

Hall of Fame

League Legend



J. T. (Jim) COLLIS

York C.C. 1952 – 1956

Rowntrees C.C. 1959 – 1960

Sheriff Hutton Bridge C.C. 1967 - 1968

Huntington C.C. 1961 – 1966 & 1969 – 1971

Colwyn Bay C.C. 1978 - 1979

Heworth C.C. 1971 – c 1981

Jim Collis becomes our first entrant to the League's 'Hall of Fame's new category "**LEAGUE LEGEND**" which has been established in order to enable the League to recognise the contribution to the tapestry of the League made by a number of individuals who have attained 'legendary' status with the passing of time but do not qualify for membership in either of the other two categories.

By definition, recipients must have embedded themselves in the memories of their team mates and opponents and be recognised as 'characters'. Jim Collis certainly meets these requirements both by his exploits on the cricket field and his, sometimes unintentional, witticisms and way with words when the teams mingled after the match in the days before the drink driving regulations severely curtailed the enjoyable and often lengthy sessions in the bar or the local pub.

Prior to making his first appearance in the league averages for Rowntrees, Jim had played for York when they had teams in the Yorkshire League and the Ridings League. He qualified for the averages for two seasons with Rowntrees but then moved to Huntington who were then members of the York Saturday League. Huntington joined the League in 1963 and, in the following season Jim reached his highest ever position in the bowling averages when he occupied third place behind team-mate Ian Reed and Stillington's Alan Grainger. The season also saw him claim 8 for 42 against Magnets as he, Reed and Mick Storr combined in a formidable attack which propelled Huntington to their highest ever league position when they finished in third place behind Heworth and Harrogate.

Jim then had two seasons at Sheriff Hutton Bridge where his league success was, perhaps, a little modest but he did make some useful contributions to their successful knock-out cup side. A return to Huntington, who in his absence, had slipped into division two saw an immediate surge in his form to the extent that he bagged 78 wickets which equalled the divisional record and has only been exceeded once since. His average of 8.33 saw him in second place, this time being pipped for top spot by fellow Huntington pace-man Pete Timler. With Ian Reed also taking 64 wickets Huntington swept to the second division title. Within his wicket haul was his best league performance when he claimed all ten wickets against York Railway Institute to gain figures of 10 for 18 which remain as a record to this day as the best bowling figures in the top four divisions of the League and, at the time, had only been bettered in the League by Sheriff Hutton Bridge's Roy Piercy who had claimed 10 for 9 a year earlier in division four.

His second spell at Huntington proved to be a short one as, in 1972, he followed Ian Reed to Heworth where he played out the remainder of a successful career as a pace-man and raconteur during which he helped the Elm Park Way side clinch the League Championship three times in four years. He did miss two seasons with Heworth in 1978 and 1979 when he was employed in North Wales where Colwyn Bay had the pleasure of his company on the cricket field.

Away from the cricket scene, Jim has been an extremely successful manager of 'non-league' football sides, gaining immense success with Rowntrees and latterly managing Tadcaster Albion until his recent retirement.

Jim was an extremely competitive player on the field who was ever confident that his next ball would gain him a wicket and didn't always take kindly to a skipper saying "thanks, Jim, have a rest". However his ability to socialise and have a laugh afterwards has made him many friends throughout cricket and football, many of whom still enjoy his repartee from behind the counter of his York fish and chip shop.

"A True Legend"

JIM COLLIS – PLAYING RECORD

(Statistics relate to seasons in which handbook qualification was achieved)

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>DIV.</u> | <u>OVERS</u> | <u>MDS.</u> | <u>RUNS</u> | <u>WKTS</u> | <u>AVE</u> | <u>8W/I</u> | <u>Pos.</u> | <u>NOTES</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rowntrees C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1959 | 1 | 131.2 | 20 | 476 | 23 | 20.70 | | | |
| 1960 | 2 | 84.0 | 17 | 295 | 25 | 11.80 | | | |
| Huntington C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | <i>York Saturday League</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | <i>York Saturday League</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 1963 | <i>York Saturday League</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 1 | 110.4 | 23 | 315 | 31 | 10.16 | 1 | 3 rd | |
| 1965 | <i>no averages submitted by Huntington</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 1966 | 1 | 181.0 | 50 | 394 | 32 | 12.32 | | | |
| Sheriff Hutton Bridge C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1967 | 1 | 188.0 | 49 | 464 | 30 | 15.49 | | | |
| 1968 | 1 | 236.0 | 52 | 578 | 37 | 15.63 | | | |
| Huntington C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1969 | 2 | 256.0 | 65 | 650 | 78 | 8.33 | 1 | 2 nd | Leading wicket taker in division |
| 1970 | <i>no averages submitted by Huntington</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 1971 | 1 | 242.0 | 90 | 663 | 55 | 12.05 | | | |
| Heworth C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 1 | 209.0 | 65 | 490 | 31 | 15.80 | | | |
| 1973 | 1 | 234.0 | 58 | 615 | 46 | 13.36 | 1 | | |
| 1974 | 1 | 255.0 | 77 | 520 | 54 | 9.62 | | 4 th | |
| 1975 | 1 | 185.0 | 48 | 480 | 34 | 14.11 | | | |
| 1976 | 1 | 265.0 | 71 | 722 | 48 | 15.04 | 1 | | |
| 1977 | 1 | 300.0 | 98 | 667 | 46 | 14.50 | | | |
| Colwyn Bay C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1978 | North Wales League | | | | | | | | |
| 1979 | North Wales League | | | | | | | | |
| Heworth C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1980 | 1 | 186.0 | 52 | 480 | 31 | 15.48 | | | |
| 1981 | 2 | 139.2 | 46 | 329 | 28 | 11.75 | | | |
| Totals | | 3202.2 | 881 | 8138 | 629 | 12.94 | | | |

BOWLING

Average Runs per Over during recorded career = **2.54**

Eight or more Wickets in a Match **4**

| | | | | |
|------|---------|---|---------------|--------|
| 1964 | 8 – 42 | v | Magnets | Div. 1 |
| 1969 | 10 - 18 | v | York R.I. | Div. 2 |
| 1973 | 8 – 63 | v | Rowntrees | Div. 1 |
| 1976 | 8 – 29 | v | Civil Service | Div. 1 |

Fifty Wickets in a Season **3**

Most Wickets in a Season **78** 1969

Best Bowling 10 – 18 v York R.I. 1969

Top of Bowling Averages **0**

Leading Wicket Taker in Division **1** 1969

Number of times qualified for averages in League Handbook **16**

Bowling = 16

YORK SENIOR LEAGUE RECORDS HELD

- Best individual bowling performance in top four divisions (Prem – D.3) = 10 for 18 in 1969
- = Highest wicket aggregate in Division 2 = 78 (*subsequently beaten in 2973 = 79*)