

## MATCH REPORT

### U11S BEASTS V BRANSGORE

9 MAY 2009

I'm delighted to say that the Beasts got off to a great winning start to the season on Saturday, securing 14 points in the league.

It was the first competitive cricket match for our two new recruits, Philip Sargeant and Henry Lander and the first time a number of the team had played since last summer.

Barney Clarke was captain and kept up a long tradition of losing the toss, so Bransgore asked us to bat first. Jamie H-C and Jack Underwood, U10s, helping out as we were short on numbers, went in first and successfully defended their wickets against some very accurate bowling. They finished with the score on 210.

Next in were new boys, Henry and Philip. Philip hit a 2 and two 4's but was unfortunately just run out in the last over. Henry scored a couple of singles, a 2 and a 4, so with a couple of extras, the score had moved on to 225 at the end of their pairing. A good solid start from both of them so well done!

Our third pair was Miles Hooker and Henry Lynk. Miles hit a couple of singles and 4's, with his usual style and Henry supported him but scored a single too. The Bransgore bowling was very good and Henry was bowled in the second of their overs, but the score was 241.

We knew we needed to score a few more runs in the last 4 overs so I was pleased I had kept Barney and Daniel Jones, our big hitting pair from last season, for the job. Daniel did very well, with the highest score of the day with 11 runs, including one 4 and a 3, which made Barney run! However, Bransgore's one girl on their team proved to be a hard bowler to play and she got Daniel out once. Barney went for the big hits straight away but mis-timed his first shot and she bowled him too. He added a couple of singles to the score but also got caught so was not very happy with himself at the break. However he didn't let it last and led the boys back out to field, intent on winning the match.

However with our final score at 242, we thought this would not be easy, especially as the outfield had dried out so runs would be easier to get.

That was before we had one of the best bowling and fielding performances I have seen! Henry Lander went first, his first over in a match, and Bransgore only managed to run a single off his last ball! Barney came in next, slowing the pace down, and they scored a couple of singles off him plus a couple of wides. Miles was next and again we kept the batsmen down to a couple of singles with our great fielding, including good wicket keeping by Henry Lynk. Fourth to bowl was Jamie who had a fantastic maiden over, a sign of things to come. So at the end of their first pair, Bransgore were on 210, the same as we had been.

Henry Lander bowled his second over and did brilliantly to get a wicket maiden. Barney was next and, although one of the batsmen got the measure of him and hit a few 4s, he managed to get the other batsman to sky a shot that was brilliantly caught in a diving catch by little Jack Underwood. Miles was next with only one wide adding to the score and then came Jamie, who took 2 great wickets and gave away only a single run. So, at the half way point, Bransgore had gone backwards and were on 202.

I changed the bowlers then and Jack came in and bowled really well, with a great catch from Miles giving Jack a wicket and only 1 single run against him. Next was our second newcomer, Philip, who had clearly been watching and learning from his team mates and followed suit with allowing the batsmen only 1 run. Daniel was next and followed the pattern, with only 1 run and a wide coming from him. I had been so impressed with Jamie's bowling that I asked him to go for a third over, which was the right decision as, apart from 1 wide, there was no score and we got another wicket! Bransgore had gone backwards again so were now on 201. Suddenly our score of 242 was looking quite healthy!

For the final 4 overs Jamie wanted to keep wicket, so this meant Henry Lynk could bowl. First up was Jack again, but we were now facing Bransgore's strongest batting pair, so they managed to get 4 singles. It could have been more but our fielding was great, with Barney making a spectacular dive to stop a ball going for 4. (More washing for me!) Henry Lynk then bowled his one over well, with one wide and a 4 hit off him. Then Daniel bowled his second over and we conceded a 4 and a couple of singles and one wide.

For the final over I chose Philip as, being new to the pairs game, I knew he didn't know that if he bowled a wide there would be an extra ball, so he didn't have that extra pressure! He did very well and with a great throw from Henry Lander we got a run out on the third ball. Bransgore scored a single and a 4 and there was one wide, but that was no where near enough to beat us. With the 6 byes that had been given ( two singles and one 4) Bransgore's final score was 221.

As I said, a really great start to the season and it did make my job of choosing a man of the match quite difficult. However with bowling statistics of 3 overs, 3 wickets for 3 runs, it had to be Jamie and I was very pleased to see that the boys agreed with me. It was, though, a real team effort. We only kept Bransgore's score down by the combined effect of accurate bowling and brilliant fielding, which everyone in the team contributed to, so well done to all of you.

Finally, thanks to Drew for umpiring – a brilliant performance!

I think we have a great team of friends this season with the potential to play some really good cricket.

Keep it up boys!

Rachel

## Batting

Jamie 0 no; Jack 3 no; Henry Lander 8 no; Philip 10/1; Miles 10 no; Henry Lynk 1/1; Daniel 11/1; Barney 2/2    Total Runs 45                      Wickets lost 30 runs

## Bowling (2 overs each unless stated otherwise)

Jamie 3/3 off 3; Jack 1/5; Henry Lander 1/1; Philip 0/8; Miles 0/4; Henry Lynk 0/6 off 1; Daniel 0/11; Barney 1/19

Wides/No Balls 8 giving 16 runs      Byes/Leg Byes 3 giving 6 runs                      Total Extras 22