



Pakistan Test batsman Mansoor Akhtar—"has not cost club a penny"

Sponsorship will pay for Akhtar

PADDOCK officials stress that the acquisition of Pakistan Test batsman Mansoor Akhtar has not cost the club a penny.

"His signing has nothing to do with the club," says secretary Peter Booth.

"To get a 'pro' here we would have to have a general meeting. It was on the cards, however, that we would ask the members for a professional for next season. The signing of Akhtar is a sponsorship business run entirely by our president."

The president concerned is marketing consultant Andrew Hindle, who helped organise the Car Care Plan International golf tournament at Moortown but still found time to make a couple of trips back to Paddock for the cricket.

The former Rochdale Football Club chairman, who was introduced to the club by former president Jim Netherwood, says:

"We are going to graft behind the scenes with sponsorship and fund-raising activities to cover his expenses.

"This is an object lesson to other clubs. If they work at it then it need not cost them anything."

Mr Hindle has arranged a Test match dinner at the George Hotel on the Friday of the England v Australia match at Headingley and top name speakers are being lined up, including "Bomber" Wells.

With tickets at £12.50, it should go a long way to covering Akhtar's expenses—I

have heard a £5,000 figure being mentioned—if support is there.

Some might say Paddock would be better advised raising funds for new changing rooms and carrying out further improvements on the ground, which groundsman Ken Fretwell and representative Roy Plowman have already spent countless hours on and improved beyond recognition from not so long ago.

But it's always easy to spend other people's cash and the Paddock officials are determined they will not return to the days when money was splashed out on players and the club was on the verge of financial ruin.

Paddock have made a rapid recovery since those days and there's a real buzz about the place. In fact, they are the only Huddersfield club who have a Test cricketer, run Under 13, 15 and 17 sides and operate a team in the Huddersfield Cricket Association. Although Plowman had to rush off to fill a late vacancy in the Association side on Saturday, Paddock have over 50 players registered for Saturday afternoon cricket.

And, says secretary Booth: "If we had a field for our Association side we could run a second team for them also."

"The club really took off when I asked Jim to become president and a lot of his friends became vice-presidents and put their money in when we really needed it, although they did not come to the ground."

"Now, the team spirit in the whole club is magnificent."



History-making Akhtar boosts promotion bid

MANSOOR AKHTAR created Huddersfield League limited overs history by becoming the first batsman to score five centuries in a season on Saturday.

His magnificent unbeaten 147 came off just 38 overs and included 10 sixes and 12 fours and put Paddock right back in the promotion hunt.

Broad Oak's Naved Anjum was also a century-maker and there was a dramatic tie at Honley, where the second-placed home club lost their last wicket off the last ball as they attempted to take the winning run off Section "A" leaders Elland.

Slaithwaite moved six points clear in Section "B" with a 3-1 win against Dalton, while second and third placed clubs Holmfirth and Almondbury had their curial encounter washed out.

Huddersfield League review
by ROBERT GLEDHILL

another 24, striking six sixes and eight fours. Broad Oak reached 162-4 in their 30 overs but Bradley Mills launched a spirited reply through John Hall, who made an unbeaten 64, and a quickfire 25 from Geoff Biram. They needed 23 off the last two overs and 10 off the last from Anjum, but fell five short of victory.

David Law's stubborn resistance was ended with the first ball of the last over as Jeff Senior, one of nine close fielders, took the catch to give skipper John Shaw six for 45 from 19.1 overs and Lascelles Hall a 38-run win against previously joint second-placed Meltham.

Senior and Ranjit Nagalingham had shared a 59-run opening stand in even time but the Hall were tied down by Yorkshire slow

run third-wicket stand with Darren Lockwood before Kirkburton were restricted to 181-8 as Hall Bower skipper David Beaumont took four for 62 in 16 overs. Hall Bower reached 119-3 but Kirkburton turned to spin and Richard Carter claimed five for 34 in 12 overs to hold them at 153-9.

Roy Baker took three for 40 in 17 overs as Kirkheaton were restricted to 141-6 but, although Stephen Butters made 36, Marsden crumbled to 87 all out in 44.1 overs.

IN Section "B," Akhtar, who hopes to play until the end of the season, despite a call-up into the Pakistan Test squad, led Paddock to 232-3 in their rain-restricted 48 overs.

He also took three for 23, playing a supporting role to Peter Dibb, who claimed six

match for Dalton, hitting an unbeaten 44 in a 58-run stand with Ray Bottomley and taking two for 46 in 21.3 overs. Alan Sanderson took one for 27 from 21 overs, including 13 maidens for Slaithwaite and now needs 11 victims for 100 wickets.

Rain stopped play with Holmfirth requiring 54 from 12.3 overs with six wickets left. Even if the sides had returned, there would have been no chance of a finish before the deadline. Almondbury's Peter Plummer had earlier produced a fine knock, sweeping aside the threat of off-spinner Rajinder Amarnath, who had bowled seven successive maidens and taken the first three wickets. The former Nottinghamshire off-spinner included three sixes and six fours in his 58-minute half-century and took Almondbury to 162-8 after a delayed start caused by the late arrival of skipper Chris

to give Rastrick a 46th-over win after skipper David Marshall had retired hurt.

Linthwaite collapsed to 51-7, chasing 164 at Golcar, but Mark Kenworthy and John Walker shared a 49-run stand. Walker who made an unbeaten 37, added another 40 with Chris Holmes, who hit three sixes, before Graham Stewart wrapped up the innings, finishing with five for 29 from 12 overs. Jonathan Smith had included two sixes and four fours in his 36 as Golcar reached 164 all out in the 49th over.

Dale Bones blasted 63 but Lockwood were dismissed for 111 by five-wicket returns from Howard Roebuck and Julian Holroyd. Ray Teale took four for 60 but Thongsbridge were led to a four-wicket win by skipper Graham Sutton (38) and Jeff Heppenstall, who made an unbeaten 34.

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