

BOURNEMOUTH DRAGONS V PARLEY UNDER 9 HARDBALL LEAGUE

Well the first match of the season was certainly tense, nail biting and hard fought. The score does not really do Bournemouth justice and although I may be bias we really should have won. Every boy should be very pleased with how they played. It was excellent performances from everyone. Considering this was our first match, with a new team, and some boys playing their first ever match, this was a tremendous performance.

The match started well with Josh calling tails, winning and putting Parley into bat. Josh opened the bowling and took a wicket with the third ball. A great start! William took the second over keeping it tight and Owen continued with a very tight over.

So the scene was set.

Bournemouth bowled superbly, fielded excellently and from umpire it was a privilege to watch. Every player played their part. Ruuning after balls, backing up, bowling tightly, taking wickets. Dominic did superbly well behind the stumps where he kept wicket for the first time in his life. You always know when a team is worried with the amount of comments coming from the Parley parents and the coaching from the sidelines. To restrict a very good Parley team to 259 taking 5 wickets was an excellent performance.

Bowling Performances were:-

	Overs	Wickets	Runs
Josh	3	2	20
William	3	2	9
Owen	2	0	9
Monty	2	0	11
Jared	3	1	15
Alex	2	0	14
Ben	1	0	11

So then the game rested on our batting performance.

Ben and Alex got Bournemouth underway and set an excellent platform, putting 8 runs on the board against some of their best bowling and not losing any wickets.

Owen and Dominic came in as second pair and continued the good work. Dominic cracked a great 4 and Owen chipped in well with a good mix of singles and 2s. At the end of 8 overs Bournemouth were 230 and halfway there, and Parley were beginning to look ragged.

William and Jared came in next and continued the great work despite Parley starting to produce some great bowling. William was bowled by a great ball that would have beaten most batsmen, and 9 runs off the last over showed the pair had come to terms with the Parley upsurge.

Josh and Monty were the last pair and started off with a flurry. Josh cracking a 4 off his second ball. The runs began to come and our prospects looked bright, but Parley rallied with some excellent bowling. Parley took another wicket and then Bournemouth were restricted to 9 runs from the last 3 overs. The last over particularly was excellent and there was little either Josh or Monty could do to break free.

In the end Bournemouth lost by 12 runs, but as I started the report by saying, this does not do Bournemouth justice.

We lost fewer wickets than Parley, bowled superbly, fielded well and batted with courage.

Parley have a settled side and have a number of talented players.

This was a new Bournemouth side, getting to know one another and we very nearly beat Parley.

Our boys should be proud and with performances like this, we will win more than we will lose.

Congratulations everyone.

This season promises to be a very good one !!

Batting Performances

	Balls Faced	Runs
Ben	11	1
Alex	13	0
Owen	16	2
Dominic	8	6
William	13	0
Jared	11	2
Josh	14	8
Monty	10	2