**Gloucestershire CCC Seniors 60's 2nd XI End of Season review 2025**

Well, if Carlsberg did 60+ cricket competitions!!!

What an amazing season of cricket and quite possibly the best ever, concluding in becoming National Champions, defeating Lancashire in the final at Oakamoor in September.

Rolling back to the beginning of the season though, following disappointing performances and 2 defeats in the opening 3 games, meant very long odds were being offered on the success that was to follow. However, after a reset and a focus on intensity, through the rest of the group stage, we were truly up and running and a team with real momentum. With all elements of the team hitting top form and everyone full of confidence we stormed through the knock stages with impressive wins (all away) against Hertfordshire, Wales (very satisfying indeed) and Yorkshire, to take us to the final and ultimately the National Title.

Player of the year Richard Graham led the way with the bat, playing significant, match winning innings throughout the season, but particularly in the knock outs against Wales and Yorkshire. Well supported across the season in the main by Andy Taylor (an amazing stand of 168 with Richard in the Wales game after we'd been reduced to 25 for 3), Tim Smith, Andy MacLeod and Simon Meszaros. With the ball, all the bowlers played their part, with Tim Cull, Dave Tudor, Paul Silvester, Sean Walters, Andy Kear and Tim Smith all taking wickets regularly at key times. And then there was always the superb 'keeping of Dave Yates and the x-factor, all-round contribution of Mark Moodie to give us that match winning edge!

As well as these top performers contributed, though, our biggest strength, and the main factors in our victorious season were our superb team spirit and (eventually) our superior fielding. With everyone pulling together and focussed on putting the team first, captaincy was an absolute pleasure, and each and every player made an important contribution at various times. So, a big thank you to everyone, especially those unsung heroes (KP, Dennis, Wils, Griff and Pete W in the games they played and Bill Church and Martin Hopkins who travelled for 12th man duties) who were all positive and supportive throughout, making my job very easy indeed.

And finally a very big thank you Yatesy for his unwavering support and counsel throughout the whole journey, to scorer Ernie, your man of the match awards are the stuff of legend, to all our hosting clubs and to our umpires, particularly those who travelled those long distances with us; Cheers Evo, Len and Bob.

Now to retain our title . . . bring on 2026!

**Penno**

**Season Stats**

Played 15 Won 11 Lost 4

**Batting**

| | Games | Inns | N.O. | Runs | High | Av. | 50s | 100s | Strike Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Richard Graham | 11 | 11 | 1 | 394 | 94 | 39.40 | 3 | 0 | 77.87 |
| Tim Smith | 10 | 10 | 2 | 375 | 131 | 46.88 | 2 | 1 | 99.47 |
| Simon Mezsaros 10 | 10 | 3 | 322 | 61 | 46.00 | 3 | 0 | 92.80 | |
| Andy Taylor | 11 | 11 | 1 | 270 | 83 | 27.00 | 3 | 0 | 93.75 |
| Andy Macleod | 9 | 9 | 0 | 218 | 72 | 24.22 | 2 | 0 | 84.17 |

**Bowling**

| | Overs | Mdns | Runs | Wkts | Best | Econ. | Str. Rate | Av. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Steve Pennington | 91.1 | 3 | 438 | 27 | 6/23 | 4.80 | 20.26 | 16.22 |
| Paul Silvester | 74 | 0 | 387 | 13 | 3/31 | 5.23 | 34.15 | 29.77 |
| Tim Cull | 117.2 | 10 | 480 | 11 | 2/32 | 4.09 | 64.00 | 43.64 |
| Sean Walters | 66 | 3 | 309 | 11 | 3/42 | 4.68 | 36.00 | 28.09 |
| Andy Kear | 68 | 4 | 324 | 10 | 2/30 | 4.76 | 40.80 | 32.40 |