

MATCH REPORT  
LNZCC vs FOLLIES FARM OLD SPOTS CC  
12 JUNE 2022

After winning the toss we decided to have a bowl first on a dry and hard looking pitch. Early pressure on the run rate from **Vaughan Robertson** and **Richard Brooks** during the first ten overs resulted in an early breakthrough. Follies Farm batsmen, **Palmer** and the 15-year-old **Baker** put together a strong partnership through the middle stages, despite a very close LBW appeal going against **Michael Gane**, proving costly. **Gain** and **Vance Thompson** both bowled a consistent length and were unlucky during their first spells.

After drinks we managed to slow the growing run rate with the introduction of the experienced **Andrew Barkle** and debutant, **Gretchen McAleer**. A crucial break through was the run out of **Palmer** (48), as a result of this tight bowling from both ends. Soon after, **Brooks** managed to dismiss **Baker** (77), with a loose delivery that was very well caught by **Mark Bassett** at square leg. With this partnership broken, we continued to apply pressure through tight bowling from **Barkle**, **Brooks**, **Thompson** and **Gane**, bringing regular wickets during the final 10 overs. Follies Farm were bowled out for 181 in the 40th over. A very good effort to turn the game around from what looked like 250+ score at one point.

**Bowling Figures:**

R. Brooks 3-17-8 overs

V. Robertson 0-20-5 overs

V. Thompson 1-27-8 overs

M. Gane 2-33-6 overs

A. Barkle 2-33-8 overs

G. McAleer 0-36-5 overs

The batting innings started well with **Bassett** and **Grayling** both looking solid. Unfortunately, **Bassett** (6) had a nibble at one sliding across him and was caught behind, with **Grayling** (9) being bowled soon after. **Vaughan Robertson** came out with positive intentions, hitting the ball cleanly to all parts of the ground. When **Robertson** (24) was undone by a good delivery, we found ourselves under pressure at 3/43. **T. Penman** (5), **A Barkle** (19) and **G McAleer** (17) fought well and kept the scoreboard ticking over. However, once their wickets fell, **Thompson** and **Brooks** had about 90 runs to score in 12 overs, 8 wickets down. They managed to give the team a fighting chance of winning until **Brooks** (14) was caught in front – LBW. **Gane** joined **Thompson** (20) at the crease, still needing 60 odd runs for victory. Follies Farm took the final wicket of **Thompson**, leaving us on 128, 54 runs short of victory.

A superb effort in the field was not backed up with bat on this occasion. Nonetheless, an excellent day of cricket in the sunshine at the tranquil Follies Farm venue. As always, the hospitality was fantastic, and the cold beers were flowing afterwards. Thanks to all who made the effort to play and organise this great fixture.