

The Eifion Jones Single Wicket Competition at Preveessin on Sunday, June 23rd, 2013

Seventeen players participated in the knock-out competition on what was, for once, a day when temperatures were lower than in previous years. In each game, 2 overs are bowled by each player and each time a player is out he loses 6 runs. Players under 18, and those over 50, benefit from one extra run per year of age difference up to a maximum of 10 runs. After one preliminary tie, the first round proper saw some interesting pairings, with Muzaffar against D'Mello (who won by 8 runs), brothers Saud against Dawood Ahmed (who won by 1 run to go through to meet his father, Imtiaz, in the second round). The youngest player, 10-year old Irsalan Ahmed, tied with Siddhanta on 1 run (each being out twice), the latter graciously conceding the match.

In the second round one of the favourites, D'Mello was unexpectedly eliminated by new boy Tahir (22 runs against 8) and an exciting game between last year's winner Chaudhuri and another new player, Waqar Ahmed, saw Chaudhuri progressing, scoring 28 versus 20 runs, with both hitting big sixes. There was another surprise result in the second round when Dawood Ahmed beat his father, Imtiaz, by 11 runs. Dawood hit two big straight sixes batting first and then a run-out and a brilliant caught and bowled proved to be crucial when Imtiaz was on course to win, needing only 3 off the last over. This round also saw the oldest play the youngest, with Onions against Irsalan Ahmed. Onions waived his 10-run bonus and Irsalan made 16 with his 8 runs bonus to set an interesting target which Onions reached on the last ball, needing a single.

In the semi-final Tahir comprehensively won against Onions, scoring 31 runs against -2 and Chaudhuri won a much closer game (winning by 5 runs) against Dawood Ahmed.

The final ended up a one-sided affair, Tahir being out 3 times and setting Chaudhuri a low target of 4 to win in 3 overs, which he achieved comfortably with a score of 20.

Congratulations to Sayan on deservedly winning the competition for the second consecutive year.

Many thanks are due to Colin Carter who umpired most of the day, to Shahzad Muzaffar who organised the BBQ after the game, and to the ladies who prepared the food (Mrs. Uzma Muzaffar, Tina Osborne and Margaret Onions) and the ladies who helped with the cooking and clearing up. It was an excellent end to a great day's cricket.