

## East Anglian Premier League - Match No 12 - Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 - All Day

|                        |              |                 |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>Bury St Edmunds</b> | <b>279-8</b> | <b>(12 pts)</b> |
| <b>Sudbury</b>         | <b>283-5</b> | <b>(25pts)</b>  |

Sudbury extended their lead at the top of the East Anglian Premier League table to 38 points on Saturday when they defeated Bury St Edmunds by five wickets at Friars Street.

Bury were asked to bat first in very hot and humid conditions. Sudbury had to wait until the eighth over to make the breakthrough when Jonny Gallagher found a way through the defences of Alfie Marston to bowl him for 11. Tom Curran and Murray Commins fell in quick succession to leave the visitors 49-3. An excellent 89-run partnership either side of the lunch break by skipper Sean Park and Josh Cantrell put Bury in a commanding position. It was a fiery spell from Dustin Melton that removed both of the set batsmen to claw Sudbury back into contention. And when Huggins removed Luke Du Plooy for just 4, Bury had slipped to 151-6. A superb eighth wicket partnership between Alistair Allchin (54) and James Sturgeon (63) swung the pendulum back in Bury's favour as they reached the end of their innings on a very respectable 279-8. The wickets were shared around the Sudbury bowlers, Melton 3, Tim Johnston 2, Gallagher 2 and Huggins 1.

The Sudbury reply got off to a poor start when Keelan Waldock was removed with the score on just 10. Huggins and Darren Batch put on a quick fire 60 runs before Batch was caught behind for 21. And, when Huggins and Kenny Moulton-Day both departed Sudbury looked to have their work cut out at 93-4. However, a magnificent 149-run partnership between Tim Johnston (87) and Ben Parker (85no) saw Sudbury to safety. Parker has been much improved this season, and once again showed his class here in what was a difficult situation. His expert manipulation of the field was again on show, as he took full advantage of a lightning fast outfield to record his highest EAPL score for the club. Johnston took the attack to the Bury bowlers, always putting them under pressure by punishing anything slightly off line or length. He hammered fifteen 4's and two 6's in his 72 ball stay and left the visiting bowlers nowhere to hide. Johnston fell just thirteen runs short of what would've been a very well deserved century. Sudbury cruised home with no further loss and more than 10 overs to spare.

Next week Sudbury travel to Suffolk rivals Copdock and Old Ipswichian hoping to strengthen their position at the summit of the EAPL table.