

ICC WCL Division 6 Malaysia 2011

Malaysia vs Guernsey

at Kinrara Academy Oval, Kuala Lumpur

on Fri 23rd Sept 2011

Umpires Neil Harrison and AR Srinivasa

Malaysia won the toss and elected to bat first.

Guernsey won by 5 wickets

MATCH

Guernsey Press

Kneller and Ferbrache calm nerves after hiccup' by Gareth Le Prevost

A QUALITY performance when it really mattered saw Guernsey promoted from Pepsi World Cricket League Division Six yesterday. Top spot in the group stage was secured as they defeated hosts Malaysia by five wickets with more than four overs to spare at a roasting hot Kinrara Oval. The successful run chase in the sweltering heat saw Ross Kneller and Ben Ferbrache relish the responsibility to take their side over the winning line with an unbroken stand of 48.



Tim Ravenscroft setting off for a run

ICC

Openers GH Smit and Lee Savident had given the reply the ideal start with a partnership of 50 made in good time, with the South African the main contributor with his knock of 28 before being unfortunately caught at slip after an edge ricocheted off the keeper. For once, Jeremy Frith did not trouble the

scorers as fast bowler Hassan Ghulam trapped him leg before for a duck, but Savident (40) and Tim Ravenscroft eased some jitters by taking their side past 100. Savident then fell for a fine 40, leg before sweeping, before two run outs gave the hosts hope. The first saw Ravenscroft and Kneller both at the same end following a huge mix up and just three balls later birthday boy Stuart Le Prevost was very unfortunate to be run out backing up as Kneller's straight drive was touched onto the stumps by bowler Nik Arifin. However, Cobo teammates Kneller and Ferbrache showed great maturity in calmly keeping the score ticking over and the target of 171 was reached with a legside wide that ran to the boundary.

The Sarnians, and man-of-the-match Savident in particular, had earlier made a fine start with the ball after Malaysia won the toss and elected to bat. Savident made the initial breakthrough in the fifth over, bowling left-handed opener Rakesh Madhavan, who is the brother of Raj, Guernsey's local attache while they are in Kuala Lumpur. Just four balls later, Savident had his second scalp as Ahmed Faiz got a nick through to wicketkeeper Tom Kimber, who took a fine catch tumbling to his right – Malaysia were eight for two.



Lee Savident receives his Man-of-the-match award ICC
Shafiq Sharif and skipper Suhan Alagaratnam steadied the ship for a while, but the introduction of Stuart Bisson, who replaced Jamie Nussbaumer, brought

with it immediate rewards as the opener missed a low full toss that hit the base of his stumps. Bisson soon had his second wicket, as Ullah Khan played inside a pitched up delivery that seemed to move late and Malaysia were in trouble at 37 for four.



Stuart Bisson uses his height to gain that extra bounce ICC
But the skipper stood firm and found a useful ally in the burly Eszrafiq Aziz, who looked to be aggressive and hit the ball hard whenever possible. Savident had by then bowled his 10 straight overs, conceding just 26 runs. 'I don't mind bowling through in Guernsey, but that was hard work,' said Savident. 'At the start it swung around a bit, but after a few overs just the odd one went.'
Together, Alagaratnam and Aziz added 45 before off-spinner Gary Rich took revenge for being hit for double figures in one over by trapping the latter leg before as the big man put his front leg too far across the stumps when attempting to sweep. Aminuddin Ramly soon followed, playing on to Frith who then claimed the wickets of Sureah Navaratnam, smartly stumped by Kimber, and Nik Arifin, who drove a return catch straight back to the bowler.

Ravenscroft chipped in by having Hassan Ghulam caught on the deep mid-wicket boundary by Ferbrache to reduce Malaysia to nine down, but left-handed No. 11 Shahrulnizam Yusof offered his skipper good support over the final six overs to add an unbeaten 35 for the last wicket. Alagaratnam batted excellently to finish on 68 not out from 127 balls, including taking 10 off the final two balls of the innings to put his side in with a better chance than they looked like having at one stage. However, it was not enough as Guernsey made it four wins from four completed games.