

Match Report

Toulouse CC vs Armagnac-Bigorre CC at Stade Sordelo

6 May 2007

Weather :The a.m. showers failed to materialise, though strong gusts were proving tricky to handle for the advance party erecting the tent. The predicted 21c & sunny spells arrived as predicted later in the afternoon. Clouds - fluffy

Pitch : Virgin Flix on 1 tonne of sand

Toss : ABC won & decided to bat.

ABC Innings

With half the sand removed from the previous weeks nets and a strong bowling line-up expectations were high if TCC could control the short boundaries.

Opening the bowling with pace Christophe 'Madeline' launched himself into his first over which finished with the leg stump flying through the air. Philippe 'cheese & cucumber' matched the pace from the 'city end' and after this pairs opening 8 over spell ABC were on the back foot with just 25 runs on the board. The timely change brought a first ball c&b from Derek 'tuna' and a fine wicket maiden from Tony 'triangle-tuna'. Tight bowling from Jon 'egg & mayo' kept the pressure on and equally tight second spells from 'Madeline' and 'cheese & cucumber' kept the run rate down. Derek's blatant body check to force a run out wasn't really necessary and the batsman was invited back to the crease. As the age of the batsmen coming to the crease reduced so it was left to Ricey and Andy 'orange quarters' to finish off the tail with 'Orange quarters' claiming his first wicket of the season.

Derek 'Tuna' admirable figures of 4 for 6 off 4 overs will have Statto's checking the record books whilst Christophe 'Madeline' 3 for 20 off 8 are also worthy of mention.

Toulouse Innings

TCC's past performances have shown that we like to make a game of achievable targets and today's target of 67 was to be no exception. Opening up Ed 'Shopi quiche' and JT 'cheese & ham' looked a solid start until the LBW decision surprised everyone, specially JT. Fresh from the compliments placed upon him for his efforts for tea Dave 'carrot cake' marched to the crease in some very smart new shoes. Despite a couple of cracking shots he decided to save running in them until another day.

Jeff 'home made quiche' strode out confidently before striding in not quite so confidently minutes later to the best ball of the day – surely. Andy 'orange quarters', and Tony 'tuna' played cameo roles as Ed controlled the match almost single-handedly - though if one of the three dropped catches had been taken it may have been a different story.

In the end, other than Ed (48) and our old favourite 'extras' there were a pathetic 8 runs added from 7 batsman .

Nevertheless, the day was a success, with our first home game, a victory and encouraging support. Many thanks to ABC for their kind contribution of Champers to help us inaugurate our ground. Also to all the players not playing on the day who showed up, partners and family, some very early, to help make the day a success. The après match de-brief at La Scala was well attended helped in no small part by Paul's generous offer to put on some free beer.

Result:

Armagnac 66 all out in 31.5 overs.

Blackham 4-6; Srikanth 3-20.

Toulouse: 67-6 off 16.1 overs.

Riley 48 n.o.; Green 2-6.

Toulouse (26 points) win. Armagnac 2 bowling points.