1st Xl 2022 Captains Report

Well, what a season, not quite the way that everyone would have wanted it to go, winning 1 game out of 20 wasn’t exactly the year I would have wanted but hopefully the club will learn from what has gone on and build from the position we find ourselves in a bid to come back stronger. The standard was a big step from the division last year and potentially this was underestimated.

‘Key to the success this season was the strong availability amongst the squad’ was mentioned by my predecessor in the 2021 report and I feel that it is safe to say that this year was the polar opposite. For any team to continue to grow, members will have to make themselves available more otherwise the club unfortunately will not be able to move upwards on the great foundations it currently has.

Notable performances this year, Ronnie Mckenna 103 against Harold Wood, along with 5 fifties showed the quality of player that he is and is going to be. I wish him the best of luck in Australia, if it ever stops raining.

Huzaifa Umer, 502 runs with 4 50’s was an able side kick to Ronnie when we needed it, and his battle thirsty nature was what was needed to set the tone opening the batting. I am sure that he will continue to score plenty of runs in years to come.

Bowling wise, we had 16 wickets from Shaggy and 15 from Dean Etchells. The lower numbers compared to last year does reflect the standard of cricket that we played this year.

Special mention to Billy Corps, came into the side this year for several games and his zest for cricket I think picked a couple of us older gentlemen up. He held his own in a very good standard and took 11 wickets but even better when he got 77 against Upminster, also taking the wicket of the outgoing Essex Wicketkeeper Adam Wheater.

Can I also thank Michelle Mckenna and Bakers for their help with teas that was a massive help. Also, to William for scoring all the games and keeping me in check with all the paperwork that was needed. Thanks to Iain, Potso and the ground staff for all the hard work that they have done to get the ground looking splendid every week.

Thanks to the committee and all the volunteers, without you the club wouldn’t be here, and you should all take pride in the great work that you do.

I personally thank you for the opportunity for the captaincy, I am just disappointed that the season wasn’t more of a positive one, but I hope that there are some green shoots of growth somewhere for the club to move forward.

Thanks

Westers