

# Falla makes an impression on established players

AFTER playing a key role in Guernsey's recent under-15 inter-insular success, Louis Falla has been tipped as a bright player for the future in local cricket.

The teenage batter, who has also proven himself adept with the ball as well as with the wicket-keeping gloves when called upon, has also made the step up to senior cricket in 2014.

There, he plays for Rovers in the Evening League and has made a few Division One appearances, as well as in the Premier Weekend League for Odey ORs.

It is in the latter, over the longer 50-over format, where he has impressed on occasions and has scored some important runs against some of the island's top bowlers.

But it was his unbeaten half-century at representative age level that remains his standout performance of the season thus far, as he helped lead Guernsey to a resounding win over Jersey.

In the end, it was a comfortable 26-run success for the Sarnians at the College Field, with Guernsey reaching a decent 200 for six from their 40 overs.

That was spearheaded by the joint efforts of both Falla and his team-mate Dan Le Messurier (72), with Falla coming in at number three after an early wicket and hitting a classy 53.

His coach for that team is Dave Hooper and the island all-rounder likes what he sees in young Falla, who bowled at Hooper in last weekend's close match between ORs and Miton Optimal.

'Louis is coming on really well, from not being a frontline batter at the start of last season to somebody scoring a lot of important runs now,' said Hooper.

'He has got bigger and stronger and has really grown up, while being able to rotate the strike really well, so we definitely see his future as being anywhere in the middle order.'

'As well as his batting, his off spin is also really handy and pretty decent. He bowled at me last weekend and I found it difficult

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Lee Savident

to score off.

'Like most of the cricketers his age, he is playing around four games a week and that can only be beneficial for him, so he just needs to keep improving and working on his all-round game now.'

In total, Falla has now played seven times this season for ORs in the adult weekend leagues, four of those in the top flight and the other three in the second tier Championship.

His highest score is 20 against St Saviour's in the championship, which was his side's second best score on the day in a disappointing team total of 99 all out.

Falla's captain for the first teams of both ORs and Rovers is another all-rounder, former professional Lee Savident, who is also impressed with the teenager.

He also points out that one of Falla's main strengths with the bat is his ability to keep the scoreboard ticking along.

'Louis is now making the step up into adult cricket and so far has performed well,' explained Savident.

'He has shown a great attitude and a willingness to learn and his recent results while playing for Guernsey have shown that he is heading in the right direction.'

'He has the ability to be a top order batsman but is also adept as a wicket keeper and an off spinner, although I believe his main strength is batting.'

'He is definitely one for the future.'



Louis Falla walks off the field of play with his Guernsey team-mates.

(5317598)

## HalfTIME TALK

This week cricketer **Louis Falla** answers our questionnaire...

**Name:** Louis Falla

**Age:** 15

**School:** Elizabeth College

**Brothers or sisters:** One brother, one sister

**What would you like to be in adult life:** Not sure yet

**Favourite TV show:** The Big Bang Theory

**Favourite music:** Anything

**Favourite film:** Grown Ups Two

**Favourite food:** Chinese

**Favourite teacher:** Mr Eisenhuth

**Sports:** Cricket, football

**Position:** Batting all-rounder (cricket), striker (football)

**Clubs:** Rovers, ORs (cricket); Rovers (football)

**Best friend in sport:** Danny Martin

**Sporting hero:** Thierry Henry

**Sporting hero locally:** Matt Le Tissier

**Local sportsperson to watch out for:** Dan Le Messurier

**Least favourite professional sportsperson:** Luis Suarez

**Favourite local coach:** Dave Hooper

**Favourite local sports arena:** Port Soif

**Sporting highlight:** Scoring a half-century for Guernsey against Jersey in the under-15 inter-insular recently

**Sporting lowlight:** Haven't had one yet

**Sports ambition:** Hopefully to play for Guernsey at senior level in cricket

**What would you like done to improve our sport:** Get more people involved

**Team supported:** Arsenal