

Rowledge regained top spot in SPL2 with a determined performance in the field that saw them defend a score of 174 to win by 16 runs on a difficult batting track.

Put into bat, Rowledge got off to a decent start, the first wicket of Ricky Yates who was caught in the gully fell in the tenth over with the score on 43. Tristen McDonald followed quickly, unluckily caught at slip off the back of his bat as he attempted to work a leg side ball around the corner.

Making his debut for Rowledge, Hampshire youth player Will Arnold joined skipper David Lloyd at the crease and the pair put together a watchful partnership with the trio of Paultons spinners, Australian Scott Dawes (10-4-10-1), Dan Morrison and Andrew Denney all proving difficult to get away. Denney accounted for Arnold whilst Casper Hughes didn't last long before being caught at short leg off Morrison.

Ian Metcalfe and Tim Wheatley ensured some steady progress whilst Lloyd (46) fell attempting to sweep Dawes. The tail fell away in search of late runs and Rowledge were all out off the last ball. Medium pacer Peter Lamb finished with 5 for 13 off 8.5 overs whilst Dawes hung onto five outfield catches.

Rowledge's opening bowlers bowled well. Tim Wheatley was desperately unlucky not to have Magee, with Rowledge adamant he had nicked behind, the opening batsman wasn't given, a decision in a low scoring game which could have proven pivotal.

Jack Brown looked to be positive for Paultons but a mix up saw him easily run out, Ashley Jeggo smartly keeping his composure at mid on. Forbes who went for just 17 off his ten overs bowled straight through but it was a rare loose ball that earned him his sole wicket with Chris Ray driving a wide half volley low to Lloyd in the covers.

Magee accumulated slowly and looked to anchor the innings whilst 'keeper/batsman Rob O'Brien took a more aggressive approach. Young Greg Smith during an economical six over spell picked up O'Brien driving firmly to mid on.

Lloyd introduced himself into the attack and caused problems and he picked up Morrison nicking off. Ricky Yates got big hitter Andrew Collins for a duck, driving straight to Nick Taylor who juggled a catch at mid off. Two balls later, Yates could have had Antony Richman in identical fashion but this time Taylor couldn't hold onto a fiercely struck drive. Paultons were now 103 for 5 with the game in the balance but Magee remained looking to see his side home.

Lloyd reintroduced Wheatley at the perfect time and with Magee at last running out of luck the umpire's finger went up with the opener trapped in front. Richman accumulated well with some big shots but Rowledge kept chipping away at the other end with Lloyd picking up Dawes who played on and Lamb who was perhaps unlucky to be given out leg before. Denney attempting to pinch a single on the off side to get Richman on strike was run out as Arnold rushed in and with an underarm flick came up with a direct hit.

Richman realising he would have to win the game alone went for a big swipe off Wheatley and Ian Metcalfe took a skier, but the umpire had called a no ball. Richman then struck Ricky Yates for a couple more boundaries to get Paultons ever nearer but he was unable to clear to ropes at long off in his next attempt where Forbes held on.

## Rowledge 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s
Tristen McDonald	ct Scott Dawes	b Peter Lamb	22	0	1	2
Ricky Yates	ct Antony Richman	b Peter Lamb	10	0	1	0
David Lloyd *	ct Antony Richman	b Scott Dawes	46	0	5	0
William Arnold	ct Scott Dawes	b Andrew Denney	16	0	2	0
Casper Hughes	ct Andrew Collins	b Dan Morrison	4	0	0	0
Ian Metcalfe +	ct Scott Dawes	b Dan Morrison	12	0	1	0
Tim Wheatley	ct Chris Ray	b Peter Lamb	20	0	0	0
Nicholas Taylor	ct Scott Dawes	b Antony Richman	8	0	1	0
Richard Forbes		b Peter Lamb	7	0	0	1
Gregory Smith	Not Out		1	0	0	0
Ashley Jeggo	ct Scott Dawes	b Peter Lamb	0	0	0	0
<b>Extras</b>		( 7b 4lb 11w 6nb )	<b>28</b>			
<b>Total</b>		( all out , 49.5 overs)	<b>174</b>			

## Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Nb	Wd
Antony Richman	10	2	45	1	1	0
James Holgate	2	0	26	0	0	7
Peter Lamb	8.5	5	13	5	0	1
Scott Dawes	10	4	10	1	0	0
Dan Morrison	9	0	41	2	5	1
Andrew Denney	10	3	28	1	0	2

## Paultons CC - 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s
Jack Brown	ro Ashley Jeggo		19	0	3	0
Stewart Magee *	LBW	b Tim Wheatley	46	0	4	0
Chris Ray	ct David Lloyd	b Richard Forbes	0	0	0	0
Rob O'Brien +	ct Tristen McDonald	b Gregory Smith	19	0	2	0
Dan Morrison	ct Ian Metcalfe	b David Lloyd	7	0	0	0
Andrew Collins	ct Nicholas Taylor	b Ricky Yates	0	0	0	0
Antony Richman	ct Richard Forbes	b Ricky Yates	39	0	5	1
Scott Dawes		b David Lloyd	0	0	0	0
Peter Lamb	LBW	b David Lloyd	2	0	0	0
Andrew Denney	ro William Arnold		0	0	0	0
James Holgate	Not Out		0	0	0	0
<b>Extras</b>		( 7lb 16w 3nb )	<b>26</b>			
<b>Total</b>		( all out , 44.4 overs)	<b>158</b>			

## Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Nb	Wd
Richard Forbes	10	5	17	1	0	0
Tim Wheatley	10	2	42	1	1	3
Gregory Smith	6	1	18	1	0	3
Ricky Yates	8.4	0	53	2	2	6
David Lloyd	10	3	21	3	0	4