

Monday 2nd May 2011

Essex U16s Matchplay

Springfield 186 all out (39.3 overs)

Shenfield 187 for 8 (40 overs)

Shenfield won by 2 wickets

Shenfield under 16s won a thrilling contest against Springfield off the last ball. Needing 1 to tie and 2 to win off the final ball, Alex Perham-Marchant slotted the ball wide of mid-on and punched the air as he completed a tense win. The game kept a large crowd on the edge of their seats for most of the day as momentum shifted a number of times.

Springfield won the toss and scored at 5 per over, but were reduced to 37 for 2. Norfield, partnering Prudence and then Goldsmith, took the visitors to an ominous 147 for 3. But the loss of Norfield for 57 changed the game. Wickets from Pearce (2 for 19), Barratt (3 for 42) and Austin (2 for 25) left Springfield with a slightly below par score of 186.

In reply Shenfield got off to a flyer with Pearce and Barratt putting on 71. However in the style of England's cricket world cup campaign, Shenfield couldn't make this a straight forward victory. With 10 overs remaining the home side had dipped to 131 for 5. Two further wickets fell quickly and the game looked to be there for Springfield's taking. However, needing 6 off the last over, Meaney and Perham-Marchant remained the only cool people in the ground, scripting a great win.

Springfield were left rueing the loss of 3 wickets off full tosses. Shenfield took away pride in win forged by all eleven players.