

THE BATTLE FOR THE SYKES CUP.

Holmfirth Start Well.

BIG PARTNERSHIP BY THE OPENING PAIR.

Rain Holds Up Play.

Lowering skies and rain in the morning threatened to make play impossible in the Sykes Cup final at Lockwood this afternoon. However, the sun came out in time, and when an inspection was made of the ground the pitch was reported to be quite good in the circumstances.

By the time the wicket was pitched every seat on the ground was occupied, and as more were still coming in it was evident that the holding capacity of the ground was going to be well tested.

Holmfirth were without their opening batsman, Sandford, who is on holiday in Switzerland, but as Huddersfield were without F. E. Greenwood, who had been called upon by the county authorities, the disabilities might be said to be cancelled out.

Holmfirth won the toss, and they elected to bat. For some time Huddersfield had to field a substitute.

Wilson and Haley opened to the bowling of H. Haigh and McNairy. Runs came steadily. Twenty-five were put on in the first half-hour, principally in fours. Keen fielding made it dangerous for the Holmfirth men to take risks. Neither, indeed, did they, preferring to wait for occasional loose balls.

BOUNDARY HITS.

The rate of scoring was pulled up when Haigh changed ends. Brook went on from the Viaduct end. Wilson had a narrow escape from being run out when essaying the first risky one. At the end of the same over, however, he hit a good boundary. His partner drove Haigh's beautifully for a boundary in the next over, and survived an appeal for a catch behind the wicket in the same over. Haley lived things up again by driving Brook well to the boundary.

Two successive 4's to the leg by Wilson sent up the fifty in as many minutes. McNairy then came back, bowling at Haigh's end, and Haigh came back at the Viaduct end. A couple of maidens ensued, but the rain came on again, and after two more overs the players returned to the pavilion.

The Holmfirth side had made a very good start. Haley and Wilson had batted with great confidence, and from the beginning the bowling seemed to lack any "devil."

By the time the rain had sent the players back to the pavilion there would be at least 1,500 spectators. Most of them carried umbrellas.

The umpires came out again after about ten minutes, but a sudden shower sent them straight back, and several hundred umbrellas went up simultaneously around the boundary edge.

MORE RAIN.

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MORE RAIN.

In spite of the rain the crowd was swelling steadily. On the resumption of play in another five minutes there was a call for sawdust. That this was needed was shown when McNairy slipped and fell after one of his deliveries. After a couple of overs the umbrellas went up again, and the players had to beat a retreat to the pavilion. No further score had been returned.

The sun came out in another ten minutes to enable McNairy to complete his over. The fast bowler was making some of his deliveries bounce rather awkwardly.

Haley got his bat to one which was going over his head, and the ball skied. Fortunately for Haley there was no fielder near, and the smick went for a four. A little later Wilson was missed by Green, who failed to hold the ball. The batter had edged it straight into his hands, off McNairy. Then Haley got the fast bowler very nicely to the leg. When a rising ball from McNairy struck Wilson on the shoulder there was a cry, "Send him off!" but when Wilson hit McNairy's next delivery for a spectacular boundary the same voice called, "Keep him on!"

With a drive off Haigh for 4, Haley equalled his partner's score of 42, and the pair seemed set for the hundred partnership when the 90 went up with a 4 by Wilson off McNairy.

WILSON OUT.

Then another 4 by Haley made the score of each of the opening pair 46. Brook now came on for McNairy, and spoilt the prospect of a hundred partnership by taking a not return from Wilson off his third delivery. Wilson had taken his score of 47. Brian Schofield followed. Haley made his 50 and sent up the 100 with a boundary to leg off Haigh.

Haley now began to hit, and one delivery off Haigh sent the ball clean out of the field. The batter tried to repeat the hit with the next, but without success and, hitting at the next after that, he mistimed his stroke and was clean bowled.

Schofield started rather shakily, but he played up to the bowling more confidently after hitting Brook to the leg for a good boundary. The hopes of the Holmfirth spectators were now mounting high.

The score was now:—

HOLMFIRTH.

Haley, b Haigh	57
Wilson, c and b Brook	47
B. M. Schofield, not out	7
H. Haigh, not out	0
Extras	2

Total for two wks. 113

HOLMFIRTH INNINGS

SOON ENDED.

271 All Out.

SYKES CUP FINAL RESUMED AT LOCKWOOD.

There were quite 1,500 spectators present when play was resumed at Lockwood this afternoon in the Sykes Cup final. There was more sun than on the first day, so that it looked as though Saturday's all-weather would be repeated.

The Holmfirth innings lasted only another half-hour. With the third ball from McNairy Norman Haigh was clean bowled, and Holmfirth were four runs better off than they were on the first day.

Whitman and Haigh batted for L. Parry-Jones and Herbert Haigh bowling against the other Herbert Haigh. The Huddersfield Haigh started the morning with a single. That the wicket was still showing the effect of the rain was made evident by a call for sawdust. Moody-ville bowled at the other end, and Haigh was his second delivery to the leg and got a risky score.

The Holmfirth wicket-keeper, however, failed to gather the ball's return, so that Whitman took a rugged honor. Some new came quickly, and principally from Herbert Haigh, who was coming on the leg side with ease. He hit a number of boundaries in one over from his Holmfirth name-able, it was Moodyville who was keeping the batter quiet.

Wilson was struck on the hand with a ball from Haigh that got up awkwardly, and the game was held up for a while because the batsman recovered. The wicket apparently had a bad patch, for it was at this end that McNairy's deliveries were bumping badly on batsmen.

HERBERT HAIGH CATCHES.

Both Haigh and Whitman were doing a good deal of shuffling, so several of the early batsmen seemed to be playing easily. The sun was shining however, and the Holmfirth supporters were hoping that it would turn the wicket into a glue-pot in another hour.

With the score at 40 Holmfirth came on for Moodyville. The change got with quick success. H. Haigh is trying to pull still another to leg. He failed to get hold of the ball, and sent a blunder. The one that went up when Bryan Schofield took the catch left no doubt that the Holmfirth was very well represented.

Haigh, who had batted with great confidence for his 4, had promised to give Huddersfield a good start.

Whitman, at the other end, looked anything but comfortable, and with A. Redfern at the wicket in the place of Haigh runs came much more slowly.

Still the batsmen were losing no opportunities, and at least two ran for twickets risky strokes.

BOWLING CHANGES.

The next bowling change came at 50, when Moodyville relieved H. Haigh, and N. Haigh went on for Hinchliffe. Moodyville kept Whitman quiet, but Hinchliffe's square-cut Norman Haigh very nicely for four.

The change had the effect of pulling up the rate of run-getting still further. Whitman seemed to be settling down to stone-wall tactics, until a useful hit to square-leg off H. Haigh brightened things up again. A succession of maidens followed.

H. G. Dainton then relieved Hinchliffe. He did not keep a good length, and Whitman lifted his third delivery out of the field. The next ball yielded a single and four for an overthrow.

Haigh now came on again, but this time he bowled from the viaduct end.

HOLMFIRTH.

C. Haley, b Haigh	57
G. Wilson, c and b Brook	47
B. M. Schofield, c Whitman b Brook	7
H. Haigh, b McNairy	0
H. Hinchliffe, c Dainton b McNairy	1
W. Moodyville, c Green b McNairy	1
H. G. Dainton, c Whitman b McNairy	1
N. Haigh, b McNairy	1
M. Pott, b Haigh	1
E. Halliwell, not out	1
Extras	2

Total 113

HUDDERSFIELD.

H. Haigh, c Schofield b Hinchliffe	24
H. Whitman, not out	21
A. Redfern, not out	17
Extras	1

Total for 2 wks. 113