

2009 Biddestone CC Me and Dad Tour

2009 saw the first Me and Dad tour by Biddestone CC, this tour was aimed at those who had just finished the stresses of Exams and had a dad who wanted to play some cricket and enjoy a pint or two with their sons/grandsons!!

We left Biddestone in a minibus and Andy driving his car, despite all efforts he did manage to keep up with the fully loaded bus all the way to Salisbury and eventually to the Hotel!

A brief stop at Tesco's Salisbury for the older members to keep bladders in shape and the younger ones to get Red Bull and Lager! also for PK to throw a cup of coffee down one of only two t-shirts he brought with him! It did not stop us arriving on time for our ferry to the Isle of Wight from Southampton docks, the fines soon kicked in when all the boys were told off for playing one hand one bounce in the passenger entry/exit walkway!

Once on board and travelling the first pint of the day was consumed, it's always five a clock somewhere you know!

Once booked in at the Hotel and unpacked it was not long before headed for our first game at Cowes Centurions, this was to be a 20/20 game with Biddestone playing in Full Coloured gear including pads and using Pink balls, Biddestone won the toss and elected to field, this also helped the opposition who were still a couple short, some excellent bowling by all the bowlers used and some outstanding wicket keeping from Kris Boulton, (no byes and a sharp stumping) saw Cowes end on 102 for 7, C Lawton the pick of the bowlers with 2 for 10. Our openers soon got the board going and we were never behind the rate winning in the 16 over by 6 wickets, some interesting Dilshans and reverse sweeps saw a couple of wickets fall and Rhys retire at 30.

Tuesday morning saw more blue sky and warm sunshine and after breakfast all headed off to the beach for the Dad v Lads beach football match, this was at the request mostly of Tim Knight as he wanted to see John running in the sand again as per the famous Swansea incident a few years ago!!!

The game refereed by the experienced Officials Andy Walden and Brian Boulton saw the Dads play the young ones off the Beach, some outstanding goal keeping from Andy Cat Short and two wonder goals from Kris Crouch Boulton and a 75 yd strike from John Lorimer Lawton (this was really 25yds but folklore has kicked in already) saw the Dads into an early lead, a couple of lucky breaks and some indifferent refereeing saw the lads manage to take the game to penalties, two world class stops from The Cat saw the Dads win easily! A winning Cider for the Dads and a losing Ice Cream to the lads! After a light lunch we set off for Northwood CC for our next game, on arrival at the ground a couple of our lads soon got friendly with the locals!! Skipper Phil K won the toss and batted, the pressure of the Duck hat was again apparent! The batsmen were happily scoring runs until the introduction of the Northwood CC female player into the bowling attack, suddenly the idea of not getting out to a girl was more of a priority than trying to score runs, non striker Tim K was heard appealing for LBW against Andy Lawton at one point! We ended on a very Respectable 264 for 8 off 40 overs with Carrot 48, Sausage 80, Waldo 40, Sawyer 26no and JCB smashing our biggest 6 of the day in a brief 18. Another highlight of the innings was John L's first ball duck and Rhys's first of two first ball ducks on tour!

The Northwood batsmen soon got into their stride and set off after our score with some speed, only Rhys's bowling of one of the openers helping calm the situation, it did not seem to matter who bowled or who was batting the ball disappeared on a regular basis over the hedges and roads around the ground, ask Chris Lawton about his loosener which was never recovered it went so far!!

Some astute bowling from the Captain although he didn't get much help from one particular Umpire saw the score ticking but not out of control, the return of Josh and some excellent tail mopping by Jack Roberts saw BCC win by 34 runs, PK 1 for 31, Josh 3 for 5, Rhys 2 for 27, Sawyer 2 for 33, Jack 1 for 4. John L's day eventually brightening up with a fine stumping and only 4 byes. With the fines over, the Lawton's winning the darts challenge and Tim K failing to get her number we set off back for a team meal on the seafront at Ryde; all had Fish and Chips except for the Dyson who had a Chinese meal for one!!

With the return of Phil Roberts from his day trip to London to see the Queen! We all set off for the Golf course after breakfast for the Tour Golf Challenge Cup We did call in at the new IOW county ground to have a look and were very impressed a few of us looking to prolong careers to have a chance to play there! 4 four balls and a man wondering around trying to get bets on the winner set off around the challenging Browns Pitch and Putt course, an early lost ball off the first actually costing the tour manager the title got us underway, the third tee was an interesting hole and the only place you will see Tiger on this course!

The sun shone again and the players all negotiated their way round the course with many a laugh and plenty of banter and some pretty good golf!

After checking the cards the result was confirmed with Rhys winning by 2 from Kris and Andy W, Chris Short also won the competitive last place award of an IOW golf ball!

A walk up into Sandown to visit a watering hole or two before the final game of the week saw us come across the best pint of the week! Also it seemed to be the best place for a quick nap!!

Once all returned to the bus we set off for Cricket Brading for our final match, the game saw Andy skipper and also saw the debut for Biddestone of Phil Roberts, BCC batted and Josh B and Andy opened putting on 49 for the first wicket before the skipper tried to hit one in front of square and was bowled! Sawyer and Josh took the score along at quite a rate with Sawyer trying to take all the bowlers on! Bradings 1st XI opening bowler going for 50 off just 3 over's!! Phil did get to the crease but his debut proved to be a short innings as he muddled one to a fielder! The innings finished in very odd circumstances with Tim and Rhys both going to First ballers, this was Rhys second in a row, he would make it 3 in the league game on the Saturday! BCC finished on 185ao, Brading started their innings breezily and the scoreboard was always moving, a couple of crucial wickets just kept the rate quite high, some excellent bowling from Jack, Liam and Rhys keeping it tight in the middle over's left just to many to get off the last few over's, Brading Batsmen Hailes finishing on an excellent 70no. Phil had quite a game pulling up with a hamstring injury when fielding. BCC winning by 3 runs.

A few beers and final fines were done after the game and off back to Ryde for our final night, some turning in early and some managing to have a few until chucked out of the local pub.

We departed the Hotel the following morning, all with 100% deposits back and some small winnings from the local bookies in our pockets, an earlier ferry was got at Cowes and we wound our way back to Biddestone, we all enjoyed our little tour to IOW, where the sun always shone and the cricket was competitive and the locals friendly, those with Facebook will have seen the photos.

Thanks to all who helped over the week with driving and captaining, all the lads for the great attitude and behavior, and also to Asad at AS Sports for sponsoring the match balls on the tour, please see him for all your cricket needs.

Cowes Centurions 102-7 Bidd CC 104-4
Bidd CC 264-8, Northwood 230ao
Bidd CC 185ao, Cricket Brading 183-5.

To finish some Tour Awards

Pint of the week; Hobgoblin at Sandown
Pub of the week; Weatherspoons Ryde £1.29 a pint!!!
Always Hungary award, Rhys Dyson Merriman
Food of the week; Chip shop at the bottom of the hill Ryde!
Laugh of the week; JCL 0 at Northwood CC
Umpire of the week; A Short!
Shy in front of Girls award; Tim Knight
Worst Darts Player award; Brian and Kris
Worst Golfer, Chris Short
Most clips of the curb award; JCL.
Not enough money award; M Sawyer
Most Wickets; Rhys just from Jack
Most Runs; M Sawyer
Most Catches; Josh, Carrot, Chris L.
Injury on Debut award; Phil Roberts
Chucked out of Pub Award; Joint winners, Liam and Martin!
Ball of the week not to get a wicket; Phil Knight
Nap of the week; Brian
Folklore moment; 75yd Shot to score by JCL.

Thanks again and looking forward to another tour soon!!!

Kris