

United Services II –v- Steep 1st XI

This week Steep travelled to United Services to find a track that was green but dry. Steep lost the toss and were asked to field.

The United Services openers pounced on any bad ball and put on 103 for the first wicket and at the 15 over mark Steep seemed to be staring down the barrel of a score of over 300. This was until Mercer came on to bowl together with Jon Noble who reduced the scoring rate and Mercer picked up both openers in quick succession.

With some lusty blows at the back end of the innings United Services finished on 233- 5 from their 45 overs.

Steep set about the task of scoring what was thought to be, a just about par score and looked to be doing well at 30 for 0 from 6 overs when the unlucky Dean Knight pick out the fielder at square leg. The middle order came and went quickly but the other opener Dale Collins didn't let this affect his batting as he continued to score runs at will. Collins gained some support from the lower order and recorded his maiden league hundred by clipping a ball off his legs for a boundary. This was a chanceless hundred that really shows what Collins is capable of.

Collins fell for 118 trying to score the extra runs that could have won the game, Steep fell 30 runs short of the target and will need to bring their batting heads to the crunch game next week that sees them take on Bransgore.