

Steep 1XI got their season back on track with a return to winning ways this weekend against a spirited Holybourne team.

After two weeks off due to the great British summer Steep's Skipper John Smith, won the toss for only the second time this season and inserted the opposition on a wet but drying wicket.

Steep bowled steadily in the opening exchanges and new boy Mike Murry had Parker clean bowled for 13. Murry bowled with real pace on a slow wicket and got his reward with two further wickets.

In the middle overs Curtis, Mercer and Collins tied up the Holybourne batsmen along with some excellent ground fielding and catching that we have come to expect of young Joe Hughes-Stanton.

Wickets fell at regular intervals with 3 wickets each for Murry, Curtis and Mercer. Holybourne ended their innings on 107 all out in the 37<sup>th</sup> over.

Steep's run chase started like many others this season with the opening partnership of Knight and Collins scoring well. With the score on 48 the first wicket fell with Collins trying to pull a Yorker. Mike Preston came and went trying to play the same Yorker through mid-wicket. However, Sean Noble steadied the ship with a fine display of patience.

Then the first of three questionable LBW Calls when Knight was given out when he was looking to kick on, for a well made 27.

Noble and Hughes-Stanton held firm through a great spell of bowling from young Taylor. Steep then did what they have done so well for many years and tried their best to snatch defeat from the hands of victory with 6 wickets falling in quick time. Lewis got a ball from the very promising Taylor that spun and bounced out of the rough that wouldn't have been payable with three bats.

It was left to veteran Steve Curtis, who had see this all before, and debutant Mike Murry to score the final 2 runs to secure the win.

Next week Steep entertain South Wilts at the Field of Dreams with the forecast looking good for a dry wicket.