

157 for 5

LONDON ERRATICS — bowling

Scudamore	5	0	35	3
Berrigan	5	0	24	0
Penfold	5	1	17	0
Woolston	5.5	0	31	0
Mufti	5	0	17	1
Eltringham	2	0	9	0
Khawaja J	2	0	16	0

Fall of wickets: 1–0, 2–23, 3–28, 4–109, 5–110