

**CRICKET:** Sutton firsts go down to Evesham but turn fortunes around against Olton and West Warwicks

# Batting woes put cricketers in a spin ahead of recovery

## Birmingham Cricket League Division Two

**Sutton Coldfield CC First XI (121) lost to Evesham CC (126-8) by two wickets**

SUTTON Coldfield firsts went down at home to Evesham last Saturday after they could only manage 121 runs with the bat.

Only four batsmen – Sam Irvine (12), Mark Guest (13), Mike Dean (18) and Mike Randall (28) – made it into double figures thanks to impressive bowling from Radford (3-12) and Hutton (3-12).

Sutton did come close to dismissing Evesham, but the visitors managed to stumble over the finishing line with two wickets to spare.

Richard Norgrove (5-43) again led the bowling attack, while Steve Howard, Dean and Naser Ali all took a wicket each.

## Birmingham Cricket League Division Two

**Tamworth CC (126) beat Sutton**

**Coldfield CC First XI (124) by two runs**

THERE was a similar outcome on Bank Holiday Monday as Sutton lost to Tamworth in another low-scoring encounter.

This time Sutton bowled first and managed to dismiss the hosts for a moderate 126 as Richard Norgrove (3-31), Andy Stevenson (3-24), Steve Howard (3-33) and Naser Ali taking wickets.

In reply Sutton were given a good start by Matthew Parker (37), who was supported well by Mike Randall (37).

But this wasn't enough as the remaining batsmen failed to finish the job, leaving Sutton two runs shy of the Tamworth side's total.

## Birmingham Cricket League Division 2A

**Sutton Coldfield CC Second XI (102) lost to Fordhouses CC (104-5) by five wickets**

**SUTTON seconds also suffered**

batting woes as they fell to defeat against Fordhouses. Jon Shanahan (12), Jack Smith (11), Sam Wager (27) and Lee Croucher (16) provided some resistance but Sutton could only reach 102.

Sutton did mount a comeback as Rob Day, Stuart Russell, Stephen Booth, James Ingram and Sam Elgar took wickets, but Fordhouses passed the total just five wickets down.

## Birmingham Cricket League Division 2A

**Olton and West Warwicks CC (173-9) lost to Sutton Coldfield CC Second XI (174-6) by four wickets**

SUTTON seconds put Saturday's defeat behind them to take a deserved win at Olton on Bank Holiday Monday.

Olton posted 173-9 as Sam Elgar (4-12) and James Ingram (2-4) starred with the ball for Sutton.

In reply, Elgar (10), Jon Shanahan (28), Jack Smith (39), Lee Croucher (46), Tom Hurst (16) and Tom Narain (12no) saw Sutton home.

## Birmingham Cricket League Premier Division

**Wolverhampton CC (112-2) beat Walmley CC (108) by eight wickets**

WALMLEY travelled to Wolverhampton on Bank Holiday Monday and endured a day to forget.

Walmley were sent out to bat and stumbled to a below par 108 all out.

In reply, it took Wolverhampton just 25.4 overs to reach the dismal target set by Walmley, thanks to some impressive play at the wicket from Wheeldon (50no).

Mohammed (1-24) and Ahmed (1-27) were the only Walmley bowlers to take wickets.

## Birmingham Cricket League Premier Division

**Walmley CC (65-2) beat Kidderminster Victoria CC (61 all out) by eight wickets**

WALMLEY'S bowling ace Greg Ricketts was the star of the show

as the hosts dominated Victoria.

The visitors were sent to bat and managed a miserable 61 all out thanks to the impressive form of Ricketts, who returned bowling figures of 8-21.

In reply, it took Walmley just 15.5 overs and two wickets to reach the target comfortably, to secure the victory and all 24 points.

Patel (29no) and Booth (21no) eased Walmley home.

## Birmingham Cricket League Division Three

**Fordhouses CC (241-6) beat Aston Unity CC First XI (73) by 168 runs**

ASTON Unity endured a miserable Monday as they suffered their fifth straight defeat.

The Bassetts Pole-based club are rooted to the bottom of the league with just six points.

Fordhouses batted first and declared on 241-6, with Kohli (79) and Riaz (64) the pick of the batsmen.

Stuart MacNaught (3-79) was the chief wicket taker for Unity.

Aston struggled in reply as K Hussain (6-30) ripped through the innings and only Khan (25) reached double figures, with the total of 73 boosted by 28 extras.

## Birmingham Cricket League Division Three

**Whitchurch CC (300-4) beat Aston Unity CC First XI (150) by 150 runs**

UNITY'S bowlers were put to the sword as Whitchurch racked up 300 runs on Saturday.

And Aston's batsmen were always going to struggle to reach that target – bowled out for 150 in reply.

Hasnain (151) and Oliver (103) were the key players as Whitchurch ended their innings on 300-4.

S MacNaught, Butt, M Nicholas and Khan all grabbed a wicket for Aston.

A Nicholas (68no) batted impressively for Unity.

But he found support hard to come by with only Paulo (21) the pick of the other batsmen as Aston fell 150 runs short of the target.

## Swimmers dive in to smash club records



**TWO young Boldmere Swimming Club stars made a splash at the Rotherham Metro Long Course Level One meet last weekend. Philip Hewitt and Joey Stanger travelled to Ponds Forge,**

**Sheffield to compete in the event last Saturday. Stanger recorded a personal best in the 200m freestyle (15/16 age group) while Hewitt set two club records. He finished second in the 13-14years**

**100m butterfly in 1.03.18mins and won the 50m freestyle in 26.17secs. The latter is a qualifying time for the National ASA (Youth) Championships at Sheffield in the last week in July.**

**Pictured above is Boldmere SC's Philip Hewitt who has set two club records and achieved a national qualifying time for Sheffield last weekend. PICTURE BY STEVE HARLOW**

## Changes put Sutton in sight of national game

SUTTON Coldfield RFC might have finished only mid-table in Midlands Two West last season but league restructuring means they have actually been promoted.

The Walmley Road men will begin the 2009/10 season in Midlands One West after the old Midlands One was this week renamed National Three Midlands as part of an RFU reorganisation.

### Rugby News

The change in title follows the introduction of a 12-club championship to replace the 16-team National One division – but in essence Sutton will still be playing at the same level as last year.

However, what it does mean is that Sutton will be only one promotion-winning season away from a return to the national rugby scene.

Aston Old Edwardians will compete in Midlands Two West (North) thanks to the restructuring, Spartans in Midlands Two West (South) and Veseyans in Midlands Three West (North).

## Sport Shorts

### Medal haul for future star

SUTTON Coldfield and Curdworth martial arts club TeamCrazy had an excellent day at the Professional Kickboxing Association National Championships.

The club won an amazing 26 medals in total – ten gold, nine silver and seven bronze.

One young star who excelled at the tournament was ten-year-old Brian Hudson.

The youngster attends the Monday evening Sutton class at the United Reformed

Church in Brassington Avenue.

“Brian won two gold medals and one bronze and is sure to be a star of the future,” said coach Dean Williams.

Another star of the show was Curdworth instructor Anthony Fletcher, who won a gold and silver in the adult divisions.

Anyone who would like to get involved with the club can call Dean on 07973 947792 for class details.

### Chantry cup start date

THE historic Chantry Cup annual competition begins once again next week at Lichfield Cricket Club.

The knockout tournament, played in a Twenty20 format starts on Monday, June 1, and will be held every Monday and Wednesdays through.

The competition finals are scheduled to take place on

June 29 and 30 The knockout contest kicks off with Cannon v Tamworth on Monday and newcomers Longdon v Four Oaks Saints on Wednesday.

All matches start at 6.30pm apart from finals which begin at 6.15pm. Spectators are welcome to attend and the club bar will be open.

### Game worth shouting for

NETBALL players from Sutton are being invited to start up their own teams or simply get involved in the sport again.

Shout Netball is a new project that focuses on getting people into the sport as well as helping former players back into netball.

The group hold training sessions, with the next one being scheduled for Wednesday June 10 at Stockland Green Leisure Centre, from 6.45pm-8pm.

For further information, call Val Clarke on 07709 446960, or Ken Matthews on 07970 069811.

**Got a sports story? Then call the sports team on 01827 848495**