

U9 Hardball match away to Ellingham Bournemouth 352 beat Ellingham 252

Sam won the toss and once the cows had been cleared put Ellingham into bat. It was a hot sunny day and we were a man down so fielding was going to be difficult.

Bowling

We had a slight change of bowling plan today with Lawrence, Josh, Matt Young and Jacob all bowling 3 overs and Sam and Luke bowling 2 each. I have to say that all our bowlers bowled really well conceding very few wides and no balls. Wickets were taken by Luke 1 for 9 off 2 overs, Jacob 1 for 13 off 3 overs, and Josh who was today's top bowler with 2 for 21 off 3 overs. Lawrence had a maiden in his second over and Matt Youngs 3 overs went for a miserly 9 runs with only one wide.

Fielding and keeping

To be honest I felt that our fielding was a little below our usual standard. It was an exceptionally quick outfield and in the main we were fielding too close to the wicket. This allowed Ellingham to pick up a number of 4's that really should have only been singles.

Matt F kept wicket and was as usual sharp taking a very good stumping off of a well flighted delivery from Josh. Ellingham finished on 252, perhaps a little more than we should have conceded considering how well we had bowled.

Batting

Our batting today was nothing short of superb and with a combination of high quality stroke play, power hitting and a fast outfield, we managed to hit 146 runs off the bat including 23 4's which is exceptional at U9 level cricket. I should also add that every member of the team hit at least one 4 today!!!! Our defensive batting is also improving and we only conceded 4 wickets of which only 2 were bowled. The other 2 were a caught and a rather scrappy run out, caused largely by Matt and Sam desperately wanting to get back on strike to continue their own personal 4 bonanza!!! Understandable, given the fact that we were already way past 320 runs at the time.

As everyone contributed I have listed all the batting scores:

Sam 29 for 1 (run out) Luke 26 for 1 (bowled) Matt Young 25 not out, Matt Fisher two bats scoring 15 not out both times, Lawrence 15 for 1 (caught) Jacob 13 not out and Josh 8 for 1 (v unfortunate to be bowled by a freaky bouncer that went over his head and landed on top of the bails!!!)

We have Christchurch in the cup semi final next week and then Broadstone for the league decider. Bring them on I say, if we bat like that and bowl and field to our normal excellent standards we have a very good chance of winning the league.

As usual, Very well done

Ashley