**Smale Guides Newport CC U13’s To Cup Final Success.**

Newport Cricket Club U13 Captain Will Smale, guided the Newport U13 Team to a 26 run win against hosts Chepstow, in the MBS Shield Final at Chepstow.

Chepstow won the toss and put Newport into bat, but openers Will Smale and Tom Evans soon settled in to score runs freely, scoring 35 off 7 overs. However, with the score on 60 off 12 overs, Newport lost their first wicket of Evans, for a good 28 and the run rate slowed. Krishnan Hariharan joined Smale and a late flurry of runs saw the Newport innings close on 108-1. Smale completing a fine 50no and Hariharan 18no.

Chepstow after a cautious early start, got on top with openers D.Silence and M.Goddard (11) posting 23 off just 4 overs. The game changed however, when Silence was bowled by spinner Tom Lynbeck for 19. Newport seized their opportunity and the introduction of Hussain Shahid and leg spinner Jess Thornton first slowed the run rate and then claimed the wickets. Hussain claiming the wicket of Baizley (4), well caught by Thornton, quickly followed by Thornton claiming 3 vital wickets in the middle order, all clean bowled as Chepstow slipped to 61-5 off 16 overs. It was a tough ask from then on, but T.Haines battled bravely to score an unbeaten 18, but further wickets by Jack and Oscar Waters resulted in the Chepstow innings closing on 82-8, leaving Newport worthy winners by 26 runs.

All the Newport bowlers bowled well, with Lynbeck 1-11, Hussain Shahid 1-14, Jack Waters 1-11, Oscar Waters 1-10 all claiming the wickets, but it was Jess Thornton with match winning figures of 3-9 off 4 overs who was the pick.

Newport Captain Will Smale was named the Man of the Match and received his award from Glamorgan CCC’s Huw Waters. It was the 3rd consecutive season that Newport U13’s have won the MBS Shield Final

**Team**

Will Smale (Capt.), Tom Evans, Krishnan Hariharan, Tom Lynbeck, Jess Thornton, Charlotte Scarborough, Jack Waters, Oscar Waters, Sophie Osborn, Tom Protheroe, Hussain Shahid, Nathan Berry.