

### **Phoenix at RailwayUnion 28/05/11**

Coaching assistant Willie Dwyer was forced to wear the jacket after his performance against Limerick Raiders and for this 60 over clash there were first team recalls for Thomas Anders and Jonathan Wardell with the latter freeing up Coach Bray to be deployed as a bowler. The Phoenix team was: Captain Dickeson, Coach Bray, David Langford-Smith (the illustrious hyphen), Conor Kelly, Ryan Gallagher, Rory Flanagan, Ted Williamson, Thomas Anders, Jonathan Wardell, Sadaf Raza, Siphe Mzayidume. Railway Union won the toss and chose to bat first.

Kenny Carroll and Tom Fisher gave the impression of being in control early on with Fisher in particular hitting six boundaries before falling to Mzayidume for 28 with Flanagan taking the catch. Railway got up to 62 for 1 before Carroll was caught by Kelly as the illustrious hyphen bagged another victim. Kelly took over from Mzayidume and Coach Bray took over from the illustrious hyphen – the latter requiring only two deliveries to remove Mullan. Coach Bray went on to take two further wickets and his spell ended with impressive figures of 12-5-23-3. From 62 for 2 it seemed that Phoenix were on top as the wickets fell at reasonably regular intervals. Kelly got an lbw verdict against Farthing and ended with 9-3-19-1. Raza was unable to achieve this level of meanness but chipped in by removing Conliffe and Rendell. The illustrious hyphen enticed a catch for Wardell and got an lbw verdict to remove the last two batsmen. Ullah was undefeated on 29 as Phoenix were set a target of 148.

Phoenix had to be confident that they could score 148 and earn passage into the second round but for the top order there was still a job to be done. Ullah bowled an unbroken spell of 10 overs from one end while Rendell was removed from the attack after just two in favour of the “difficult to get away” Lambert. Coach Bray lost his first two partners, Williamson and Flanagan, but Kelly settled into the crease nicely and from 34 for 2 this pair slowly but surely took the game away from the home team. Some of the appealing did not appeal to the umpires and the scoring accelerated as the winning post neared. The unbroken stand was 114 runs in 71 minutes.

Man of the match: Coach Bray : 3 wickets, 81 not out