

January 13th 2018 – Results

Division 2

Braintree Reserves 146-4 bt Rayne 134-4 by 12 runs (11-4)

Braintree's Reserves made it 4 wins from 4 and retained their place at the top of Division 2 with a hard-fought victory over Rayne.

It didn't start well as Robbie Spalding fell off of the fist ball of the match but Ben Golds (41*), making a rare appearance these days, ably supported by Jerry Hollingsworth (23) and Dean Bass (27*) lifted the league leaders to a very defendable 146-4.

No early losses for Rayne as openers Shane Watt and Richard Banks cruised to retirement and at the halfway stage Rayne were well in the race at 68-0. However, retirements can sometimes change momentum, and this proved to be the case as wickets began to fall and the run rate slow as Braintree took a hold of the match. A miserly 9th over sent down by Geoff Eveling (1-23) saw just 3 runs and the wicket of the in-form Paul Brazier followed by 3 runs out as good as won the game although resistance was offered by the returning openers who made 30* and 35* respectively. 11 points gained and a gap of 11 points at the top of the table achieved.

Division 3

High Easter 194-3 bt Sampfords 141ao by 53 runs (15-0)

All 4 games were won by the teams batting first this week and High Easter set the high score with an impressive 194-4, just 7 runs short of equalling the Division 3 record. 54 Extras top scored but with the bat Matt Cook (Career Best 41*), Henry Brisland (28*), Alan Mann (25*), and a 4 scoring shot 24 from Ryan Cheverall piled on the pain for Sampfords. Only Stuart Hills missed the boat as he was the second golden duck victim of the day.

Sampfords knew they had a tough chase but all credit to them, rather than dropping anchor and having a net, they am out all guns blazing with Greg banks hitting the first 3 deliveries of the innings to the back wall for 6 and then Jeremy Martin hit a 4 and two 6's from the first 3 balls of the second over to give them 40-0 from 10 balls and a dream start. However, as always when chasing high targets, its imperative to keep wickets intact and the final ball of that 2nd over saw Martin fall to Alan Mann. Sampfords never really regained the impetus and losing both James Smith and Jacob Stephenson to run outs just short of retirement on 21, really put an end to their challenge. Greg Banks returned to make 33.

High Easter jumped to 2nd place on the back of this 15-0 victory pushing Sampfords down to 3rd in the process

Rayne Res 153-5 bt Woodham Mortimer Res 141-4 by 12 runs (11-4)

Woodham Mortimer Reserves remain at the summit of Division 3 despite losing their unbeaten league record to Rayne Reserves. A career best 52 from Duncan Fielding and 32 from BDICL veteran, Richard Whiteside guided Rayne to 153-5 with Ollie Glasson the picked of the Woodham bowlers taking 2-36. Carrying on the theme of golden ducks Jack Preston went to the 3rd ball of the Woodham reply and then later James Mickley went 1 better as he was run out without facing, not the ideal foundation for a successful run chase. However, not to be out done for the top score of the day, Gavin Cook also hit a career best with 53* as he and Steve Collis (32*) did their utmost to reach

the winning line – it was to be in vein though as they came up 11 runs shy having needed 28 from the final over

Uni of Essex 152-2 bt Boreham 120-2 by 32 runs (13-2)

A 1st win of the season for the Uni saw them break into positive points for the season but they still remain rooted to the bottom of the table, 29 points from safety.

Hodgson, Preston and Hall all reached retirement for the Unit with Pratin coming up 1 short as they set 152-2 for Boreham to chase.

Trevor Money and Ken Greenaway gave Boreham a solid start as they both reached retirement, but it was slow progress as they struggled to negotiate some tight bowling. Having reached 90-0 from 8 overs there was still hope with 6 wickets in hand, but it proved too much as the innings fell away to 120-2