

East Anglian Premier League - Match No 5 - Saturday May 19th 2018 - All Day

Horsford	307 - 4	(30 pts)
Sudbury	132 - 10	(2 pts)

Sudbury's unbeaten start to the East Anglian Premier League season was ended in emphatic style as a poor all round display saw them thrashed by 169 runs at home to last season's basement club Horsford.

Upon winning the toss, Horsford had little hesitation in batting first on a used and tired looking surface which was only going to deteriorate as the game progressed. Chad Bowes (41) got the innings going with a flurry of boundaries but was stopped in his tracks when he top edged a Billy Moulton-Day delivery and was well caught by Adam Mansfield. Luke Findlay anchored the innings with a patient 77 from 156 balls before he was caught on the boundary off Tom Huggins. Will Rogers played aggressively during his innings of 50, managing to complete his half century before holing out on the boundary, again off the bowling of Huggins. Stephen Marillier was removed by Dustin Melton for a quick-fire 13, to leave the innings evenly poised at 191-4 with 14 overs remaining. Unfortunately for the hosts, that was as good as it got, as both Callum Metcalf and Ryan Findlay lay waste to the Sudbury attack in the closing overs. Huggins shuffled his pack of bowlers but to no avail, the Horsford pair adding 116 unbeaten runs in just 86 balls to lift the score to 307-4 from their 64 overs.

Sudbury lost Mansfield to a leading edge in the 6th over of the reply and after a period of resistance, it was 59-2 when Darren Batch miscued a pull of Chris Brown to depart for 13. Brown was to prove a particular thorn in Sudbury's side as he played a part in the next four wickets to fall. Firstly, a diving catch at third man to dismiss Huggins for 43, before he trapped Tim Johnston in front for just 1. He then capped his all-round display by exacting an excellent run-out of Kenny Moulton-Day, assisted by wicket-keeper Robbie Bridgstock. The EAPL champions had slumped to 76-6 when Brown dismissed Dan Poole LBW for no score. With victory now well out of sight, James Poulson (23) and Will Shropshire set about trying to save the game. Shropshire fought doggedly for his 23 but was undone by a Will Rogers short ball that was pouched at square leg. And when Poulson's steely defence was breached by Brown, the Sudbury innings was quickly wrapped up for just 138.

A hallmark of Sudbury's title win last year was their ability to bounce back from defeat and they will need to quickly refocus on their first visit to Norfolk of the season, where they'll face Great Witchingham.