

Saturday April 20th - 1st XI - EAPL (50 overs) at Friars Street

Cambridge CC 172-7 (1 point)

Sudbury CC 176-0 (25 points)

Sudbury kicked off their East Anglian Premier League title defence in style on Saturday with an emphatic 10 wicket win against Cambridge CC.

Cambridge won the toss and elected to bat first on a good-looking early season pitch. New-ball pairing Jonny Gallagher and Paddy Sadler kept things tight in the early stages, keeping the Cambridge batsmen to just 3 runs an over. The breakthrough for the home side came with the introduction of James Poulson to the attack when he nipped one back to trap Douglas Rice LBW for just 4. Poulson struck again soon after clean bowling Michael Turner to reduce the away side to 40-2. A solid 3rd wicket partnership between Kieren Mackenzie and Jonny Atkinson advanced Cambridge past the 100 run mark but scoring remained slow throughout the innings. Ben Reece removed Mackenzie for 57 before Poulson took his third of the innings to get rid of Atkinson for 44. Tom Huggins and New Zealand overseas professional Henry Shipley then took a week apiece before the innings stalled following the run out of Cambridge captain Lewys Hill. The innings closed on a below par 172-7.

Boosted by the availability of opening batsman Huggins, Sudbury never looked in any trouble during their reply. Huggins drove and pulled with authority throughout his entertaining 104no. Partner and Sudbury captain Adam Mansfield provided excellent support for Huggins and weighed in with 65no himself as Sudbury cruised to their target with more than 20 overs to spare.

There will be stiffer tests to come for the two-time champions but the professionalism and authority with which they dispatched their opponents only bodes well for season. Next week Sudbury make the long trip to Great Witchingham in Norfolk hoping to maintain their good early season form.