

ICC WCL Division 6 Malaysia 2011

Guernsey v Nigeria

Played at Selangor Turf Club. Kuala Lumpur on 21st Sept 2011

No result

Umpires Imran Haji (Kuwait) and AR Srinivasan (Oman)

Toss won by Nigeria who elected to bat

MATCH

Guernsey Press

'Curse of Selangor's rain denies Guernsey glory' by Gareth Le Prevost

A MASSIVE thunderstorm put paid to Guernsey's hopes of a fourth consecutive win in Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division Six yesterday. The Selangor Turf Club is a lovely setting with the cricket pitch in the middle of the horse racing tracks, but the venue has seemingly been cursed this week with only one of the three matches to have been staged there so far reaching a conclusion and that was by the Duckworth/Lewis method.

Yesterday, 47 overs were possible in Guernsey's clash with Nigeria, the vast majority of those in bright sunshine and very hot conditions. But when the clouds came, they brought with them a severe downpour with spectacular lightning strikes which lasted over an hour and flooded the outfield, making the decision to call the match off an easy one. 'I don't envy the ground staff's job here today,' said Guernsey captain Stuart Le Prevost, himself a GCB groundsman. 'It is a shame to be rained off, but there is nothing you can do about it. They have had horrendous luck here this week, when you think the other two games are still going on.' In the action that was possible, after Nigeria elected to bat the Sarnians got off to a dream start with Lee Savident and Jamie Nussbaumer reducing the opposition to 18 for five, all caught in the slip cordon. The former Hampshire man struck with the second ball of the day, with current Hampshire man Tim Ravenscroft taking a regulation catch at second slip to remove Ademola Onikoya. In his next over Savident dismissed the other opener, Varun Behani, well caught by Le Prevost diving forward and to his right at first slip and the captain provided safe hands at gully in the next over as Nussbaumer got in on the act, Kunle Adegbola getting a leading edge. Le Prevost made it a hat-trick of catches with another good one at first slip as Savident got rid of Shaun Philips, but Ravenscroft arguably bettered all of them with a sharp diving one at second as Ramit Gill nicked Nussbaumer. Nigeria captain Endurance Ofem and Obejide Bejide then did a decent job of

rebuilding the innings with a sixth-wicket stand of 68 as the innings became far more subdued against the spinners. Bejide was particularly impressive and was to finish unbeaten on 87, hitting nine fours and a couple of sixes on a ground with very short boundaries. Ofem went for a patient 28, David Hooper taking a well-judged catch coming in from deep square leg after the Nigerian skipper top-edged a sweep shot off Ravenscroft.



Rain clouds threaten in Kuala Lumpur ICC

Gary Rich returned to trap Seun Odeku leg before, but by then the dark clouds were looming over the back of the huge stand of the race track. Bejide and Lekan Awolowo took the score up to 163 for seven before the first few spots of rain started to fall and soon the players were eating their lunch to the noise of loud thunder claps and heavy rain on the roof of the stand. If Guernsey take anything from the day, though, it should be the need to be ruthless when they have the opposition in the mire. From 18 for five, Nigeria should not have been looking at anything over 120 and Guernsey knew it.