

## London Erratics v **Beamers**

On a fine, baking August afternoon, Richard Heller lost the toss in a 40 overs encounter, and with an uncharacteristically young side, was asked to field first. To begin with, Richard was a captain spoilt for choice with such a strong seam bowling department, and elected Adam Mellows-Facer and Matthew Rosson to open the Erratics attack. With an intimidatingly claustrophobic ground, Richard had to set good fields to protect the tiny boundaries. Matthew was the first to strike, having one opener well caught at slip by Jim Head. And though Adam was wicketless in his first spell, he was very economical; and by the 10-over mark, the Erratics had made a surprisingly good start, restricting Beamers to roughly 30 for 2.

This brought about a double bowling change, and Tim Green was paired up with Matthew's brother Dan, to apply more pressure. They did so, and Tim's consistent line and length, plus some tight Erratics fielding, brought about another wicket, as Tim comprehensively bowled their No. 3. After some overdue resilience from the Beamers batsmen, Richard turned to George Dabby and Jim for spin. Both bowled tightly, and were brave in tossing the ball up on such a small wicket, but this brought about wickets for both spinners – Tim catching well off George, and Jim catching off his own bowling very first ball (which would most likely have been a wide had no shot been offered)! The scoreboard ticked along as the Beamers batsmen settled, and even an impressive comeback from opening bowler Adam could not stop the Beamers reaching 217 for 9 at the close – a competitive total which at some points would have been hard to predict.

NB: two catches taken by Erratics keeper, Milo Jennings.

After an elongated tea break, spent watching Steve Harmison pick up Mitchell Johnson in the Ashes decider, Richard eventually had to drag his Erratics team back to the ground for a spot of batting. Jim and George were sent to open, but not for long. After pressure was built up by a quick accurate bowler, George and Jim got carried away against his deceptive partner, who lacked pace but not skill: both got out to rash shots – which left Brian Berrigan and Adam to pick up the pieces.

After 10 overs the Erratics were 21 for 2, and as the run rate increased so did the Erratics' aggression. Both Brian and Adam picked up the rate before a sensational catch at mid-off broke the partnership, which meant Brian made way for Tony Poulter. Tony, however, did not last long, becoming the first of many victims of a sharp-turning off-spinner, who would end the match with figures of 5-18 off 7 overs. This slight collapse did not stop Adam from reaching a well-earned half century – only to have his fun ruined by umpire George, as he was adjudged to be lbw to the crafty off-spinner. Young Dan hit a few lusty blows, including a glorious straight six, before he departed for a quick 21, trying to speed up the Erratics innings, which was quickly running out. After others had fallen in quick succession, Richard graciously ran himself out for the last wicket: stranded half-way down, he could have returned to his wicket and faced another ball by the time that the wicket-keeper finally fumbled the ball comically onto the stumps.

GD

### BEAMERS — batting

1	c Head	b Rosson M	?
2		b Rosson M	?
3		b Green T	?
4	c Green T	b Dabby	?
5	c Jennings	b Green T	?
6	c & b	b Head	?
7		b Mellows-Facer	?
8	run out		?
9	c Jennings	b Mellows-Facer	?
10	not out		?
11	not out		?

**217 for 9** in 40 overs

### LONDON ERRATICS — bowling

Mellows-Facer	8	1	21	2
Rosson M	8	0	24	2
Green T	8	1	31	2
Rosson D	3	0	23	0
Dabby	5	0	32	1
Head	5	0	32	1
Berrigan	3	0	16	0

Fall of wickets: ?

### LONDON ERRATICS — batting

Head	caught	6
Dabby	bowled	5
Mellows-Facer	lbw	54
Berrigan	caught	27
Poulter	bowled	0
Rosson D	bowled	21
Jennings	caught	0
Green T	bowled	2
Rosson M	bowled	14
Bush	NOT OUT	2
* Heller	run out	0

**145 all out** in ?? overs

Fall of wickets: ?

ERRATICS LOST BY 72 RUNS