



## DIGITAL MATCH PROGRAMME



# Kent Spitfires vs Somerset

Tuesday 30 May

Match starts at 18:30

VITALITY BLAST

The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence, Canterbury



[www.kentcricket.co.uk](http://www.kentcricket.co.uk)

### PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



### ELITE PARTNERS

A full-page photograph of Matt Walker, the Men's Head Coach, in a batting stance on a cricket field. He is wearing a dark blue t-shirt with 'Paranettes' and a crest, dark blue shorts with a crest, and dark blue sneakers. He is holding a cricket bat and wearing a batting glove on his left hand. The background is a blurred cricket ground with spectators.

# WALKS' WELCOME

By Matt Walker  
Men's Head Coach

Good evening all and welcome back to 'Fortress Canterbury'. A warm welcome also to the players, staff, and supporters of Somerset.

It was fantastic to see so many of you come to The Spitfire Ground last Wednesday to see us face Gloucestershire. It was midweek, in May, and our first match of the T20 season, yet nearly 4,000 of you packed out the St Lawrence to get behind us. After our rocky start to the season in other formats, it really meant a lot to all of us that you came to show your colours en masse.

It's up to us now to repay the faith you've shown in us and for the boys to perform to their utmost ability in a Kent shirt. We have

made an impressive start at home but that alone won't get us to the top of the table - we know we have the ability as a group to excel but it's now time to do our talking on the field.

In our victorious 2021 season, it was our home form that was most impressive - we must make sure that we dominate at home if we want to progress further in the tournament.

Enjoy the match but keep getting behind us. Make some noise!

Walks





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# KENT SPITFIRES VS. GLOUCESTERSHIRE



**Near 4,000 spectators at The Spitfire Ground saw the Kent Spitfires rout Gloucestershire by seven wickets in their opening Vitality Blast fixture of 2023.**

The 2021 Champions cruised home with 6.3 overs to spare, closing on 116-3 in reply to the visitors meagre 113 all out.

Michael Hogan took three for 13 while Grant Stewart, Jack Leaning and Kane Richardson all took two apiece as the visitors collapsed from 82 for 3 all out in 16.3 overs.

Chris Dent was the visitors' top scorer with 55, but none of his team mates made more than 12.

Tom Smith claimed three for 22 but it was a chastening evening for Gloucestershire. Joe Denly anchored Kent's reply an

unbeaten 35 before Jordan Cox stole the show by clubbing 39 from 17 balls, including a huge six for the winning runs.

With over 3700 packed into The Spitfire Ground and standing room only on the bankings, Gloucestershire's chose to bat and repented at leisure.

Hogan struck early, getting Grant Roelofsen caught on the boundary by Joey Evison in the second over, although the momentum was back with the visitors when Kane Richardson's first over as a Spitfire went for 19.

Leaning then bowled Miles Hammond for nine but Dent hit successive sixes in George Linde's first over, only for the visitors to lose their last seven wickets for just 31 runs.





Leaning had Ollie Price caught at long off by Richardson for 12 and although Dent reached 50 when he glanced Leaning for four, Hogan started the collapse when he took two wickets in the tenth over. Dent fell to an acrobatic catch by Sam Billings, who was back behind he stumps after handing Cox the gloves for the last two championship games, before Jack Taylor offered the wicket-keeper a dolly.

Denly ran out Zafar Gohar for eight before James Bracey swiped Grant Stewart to the square leg boundary, where he was caught by Leaning for seven.

Two balls later Stewart bowled Paul van Meekeren for a duck and although Smith just survived the next delivery, he was out for four when he chipped Richardson to Jordan Cox.

Richardson then wrapped up the innings with 21 balls to spare when he had David Payne caught behind for a golden duck.

There was an early hiccup in the chase when Tawanda Muyeye tried to drive Price and was caught by Hammond at mid-off for six but Kent were almost halfway to the target by the end of the powerplay, at 55 for one.

When Daniel Bell-Drummond was lbw to Smith for 27 it broke a 52-run partnership and Billings was then out for six when he tried to reverse-sweep Smith and fell to a juggling catch by Zafar, but that was as close as Kent came to a wobble.

With the run rate under four they didn't need to take any risks but Cox seemed to be in a hurry, taking 17 from van Meekeren in the 12th over, including a gubernatorial flicked six over backward square leg.

He scrambled a single of the next ball to keep the strike and then smacked Zafar for a huge six over into the Colin Cowdrey Stand to win the game.

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# KENT CRICKET LAUNCHES KENTCRICKETPLAY AHEAD OF T20 START

**Kent Cricket is excited to announce the launch of a brand-new streaming service, KentCricketPlay, for all untelevised Kent Spitfires home T20 matches in 2023.**

The launch of KentCricketPlay to host this season's T20 fixtures digitally is the first phase in the creation of a dedicated broadcast platform which will offer improved coverage, exclusive content and matchday features.

In this first phase, [KentCricketPlay](#) will offer high-quality streaming with multiple camera angles, all hosted by former Kent Cricket captain Dave Fulton alongside some special guest co-commentators. In time, more exclusive content will be released on the new platform.

[By signing up to an account on the new platform](#), all fans - Members and non-Members - will be able to watch all non-televised home Kent Spitfires' T20 Vitality Blast Matches.

Excluding fixtures televised by Sky Sports, Kent Spitfires' remaining home T20 matches will be streamed in the same high quality. Each match will be priced at £5.99. Home and away supporters will be able to purchase each match individually using a secure on-line payment system.

The improved stream is included in all 2023 Kent Cricket Memberships and Life Memberships. [Members simply need to register for a free KentCricketPlay account](#) to gain free access to all featured T20 matches. Please note: free access is included in Membership packages only and not Six Pack Ticket Bundles. The change from a paid-for account to a free Members' account will take place over the coming week.



Kent Cricket's CEO, Simon Storey, said: "The launch of KentCricketPlay is a ground-breaking step forward for us as we look to continue to offer our high-quality streams of untelevised home T20 matches whilst also opening up an exciting new potential revenue stream for the Club.

"There is no substitute to witnessing T20 cricket live at The Spitfire Ground, but this new pay-per-view service provides supporters unable to join us, and supporters around the world, with live access to the on-field action.

"With costs ever-increasing, this new platform will generate important additional revenue for the Club which will enable us to invest more funding into the development of the professional & recreational game in our county.

"The launch of KentCricketPlay is the next step in our ambition to grow the Kent Cricket brand at a local, national & global level."



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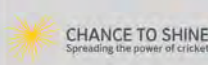
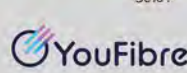
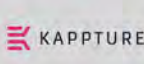
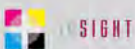
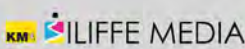
## ELITE PARTNERS



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS



## TEAM KENT PARTNERS



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

KENTCRICKET.CO.UK | Tel: 01227 456 886

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