

Season Update

Following a frustrating start to the season, which saw Carlton's first two matches lost to the weather, the Grange Loan side have since gone on an unbeaten run of three games.

Match number one saw a hard fought win over Watsonians in a match marked by a fine debut for ex Minor Counties player Peter Deakin. Peter hit a well crafted unbeaten 87, including an unbroken partnership of 129 with fellow new boy Ross Lyons, as Carlton scored 219 for 5. In reply, Watsonians' pro Andy Delmont hit a fine century, but it was Peter's return of 4 for 44 that proved decisive as Carlton won by 6 runs.

The following day, as expected, Scotland Under 19s put up a tough fight when they visited Grange Loan. After a strong start from the visitors it took a breakthrough by Fraser Watts, and further wickets for left arm spin twins Ross Lyons and Tom Clarke, to restrict the Under 19s to 235 for 9 off their 50 overs. At 132 for 4 the match appeared to be in the balance, but an excellent partnership between Cedric English (89) and Jamie Kerr (54 not out) saw Carlton home.

Last Saturday saw a pulsating Premier League clash at Portgower Place, with Carlton matching champions Grange blow for blow. Batting first, Grange were dismissed for 209, with Gordon Drummond claiming 3 for 43 on his Carlton debut. A superb second wicket century partnership between Cedric English and Bryn Lockie looked to have put Carlton in control but a middle-order wobble swung the match Grange's way. With 10 needed off the last over, and Gordon Drummond at the crease with Carlton number 10 Mo Afzal, there was all to play for. In the end a scrambled leg bye off the last ball tied the scores and brought a match that was a great advert for Premier League cricket to a close.



Welcome to Aberdeenshire

This afternoon we welcome Aberdeenshire to Grange Loan.

2009 marks the Mannofield side's return to the top flight after an absence of three years, having won Div 1 last year by some margin – a position possibly enhanced by the vagaries of last year's points system and the fact that they were the only SNCL club to complete every game.

The history of the two sides' meetings in the SNCL shows 'Shire well ahead with five wins against two for the home side, although Carlton did get the better of a draw in '99. The home side have fared better at Grange Loan where they have a 50% record although only two out of the six scheduled SNCL games have been played to a conclusion. Conversely, all the games between the two sides played in the North East produced results.

In their six previous years in the Premier League the visitors have finished in the top half only once (a 3rd place finish in the inaugural year). This season, however, has got off to a good start for 'Shire and they are currently lying third in the table, just ahead of the home side. A close loss to Clydesdale first up was followed up with wins over Ayr, Greenock & Scotland U19 and all these results were achieved without pro Todd Astle who has been caught on the wrong side of the new immigration procedures.

Top run scorers this season have been overseas amateur Brad Rodden (103) & Iain Brand (98) while with the ball Chris West & Tyler Buchan have each taken 8 wickets.

Lloyds TSB Scotland Premier League

Carlton v Aberdeenshire

May 30th 2009

Match sponsored by: Dr CC Smith

Carlton

1. Cedric English*
2. Tom Barrett
3. Bryn Lockie
4. Steve Gilmour
5. Peter Deakin
6. Jamie Kerr #
7. Ross Lyons
8. Charles Legget
9. Jamie Davies
10. Mo Afzal
11. Tom Clarke

Carlton CC are
sponsored by:



Carlton Juniors are
sponsored by:



Aberdeenshire (from)

1. Matt Hays *
2. Brad Rodden
3. Kenny Reid
4. Matthew Cross #
5. Neil MacRae
6. Iain Brand
7. Morne Williams
8. Richie Lamb
9. Tyler Buchan
10. Kevin Thomson
11. Chris West
12. Ayaz Gul
13. S Nanthakumaran
14. Todd Astle

Next home match: v Clydesdale, Lloyds TSB Scotland League Saturday 13th June