

Devon County Seniors CC -60s 2nd XI report 2024

It was another challenging but enjoyable season in probably the strongest 2nd XI division in the country, ultimately there are three sides that dominate who are incredibly difficult to beat, however, despite losing 2 games to the weather against the weaker sides, we managed a couple of wins and finished in 5th position in the South West division, and thus qualifying for the Bowl competition. This took us on our travels to Shropshire, Middlesex, and Cheshire where we were drawn to play another away game in our semi-final at Neston CC, on the cusp of the river Mersey, unfortunately losing out to a one man hundred.

Martin Goff was the leading run scorer with 422 runs at an average of 46.9 making valuable contributions at the top of the order. Rob Lambert was our leading wicket taker with 13 wickets at an average of 18.23 and regularly took out batsmen from the top order, Keith Brown with his one step tweakers also took 12 wickets.

There was only one three figure score in the season, from the skipper, to which I did get particular enjoyment from making that hundred at Wiltshire away (the first for some time!) especially as we did not take a wicket all day when fielding, it certainly made the long drive back home worthwhile.

We did play at some fantastic grounds this year and that is one of the great incentives & benefits for people to play Seniors cricket, certainly playing at the College ground Cheltenham was something that I could never imagined would happen and contributed to a great occasion, despite the result.

All players were asked to vote for their "Player of the Season" and there were three contenders: -

Martin Goff - for his batting at the top of the order and a number of important run outs.

Rob Lambert - for his consistent bowling performances and dismissing top three batsman.

Skipper - for his century against Wiltshire and contributions in the middle order.

But my player of the year is **Martin Goff**.

This is definitely my last season as the 60s captain as I move into the 70s (body permitting) and I am pleased that Martin Goff has been appointed as my successor, I wish him and the team all the success in 2025.

Thanks go to Ian Western for umpiring most of the season, and to Dave Gambie & Alex Pickersgill who stood in, Ian who is stepping back next year after 11 years deserves a special thanks for his dedication and friendship. Thanks also to Gazza for scoring who as always was an ever present of the team.

Roger thanks for your weekly calls, the laughs, and the clearing of the despair we find ourselves in sometimes, and finally to all the players who played for me, a special thank you for your commitment, loyalty and camaraderie, and I hope you have all enjoyed the cricket as much as I did.

Neil

RESULTS

21/5/24 – Torquay CC - Wales won by 120 runs

Wales 272-3, **DEVON 152-9** (Goff 38).

4/6/24 – Melksham CC – Wiltshire won by 35 runs

Wiltshire 248-0, **DEVON 213-6** (Matthews 114).

11/6/24 – Whimble CC – Somerset won by 8 wkts

DEVON 154-8, Somerset 158-2.

18/6/24 – Shobrooke Park CC – Gloucestershire won by 106 runs

Gloucs 247-8 (Brown 4-51) **DEVON 141-8** (Brown 45*).

25/6/24 – Abergavenny CC – Wales won by 26 runs

Wales 226-4, **DEVON 200-6** (Goff 74, Matthews 32)

2/7/24 – Newquay CC – Devon won by 26 runs.

DEVON 200-7 (Goff 63), Cornwall 174-9 (Lambert 4-18).

23/7/24 – Cheltenham College – Gloucestershire won by 63 runs.

Gloucs 245-6, **DEVON 179 AO** (Jack 39, Goff 35).

NATIONAL VASE

30/7/24 – Yelverton CC – Devon won by 66 runs

DEVON 174-8 (Goff 86) Cornwall 108 AO (Lambert 3-13).

6/8/24 – St Georges CC, Telford – Devon won by 8 wkts

Shropshire 153-9 (Brown 3-35) **DEVON 155-2** (Goff 78, Rose 36).

20/8/24 – Southgate CC, Middlesex – Middlesex won by 9 wkts.

DEVON 179-6 (Jones 42* Matthews 33, Harris 33), Middlesex 180-1.

3/9/24 – SEMI-FINAL Neston CC, Wirral – Cheshire won by 7 wkts

DEVON 167-7 (Jones 47, Harris 47) Cheshire 169-3

FRIENDLY XI

9/6/24 – Harberton CC – Devon won by 14 runs.

DEVON 222-5 (Botton 44, D.Turner 52, Matthews 35*) Harberton 208 AO.



Standing : I.Western (Umpire), D.Turner, G.Jones, K.Brown, N.Pritchard, K.Evers, R.Lambert, J.Moretta, P.Gascoigne (Scorer).

Front Sitting: S.Harris, N.Matthews (captain) R.Jack, M.Goff.