

Devon Over 50s IIs Season 2019

Our season was a long one with 14 games - starting on April 19th with a win over Devon Ladies, and finishing with a somewhat anti-climatic Plate Final on September 5th against a strong Middlesex side.

Reaching the Plate Final at all was of course some achievement for us. Having won four out of ten League matches (which is about par for the course for us over the years) we had Hertfordshire at home in the ¼ final – a thrilling game which was finished in almost pitch-black Monsoon-like conditions as Marty Causey and Nick Rogers saw us home as the heavens opened, with barely a ball to spare. Earlier Neal Peach had taken 2 for 14 off nine overs to restrict Herts to 155. Neal was almost unplayable.

Our home Semi-Final against Surrey did not get off to the best of starts – the Surrey team arrived at Bradninch at 10am thinking it was a 12 o'clock start. Most of the Devon team, thinking it was a 1pm start, got lost in the village and arrived late anyway, with only four players at the ground by the time we tossed up, and only six were there by 1pm. Luckily we won the toss, and batted first, eventually winning by 81 runs.

Our League programme was, as it is most years, a bit hit and miss. Two excellent wins over Hampshire, and two nail-biting matches against Wiltshire were the highlights. At home Wilts scored 309 off their 45 overs, and we were up with the run rate from the go, falling just short at 303 for 8. The return fixture was just as tense - Wilts making 246 for 7, and Devon just getting over the line thanks to a maiden Seniors hundred from Nick Rogers. Seriously Nick – it's about time – how many games have you played already?!?

There were quite a few notable individual performances this year – three centurions – the afore mentioned Nick Rogers' 101* against Wilts, James Ford also scored his maiden ton for us, against Somerset on his home ground, and Ian Hayter hit 105 against Surrey.

Ian also hit three half centuries, as did Jeff Heath, and Nick Rogers, Mark Andrews and Adrian Pullin all hit two.

Of the bowlers, Tim Cooke was once again the leading wicket-taker with 14 at 23 apiece. But Keith Wakeham took his 11 wickets at just 9.91, and was the only bowler to get a 5-fer with a best of 5-21 against Surrey. Keith took a wicket every 19 balls. Both Joel Murphy and James Ford took 4 wickets in an innings, and Neal Peach was the only bowler to concede less than 3 runs per over.

In total we used 35 different players from 21 clubs from all over the county, and ten new players made their debut.

In spite of this large player base, at times we relied heavily on the Over 60s to help us get out a team. Nick Rogers in particular enjoyed himself playing with us youngsters, scoring 266 runs at 88.

There were many champagne moments this year, too many to mention them all here... Johnny Wells-West racing round the boundary as if his life depended on it; Nick Rogers hitting a 6 to win the match against Wilts and to bring up his century; comprehensively beating Surrey when most of our team turned up late; the Mitchell brothers putting on a hundred against Hampshire; trying to find the umpire at Ivybridge when he was in the changing room all the time ..it was in many ways a memorable season.

My thanks to all the players who played for us; to the scorers Jolyon Huxtable and John Weeks, to the umpires – particularly Roger Tolchard - and Tim Chapman, who did most of our games.

The award for Number One Fan is shared between Tom Cooper's dad – and Rob Lambert's dog Jasper. Your support was much appreciated!

The five clubs that hosted us this year – Bradninch, Bideford, Kilmington, Ivybridge and Whimble – all looked after us really well – we really appreciate all the work they do for us.

My thanks also to the Committee and particularly to Dave our Chair whose tireless work on our behalf will be sorely missed.

Players' Player: Ian Hayter

Season Summary:

Ivybridge CC: Devon 187-6 (Adrian Pullin 50, Marty Causey 31), Cornwall 190-6 (Adrian Pullin 2-28, Graham Munday 2-35). Cornwall bt Devon by 4 wickets

North Curry CC: Somerset 119 (Adrian Pullin 3-15, Rob Lambert 3-16, Tim Cooke 2-10, Marten Stanbury 2-26), Devon 122-3 (Nick Rogers 57no, James Ford 31) Devon bt Somerset by 7 wickets

Whimble CC: Devon 238-8 (Mark Andrews 79, Ian Hayter 54), Hants 163 (Tim Cooke 3-21, Joel Murphy 2-34) Devon bt Hants by 75 runs

Shillingstone CC: Devon 182 (Jeff Heath 85), Dorset 185-3. Dorset bt Devon by 7 wickets

Bideford CC: Devon 193-6 (James Ford 101, Mike Lang 39), Somerset 195-6 (Joel Murphy 4-45, Tim Cooke 2-29)

Paultons CC: Devon 203-6 (James Ford 83, Ian Hayter 54), Hants 140-8 (Tim Cooke 3-21, Keith Wakeham 3-21, Rob Lambert 2-26) Devon bt Hants by 63 runs

Bradninch CC: Wilts 309-6 (Rob Lambert 2-41), Devon 303-8 (Tom Cooper 77, Ian Hayter 65, Mark Andrews 55) Wilts bt Devon by 6 runs

Kilmington CC: Devon 212-7 (Adrian Pullin 60no, Tom Cooper 43, Ian Hayter 39), Dorset 217-3 (Adrian Pullin 2-41) Dorset bt Devon by 7 wickets

Penzance CC: Cornwall 237-6 (Marten Stanbury 2-44, John Baglivi 2-47), Devon 155 (Jeff Heath 51) Cornwall bt Devon by 82 runs

Potterne CC: Wilts 246-7 (Alan Boon 2-33, Keith Bell 2-37), Devon 252-7 (Nick Rogers 101no, Jeff Heath 68) Devon bt Wilts by 3 wickets

Plate Quarter Final Whimble CC: Herts 155-9 (Neal Peach 2-14, Tim Cooke 2-43), Devon 158-6 (Nick Rogers 54no, Marty Causey 34no) Devon bt Herts by 4 wickets

Plate Semi Final Bradninch CC: Devon 242-7 (Ian Hayter 105, Martin Goff 42no), Surrey 161 (Keith Wakeham 5-21, James Ford 4-34). Devon bt Surrey by 81 runs

Plate Final Trowbridge CC: Middlesex 217-9 (James Ford 2-23, Marten Stanbury 2-25, Joel Murphy 2-28, Keith Wakeham 2-45), Devon 80 (Joel Murphy 40) Middlesex bt Devon by 137 runs

BATTING

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave	100	50	C/S
Ian Hayter	13	12	2	366	105	36.66	1	3	6/7
James Ford	8	8	0	281	101	35.13	0	2	4/0
Nick Rogers	6	6	3	266	101	88.67	1	2	1/0
Jeff Heath	5	5	0	235	85	47.00	0	3	2/0
Mark Andrews	6	6	0	197	79	37.50	0	1	0/0
Tom Cooper	5	5	0	162	77	32.40	0	1	1/0
Adrian Pullin	9	7	2	145	60*	29.00	0	1	4/0
Marty Causey	5	5	1	112	35*	28.00	0	0	0

BOWLING

	O	M	R	Wkts	BB	Ave	5wkts
Tim Cooke	70.3	5	324	14	3/21	23.14	0
Keith Wakeham	35	3	109	11	5/21	9.91	1
James Ford	41.2	7	247	8	4/34	30.88	0
Joel Murphy	36	2	182	8	4/45	22.75	0
Adrian Pullin	46.1	1	231	8	3/15	28.88	0
Marten Stanbury	48.3	7	247	8	2/22	30.88	0
Rob Lambert	57	4	261	8	3/16	32.63	0



Over 50s 2s v Middlesex, Plate Final at Trowbridge CC, Sept 5th 2019

Back l ro r: Nigel Ashplant (12th man), Martin Goff, Marty Causey, Keith Wakeham, Joel Murphy, Tim Cooke, Marten Stanbury, James Ford, Jolyon Huxtable (scorer)

Front l to r: Adrian Pullin, Nick Rogers, Ian Hayter *+, Neal Peach