

The Eifion Jones Single Wicket Competition at Preveissin on Sunday, August 30th, 2015

Once again the Single Wicket competition was held on a glorious day, with temperatures in the low 30s. The competition didn't go as smoothly as in previous years. Fourteen players had signed up but at the last minute one had to work a shift. Three players did not turn up at the allotted time and the captain, after trying to contact them on the phone, went searching for them to no avail. Rather than cancel the competition we decided to try with 10 players, fortunately we had an umpire, Colin Carter, and an extra fielder, Steve Hancock. Halfway through the first match, the three players arrived, one and a half hours late, so after a quick re-arrangement of the batting order the competition was completed with 13 players.

The draw was kind to the Ahmed family, with Imtiaz, Saud and Irsalan getting byes into the next round. Two of the players who were among the favourites to win were drawn against each other, Azmat Tanvir (31) beating one of the favourites Waqar Ahmed (11). Former winner Dave Allen (-8) surprisingly lost to Sean Renard (7), having been out 3 times. Chris Onions (8) beat Muhammed Waqas (0) with the help of his bonus runs.

In round 2 Danish Nawaz (14) was narrowly beaten by Azmat (17), Imtiaz (23) beat Sean (1), Chris (12) beat young Irsalan (-15) and the big match between the Ahmed brothers saw Dawood come out on top with 19 to Saud's 8, who was out one more time than Dawood.

In the first semi-final Azmat batted first, scoring 28 with 4 sixes but was out once. Imtiaz scored 22 in the first over and then 10 off the first 3 balls of the second, just needing to block the last 3 balls to win by 6 runs. In the other semi-final Chris batted first and scored 21 with his bonus runs. Dawood only managed 3 in the first over and was out twice in the second, ending up with a score of 10.

The final was therefore a repeat of the 2010 final, with the same result, Imtiaz batting first making 40, despite being out once and Chris only making 12, having got out 3 times.

Congratulations Imtiaz on a record 5 wins in the competition!

Many thanks to Colin Carter for umpiring all day and to Steve Hancock for fielding.