

## U9 Hardball Cup away to Poole

### Bournemouth Badgers 287 beat Poole 204

#### Batting

Poole won the toss and put Bournemouth into bat. As a team we batted well against some good accurate bowling to post a total of 287. Another consistently good score, I am sure a 300 + is just around the corner.

Not outs today were Matt Fisher 2 , Josh Cook 6 , Sam Taylor 13 , Jacob Feldman 18 and Ben Spotswood 18 No.

#### Fielding and keeping

Matt Fisher kept wicket today and was excellent conceding only 2 runs in byes. Our fielding was also excellent and is an area where I feel we are becoming really strong. Maybe we need to think a little more about our fielding positions but this is improving all the time.

#### Bowling

Without doubt this is our strongest area as a team and today I thought everyone was on top form. Keeping a team as good as Poole to a score of 204 is a brilliant achievement.

Single wickets were taken by, Josh 2 overs 1 for 11, Jacob, 2 overs 1 for 15,

There were however two outstanding bowling performances today. Ben Spotswood bowled 3 overs taking 2 wickets for only 5 runs. A net score of -7 to Poole's score. Under normal circumstances this would have been a man of the match performance and was a just reward for fast accurate bowling. Today's star performer however was Sam. He took 5 wickets in 3 over's including a clean bowled hat trick in his second over, he then proceeded to bowl a Dorset player in his final over coupled with Jacob taking a calm catch off his last ball giving him figures of 5 wickets (4 bowled) for 3 runs scored (net -27) to Poole.

#### Observations

After such a good performance it seems mean to mention one area that was just a little sloppy, however I believe it needs sorting out. Could all players please run the 1<sup>st</sup> run hard after a well struck shot. Too often today, players were ball watching whilst expecting a four only to find the ball hold up in the slow grass. This meant we scored only 2's when 3's or maybe even ran 4's were possible. You should all run every good shot hard and only stop when the umpire has signalled a four!!!. Fortunately, this did not matter today, (except against the players batting stats!!!) but in a tight match could be the difference between winning or losing a match.

We have Christchurch next week, Target is to make 300 + runs.

Well Done All

Ashley