August 2015

Challenge series [posted 23/08/15]

Tim Hart reports, "Sunday saw Shawholm (Poloc CC) play host to an Under 14 *Challenge Series* fixture. The *Eagles* hosted the *Sharks* – and the glorious summer sunshine allowed a full game to be completed! The *Sharks* won the toss, elected to bat and were treated to real 'Captain's Innings' from Uzzair Shah (Poloc CC). Shah's splendid 84 not out (off 109 deliveries, including twelve boundaries) was the innings which his team's 149 for 9 was based around. This represented a great recovery from 14 for 5, as opening bowlers Jawad Khan (Clydesdale CC) and Euan McBeth (Prestwick CC) threatened to end the innings before it had really started! However, five crucial partnerships then formed to help to get the *Sharks* to a respectable total. Adam Khan (Hillhead CC) added a little firepower, with an explosive 22 (off fourteen deliveries) – and the biggest partnership of the innings was that between Shah and Abhishek Sinha (Clydesdale CC), for the ninth wicket! For the *Eagles*, Khan (3 for 34) was the best bowler on show – with four edges (all going for boundaries) somewhat inflating his economy rate!

"In reply, the *Eagles* were simply cruising along at one point. Openers Angus Guy (West of Scotland CC) and Shahzad Ahmad (Ferguslie CC) put on 89 for the first wicket. However, 89 for 0 in the 24th over then became 134 all out in the 39th! Guy made a very good 51 (off 72 deliveries) and, although slower, Ahmad's 34 (off 93 deliveries) had provided good support. Matthew Morrison (Ayr CC) made the vital breakthrough, having Guy well caught by Tristan Kiely (East Kilbride CC) at point. This was the first of Morrison's three wickets and with Sinha (two), Shah (two) and Puskar Bhandari (Ayr CC) all striking in quick succession, it was suddenly 112 for 8! Partnerships of 12 runs and 10 runs, for wickets nine and ten, did represent a good effort – but the middle order had left the 'tail' with too much to do. Fittingly, it was man-of-the-match Shah who sealed the win on his home ground – by clean bowling Khan. *Eagles* 134 all out."

Under 14 Challenge Series - cancellation [posted 03/08/15]

The latest planned Challenge Series fixture (between the *Eagles* and the *Sharks*), due to take place on Sunday the 2nd of August, was cancelled due to rain.

July 2015

Under 14 Challenge Series - cancellation [posted 27/07/15]

Tomorrow's re-scheduled Under 14 Challenge Series match between the Foxes and Eagles has been cancelled.

Challenge Series update [posted 22/07/15]

Tim Hart reports, "The Foxes, the Sharks, the coaches, the umpires, the spectators and the hosts (Clydesdale CC) were left frustrated as the weather was the winner in the latest Under 14 Challenge Series fixture. The Foxes were the home team and they had reached 23 for 0 off of 6.2 overs when rain left the square unplayable. Thanks must go to groundsman Cyril McLatchie and umpires (Navid Hussain and Eric Young) for doing everything possible to try and get cricket played."

Challenge Series update [posted 20/07/15]

Tim Hart reports, "There was more disappointment for players involved in the new Under 14 Challenge Series, with the latest fixture being cancelled due to rain. The *Eagles* and the *Sharks* were the unfortunate teams on this occasion. Hopefully the weather will be kinder on Wednesday when the *Foxes* are due to play the *Sharks*."

June 2015

Challenge Series [posted 08/06/15]

Tim Hart writes "Sunday the 7th of June saw the *Sharks* host the *Foxes* in the new west Under 14 *Challenge Series* – with the *Foxes* winning by four wickets. On a sunny afternoon, the *Foxes* lost the toss and *Sharks* skipper Uzzair Shah (Poloc CC) had no hesitation in choosing to bat first. Shah (43) then led from the front, as the *Sharks* were dismissed for 130. Only wicket-keeper Ellen Watson (Prestwick CC) provided any real support, as she made 22. With the ball Ayub Khan (Hillhead CC) finished with 3 for 10, spinners Dilina Loku-Yaddehige (Poloc CC) and Sam Greene (West of Scotland CC) combined to bowl their fourteen overs for just 33 runs – and there was a catch and stumping for Under 12 wicket-keeper David Sturgess (Clydesdale CC). In reply, a second wicket partnership of 42 between Adam Malik (St. Michael's CC) and Tom Forrest (Greenock CC) looked to have set the *Foxes* on their way to a comfortable win. However, 43 for 1 became 52 for 4. With the scoring rate also having slowed, there was suddenly a chance that the *Foxes* would not be bowled out but would also not chase their target. However, 44 not out (off 50 deliveries) from Greene ensured that the *Foxes* reached their target with one over to spare. Puskar Bhandari (Ayr CC) was the pick of the *Sharks* bowling attack with 8-0-16-2 and Tristan

Kiely (East Kilbride CC) picked up a "3-for". The bowling was generally good and asked questions of the batters – although there were too many wide deliveries. The batters will aim to make more of an impression as the *Challenge Series* progresses. Thanks to West of Scotland CC for hosting the fixture and to Navid Hussain for umpiring." Points table online here.

May 2015

Challenge Series - match cancelled [posted 10/05/15]

Today's opening match in the new Under 14 Challenge Series has been cancelled due to the wet weather.