

LEAGUE CRICKET CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS TROPHY

THE FINAL TOOK PLACE ON SUNDAY, 15TH AUGUST AT AUDLEY C.C. AS THE NORTH STAFFS & SOUTH CHESHIRE LEAGUE HOSTED THE FINAL VERSUS THE NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM LEAGUE AT WHICH THE MCUA WERE INVITED TO APPOINT THE UMPIRES – STEPHEN BALL & MALCOLM BARBER ATTENDING.

IN FRONT OF A LARGE CROWD AND ON A RELATIVELY SMALL YET ATTRACTIVE GROUND, THE HOSTS WON THE TOSS AND SCORED HEAVILY IN THE LATER OVERS (67 OFF THE FINAL 5) TO TOTAL 266 – 8 OFF THEIR 45 OVERS. (DESPITE THE REGULATIONS STATING THAT THE MAXIMUM OVERS PER BOWLER WAS 10, THE COMPETITION HAS PLAYED A MAXIMUM OF 9 OUR COLLEAGUES WERE ADVISED – IT WAS NOT, APPARENTLY, A MISPRINT !)

IN REPLY THE VISITORS AT DRINKS AFTER 23 OVERS WERE 96 -3THE OPPOSITION BEING 87 – 3 AT A SIMILAR STAGE.....BUT QUICKLY FELL AWAY TO 118 – 6 AND FINALLY TOTALLED 197 BEING ALL OUT IN THE 40TH OVER.

OUR COLLEAGUES REPORTED EXCELLENT HOSPITALITY, SOME QUALITY BATTING WITH THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET DISPLAYED BY BOTH TEAMS BEING QUITE FLAWLESS. OPENING BOWLER FOR THE LOSERS WAS BRETT ROBERTS, BROTHER OF ALEX WHO HAS BEEN WITH NEW BRIGHTON THIS SEASON AND WHO WAS IN THE NY&SD TEAM WHICH WON THE TROPHY IN 2008.

HAVING SUPPLIED OFFICIALS FOR THE SEMI-FINAL OF THIS COMPETITION ALSO, THERE IS NOW THE POSSIBILITY OF ALSO RECEIVING A SIMILAR REQUEST FOR THE CEDRIC RHODES FINAL (THE PLATE COMPETITION) DEPENDING UPON THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE FINALISTS.

MCUA ARE UNDOUBTEDLY 'ON THE MAP' AND WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH LCB/ACO FOR AN INCREASED NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS FOR OUR COLLEAGUES.