



# Albrighton Cricket Club

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## 2nd XI Captains Report – David Morris

2020 has not been the year that any of us could have expected. The club has faced challenges it has never faced before. Particularly financially with a truncated season which lasted only 10 games and all the social evenings that are vital for raising funds for the club being cancelled. So it's a testament to the committee that we have so far come through as well as we have. Under the great leadership from the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Treasurer, the club seems to be in the best possible position we could have hoped for following the pandemic.

Despite us only getting to play half a season, there were still plenty of memorable games and moments for us to experience as a team. From Woody's 102 in the first game right up until Esther taking the final Wicket of the season we have had some amazing moments in the two's.

Ever since taking over the captaincy of the second team my main aim has been to give as many opportunities to the younger players as possible and I couldn't be any prouder of how all of them performed this year. In particular, there were 3 stand out performers from players coming through from the under 13/15's to play in to the 2XI. Ben Noakes, a very talented young man who went on to represent the ones which is an incredible achievement. Ben Wild who took 9 wickets at an average 18 with the ball this season, this is while bowling mainly at the start and end of the innings. Once again a brilliant achievement. Esther Hurford, who took 7 wickets in 19.1 overs in the twos at an average of 7.29. An absolutely unbelievable achievement. Continuing the flow of the youngsters coming through will always be my main aim for as long as I am the captain.

Another highlight for me has been the progression into the 2XI for Flo. The first lady to progress from the brilliant Albrighton Roses team into a Saturday team. She settled right in with the team camaraderie, she gave 100% and showed she has the talent to do well in the future with the two's. I have also seen there are other's that have the talent to progress into hardball cricket from the Roses team (as much as I appreciate you scoring on a Saturday Dani, I still hope you will decide to play for the two's one day), so hopefully more will follow in Flo's footsteps.

Other highlights were Pledger with a couple of 50's, Woody scoring runs for fun, Charlie hitting some big shots and quick runs, Rich Wild being in the wickets and runs, but the most shocking was when we got to witness Will hitting a six at Allscott!

It's been an absolute pleasure to lead this team, but in reality, I still am learning a lot about captaincy. Thankfully I am lucky enough to have some great guys in the team who are full of knowledge and are always willing to share the experience they have gained over the years with me. So, I wanted to take the time to thank Nasha, Wrighty, Will, Shimmo and Woody, all of who have given me some great support at different points throughout my captaincy so far. I am extremely grateful for all the advice given to me.

In summary, in a year that has been full of negativity, Albrighton Cricket Club has been a huge positive. Plenty of success on the field, the bowling machine has been a great addition, the youth coaching was a great success and once again the Roses were brilliant and I already cannot wait for next season to come round. There is one thing to be sure of. Whatever the conditions we are playing the game in next year, there is no other club and no other people I would want to play the game I love with.