



DIGITAL MATCH PROGRAMME



Kent Spitfires vs Gloucestershire

Tuesday 21 June

Match starts at 19:00

VITALITY BLAST

The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence, Canterbury



www.kentcricket.co.uk

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



ELITE PARTNERS

Barretts





WELCOME

By Matt Walker
Head Coach

Hello everyone and welcome back to The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence. Welcome back too to the players, staff and supporters of Gloucestershire, who were here in our last outing at Canterbury.

With three home matches left of this South Group stage of the Vitality Blast, I won't hide the fact that we aren't where we thought we would be in the table at this stage of the tournament.

We haven't executed the skills that I know we have well enough, and despite glimpses of what we're capable of, things haven't turned out how we had all hoped at the start of the season.

To be realistic, we won't be retaining the Vitality Blast this year - and although nobody has ever achieved that before, we haven't reached the target we set ourselves to progress into the knockout rounds in 2022.

We will be playing harder than ever for each other, for the eleven on the field, the squad, the coaches, the staff and the supporters.

Please continue to get behind the lads, and I hope you enjoy the match.

Walks

LAST TIME OUT



Joe Cracknell and John Simpson put together a shrewd partnership of 91 as Middlesex defeated Kent Spitfires by seven wickets.

[View full scorecard](#)

Cracknell, with an unbeaten 43 from 37 balls, and Simpson (46 from 35) shared the only sizeable stand of a low-scoring game to set up Middlesex's triumph with 15 deliveries to spare.

Defending champions Kent made 141 for nine after opting to bat, stifled during the middle overs by Middlesex's spin trio of Chris Green, Thilan Walallawita and Luke Hollman.

Although the Spitfires gained a glimmer of hope with two wickets in quick succession, the third-wicket pair batted sensibly to extinguish that and keep Middlesex's faint hopes of qualification alive.

Joe Denly, whose century had underpinned the Spitfires' first success of the tournament when the sides met at Canterbury, was caught behind swishing at Tom Helm.

Opening partner Zak Crawley – returning to the side in between his England Test duties – soon followed, attempting to hook Martin Andersson and John Simpson judged the skier perfectly.

Questionable shot selection, combined with tidy bowling by the Middlesex spinners, meant wickets continued to fall regularly, although for a while it seemed Sam Billings might steer Kent out of trouble.

The skipper survived a series of close calls – including two catches that fell fractionally short of the fielder and Andersson's shy at the stumps as he changed his mind over an audacious single – to make 29.

LAST TIME OUT (CONTINUED)



However, Billings perished reverse-sweeping Hollman into the hands of point and it wasn't until the 17th over that Kent registered the only six of their innings as Jack Leaning clipped Jason Behrendorff into the Mound Stand.

Despite Leaning's effort of 20 from 14, the visitors' total looked unlikely to be enough and Middlesex made a steady start in reply, with Stephen Eskinazi and Max Holden putting on 42 from 28.

Eskinazi (28 from 15) had just swung Fred Klaassen for his second six when he attempted to repeat the shot and top-edged to deep midwicket, but the captain's departure appeared to reduce the flow of runs to a trickle.

Spin duo George Linde and Qais Ahmad rattled through six consecutive post-powerplay overs, all of them without conceding a boundary as Cracknell and

Simpson concentrated on avoiding risks and collecting singles.

Once the seamers returned, Cracknell cast off the shackles, pulling Klaassen over the fence and then cutting him square for four more as Middlesex began to accelerate towards the target.

Simpson swatted Klaassen for six to bring his side within four but, although the seamer took his revenge by trapping him leg before, Jack Davies squirted his first ball to the rope, sealing a rare victory.

DISCOVER THE
**WHITSTABLE
BAY** FAMILY



order yours today at
shop.shepherdneame.co.uk

Find us online @WhitstableBay

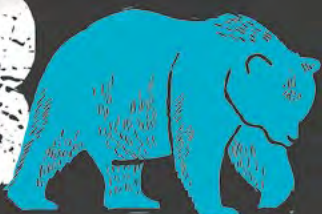


drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts

PROUD SPONSORS
OF KENT CRICKET



DEAR ISLAND



MEET THE
WIDER FAMILY:

SHOP.SHEPHERDNEAME.CO.UK

f @BEARISLANDBREWS



be drinkaware.co.uk



SPITFIRE

WORLD CLASS BEER.
Made by Britain's oldest brewer.



**TROPICAL FRUIT &
CITRUS AROMAS**
with a subtle bitterness

TOFFEE & SPICE AROMAS
Hoppy, bitter finish

LIGHTLY HOPPED
for a smooth, refreshing finish



MUSIC & FOOD FESTIVALS
SMOKED & UNCUT

PRESENTED BY **GRENADIER**

THE PIG - AT BRIDGE PLACE, CANTERBURY, KENT

13TH AUGUST 2022

The Smoked & Uncut festivals are your classic English summer parties with a rock 'n' roll twist; home-grown countryside carnivals for music-lovers, foodies & families.



CONNOR SELBY | BUZZARD BUZZARD BUZZARD
STEFAN MAHENDRA | ABI ORFILA

Plus **DJs** until late ★ **Street food** stalls dishing up seriously tasty festival fodder ★ Plenty of **Bars** with homegrown cocktails, wine & English fizz, British beer & cider ★ **The Kids' Den** area ★ **Boutique Market Stalls**
★ **The Field Spa** ★ Pop Up Feasting experiences hosted by **Chef Angela Hartnett**, **Nieves Barragán** & **Lisa Goodwin-Allen** ★ **THE PIG's Field Kitchen** hosted by **Chef James Golding** & our **PIG Chef Apprentices**

GET YOUR TICKETS AT

smokedanduncut.com



@smokedanduncut

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR PARTNERS
FOR THEIR SUPPORT:



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



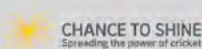
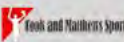
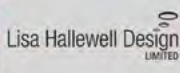
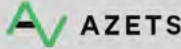
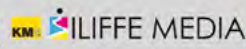
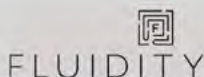
ELITE PARTNERS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



TEAM KENT PARTNERS



KENT COUNTY CRICKET CLUB,
THE SPITFIRE GROUND, ST LAWRENCE, OLD DOVER RD, CANTERBURY, KENT CT1 3NZ

www.kentcricket.co.uk | Tel: 01227 456 886

[@KentCricket](https://www.facebook.com/KentCricket) [@KentCountyCricketClub](https://www.facebook.com/KentCountyCricketClub)