



DIGITAL MATCH PROGRAMME



Kent Spitfires vs Leicestershire Foxes

Sunday 6 August

Match starts at 11:00

METRO BANK ONE DAY CUP
The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence



www.kentcricket.co.uk

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



Barretts



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Good morning everyone & welcome to The County Ground, Beckenham for our first home match of this year's Metro Bank One Day Cup. A warm welcome too to the players, staff & supporters of Leicestershire Foxes, who are our opponents for our University of Greenwich Partnership Day.

It was fantastic to start our defence of the One Day Cup with a victory, away against a strong Yorkshire Vikings side, at a ground where the team that is batting second statistically wins 75% of the time.

I thought Ben Compton's innings gave us a much-needed platform for others to play their natural game alongside him, & we then saw what Joey Evison can do - playing himself in before accelerating hard to make a new career-best List A score for himself.

Then with the ball we were able to keep Yorkshire in-line, with wickets coming at the right time. Harry Finch performed well behind the stumps & James Bazley got us some vital wickets on debut.

In this competition we need to find the form we had that propelled us to Trent Bridge - a result like that is exactly what's needed. It could have gone either way but our performance meant that we went away with the points.

This is a talented squad, with multiple internationals & several young talents. All will need to perform individually, but I'm a firm believer in success coming from a team being greater than the sum of its parts. This, added with support from the sidelines from yourselves, can help us achieve something special again.

I hope you enjoy today's match.

Simon

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LANCASHIRE VS KENT SPITFIRES



Kent Spitfires faced Lancashire in the 2022 Royal London Cup Final at Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

Kent ended a run of eight consecutive defeats in one-day finals as they overcame favourites Lancashire to win the Royal London Cup decider at Trent Bridge.

Always the bridesmaids since lifting the Benson and Hedges Cup in 1978, Kent defended a total of 306 for six by bowling out Lancashire for 285 to win by 21 runs.

Joey Evison, the 20-year-old all-rounder playing on what is still his home ground ahead of his move from Nottinghamshire to Kent for next season, scored a brilliant 97, took two for 29 and held one of a number of excellent catches by his team.

Kent's strike bowlers Grant Stewart and Nathan Gilchrist then took three wickets each as Lancashire's hopes of winning a 12th one-day final were ended, despite skipper Keaton Jennings and veteran all-rounder Steven Croft each scoring 72.

Joe Denly had supplemented Evison's efforts with a superb 72 from 69 balls. Ollie Robinson made 43, Alex Blake 38 and Darren Stevens, in perhaps in his last professional match at the age of 46, finished unbeaten on 33 after being greeted with an ovation from the crowd.

Tom Bailey (two for 46) was Lancashire's best bowler, although Liam Hurt (two for 64) and Danny Lamb (one for 57) took key wickets.

Having opted to bat first, Kent lost Ben Compton, another former Nottinghamshire player, to the fourth ball of the innings, when he was tamely caught at gully off a wide ball from Bailey, after which Evison and Robinson proceeded tentatively at times, posting a modest 41 runs in the opening powerplay.

Robinson accelerated with five boundaries in a couple of overs off Will Williams, but was caught behind off an inside edge on to thigh pad as Hurt managed to nip one back.

Evison - on loan to Kent for this competition - played beautifully, his judgement impressively sharp, so much so that when Hurt and his team-mates celebrated what they believed was his dismissal leg before for 48 in the 21st over, he triggered a successful review.

His half-century came from 72 balls and as he and Denly combined sublimely to move the score to 145 for two after 30 overs, Kent looked to have a platform for a substantial total.

Evison missed out on his hundred when he was bowled through the gate when Lamb

LANCASHIRE VS KENT SPITFIRES

deceived him with a slower ball, although regardless of that he had made an elegant statement against his soon-to-be former employers, who had not been able to give him the regular first-team cricket he desired.

Denly departed soon afterwards, bowled taking a swing at Hurt, and despite the vocal encouragement for Stevens, cheered to the wicket from all corners of the ground, only 70 runs accrued from the last 10 overs, although it might have been fewer still had Lancashire not spilled three simple catches, which took some gloss off the brilliant relay catch executed by Rob Jones and Jennings on the deep midwicket boundary to remove Blake.

Lancashire flew out of the blocks as they began the chase, Jennings and Luke Wells racing to 36 in the first four overs against the pace of Grant Stewart and Nathan Gilchrist. They suffered a setback when Stewart caught Wells in his follow-through but at 63 for one from 10, Lancashire had their noses in front.

The second 10 began with a life for Jennings, a difficult caught and bowled chance for Stevens above his head, and then a wicket as Josh Bohannon, frustrated at managing only five runs off his first 20 balls, was caught at fine leg off the medium pace of Harry Podmore.

At 125 for two in the 22nd over, Lancashire looked just about favourites, but that began to change after the off-spinner Hamidullah Qadri, Kent's leading wicket-taker in the competition, entered the attack to dismiss Jennings, who miscued horribly to extra cover.

It was an unexpected end for the Lancashire skipper, although perhaps his concentration had been broken while play was held up moments earlier after a bizarre incident that saw Kent's Harry Finch give away five penalty runs when – presumably unaware he was breaking

any rule – he used a glove discarded by wicketkeeper Robinson to field a ball that was still in play.

Lancashire suffered another setback when Evison bowled Dane Vilas off a bottom edge. That was followed by a blow for Kent as Stevens left the field, his final seemingly over because of injury.

Croft – not quite of Stevens's vintage but at 37 the senior member of the Lancashire side – went to 50 off 71 balls before a flurry of boundaries took him to 70 off 79, which tilted the odds back in the Old Trafford side's favour with 101 needed from 13 overs.

But three stunning catches turned the contest in Kent's favour.

Blake held one at midwicket to end Croft's charge, the irrepressible Evison another in a similar area as George Lavelle top-edged, before Gilchrist, who had just conceded 12 runs in an over to Danny Lamb, pulled off the best of the three at deep backward square to take revenge.

Stewart then pinned Rob Jones in front, Gilchrist uprooted Bailey's stumps and Evison had the final word on a memorable day for him by bowling Hurt to wrap up the win.





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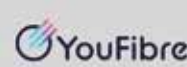
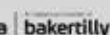


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