

# Clarence 2nd XI show that battling spirit

**EMLEY** Clarence 1st XI may be 'up for the cup' but their league form on Saturday against Broad Oak exhibited none of the passion and intensity on display against Micklehurst the previous week.

Too many minds seemed to be on the approaching semi-final against Honley and the continuing lack of lack of focus and concentration during this game ensured Emley's dire run in the League continued.

Although their two senior bowlers were missing for this game, the top batting order was at full strength and invited to bat by the visitors Emley hoped to reach a reasonable total on a cool afternoon at Upper Lane.

Despite a steady start, none of the top five batsmen could produce an innings of note. All reached double figures but Tim Sykes with 22 was the top scorer.

After Brendon Crook and Jon Lee were out to successive balls there were still plenty of overs left for Patrick Moors to steer the lower order to a respectable score.

However the tail collapsed and Moors was the last man out in the 41st over with the total adersisory 102.

The bowlers had little room for manoeuvre, Crook, Craig Stratford, and Dan Onions bowled tightly, but Broad Oak wrapped up victory and all six points in the 24th over.

The Clarence 2nd XI showed more mettle at Broad Oak.

Emley batted first and were all out for 114 – Gareth Ferguson top scored with 27 and Chris Markham made 26. Then a fine bowling display saw a tight match swing in favour of the Clarence.

Jamie Tedder and Richard Hickling both took four wickets in economical spells. As Broad Oak edged towards the Clarence target the final wicket was taken in the 40th over ensuring victory by just six runs.