

## IRREGULARS B GRAB FIRST SILVERWARE OF NEW CRICKET SEASON

The start of season 100 ball knock out matches in division 2 of Guernsey's evening cricket leagues culminated in a final at KGV between Edmundson Electrical Irregulars B and Castle Crest Optimists 2.

Winning the toss and batting first, Irregulars were soon in trouble at 18-2, James Ridout doing the early damage for Optimists with the ball. However, the innings was turned on its head by an excellent partnership of 86 between Pete Inniss (38) and Harry Guilbert (55), Guilbert in particular going on the offensive from the off and striking 8 fours and a six in his belligerent knock off 38 balls. But a potential 150+ score was thwarted by some tight end of innings bowling by Optimists, Jeff Fox and James Hudson in particular, with Ridout being the stand out performer taking 4 for 25 from his 20 deliveries, and Irregulars finishing on 132-5 off their 100 balls. A par score it seemed.

Optimists fancied the chase but were soon stalling themselves at 27-3 from 35 deliveries, thanks some tight opening bowling and a wicket each for Paul Robinson, Toby Smale and Charlie Forshaw. Mark Jeffries and Chris Van Vliet began to re-build the innings, taking Optis to 68-3 before a stunning one handed leaping catch by Harry Guilbert deep on the square leg boundary ended a fine Jeffries knock of 31. Applause rang around the ground for what will surely be one of the catches of the season and the Optis chase stuttered thereafter as Toby Smale ended with 3 for 22 and Charlie Forshaw took 4 for 12 off his 18 deliveries. Eventually, Optimists 2 were all out for 97 and Irregulars B won the final by 35 runs.

The Player of the Match award duly went to Charlie Forshaw for his excellent bowling figures and two well judged catches, just pipping Harry Guilbert's excellent batting and extra-ordinary catch. Matt Copeland, the Regs skipper, collected the EL2 100KO Cup from GCB Coach, Lee Forshaw.



