

Stage CC 2019

Overall

Match Review

Date	Day	Opposition	Result	Score	Opp Score	Best Batting	Best Bowling
28-April	Sun	Amersham	Cancelled				
28-April	Sun	Northchurch	Lost – 98 runs	124 a/o	222-7	O Gibbs	39 J Davis 2-32
Scorecard (opens in separate window) On a cold day, Stage CC arrived at Northchurch CC having had the original fixture at Amersham cancelled. Stage took the field having lost the toss. Roger Barrett and Nick Parmar opened the bowling and kept the Northchurch openers pretty quiet. The first 2 wickets fell when Northchurch were on 25, both being taken by Roger Barrett who ended up with 2 for 39 from his 8 overs. First Change bowler was Jeff Davis who in 2 spells took 2 wickets for 32 from his 8 overs. The only other wicket was taken by skipper Sayf Khan with a fine caught and bowled. Northchurch scored 222 from their 40 overs. Tea was taken and was a really fine tea which made up for the poor batting performance that followed. Stage were all out in 36 overs for a total of 124 with Ollie Gibbs top scoring with 39.							
01-May	Wed	Nomads	Won – 35 Runs	182 a/o	147 a/o	S Chandarana	67 R Barrett 5-27
Scorecard (opens in separate window) Stage managed to field a full eleven for the match against Nomads at Stanmore. The skipper, (Owen Oldroyd) lost the toss and Stage were asked to bat. Owen said that he would have batted anyway. Sanjay Chandarana and Owen opened the batting and rather rapidly, on a pitch that was kinder to the bowlers than the batters, put on 101 for the first wicket, when Owen (57) managed to nick a ball to the wicket keeper. A collapse proceeded after the fall after the first wicket with both Imraj Sohal and Sunny Singh both going for a duck. Norman Dugdale had to retire ill and then the wickets just kept falling with very little resistance. Sanjay (67) was eventually caught on boundary. Norman returned to the crease at the fall of the 9 th wicket only to see his partner (Pritesh Parmar) bowled within a short space of time. Stage ended their innings on 182 in 41 overs. After a very nice tea supplied by Simon Harradine of Stanmore CC, Stage took to the field and opened the bowling with Nick Parmar and Roger Barrett. Nomads first wicket fell on 16 and then with tight bowling from both Nick and Roger wickets kept tumbling. Roger Barrett finished his spell with 5 wickets for just 27 runs from 10 overs, which left the Nomads reeling on 91 for 7. Pritesh Parmar took his first wicket for Stage as Imraj Sohal, to my amazement, hung on to a catch at point ☺ Nomads put up resistance for their 10 wicket putting on 31 runs before the final wicket fell on 147. As an aside there were 7 LBW's on the day, was this due to accurate bowling I ask myself?							
05-May	Sun	Stokenchurch	Cancelled				

19-May	Sun	Adastrians	Lost - 49 runs	182-8	231-9 (a/o)	A Whatley	43	M Sadler	5-27
						J Davis	43		

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage arrived at the ground at 12.30 only to find the gates to the ground locked. It turned out that our Fixture Secretary had put the wrong time down on the Fixture Card as the game was due to start at 2pm. Well at least we had the whole team there for the start was Jeff Davis's comment. Stage won the toss and elected to field in a 40 over match. Unfortunately they did not get off to a good start, with the Adastrian openers taking the opening bowlers to the cleaners, reaching 60 in just 6 overs. A change of bowling was required, enter Roger Barrett and Jeff Davis who both completed the 8 over spells for 43 and 42 respectively (Barrett taking 2 wickets). It was to be Mike Sadler's day with figures of 8 overs 1 maiden 27 runs for 5 wickets. Adastrians were bowled for 231 in 37.4 overs.

Stage did not get off to the same sort of start as the Adastrians, as after 9 overs they only had 3 on the board and had lost 2 wickets. Asif Padhani (33), Alastair Whately (43), Jeff Davis (43) and Roger Barrett (23 not out) did their best to recover the situation however the game was beyond their reach. We all enjoyed a pint at the pub.

23-May	Thu	Montenotte	Drawn	246-7 Dec	196-8	L Levi	88	R Chandarana	4-44
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage returned to Highgate for the first of 2 matches against Montenotte. Skipper Sanjay Chandarana won the toss and chose to bat. Stage got off to a quick start with the first wicket falling on 84. Sanjay (60) was next to fall with the score on 108. Debutant Louis Levi hit a fine 88 and Stage declared on 246 for 7 off just 34.4 overs.

After a tea that included Chow Mein, (Chinese catering) Montenotte replied strongly and at 6.30 with 20 overs remaining required less than 6 an over with 9 wickets intact. Stage, were staring down the barrel of defeat until Gwyn Jones to an amazing catch (possible Champagne Moment of the season) which then allowed Rishi Chandarana and Jeff Davis to peg them back and take further wickets. Rishi ended with figures of 4 for 44 from 13 overs and Jeff 2 for 31 from 10 overs. With Stage unable to take the last 2 wickets the match ended drawn with Montenotte 51 runs short of victory.

26-May	Sun	Eastcote	Lost – 228 runs	179 a/o	407-5	O Oldroyd	63	J Davis	2-59
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage arrived at Eastcote full of optimism only to lose the toss and take to the field for what was a very long 40 overs. Apart from the first over from Roger McCann, which was a wicket maiden, with the wicket on the first ball of the innings, Eastcote smashed a massive 407 for 5 wickets (2 of the wickets were retirements) with the best of the bowling from Jeff Davis 8 overs 2 wickets for 59 runs.

By the time Stage took to the field, after one of the best teas on the circuit, the match was already lost. The only scores of any note were our 2 players that had travelled up from Cardiff, skipper Owen Oldroyd 63 and Roger McCann 53. Stage were bowled out for 179 after just 35.2 overs so losing by 228 runs. By the end of the match Stage were plagued by injury with both Owen and Roger having pulled hamstring issues and Jeff with a torn deltoid.

29-May	Wed	Northwood	Cancelled						
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02-Jun	Sun	Southgate Compton	Lost – 3wkts	204-7 Dec	205-7	G Jones	91	R McCann	2-15
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

At last a timed game was agreed between the 2 sides and Southgate Compton won the toss and inserted Stage. Stage scored runs at a steady pace throughout the innings with Gwyn Jones scoring a fine 91 assisted by Roger Barrett who was skipper for the day scoring 45. Jeff Davis got his first duck of the season only to see his daughter Lucy score 2 not out. Roger declared the innings on 204 for 7 after 39.5 overs.

Southgate Compton's reply was also steady however with 2 overs to go it was looking like a draw was on the cards as there were still 3 wickets to take and 20 runs needed. Unfortunately the penultimate over went for 16 runs and Roger McCann bowling the last over could not keep Southgate Compton from scoring the required 4 runs. A thoroughly good match and a nice drink in the bar after.

05-Jun	Wed	Worcester Park	Lost – 4wkts	170-10	171-6	N Saeed	47	R Barrett	2-28
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a colder day, grey day Stage won the toss and batted in a timed game. Stage made slow progress throughout the innings eventually being bowled out for 170 off 44.3 overs. Naveed Saeed scores 47 and Paul Geary 36.

Worcester Park lost 2 early wickets to Roger Barrett (7 overs, 2 wickets for 28 runs) but could not dismiss R, Hill until he was eventually stumped off Sanjay Parmar when on 80. The game could have been heading for a draw however a crucial 4 runs were gifted to Worcester Park when Jeff Davis when attempting to throw the ball in from around 20yds from the boundary, threw it behind him, it trickled over the boundary for 4 runs. This could well be the Champagne Moment of the season! Stage lost with 3 balls remaining.

09-Jun	Sun	Horsley & Send	Drawn	232-7	236-8 dec	P Thomsom	57	D Gordon-Smith	3-69
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage won the toss on a fine, dry day in the heart of the beautiful Surrey countryside, and elected to insert the opposition. This seemed a good move, as the opening attack of Gordon-Smith (3-69) and Hyde (2-54) made regular inroads and soon had Horsley tottering at 75-5. The innings was then turned on its head by the home team's middle order who dealt a welter of lusty blows to enable them to declare at 236-8 after just 32 overs!

In return, Stage received a staggering 51 overs, but were still just unable to get across the line, finishing with 232-7, with old hand Peter Thomson top-scoring with a stylish 57, and tyro Harry Turner making 43 on debut, including nine cleanly-struck 4's. There were sound contributions also from Paul Geary, Chris Currie, and captain Chris Fletcher. A well-fought, honourable draw for both sides, with good captaincy having ensured a well-balanced match with an exciting finish. A great day's cricket, enjoyed by all. (penned by Roger Barrett)

16-Jun	Sun	West Wycombe	Cancelled						
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19-Jun Wed Wembley Abandoned

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

23-June Sun Berkhamsted Cancelled

26-June Wed Australian Crusaders Lost - 88 runs 136 a/o 224-6 S Chandarana 45 R Barrett 2-18

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The day before this fixture England had suffered a heavy defeat in the ICC World Cup against Australia at Lord's. Was it time for Stage to get English revenge against Australia in a match being hosted by Stage at Hampton Wick Roya? First blood was to Australian Crusaders as they won the toss and elected to bat. The Crusaders got off to a strong start and throughout their innings consistently scored between 5 to 6 runs per over. Stage managed to take 6 wickets in the 40 overs with the best of the bowling being Roger Barrett taking 2 for 18 from 4 overs along with George Tebbutt 2 for 40 from 6 overs.

After a lovely tea supplied by Hampton Wick, which Stage hoped would slow up the Crusaders in the field, Stage set about attempting to beat the opposition. It was not to be as Stage were bowled out for just 136 in only 30.2 overs. Another defeat against Australia. The match was a complete success and was played in a fine spirit. Everyone stayed for a drink and a chat after the match where Sanjay received the batting MOM award and George Tebbutt the MOM bowling award from Australian Crusaders.



30-June	Sun	Barnes	Lost – 4 wkts	166-8	168-6	N Parmar	33	S Sargent	2-25
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Could this be the day that Stage register a win, having not won a match since May 1st against Nomads. It was sadly not to be in a rearranged match against Barnes (Unfortunately Shepherds Bush had to cancel our regular fixture). The toss was won by Stage and they Sam Sargent elected to bat. The innings never really got going and after the allotted 40 overs Stage were on just 166 for 8 wickets. The only notable innings was Nick Parmar who was caught on the boundary for 33.

Barnes did also find batting difficult against the Stage bowling attack however reached their target with 6 wickets down in just 29.3 overs with the best of the bowling being Sam Sargent taking 2 for 25 from 5.3 overs. Stage will just have to wait a little longer for their next victory.

30-June	Sun	Shepherds Bush	Cancelled						
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3-July	Wed	Harrow St Mary	Drawn	217-7 Dec	153-8	S Chandarana	69	N Parmar	4-41
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage CC came very close to their second win of the season yesterday, but the young and keen home team were just able to hold on for the draw. On a beautiful sunny June afternoon, Stage won the toss and skipper Sanjay Chandarana elected to bat first. He and Chris Fletcher put on a solid opening stand, with Sanjay top-scoring on 69, and there were contributions all through the innings, which was declared on 217 for 7.

Two early wickets fell to Tom Whyte, and further inroads were made in particular by Nikesh Parmar, with a fine 4 for 41 in 9.2 overs. Stage applied pressure right to the end with testing bowling from seven bowlers and some good fielding and catching, but could not claim the final two wickets. The home team held on, finishing on 153 for 8. The quest for a win continues! (penned by Roger Barrett)

7-July	Sun	Bank of England	Cancelled						
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10-July	Wed	Dulwich	Lost – 110 runs	198 a/o	308-6	S Sargent	49	C Ashman	3-55
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Approximately 10 years ago, this fixture produced a remarkable match in which the Stage managed to acquire 377 in their allotted 40 overs. The pitch was placed very close to the tennis courts on the far side of the ground and Owen Oldroyd wasted no time in dispatching the ball into those courts on a number of occasions. In fact, he managed it 5 times in one over and the 6th fell a foot short. At tea, it was agreed that Dulwich needed to score half the Stage's total to win the game. They failed by 4 runs.

At one point in today's game it looked likely that Dulwich would emulate Owen's herculean innings as the Dulwich batsmen proceeded to treat the Stage bowling with a certain amount of contempt. There is a certain symmetry to the individual totals of Dulwich's 1 to 8 batsmen: 34, 54, 21, 37, 24, 27, 53*, 25* and extras chipped in with 33. 308 for 6 off 40 overs was an unattainable target for the Stage. The most casual of glances at the Stage Batting order reveals that the total number of years lived by this team exceeds by approximately 237 years the number of runs required to win the match. Nevertheless, Sargent and Young with some late order heave ho and contributions from Fletcher, Whyte and Currie got the Stage to 198 all out in the 36th over. (Penned by Jim Barclay)

17-July Wed Richmond Lost - 5 wkts 234-9 Dec 235-5 G Tebbutt 44 D Young 2-31

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

It was a warm day when Stage chose to bat. They got off to a good start with the first wicket falling on 50 (Sanjay Chandarana 28). George Tebbutt joined Dan Hodder and they took the score onto 110 when Dan was out on 43. Unfortunately wickets started to tumble and despite a fine effort from Sunny Singh 34 and George Tebbutt 44 Stage crawled to 234 for 9 off 48 overs.

After tea Stage bowling struggled against Richmond's opening pair who got off to a fast start. The first wicket fell on 63 during the eleventh over but Stage could not take another until Richmond were on 176 so the writing was on the wall. Richmond reached their target in just 35.1 overs with 5 wickets down.

21-July Sun Taplow Lost - 7 wkts 204-9 dec 205-3 M Gallagher 64 H Lee 1-22

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage turned up for one of their oldest fixtures with a 12th man which is most unusual for Stage especially this season. Stage won the toss and chose to bat. On a good batting track, Stage seemed to get off to a good start with Will Chitty striking a couple of fours but was then unfortunately run out. Stage never really recovered from this early wicket despite a very good innings from Matt Gallagher getting to 64 before getting caught. There was no real support in the batting and Stage only reach 204 with the help of some declaration bowling by Taplow to give them a total to chase.

The tea as always at Taplow was excellent which did not help the bowling! Taplow cruised to victory with just the loss of 3 wickets. Our 12th man Doc Wilkinson managed to take the field for 10 overs. We have to say a big thank you to him for supplying a large bottle of Champagne at the end of the match.



28-July Sun Old Merchant Taylors Drawn 135-8 212-6 dec N Parmar 24 R Barrett 3-24

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a cooler day, Stage fielding a slightly weak side won the toss and fielded. Old Merchant Taylors got off to a bit of a flier, due to lots of edges through the slip and gully area. After 5 overs they were on 36 without loss. Stage bowlers managed to peg the batsman back however despite some tight bowling from Roger Barrett (9 overs 3 wickets for just 24) he was not really supported by the rest of the pack and OMT declared on 212 for 6 from 40 overs

Stage were never really in the hunt when batting finding it difficult to score off the tight bowling from Old Merchant Taylors young and keen bowlers. Wickets fell fairly regularly and after 45 overs the innings closed on just 135 for 8 with Graham Seed and Norman Dugdale seeing off the last few overs to gain a draw. At least the run of losses has stopped!

2-Aug Fri Gloucestershire Gipsies Drawn 199-9 237-7 dec G Tebbutt 69* D Gordon-Smith 2-26

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The sun was shining and the Stage CC flag was flying above the pavilion, as Stage took to the field at Stowell Park, where they have been visiting every season since 2001. The Gipsies were kept pretty quiet in the early stages of the match with fine bowling from David Young and Sam Sargant. The rest of the bowlers continued to keep things tight and the Gipsies never really got into second gear as wickets fell. The declaration eventually came after 52 overs with the score at 237 for 7. The best of the bowling was Duncan Gordon-Smith with 2 for 26 and Jeff Davis with 2 for 29 both bowling 7 overs.

Stage got off to a poor start, as skipper Owen Oldroyd had to leave shortly after the start of the innings for an audition in London. He only had a maximum of 10 minutes at the crease so it was hit out or get out and unfortunately the later was the case as he fell on his sword on 7 runs. The rest of the batsmen never really go going, until George Tebbutt came to the crease at number 7. George batted with determination whilst the wickets kept tumbling at the other end. Eventually joined by Jeff Davis at number 11, Stage were able to bat out the remaining overs for a hard fought draw. George was not out on 69 with Stage 39 runs short of the target.



4-Aug	Sun	Gentlemen of England	Drawn	76-5	251-4 dec	M Gallagher	36*	M Stallard	1-21
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

A new fixture on the card, Gentlemen of England being played at Cockenatch CC was to prove little bit tough for Stage CC. Stage loss the toss and took to the very large field. The Gentlemen of England openers scored steadily for 22 overs, when Duncan Gordon-Smith took a fine caught and bowled, when the score was 107. Stage continued to not make much of an impression with ball and a declaration was made after 40 overs when on 251.

After tea Stage made very heavy going with the chase, mostly down to good bowling. After early wickets Matthew Gallagher 36 not out and Peter Jenner steadied the ship for the 5th wicket. Stage never got going and ended the innings on just 76 for 5 wickets making it the third drawn match on the trot. Could a win be possible at Ickenham on Wednesday?

7-Aug	Wed	Ickenham	Lost - 147 runs	84 a/o	231-4 dec	R Barrett	26	E Barbar	1-9
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The toss was won by Ickenham who chose to bat first and proceeded to score rather rapidly throughout their innings declaring on 231 for 4 off just 36.5 overs.

Stage failed dismally with the bat and were dismissed for 84 runs with the top scorers being Roger Barrett 26 and Ed Babar 23

11-Aug	Sun	Merstham	Drawn	186-6	221-9 dec	W Chitty	49	M Sadler	4-21
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Following the toss, Stage chose to field and got off to a fine start with 2 wickets falling in the second over, to fine bowling from Matt McDonough. All Stage bowlers bowled well with Mike Sadler being the best of the bowlers, taking 4 wickets for 21 of 4 overs. Merstham declared on 221 from 40 overs.

After a fine tea, Stage set about the chase. An early wicket brought Will Chitty to the crease to join our guest player from Australia, Brad Mentiplay who scored a fine 17. Will went on to score 49 before being caught. Roger Barrett (44 Not Out) and Duncan Gordon-Smith (30 Not Out) continued the chase only to fall 35 runs short with the match ending in a well fought draw.

14-Aug	Wed	Cricketers Club	Cancelled						
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18-Aug	Sun	Seven Sports	Cancelled						
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21-Aug	Wed	Sevenoaks & District	Won - 3wkts	164-7	163 a/o	G Tebbutt	51*	A Sathya	3-22
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Still searching for a win since May, Stage lost the toss and were asked to bowl. The opening bowlers Hiren Patel (H) and Tom Mules made inroads into Sevenoaks & District batting order and were well supported by all the other bowlers. Max Higginbotham set some very interesting fields including 4 slips and 2 gullys and at one point there were no fielders on

the leg side. With the best figures of the day going to 13 year old Arvin Sathya, with 3 wickets for 22 runs from 3.4 overs, helping to dismiss Sevenoaks for 163.

Could this be that elusive win? Stage got off to a good start, with the first wicket falling on 43 however by the 6th wicket Stage were faltering on just 92. George Tebbutt came to the rescue with a magnificent 51 not out, supported by Hiten Patel with a fine 23. Stage reached the target with 10.3 overs of the last 20 to spare and recorded that much wanted victory.

25-Aug Sun Gerrards Cross Lost – 10 runs 173-6 183 a/o D Gordon-Smith 38* R Barrett 4-37

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a baking hot day Stage lost the toss and had to field. Roger Barrett and Jeff Davis opened the bowling, both taking 4 wickets each, helping to dismiss Gerrards Cross for 183 from just 30.4 overs in a 40 over match.

This meant an early tea which happened to coincide with the tail end of the England inning at Headingley. We all watched and chewed finger nails as Leach did his part to help Stokes take England to an amazing victory. Unfortunately Stage did not have a Stokes in the batting line up and despite Nav Saeed (25) Mike Almond (37) Graham Seed (33 not out) and Duncan Gordon-Smith (38 not out) ended up on 173 for 6 of the allotted 40 overs falling 10 runs short of victory.

29-Aug Wed Little Marlow Drawn 144-9 232-7 T Whyte 37 R McCann 3-31

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

It was a cooler day when Little Marlow won the toss and decided to bat. The format of the match was the side batting first, would receive 41 overs and the side batting second, would receive 39 overs, with win lose or draw as possible results. From the first the ball the openers showed their intent with powerfull hitting and after 5 overs were on 35 for no loss. Stage managed to tighten up the proceedings with Tom Whyte bowling 3 maiden overs on the trot. When the first wicket fell at 47, 11 overs had been bowled. A bowling change got rid of the second opener, when Jeff Davis had been hit for what looked like a certain 6, only to see Hiten Patel (H) chase around the boundary at deep mid on, stick out a right hand and in went the ball. From then on Little Marlow were pegged back and at the end of 35 overs were on 169. In walked Little Marlow's number 7 batsman who, with some extremely clean hitting took their total onto 232 after their 41 overs.

Stage initially got off to a good start however, after the fall of the first wicket at 47 started to struggle and wickets started to fall rather regularly. Tom Whyte batting at the heady heights of number 6 showed how easy the batting was and rapidly got to 37, only to hold out to the wicket keeper out on the boundary. (Little Marlow were about to swap keepers and he had put on the pads ready to swap). Ryan Davis put up some strong resistance facing 27 balls for a fine knock of 8 including his first ever boundary and out scoring his proud dad who had been dismissed earlier for just 5 runs. Graham Seed and skipper Max Higginbotham saw out the remaining overs for a draw, far too many runs short of the target.

01-Sept Sun Sunbury Lost – 52 runs 188-8 240-5 R Barrett 50* D Gordon-Smith 3-18

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

As we hit September, Stage visited Sunbury CC for a 40 over match against a very young side. Sunbury won the toss and elected to bat. Skipper Roger Barrett opened with Matt McDonough (Medium Pace) and Duncan Gordon-Smith (Off Breaks). Duncan bowled straight through his 8 overs ending with fine figures of 3 for just 18 runs. Jeff Davis took over from Duncan and bowled his 8 overs with reasonable figures of 2 for 31. Unfortunately the rest of Stage's attack suffered at the hand of the youngsters who ended on 240 from

their 40 overs.

Yet again Stage were never really in the hunt when chasing, with wickets falling steadily and at the halfway point, they were on 66 for 5 wickets. Archie Gordon-Smith hit a fine 42 as did his dad Duncan. The skipper was on 50 not out when the innings came to a close 52 runs short of the target.

04-Sept Wed Cross Arrows Won – 4 wkts 253-6 252-9 S Chandarana 130 R Barrett 5-39

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

As the Nursery Ground at Lord's is out of commission due to becoming a building site, whilst the MCC start demolish the Compton & Edrich Stands, Stage hosted the Cross Arrows at Eastcote CC. With a 50 over match starting at 10.45, Stage took to the field having lost the toss. It had been raining during the night making the ground damp and when Rishi Chandarana delivered his first ball, he slipped at the crease. Fortunately he did not suffer any injury whilst slipping however the second ball was delayed as the sawdust was locked in a cupboard and the groundsman had gone home. Around 10-15 minutes later the match continued with Rishi deciding to bowl around the wicket as it was drier on that side. At the end of Rishi first spell of 8 overs he had conceded just 23 runs, which was a fine spell of fast bowling. Stage bowlers apart from Rishi were struggling to keep the runs down to the same level, until Roger Barrett was given the ball. He bowled straight through his 10 overs ending up with 5 wickets for just 39 runs. This was Roger's second 5 wicket haul of the season. At the end of the 50 overs Cross Arrows were 252 for 9.

Lunch was between innings and Denise from Eastcote had made sure that we all had a lovely lunch. At the end of the lunch break, Stage's opener as Chris Fletcher was on an important phone call, so Jeff Davis moved up to the opening slot to join Sanjay Chandarana. They both batted well together and when the first wicket fell in the 16th over, Stage were on 93. A couple of quick wickets, including a very strange decision to dismiss skipper Owen Oldroyd and it looked like Stage were on a bit of a wobble. Peter Jenner came to the rescue with a steady 33 whilst Sanjay continued to put the Cross Arrows attack to the sword. Sanjay was finally out on 130 when the total was 243 leaving his brother Rishi to finish of the match with the winning runs.

07-Sept Sun Hampton Wick Royal Lost – 7 runs 205-7 212-9 G Jones 64 S Sargent 4-12

11-Sept Wed Wembley Drawn 161-7 205-7 dec C Fletcher 59 R Barrett 2-17

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage having lost the toss again, were fielding on a very windy day with the back end of Hurricane Dorian blowing across the field. Wembley got off to a reasonably quick start and after 15 overs were on 101 without the loss of a wicket. At this point Roger Barrett joined the attack and between him and Roger McCann managed to slow the run rate, both taking 2 wickets each in their spells. After 45 overs Wembley declared on 205.

Stage's reply was steady and after 10 overs were on 42 runs which was slightly behind the run rate. Nav Saeed was out trying to accelerate when on 26. Jeff Davis also tried to push the run rate up and was out on 28 and then with a steady fall of wickets the target became too much. Opener Chris Fletcher was eventually out on 59 leaving Graham Seed and Roger Barrett to bat out for a draw.

15-Sept	Sun	Maidenhead & Bray	Lost – 99 runs	105-9 (a/o)	204-9	A Hutchinson	51	S Maloney	2-35
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Maidenhead & Bray won the toss and chose to bat in a 40 over match. An opening partnership of 78 in 16 overs got them off to a reasonable start. Wickets were taking consistently throughout innings with 6 of the 7 bowlers taking 1 wicket each and Steve Maloney taking 2 wickets. Maidenhead & Bray's innings closed on 204 for 9.

The Stage reply was not a good one, with 4 wickets down for just 20 runs after 10 overs, they were never in the hunt and were eventually all out for just 105 in 30 overs. Alex Hutchinson top scored with a very fine 51 despite being hampered with a hamstring injury (thanks to Harry Gostelow who was his runner) that he sustained whilst bowling.

18-Sept	Wed	Gaieties	Drawn	174-8	230-8 dec	A Barrie	39	T Whyte	4-40
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Stage and Gaieties returned to Stanmore CC for their annual end of season match which Gaieties have dominated for the last few years. Would it be different this season. Stage won the toss and put Gaieties to bat. Despite taking a relatively early wicket when Gaieties were on 17 in the third over, the runs appeared to come easily with the second wicket not falling until the score was 87. The Gaieties declared on 230 after 40 overs with the best of Stage bowlers being Tom Whyte taking 4 for 41 from 11 overs.

Yet again Stage struggled with the reply, with wickets falling steadily throughout their innings. Al Barrie batted well for 39 and Roger Barrett and Lawrence White held out for a draw, with Stage finishing up on 174 for 8 of 37 overs. Yet another moral victory for Gaieties.

22-Sept	Sun	Musicians XI	Lost – 51 runs	130-7	181-5	J Davis	64*	T Whyte	2-33
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[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Another match at Stanmore CC (close to my home) and it was decided that this was to be a 30 over match. Musicians XI batted first and with a wicket falling whilst they were on 0, Stage thought they were on top. Not for long as Harper and Benz proceeded to smash the ball all over the field until the second wicket fell in the 12 over when the score was 78. The rain came when 28.4 overs had been bowled and with the score was 181 for 5, tea was taken and the match reduced to 28.4 overs.

For fear of repeating myself, Stage struggled again with wickets falling regularly at the start of the innings. After 8 overs, Stage were on just 15 with 3 wickets down and the match was already lost! Jeff Davis joined Chris Fletcher at the crease and with Chris 50 and Jeff 64 not out Stage fell well short of the target. At the end of 28.4 overs they were on just 130 runs.

26-Sept	Thur	Montenotte	Cancelled
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29-Sept	Sun	Barnes Common	Cancelled
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