

Oxfordshire Over 50s 1st XI Record Emphatic Victory Over Gloucestershire

Oxfordshire's 1st XI continued their strong run in the ECB 50+ County Championship Group 4, registering a dominant 87-run win over Gloucestershire at Sandford St. Martin on Wednesday, 11 June.

Steady Platform, Late Acceleration

After electing to bat, Oxfordshire built a solid foundation with composed knocks from openers. Pablo Mukherjee (43 from 81) and Stephen Hurt (33 off 63) negotiated the new ball smartly, before middle-order contributions from Matt Launchbury (47) and debutant Richard Stephenson (33) provided crucial momentum. The pair added 67 in just 63 balls, helping Oxfordshire to a competitive total of 212 for 6 in their 45 overs.

Tight Lines and Relentless Pressure

In response, Gloucestershire found themselves under immediate pressure thanks to Oxfordshire's disciplined bowling. Dan Hartley removed England Captain Richard Trotman for 0 in the first over. Dan Hartley (2–20), Nick Rivett (3–23), and Shaun Miller (4–18) shared the spoils with incisive spells that dismantled the top and middle order. Only Paul Turner (26* off 56) and Sam Gunaratne (19) offered any real resistance, as Gloucestershire were eventually bundled out for 125 in 41.2 overs.

Jason Hunt picked up the final wicket to seal the win and complete a polished all-round performance.

Points Summary: Oxfordshire 20 – Gloucestershire 2

Stoddart's Spark Ignites Oxfordshire 2nd XI Win Over Buckinghamshire

The 2nd XI produced a convincing performance of their own, comfortably overcoming Buckinghamshire by 78 runs in Group C of the ECB 50+ 2nd XI County Championship at Aston Rowant CC.

Top-Order Steel, Middle-Order Firepower

A composed 46 from opener Lee Marland set the tone, but the innings truly came alive thanks to a sparkling 77 from James Stoddart. His knock formed the backbone of Oxfordshire's total of 233 for 6. Support came from Andy Hobbs (32), Ali Shah (33), and a late unbeaten cameo from Greg Pearson.

Skipper Wilkins Leads the Charge

In reply, Buckinghamshire threatened briefly through a brisk 44 from the top order, but they were undone by sharp fielding and clever bowling. Neil Wilkins ripped through the middle order with a devastating 4-wicket haul, while Stoddart (1–33), Gary Cook (1–32), and Marland (2–13) chipped in with key breakthroughs. Buckinghamshire were bowled out for 155 in 32 overs handing Oxfordshire a well-deserved 20-point victory.

Points Summary: Oxfordshire 20 – Buckinghamshire 5

3rd XI Fall to Gloucestershire Despite Bovey and Prakash Heroics

It was a more sobering afternoon for Oxfordshire's 3rd XI, who succumbed to a ten-wicket defeat at the hands of Gloucestershire's 50+ 3rd XI at Highfield Sports Ground on Tuesday, 10 June.

Batting Collapse Despite Promising Start

After being asked to bat first, Oxfordshire struggled to generate momentum despite a brief flurry at the top. Tim Dabbs battled to 34 from 54 balls, but support was scarce as wickets fell regularly. Peter Bovey (4–13) and Sathya Prakash (5–20) wreaked havoc through the middle and lower order, reducing Oxfordshire to just 78 all out in 29.4 overs.

McCormack's Blitz Seals It Early

In reply, Gloucestershire made short work of the chase. Chris McCormack blitzed an unbeaten 59 from just 31 deliveries, including nine fours and three sixes, as the hosts cruised to 80 without loss in only 9.2 overs. Gareth Price added 19* in support.

Points Summary: Gloucestershire 20 – Oxfordshire 0