

Sarisbury Athletic strolled to a seven wicket win against Rowledge in the top of the table clash at Allotment Road last Saturday to put them top and favourites to go on and win claim the title.

With heavy traffic delaying some of the Rowledge players David Lloyd had to reshuffle the batting order and Will Arnold opened up with Rob Smith. Both did a good job, Arnold the aggressor had a couple of lucky escapes before that luck ran out and a delivery from Lewis Mitchell kept low to bowl him.

Rob Smith, Tristen McDonald and David Lloyd all made useful contributions but Rowledge needed one of them to go on and make a big score as the regular fall of wickets hindered Rowledge's progress. Chris Board made runs towards the end of the innings as wickets continued to tumble and Rowledge closed on a below par 217 for 8.

Tim Wheatley bowled a threatening opening spell beating the outside edge on a number of occasions before a full inswinging delivery trapped Christopher Mottola in front. Greg Smith replaced Wheatley and following a big shout for lbw against the left handed Jack Lovett, he bowled him three balls later to leave Sarisbury 53 for 2.

Greg Smith lost his way in his second over and so Lloyd quickly turned to the spin of Rob Smith and Chris Board. Smith bowled tidily and should have had the dangerous looking Peter Hammond but for a straight forward to be put down in the covers.

Hammond and Rawlins pressed on accumulating nicely and looking largely untroubled. Hammond did offer another chance at long on but he was dropped again and both batsmen passed reached their fifties and had their side well set requiring five and over with eight wickets in hand.

Rawlins always looking to impose himself on the bowlers ventured down the track one time too many to be stumped off Lloyd with the score on 144. This didn't hold Sarisbury back though and Hammond dictated proceedings with support from captain Archie Norris the target was comfortably reached with 23 balls to spare.

Norris was dropped early in his innings in a simple chance at mid off and although Sarisbury proved themselves to be a stronger side Rowledge will have been disappointed with their overall performance.

Rowledge finish with two home games against Andover and Hartley Wintney, win them both and they will give themselves a chance of winning what has been a very open and close league but they will require a slip up from Sarisbury.

Rowledge 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s
William Arnold		b Lewis Mitchard	24	0	0	0
Rob Smith	ct James Ingram	b Peter Hammond	30	0	0	0
Tristen McDonald	ct Michael Bond	b Phillip Jewell	40	0	0	0
David Lloyd *	ct Simon Orr	b Ricky Rawlins	28	0	0	0
Ricky Yates	ro Peter Hammond		11	0	0	0
Chris Board	ct Peter Hammond	b Ricky Rawlins	30	0	0	0
Ian Metcalfe +	ct Michael Bond	b James Ingram	6	0	0	0
Richard Forbes		b Ricky Rawlins	7	0	0	0
Gregory Smith	Not Out		12	0	0	0
Carl Bloomfield	Not Out		5	0	0	0
Tim Wheatley	Did Not Bat					
Extras		(2b 2lb 17w 3nb)	24			
Total		(8 wickets , 50 overs)	217			

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Nb	Wd
James Ingram	9	1	42	1	1	2
Lewis Mitchard	7	0	42	1	2	8
Adam Sharp	6	2	20	0	0	0
Peter Hammond	10	0	36	1	0	6
Phillip Jewell	10	0	37	1	0	0
Ricky Rawlins	8	0	36	3	0	1

Sarisbury Athletic CC - 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s
Ricky Rawlins	st Ian Metcalfe	b David Lloyd	56	0	0	0
Christopher Mottola	LBW	b Tim Wheatley	16	0	0	0
Jack Lovett		b Gregory Smith	12	0	0	0
Peter Hammond	Not Out		93	0	0	0
Archie Norris *	Not Out		28	0	0	0
Michael Bond	Did Not Bat					
Simon Orr +	Did Not Bat					
Adam Sharp	Did Not Bat					
James Ingram	Did Not Bat					
Lewis Mitchard	Did Not Bat					
Phillip Jewell	Did Not Bat					
Extras		(1b 1lb 10w 3nb)	15			
Total		(3 wickets , 46.1 overs)	220			

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Nb	Wd
Tim Wheatley	7	4	18	1	0	0
Richard Forbes	8	0	43	0	0	0
Gregory Smith	2	0	18	1	2	2
Rob Smith	10	3	24	0	1	0
Chris Board	10	0	63	0	0	1
David Lloyd	9.1	0	52	1	0	7