

## Middleton v Heywood 06/05/12

Monday, 07 May 2012

### Middleton Are 2nd Best In Local Derby

Middleton were totally out played on Sunday at Towncroft by local rivals Heywood.

Skipper Bobby Cross won the toss and elected to bat on an excellent wicket well prepared by groundsman Rob Bennett despite the recent bad weather and Cross and Ross Zelem opened the batting. Middleton got off to a great start when Zaffer Zaman had Cross caught behind by Scott Stanworth for two with the score also on two. Next in was Heywoods Professional Travis Townsend and he and Zelem took the score up to 32 when Dale Highton had Zelem LBW FOR 13. Middleton seemed to be in a decent position but Townsend and Danny Pawson had other ideas as they put together a magnificent stand of 151 in around 90 minutes off only 142 balls to put Heywood firmly back in the driving seat. Pawson finally went for 63 off 64 balls with 7 x 4s and 1 x 6 when he was caught by Mark Buckley off Highton and the score was 183/3 with 16 overs left but Townsend carried on his merry way bringing his 50 up off 49 balls and his hundred off 99 balls before being caught just inside the boundary by Buckley off Danny Core for what was a fantastic knock of 125 with 14 x 4s and 2 x 6s. Whilst Townsend and Pawson were at the crease the total was looking as if it could be around 300. Credit must be given to Middleton as they battled back to bowl Heywood all out for 236 the last 7 wickets falling for just 53 runs. Highton picked up Hunza Naeem LBW for 0 and Heywoods Australian overseas amateur Hamish Paterson ( 1 ) caught by Core and Core himself picked up Dale Latham (9) caught by Grant Jones, Lee Grogan bowled (7) and Joe Lovell and Chris Kaye both LBW for 4 and 1 respectively as he picked up his first five wicket haul of the season to finish with 5/64 and Highton 4/94.

Middleton needed to get off to a good start but it was Heywood who started the better when with the 3rd ball of his first over Naeem bowled Stanworth without scoring. 0/1 soon became 12/3 as Townsend firstly bowled Ste Davey for and 4 balls later bowled Grant Jones (2). George Walker joined Professional Mike Smith and strived to get Middleton back in the game but Chris Kaye struck a massive blow to Middleton when he had Smith caught and bowled for 19 with the score on 45. Nineteen year old Walker and Eighteen year old Matt Lee put on a stand of 31 to take the score up to 76 before Lee was caught by Cross off Paterson for 16 and 2 runs later Paterson had Reece Jones (1) caught behind by Pawson. Walker worked hard for his 35 before he was well run out by Cross with the score on 91. Joe Lovell had Buckley (1) caught by Naeem 5 runs later and despite a stand of 28 by Core and Highton. Middleton were finally bowled out for 125 with Lovell picking up both Highton (17) caught Cross and Core(18) caught Grogan leaving Zaman on 1 not out.

A disappointing result for the Moonrakers and a need to go back to the drawing board but all credit to Heywood.

Next week sees the 2nd team at home to Norden and the 1st travelling to Woodhouse Lane to face last years Champions with both games starting at 1.30.

Sunday sees the 1st team head to Farnworth CC of the Bolton League in the first round of the Lancashire Cup which is a 45 over game and also starts at 1.30.

### Middleton v Heywood Scorecard

#### Heywood

R Cross ct Stanworth b Zaman 2

R Zelem LBW Highton 13

T Townsend ct Buckley b Core 125

D Pawson ct Buckley b Highton 63

D Latham ct G Jones b Core 9

Lee Grogan b Core 7

HU Naeem LBW Highton 0

J Lovell LBW Core 4

H Paterson ct Core b Highton 1

R Slawson not out 5

C Kaye LBW Core 1

Extras 6 Total 236 all out.

Middleton

S Stanworth b Naeem 0

S Davey b Townsend 8

M Smith c & b Kaye 19

G Jones b Townsend 2

G Walker run out 35

M Lee ct Pawson b Paterson 16

R Jones ct Pawson b Paterson 1

D Core ct Grogan b Lovell 18

M Buckley ct Naeem b Lovell 1

D Highton ct Cross b Lovell 17

Z Zaman not out 1

Extras 7 Total 125 all out.