


Shumon Miah (Millwall)

#vpccl

News

- We have a new set of stumps courtesy of Pacific.

Weekly Fixtures

Monday 20th May
Ground 1: Mad Marrocas **v** MUFG
Ground 2: L&Q **v** The Royal Strikers
Ground 3: Victoria Lounge **v** Camel Lights

Tuesday 21st May
Ground 1: Millwall **v** Old Fallopians 1
Ground 2: Rose & Crown **v** Super Rangers
Ground 3: Sports Interactive **v** Old Fallopians 2

Wednesday 22nd May
Ground 1: Sky **v** London Fields
Ground 2: Masiha **v** Expat
Ground 3: Homerton **v** Regents

Thursday 23rd May
Ground 1: Masiha **v** Expat
Ground 2: Phoenix All Stars **v** MUFG
Ground 3: London Tigers **v** London Fields

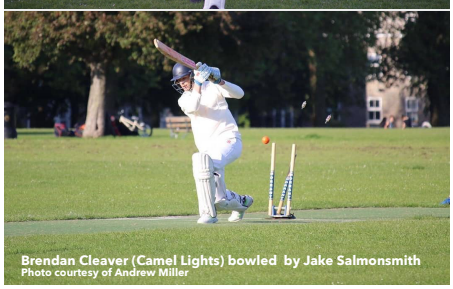
Weekly Tip

Remember to inform Secretary of any injuries arising from the pitch, ball, others' actions etc. Report any damaged equipment or dangerous surfaces'

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A delighted Fazal Kirwan following his 50 for Masiha


Brendan Cleaver (Camel Lights) bowled by Jake Salmonsmith
Photo courtesy of Andrew Miller


Superb half century from Hitesh Naik against Millwall

It was a bright, chilly week at Victoria Park and, as the foundations for All Points East were erected, last year's Division Two runners-up Expats took on the ever-dangerous Broadway Market. The Australian side, led by last year's star batsmen Alex Hickson, elected to bat and, despite losing Stuart Campbell early, made solid in-roads into the Broadway bowling. Hickson made 51 and James Burton, last year's skipper in place for a one-off match, hit a confident 47 before Trent Bryne smashed several huge sixes in a quick-fire closing 37 as Expat finished on 156-1. However it always felt 10 or so runs short on this pitch and Broadway confidently whittled away at the target, with Faisel Ahmed (50) and Will Jack (31) keeping Broadway in the hunt. Two late run outs made it suddenly very tight, but with just one needed off two balls, Butchers glanced a boundary to hand Broadway a narrow victory. Meanwhile Camel Lights surged to victory over Regents in another Division Two clash. Following their disappointing cup exit last week, the Camels came out of the blocks firing, with Tom Porter striking a majestic half century alongside Matt Redgrave (36) and Richard Hagan (28) as Camels posted 171-2. Despite a beautiful half-century from Dave Campbell including a six on 49, Regents were unable to keep up with the rate, falling short on 95-4. Mad Marrocas made it two out of two in Division Three with another superb batting display against unbeaten Royal Strikers. Jamie Cox (50) and Richard Keep (50) fired some huge boundaries after Robbie Jacobs was beautifully caught by the keeper, one handed to his left for 22 as the Marrocas finished on 191-2. It was always a tough ask and as the light faded the Strikers ended well short, with S. Mittal (26) top scoring as they finished on 104-5, some 87 runs adrift. Mad Marrocas are looking good this year!

Tuesday saw the shock of the week as defending League champions Millwall succumbed to a superb all-round display from London Fields. Opting to bat first, Millwall were bowled out for just 122, Jami Ahmed carrying his bat on 47 whilst Arif Ahmed briefly put up resistance for a resilient 22. All bowlers took a wicket, but the stand-out performance was by Ty Graham as he took three wickets for just seven runs off his single over. The Fields never looked in danger as they comfortably chased down their target, with Hitsesh Naik smashing a superb 50. Opener, skipper and keeper Will Isaac made 29, while Oli Turner delivered a super quick-fire knock of 30. Old Fallopians 2 saw off Phoenix in a tight match on pitch 1. The Phoenix hit a tricky 141-4, after slipping to 22-3 but were rescued by Sarfraz Ahmed who hit an unbeaten 43 alongside skipper Firoz Husain (32). In similar fashion the Fallopians lost three early wickets before Kafh Hassan (42) and Samsuddin Tipu (26) steadied the ship, aided by seasoned veteran Phillip Barrass (23) as the Fallopians won with an over and two balls to spare.

Match of the week was saved for Wednesday as Homerton shared a memorable Division Two win over Bansko Bears that went down to the last ball. Homerton elected to bat first and hit a tricky 177-4, skipper Sagar Bora (50) and some superb late blasting from Mark Towie as he hit five sixes in his quick-fire 50. Bansko came out guns blazing, with Will Arnold continuing his superb run with another 50 and Alex Tate falling just short on 48. However, super middle-order bowling pegged Bansko back as they went into the last over needing 22. That became eleven of six as Stan Harrison bowled three straight no balls. He then made up for it with two superb balls clattering the stumps and, with Alex watching on helplessly and the president himself Burt staying for the end, Bankso finished just five runs short. Homerton remain unbeaten and are looking in good form.

London Tigers hit their first win of the season with victory of the ever dangerous Rose & Crown in Division One. The Tigers struck 157-4, despite the Crown making a great start, slipping the Tigers to 20-2. Jamil Ahmed (50) led the way alongside decent blow from Mohammad Fahad (28) and Tuhid Islam (34). Islam took two early wickets in the Crown's response, removing Paul Feeny and C. Sydney in the same over. Opener James Kendrick top-scored with 26 as the Tigers bogged down the batsmen with the ever-dangerous Nag Mangalagiri only managing 20 as the Crown slipped to a 37-run defeat.

Meet the teams


Expat led by Alex Hickson (top centre)


Homerton's led by Sagar Bora (bottom right)


London Fields after their win over Millwall - led by Will Isaac


Victoria Lounge, led by Jim Crutcher (second from right)

Seasonal quick Stats

Highest team total:
1. 209-0 - Wapping Dolphins
2. 191-2 - Mad Marrocas
3. 175-3 - Homerton

Highest individual batting score:
1. 65 - Tom Wright (MUFG)
2. 55 - David Campbell (Regents)

* three players on 53

Best Bowling:
1. 4-9 - Sam Gilliat (Wapping Dolphins)
2. 3-7 - Ty Graham (London Fields)
3. 3-14 - Altaf Bhat (Super Rangers)

Division 1 - Millwall, London Tigers, Rose & Crown, Sky, Old Fallopians 1 VIII, London Fields, Mile Tailenders, Super Rangers

Division 2 - Bansko Bears, Homerton, Masiha, Broadway, Regents, Victoria Lounge, Camel Lights, Expat

Division 3 - MUFG, Wapping Dolphins, Royal Strikers, Mad Marroccas, Sports Interactive, L&Q Living, Pacific, Old Fallopians 2

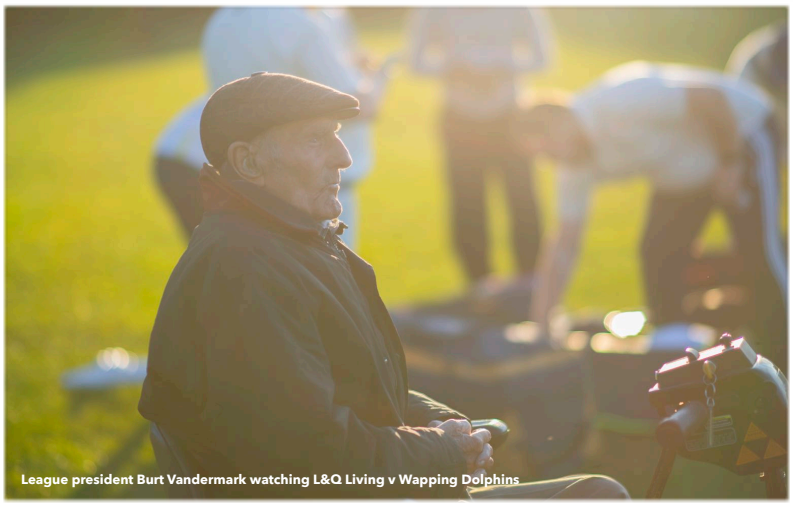

Homerton's Len Hutchinson returning to the crease for 27


Diving run out for Broadway batting against Expat

Sky returned to form with victory over Mile Tailenders. The Tailenders batted first and were held back by some super line and length, ending on 89-5 with Jonnie Donnie top-scoring on 31. Mustafa Zahid (37) and Nozmul Husain (31) built a decent foundation at the top before Sky lost three quick wickets. However league veteran Rizwan Siddiqui led the way with a quick-fire 22 as Sky reached their target in just six overs.

Wapping Dolphins kept up their winning run on Thursday as they saw off L&Q Living in Division Three with another impressive batting display. Dudley Spiers (52) and Chris Monger (50) continued their unbeaten start as both strikers dominated the batting. The ever-aggressive Monger smashed his fifty with ten boundaries including four sixes. Daniel Oliver and Adam Haines kept the score flowing as Wapping finished on 165-0 off a reduced twelve overs. L&Q, missing the always dangerous Sunny Sagar due to injury lost several early wickets as Bobby Watson took out the opening pair. James Boon and Noz Hussain countered the bowling with some effective batting as Hussain retired on a quick-fire 50 including four sixes. Boon finished his innings on eighteen not out as L&Q reached 110-5, helping Wapping to a fourth straight victory in their debut season.

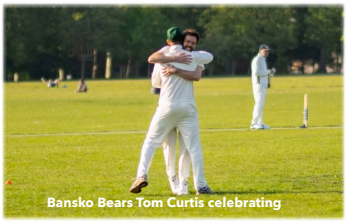
It was a tense tussle between Masiha and defending Division Two champions Victoria Lounge. Captain Jim Crutcher opted to bat first for the Lounge and led the way with a confident 50. This was as chaos reigned around him as Mashia took four quick wickets reduce Victoria Lounge to 27-4. However skipper Crutcher (50) led from the front alongside Tim Garrett (27) and Oli Kavanagh (27). Masiha openers Tom Viegas and Fozal led a super display as they kept their side in the hunt. However, with darkness descending, Masiha struggled to get the ball away and after their opener retired they lost skipper Adnan Ali cheaply, to fall just five runs short.Pacific earned their first win of the season in a tight Division Three tussle with Sports Interactive. Skipper Tom Laskowski led the way with his first 50 of the season as Sports Interactive made 135-4. Pacific lost their dangerous opening batsmen Paul Rajkumar for just a single, however a fine partnership between John Deigman and Richard Birch steadied the ship as Pacific reached their target in 12.1 overs.


League president Burt Vandermark watching L&Q Living v Wapping Dolphins


Ollie Gold fielding for Old Fallopians 2


Firoz Husain batting for Phoenix


Chris Monger scoring his third successive 50


Bansko Bears Tom Curtis celebrating