

ICC WCL Division 6 Malaysia 2011

Guernsey v Jersey

played at Kinrara Oval, Kuala Lumpur

on Saturday 17th September 2011

Umpires K Viswanadan (Malaysia) and D Odhiambo (Kenya)

Toss won by Guernsey who elected to bat

Guernsey won by 9 runs

MATCH

'Guernsey ride their luck to defeat Jersey again' by Gareth Le Prevost



Rain was always a threat during the game

ICC

GUERNSEY made the most of their luck to beat Jersey for the second time in a fortnight and get their Pepsi World Cricket League Division Six campaign off to a winning start. The Reds could justifiably feel hard done by to lose the match at the Kinrara Oval on Saturday after a superb opening stand of 131 between Ed Farley and Dean Morrison had seemingly laid the platform for a successful chase of their 252 target, but once Guernsey got their foot in the door, they were not to let it close again. Specifically, it was Stuart Bisson's right foot that forced it ajar. With the Guernsey attack below par for the first 25 overs of the Jersey reply, and looking unlikely to make the breakthrough, Morrison fell to a horrendous piece of bad luck in Bisson's first over. In an attempt to block a crisp straight drive from Farley with his boot, Bisson diverted the ball onto the stumps at the non-striker's end, running out the backing-up Morrison.



Stuart Bisson nearly loses his hat whilst chasing the ball

ICC

On an afternoon when thunderstorms were rumbling all around the ground but fortunately not directly over it, the only rain delay followed just one ball later and when play resumed following the brief shower, Jamie Nussbaumer struck with the first ball of a new spell as Ben Stevens made a grave error of judgement and left a straight one. Suddenly Guernsey were back in the game and when Farley, who had batted excellently for his 64, surprisingly repeated Stevens' mistake in Nussbaumer's next over, albeit to a good ball that nipped back, you could feel the surge of belief spread through the fielding side. Captain Peter Gough and young Corey Bisson eased Jersey jitters for a while with a calmly compiled stand of 36, but when the skipper missed an attempted sweep off Gary Rich and was trapped leg before, Guernsey knew they had removed all the experienced batsmen in the opposition's line-up. By this time, Duckworth/Lewis was playing its part. Even though the match was to last the distance, a little drizzle was falling and the threat of heavier stuff ensured that the ground staff were stationed on their tractors which were already hooked up to the covers. That all added to the drama.



Effort ball from Gary Rich

ICC

Guernsey struck again when Ross Kneller clung onto a well-judged catch above his head at long on to give Jeremy Frith a wicket in the final over of an economical spell, Bisson the departing batsman. The see-saw nature of the match, however, was never more evident than in the next couple of overs. A decent one from Tim Ravenscroft was suddenly spoilt by a marvellous shot from Sam de la Haye, who launched a six over long on off the final ball. Stuart Bisson then claimed a wicket with the first ball of the next, although most the credit must go to wicketkeeper Tom Kimber for a brilliant legside stumping to remove the dangerous Anthony Kay, but then the bowler conceded 19 off the remaining deliveries including two lots of five wides. With four wickets in hand, Jersey needed 31 off 30 balls and were slight favourites. However, Ravenscroft struck in the 46th over, bowling 'Chuggy' Perchard behind his legs as he attempted to sweep and the decisive moment came in the next. De la Haye looked like the man to win the game for his side and he forcefully played the ball down to wide long on off Nussbaumer. His batting partner, Tom Minty,

sprinted the first and as Kneller fumbled slightly in his attempt to gather, he called de la Haye through for a second. That caught his partner a little by surprise and he could not beat Kneller's throw to the far end, where Kimber did the rest. With the recognised batsmen all back in the hutch, Guernsey turned the screw with Kimber stumping Minty in a Ravenscroft wicket maiden before Nussbaumer bowled a fine penultimate over to leave Jersey requiring 10 to win off the last. James Faudemer missed his first attempt at a reverse sweep and was then bowled by Ravenscroft playing the same shot and Guernsey had edged over the line. Earlier, Guernsey's 251 for eight had been built on two excellent half-centuries. It is fair to say Jersey must be sick of the sight of Frith as he followed up his century in the inter-insular with a knock of 80, which, along with his bowling, was to earn him the man of the match award. It was a typically well-paced innings from the all-rounder, taking his time to settle in after the loss of opener GH Smit, before accelerating later on in his 114-ball stay at the crease.



Another man-of-the-match award for Jeremy Frith

Kneller was the other to reach 50 as he showed just why he went in ahead of skipper Stuart Le Prevost on this occasion. He was busy throughout, keeping the scoreboard ticking and rotating the strike before bringing up his half century with the shot of the day – a lofted drive over extra cover for four. He fell two balls later in an attempt to push the score along. There were also useful contributions from the rest of the top seven although, from the base set by Frith and Kneller, who shared in a stand of 97, the final total was perhaps 25 short of what the Greens wanted. It turned out to be enough by just nine.