Southampton Master Mariners Cricket Captain's Log - 2010 season



Back Row left to right Jon Bennett (Bag Mstr), Emeka, Keith Edwards, Tony Gill, Ken Warren, Richard Paddock, Nick Salter (Vice Capt), Front Row left to right Raza , David Turner (Capt), Steven Bell, Tushar Naik

2010 squad (not at this match)

Edmund Hughes (Hon Sec), Prasad Panicker, James Foster, Krishnan, Simon Oakley, Ted Banks , Mehmood, Surya, Jinnoy, Yusef, Sudhagar, Prashant, Ali, Shimmi, Sinnoy. Umpires Ian Bagshaw, Peter Starkey President George Gifford

Note: The new short sleeve team sweaters with SMMC crest

Match reports for 2010

Full match reports, team photographs and directions to the different grounds can be found on the Southampton Master Mariners' website: <u>http://www.cachalots.org.uk/Content.aspx</u>

In summary

Our Hon Sec, Edmund Hughes had a bit of a baptism of fire coping admirably with a new home ground and having to organise a season of 17 matches in 3 months so well done there and good luck in your new role at IMO.

Our new hosts at Otterbourne have been excellent and we have adapted to the new ground's logistical requirements, helped by a new team bag with wheels and a much better handle. Thanks go to everyone who has helped with all the different tasks be it scoring, umpiring, taking the kitbag home, and all the other things which have to happen to make things go smoothly.

Our umpires have been the smartly turned out and very professional although a "Tourette's moment" was narrowly averted when, after a mix up regarding the order of retired batsman returning to the crease, I took my guard to an appeal of "Howzat?" from the opposition skipper. Umpire Bagshaw quickly raised his finger and gave me out for taking more than 3 minutes to get to the crease – luckily for me it was a stitch up! ;-)

In all another excellent year playing some of the most enjoyable games of cricket I have ever played. After our inaugural "snatching defeat from the jaws of victory" against Shirley, we seemed to settle into a rhythm of win one loose one for a while and then finished off the season with 4 straight wins in a row. I am sure our opposition are now putting out stronger teams, which is a real compliment; however, it was not the results that made it special for me but the way in which we really pulled together to make things happen. In particular, I shall always remember our two openers Raza & Emeka getting centuries at Swanmore and then the whole team "grafting out" the opposition with the most attacking field I have ever seen, to win off the last ball!

If I could sum up our performance this year it would be to say that I think we have given our best, played to win, sometimes lost our concentration, always shown support for each other, especially in the field, but most of all we have enjoyed ourselves.

My two year term as skipper has been an absolute pleasure and it has, and continues to be, a privilege to be a part of a team which is now "prepared for all things".

David Turner