

## **Eagles Under 9s Softball v Ellingham – Saturday 11 June 2011**

Not the result we would have hoped for but from the Managers perspective a very enjoyable match.

I think the score flattered the hosts – and was simply a matter of them hitting more boundaries and conceding fewer extras than us – perhaps that is an obvious statement but I think today highlights how often at this level of cricket it's easier to set a big score and then restrict the chasing side by placing the fielders on the boundary etc – in professional cricket the opposite is usually the wise choice ie to know what score you've got to get and chase it down.

Our strengths today were in the fielding – apart from a couple of 'nutmegs' which went for 4 ( Neil needs to work on the boys out fielding in practice) I thought on the whole the fielding was great, backed up again by a super display of wicket keeping by Thomas (it really was hot out there especially with a helmet on, incidentally Thomas if you want to try some bowling next game you can share keeping duties with Ben R 8 overs each).

I mentioned to the boys that Neil will be presenting a Player of the Season award at the end of the year and that I will be putting boys names forward each month for top batsman, bowler and all rounder – today's choice was easy considering Jonathans performance in all 3 categories! Not only was he the top scoring bat with 9no – he also got 2 wickets (one a great catch off his own bowling) and stopped at least a couple of boundaries in the field.

The following players were nominated for May's games:

Bat – Christian  
Bowl – Ben Blackford  
All Rounder – Thomas

Well done Eagles !

Rich