



TODAY'S TEAMS

NEW BRIGHTON

Watkins T.D. (Capt)
Beahon P.
Evans M.L.
Hale M.J.
Hale P.A. (WK)
Nawab A.
Roberts A.
Thompson M.
While D.R.
While J.P.
Wilson L.I.

FORMBY

Halpin A.P. (Capt & WK)
Gallagher C.
Hadden D.V.
Kenyon A.T.
Mills C.T.B.
Mitchell P.A.
Morris G.R.
Reading S.
Sephton T.M.
Taylor J.R.
WALLER J.M..

UMPIRES: Hugh Evans and Dave Jones

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season's matchball sponsors***

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Welcome to D.P. Roberts Hughes & Denye

New Brighton Cricket Club

Established 1856

Saturday 12th September - 12.00 noon

1st XI v's FORMBY

Captain's Comments

We approach our last home fixture of 2009 with a sense of nothing to play for as a team other than pride but with several personal milestones on the horizon. Our visitors are Formby who have had a very difficult season. Their campaign was undermined by retirements, confusion and resignations a month or so before the games began so it is to the immense credit of Andy Halpin that he has kept his team competitive despite these troubles and they still have an outside chance of retaining their premier league status. We wish them well for today and next week.

We have John and Dave While both chasing 500 runs for the year as is Martyn Evans and Marty is also only 5 wickets away from 50 for the season. It would be a great achievement for him to do the double and he would join Ashraf on the 50+ mark which would give the club two of the leagues' most successful bowlers. Paul Hale, Matty Thompson and Alex Roberts have also reached 500 or more runs. Our recent state of inertia has had one positive note in that we have been able to offer our support to Craig McKillop and the second X1 in their attempt to retain their title. By keeping this team stable we have had an opportunity to blood several of our trophy-winning under 16's side. Jack and Tom Horrocks, Adam Neal, Cyrano Drepaul and Alex Watkins have all played a first team game in the last month. Its been a great opportunity for them to learn what will be required of them in future years and for Paul and Martyn to see what is coming on line as they start running the side in 2011. I know they have been impressed by what they've seen apart from their fielding!

We give another young player a debut today, 16 year old Phil Beahon has been very patient in waiting for his chance. He'll get his turn to show off his skills and I know he'll be the best fielder from his age group so far. Good luck today lottie!

Finally, my last notes of 2009 are an opportunity to thank the many for their contributions to club life and making the whole show function. We'd be nothing without the following.....Colin Jackson, Phil Hale, Rod Watkins, Sue Hughes (junior everything), Ross Harcombe (sadly missed!), Derek Watson and Chris Chew (programmes and sponsorship) Stu Hogarth, Francesca and Georgia (catering) the club cricket captains, Craig, Phil Davies, Ken Johnstone, Stu Elsam and before him Craig Bennett, El Presidente Jim Dunkerley, Cath McGarry (ladies) and all the junior team managers/helpers too numerous to mention. To everyone who still comes to support us through thick and thin and says your piece for better or worse!

I've enjoyed the second half of 2009 more than the first half. We've had twingate, batting collapses and hangovers, the emergence of Pies and Sparky, the revitalisation of Logsy Wilson as a bowler and in and out seasons for most of our batting. I think we're a happier side in September than we were in June and I believe our short to medium term prospects are strong. I will return in 2010 hopefully slimmer and fitter for my final season as 1st X1 captain. I look forward to this as a chance to kick on to some trophy success before retiring to 3rd X1 cricket. Thanks for all your advice and comment this year, winter well and I hope to see you all at Rake Lane in April 2010.



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