

Inellan CC versus Kilmacolm CC 22 June 2008

The first leg of the Kilmacolm CC tour was completed yesterday with a narrow defeat by Innellan CC within the grounds of the impressive Castle Toward near Dunoon.

Despite the awful weather forecast and with the rain lashing down we set off across the water on the 10.20am Cal Mac Ferry and arrived at the ground in good time to sink a couple of tins and undertake some catching practice (obviously not enough of either) before the opposition arrived.

With the lashing rain reduced to a drizzle there followed an extended pitch inspection by the two captains before we agreed on a 20 over a side match to start at 1pm ish. (for future reference we may want to think about provision for something other than a liquid lunch)

The Kilmacolm CC Touring Team who turned out in the quality KCC Tour Shirts was (in batting order)

David McRobert
Rob Guyler
Alan Holmes
Roddy Davidson
Raymond Pirrie
Charles Briggs
Terry Ewing
Doug Harvey
Gavin Murray

Martin (Umpire)

Following a solid start from David McRobert, some flailing batting left us 4 wickets down for 17 runs. It took a solid middle order partnership between Charles Briggs and Roddy Davidson to steady the ship and move us past the 50 mark. More flailing batting was followed by another solid partnership between Gavin Murray and Doug Harvey which took us towards the 100 mark. With the welcome introduction of the "when all the players are out you go back in again" rule a flurry of runs at the end took us to a respectable 121 runs.

The fragile weather conditions required a quick turnaround and it became apparent that the Thursday net practice had been hugely beneficial for our bowling outfit. All acquitted themselves well but noteworthy performances came from Alan Holmes, Raymond Pirrie and Doug Harvey. Raymond's ability to get bounce off a wet pitch with no run-up shows the benefit of having a 6ft6 bowler in your team.

Despite our best efforts, the quality of Innellan's batting showed through eventually, our cause not aided by some missed chances in the field (note: more catching practice required), the most culpable being the Captain's missed catch as wicketkeeper with "Gloves the size of Millport" off the bowling of Rob Guyler. The home team hit the winning runs with just 3 balls to spare of their 20 overs, a very creditable performance by our guys on our first competitive turnout of the season.

Following what was a very friendly match, we were kindly looked after by our hosts in the local, with sandwiches, sausage rolls and cake gratefully received along with further beers.

Some of the more hardened team members (or those with a longer leash for the day) rounded the event off at the Taj Mahal in Gourrock.

Our thanks go to the Innellan Cricket Club for agreeing to play on their pitch in the inclement conditions, and for looking after us so well. (except for beating us of course). We look forward to repeating the fixture next year.

Also thanks to the team for a competitive performance and to Martin Umpire for umpiring and taking the kit over on the Ferry

Onwards to the Family Day on the 17th August and the International leg of our tour on the 22nd August.

I think we will be organising some further nets over the Summer and we are trying to get a midweek game with Greenock 3rds at Hillhead sorted.