

This season saw the inauguration of the Junior Super 2s to fall in line with the already successful Senior Super 2s. The new Isle of Man U11 and U13 squads were mixed up to form the Mannanans captained by Charlie Beard and Glashtyns captained by Will Barnes. These games will allow the IOM squad players to experience the longer format of the game in preparation for their respective festivals in August. Batters will have the opportunity to bat for longer periods and bowlers can bowl extended spells.

The first Junior Super 2s was played at Tromode on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. The start was delayed due to rain but once the rain had passed the sun came out and play started at 2.30. Charlie Beard won the toss and decided to bat. Unfortunately the Mannanans lost Luke Ward early to Jamie Hopwood this then brought Harry McAleer to the crease. Charlie and Harry proceeded to put on 70 for the second wicket. Both were cautious initially against some accurate bowling from the Glashtyns but started to increase the run rate after drinks. Harry eventually fell to Christian Webster for a well made 25. Josh Clough came in at number 4 and supported Charlie well who started to play some more expansive pulls and drives. Josh fell to an excellent run out from Jamie Hopwood putting on 35 with Charlie for the 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket. Charlie Beard was out shortly after this making an excellent 47 with 5 4s. The Mannanans finished on 134 for 4 wickets. This was an excellent effort with large boundaries and a slow outfield making boundaries difficult to come by. For the Glashtyns Jamie Hopwood, Dollin Jansen and Christian Webster all picked up a wicket. With Dollin Jansen having impressive figures of 6 overs 2 maidens 1 wicket for 9 runs.

The Glashtyns unfortunately couldn't put any partnerships together in their innings and finished on 71 all out. Joe Humphrey was the only batter who showed application at the crease whilst wickets were tumbling at the other end scoring 18. The Mannanans bowlers all bowled well with Ben Johnson 6.2 overs 1 maiden 4 wickets for 11 runs, Spencer Clarke 5 overs 1 maiden 2 wickets for 9 runs and Freddie Dancox and Jacob Butler each picking up a wicket. The bowling was backed up well by the fielders with 3 run outs and 4 catches.

First round to the Mannanans!

Game 2 of the Junior Super 2s was played on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Marown Playing Fields in beautiful sunshine.

This time Will Barnes won the toss and decided to bat first. The Glashtyns lost the early wicket of Joe Humphrey to Spencer Clarke which brought Will Barnes and Sam Barnett together putting on 45 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> wicket. Both players took advantage of the fast outfield with Sam Barnett particularly strong off his legs. With the score on 65 Sam Barnett was bowled by Jenson Eve for a fluent 31 with 5 4s and 1 6. Carl Hartmann then joined Will Barnes at the crease. Carl soon settled in at his home ground with both players moving their feet well to the spinners. Will Barnes fell shortly after drinks for 27 with 5 4s putting on 46 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket. Carl Hartmann eventually fell to a good catch from Jacob Butler for an excellent 39 with 6 4s and 2 6s. But it was Olly Wait coming in at number 7 who took the game away from the Mannanans making his maiden 50 eventually falling to an excellent catch from Luke Parry off the bowling of Spencer Clarke. Olly hit 9 4s and 1 6 and was supported well in the middle order by Dollin Jansen and the Glashtyns finished on 243 for 9 but were given 59 extras by the Mannanans.

The Mannanans bowlers found it hard in the heat and with the fast outfield. Spencer Clarke took 3 wickets for 49 runs, Ben Johnson took 2 wickets for 48 runs and David Sargent, Jenson Eve and Michael Webber each picking up a wicket. The Mannanans fielded well with 5 catches notably 2 catches for Luke Parry and a direct hit from David Sargent.

After losing an early wicket Charlie Beard and Harry McAleer again batted well scoring 50 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> wicket. Harry particularly enjoyed the extra pace and scored well through point. The run rate though was continually climbing and when Harry fell to Olly Wait and then Charlie to Nathan

Williams the Mannanans had a mountain to climb. Luke Parry and Freddie Dancox batted well in the middle order with Freddie showing a lot of bravery after being hit from a rising ball from Jamie Hopwood. The Mannanans finished their innings on 173 all out.

All the Glashtyns bowlers bowled well with Jamie Hopwood taking 3 wickets for 37 runs, Olly Wait taking 2 wickets for 49 runs, Nathan Williams 2 wickets for 20 runs and Dollin Jansen, Edward Walker and Fraser Clarke picking up a wicket each.

Second round to the Glashtyns 1-1!

The Junior Super 2s now separates into U11 and U13 Super 2s with U11 and U13 players from league cricket being invited to play. Watch this space!

A huge thank you to Cronkbourne and Crosby for hosting the games so well even arranging the sunshine to come out!