**END OF SEASON ROUND-UP FOR THE LLAMAS 2nd ELEVEN 2018**

**LEAGUE POSITION 3**rd place

**Total** Played 18, 10 Wins, 4 Draws (Winning 2, Losing 2), Lost 3 with 1 Abandoned

The loses were against 2nd placed East Molesey (twice) and once against top placed Wimbledon.

Won the toss in 6 games with 4 wins and 2 winning draws

& lost the toss in 12 games with 6 wins, 2 losing draws, 3 loses and 1 abandoned

**Home** Played 9, 5 Wins, 2 Draws (Winning 1, Losing 1), Lost 1 with 1 abandoned

Won the toss 2 games with 1 win and 1 winning draw

& lost the toss in 7 games with 4 wins, 1 losing draw and 1 loss with 1 abandoned

**Away** Played 9, 5 Wins, 2 Draws (Winning 1, Losing 1), Lost 2 (similar to home record)

Won the toss in 4 games with 3 wins and 1 winning draw

& lost the toss in 5 games with 2 wins, 1 losing draw and 2 losses.

**ATTENDANCE (AVAILABILITY)**

36 players appeared in the 2’s this season.

This was probably similar in all the teams except the 1st team who only used 20 players.

Hutch with 15 appearances, Ollie Thilo 14, Henry Tye 13, Neil Saker 12, Will Irving/Wilbur Tiley/ Mobeen Tahir 11 each, Rory Haughton & Jonathan Gale with 10 each were the only players to play in 10 games or more.

**BATTING**

Of the 18 games the team scores were 200+ in 7 games, 150 to 200 in 7 games & under 150 in 3 games with 1 abandoned. These scores, together with the fact we finished 3rd with 10 wins, would suggest our batting was OK; but we were all out in 7 of these games, 9 down in 2 games and 8 down in 2 games and this might bring you to a different conclusion. A similar conclusion could be drawn from the individual scores where Luke Haughton got the only ton (101no) and only Sakes (354), Hutch (335), Rory (269) & Henry (255) got over 250

**BOWLING**

It was the Bowlers leading the way this season.

When bowling 1st (in 7 games with 4 wins, 1 winning draw, 1 losing draw and 1 defeat) the opposition were all out in 3 games, & 9, 8, 7 and 6 wickets down in the other 4

It was when bowling 2nd (in 10 games with 6 wins, 1 winning draw, 1 losing draw, 2 defeats excluding the 1 abandoned) that our bowlers won us games when the opposition were all out in 6 games, 9 down in 2 games and 4 and 2 wickets down in the 2 games we lost.

Top wicket taker was Daryl King with 20 wickets in his 7 games. Others in double figures were Mobeen Tahir (19 in 11 games), Hutch (18 in 15 games), Luke Haughton (17 in 8 games), Wilbur Tiley (17 in 11 games), Ollie Thilo (16 in 14 games) and Jack Beaven (11 in 5 games).

What was noticeable was the lack of spin options in some games and while Luke Haughton was playing in the 1’s the spin duties were mainly left to Wilbur Tiley.

**FIELDING**

Top catcher was Sakes with 8, Rory Haughton next with 7, Tom Massey 6 catches in 3 appearances and Wilbur Tiley with 5 catches. The wicket keeping dismissals were Ashwin Bhat with 7 & Stuart Mills with 6; both played 5 games.

Some great slip catches deserve a mention, particularly from Tom Massey and Chris Bond. We did have our lapses but these can be partly excused by the difficult outfields this summer.

**DEVELOPING PLAYERS FOR THE 1st X1-short term**

It is not in the long term interests of the Club to only recruit new players to the 1st X1, rather than promote from within the Club as there is a danger it could lead to a disconnect in playing terms (certainly not in social terms) **BUT** there were only seven 2nd X1 players who appeared in league fixtures for the 1’s this season-1st X1 appearances in ( )

Rory Haughton (7), Luke Haughton (5) and George Elliston (1) plus 2nd X1 Captain and Vice Captain Ali Raja (4) and Neil Saker (2) plus Henry Tye (1) & Jack Beaven (1).

This suggests there’s not too many players knocking down the door of the 1st team; & also shows the gap between the 1’s & 2’s & recognises it is difficult to break into a winning 1st team.

**DEVELOPING PLAYERS FOR THE 1st X1-longer term**

One of the side effects of having used 36 players is that 11 of these are youngsters.

Luke Haughton (8 appearances), Rory Haughton U19 (10), Ollie Thilo U16 (14), Will Hodgson U15 (7), Wilbur Tiley U19 (11), Ashwin Bhat U18 (5), George Elliston U19 (2), Max Coyle U19 (4), Ollie Simms U19 (2), Jonny Flanders U17 (4) and Will Dahl U18 (3).

Luke, Rory, George & Ollie have already made 1st team league appearances & Jonny Flanders has played a cup game for the 1’s-hopefully these and others will get their opportunities as we do need to provide a production line of potential 1st teamers.

A difficult balance of developing youngsters while aiming to win titles.

**HIGHLIGHTS-**1 in winning, 1 in a winning draw and 1 in a losing draw

Coming from behind at 66 for 7 to win v Sunbury with Bondy’s 96 & Ollie’s 63 in their record 8th wicket stand of 140; and the close away game with neighbours Ashtead when Hutch (83no) & Stuart Mills (48no) in their unbroken 6th wicket partnership of 134 got us to 252/5 from 46 overs almost chasing down Ashtead’s 255/6 from 54 overs; and away at Spencer when we could have won on the last ball but had to settle for a losing draw.

**PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

No one dominated but Hutch; with his batting numbers –335 runs (best 83no) at an average of 33.5 together with his bowling numbers-18 wickets for 389 runs make him a strong contender having played 15 of the 18 games.

In the frame would also be Luke Haughton where 8 games brought Luke 240 runs (best 101no) and 17 wickets. No doubt others will have their own choices.

**SUMMARY** An enjoyable season in good company; with many good games of cricket.