

LEAGUE DINNER

The League was delighted to welcome Lauren Winfield, a World Cup winner with England, as the special guest at its annual end-of-season presentation dinner, held this year at Hazel Grove Golf Club.

For the fifth time in the nine years since the current awards format was adopted, Appleton's Emma Barlow won the division one batting award. She also shared the division's fielding award with Didsbury's Hannah Jones, who also won the T20 bowling prize.

Barlow and Jones weren't the only ones to receive more than one award either. Not only did Alison Smith captain Wistaston Village to the division two title this year, but she also had an outstanding personal season, finishing top of the batting and bowling rankings in division two, and coming second in the fielding category.

Kate Coppack scooped a bowling award in the league and a batting award for T20, as well as being chosen as the Coach's Player of the Year for the Cheshire senior county team.

Another recipient of two awards was Chester Boughton Hall wicketkeeper Nic Capes.

Dawn Prestidge was second or third in as many as four of the CWCL award categories, but did not manage to bag a first place. However, Cheshire captain Prestidge did pick up the award for the county side's Players' Player of the Year, in a year when Cheshire hopefully started a revival in their fortunes by winning Division 3B of the county T20 tournament.

Players from nine different clubs received individual performance awards, but there were none for league champions Oakmere, whose successes this year really have been a team effort, with many different players contributing. For the first time in recent years, the division one lead changed hands on a dramatic final day, and after Chester Boughton Hall's four-run defeat by Didsbury, Oakmere were able to clinch the Championship by completing a seven-wicket win over Appleton.

There was one prestigious award for a member of the Oakmere club however when John Bone won the President's Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Women's Cricket in Cheshire. John has umpired many League matches over a long period, and has served on the League Committee as Umpires & Scorers Representative, as well as acting as a selector for the county side.

The statistics used to determine these winners, and much more, can be found in the separate Stats document. For the first time, there were no additional criteria used to resolve any ties, and two trophies were presented where players tied for first place.

The League thanks Lauren Winfield for her attendance and for speaking and presenting the prizes. She described how a 'journey' towards the 2017 World Cup win began after the England team's disappointing exit from the World T20 in 2016. From that point, everything was geared towards the following year's World Cup, and the England opening bat spoke at length about how the team put themselves in a position to challenge for honours once again, but also explained how they bounced back from setbacks such as losing an ODI in the West Indies via a horrendous collapse, and even losing the opening match of the 2017 World Cup campaign. Finally, she urged Cheshire's ambitious young players to 'aim big', noting that there is now a chance to make a career in women's cricket at the highest levels.

Many thanks also go once again to Di Totty and Alan Thomas for organising yet another superb event, and at the end of the formal part of the evening Di and Alan were presented with gifts to acknowledge their contribution to League Dinners over the years. This year's event marked ten years since the first presentation dinner, held at The Tytherington Club in 2007. The CWCL likes to think of itself as a trailblazer in women's club cricket, and believes it may be the only women's club league that hosts a formal presentation dinner, not to mention the only one that runs three T20 competitions alongside the main league, and the only one that has a league representative eleven.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS

	BATTING AWARD – MOST RUNS	BOWLING AWARD – MOST WICKETS	FIELDING AWARD – MOST CATCHES & RUN OUTS AS FIELDER	WICKETKEEPING AWARD – MOST CATCHES & STUMPINGS AS WICKETKEEPER
DIVISION 1	Emma Barlow (Appleton) 377 runs	Sammi Short & Kate Coppack (both Chester BH) 12 wickets	Emma Barlow (Appleton) & Hannah Jones (Didsbury) 7 dismissals	Nic Capes (Chester BH) & Gaby McKeever (Stockport Trinity) 7 dismissals
DIVISION 2	Alison Smith (Wistaston Village) 303 runs	Alison Smith (Wistaston Village) 19 wickets	Megan Cureton (Oxton) 6 dismissals	Katie Bennett (Wistaston Village) 9 dismissals
DIVISION 3	Rachel Warringer (Hawarden Park) 241 runs	Alex Wilson (Woodley) 13 wickets	Nicole Baker-Tunney (Stockport Georgians) 8 dismissals	Maz Linford (Didsbury 2 nd XI) 6 dismissals
T20 COMPETITIONS	Kate Coppack & Ali Cutler (both Chester BH) 112 runs	Hannah Jones (Didsbury) 9 wickets	Emma Royle (Stockport Trinity) 6 dismissals	Nic Capes (Chester BH) 4 dismissals

TEAM HONOURS

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
League Championship	Oakmere	Chester Boughton Hall
League Division 2	Wistaston Vilage	Leigh
League Division 3	Stockport Georgians	Didsbury 2 nd XI
T20 Divisional Competition	Chester Boughton Hall Deemons	Stockport Trinity Fire
Knockout Cup	Chester Boughton Hall Deemons	Didsbury Swordettes
Development Knockout Cup	Didsbury 2 nd XI	Stockport Georgians
Indoor League	Appleton	Oakmere

OTHER AWARDS

Cheshire WCCC Coach's Player of the Year:	Kate Coppack
Cheshire WCCC Players' Player of the Year:	Dawn Prestidge
President's Award (Outstanding Contribution to Women's Cricket in Cheshire):	John Bone
Tea Cup (Club with best matchday catering):	Leigh

ENGLAND WOMEN

Sophie Ecclestone has been recalled to the England squad for the Ashes tour of Australia. Head coach Mark Robinson resisted the temptation to stick with the squad who won the World Cup, and has selected the Alvanley, Chester and former Cheshire spinner ahead of Essex seamer Beth Langston.

Her chances of selection were undoubtedly boosted by a return of 5-34 from 16.1 overs in the first innings of a three day, day/night, pink ball trial match, in which 21 England players combined with five teenage lads from the Essex performance squad. She was also the leading bowler in county cricket this summer.

Mark Robinson said:

"It's a hugely exciting tour and one we are really looking forward to. Australia on their home soil will be a further test of the progress we have made.

"We said before the World Cup that the final at Lord's was never going to be our destination, it was just part of the journey, and that journey continues with this tour.

"Sophie Ecclestone has finished school now and has had a great summer domestically. Her selection will provide another option to our attack."

Besides Langston, the other 14 players who formed part of the victorious World Cup squad are all selected. Despite the tour comprising four weeks of cricket, only 15 players have been selected, although Kate Cross and Amy Jones will be playing domestic cricket in Australia and will be on stand-by to join the national squad if required.

Squad: Heather Knight (captain, Berkshire/Western Storm), Tammy Beaumont (Kent/Surrey Stars), Katherine Brunt (Yorkshire/Yorkshire Diamonds), Sophie Ecclestone (Lancashire/Lancashire Thunder), Georgia Elwiss (Sussex/Loughborough Lightning), Jenny Gunn (Warwickshire/Yorkshire Diamonds), Alex Hartley (Lancashire/Surrey Stars), Danielle Hazell (Yorkshire/Lancashire Thunder), Laura Marsh (Kent/Surrey Stars), Anya Shrubsole (Somerset/Western Storm), Nat Sciver (Surrey/Surrey Stars), Sarah Taylor (wicketkeeper, Sussex/Lancashire Thunder), Fran Wilson (Middlesex/Western Storm), Lauren Winfield (Yorkshire/Yorkshire Diamonds), Danni Wyatt (Sussex/Southern Vipers).

International fixtures:

October 22– first ODI, Allan Border Field, Brisbane, 00:15 BST
October 26 – second ODI, Coffs Harbour, 04:40 BST
October 29 – third ODI, Coffs Harbour, 00:15 GMT
November 9-12 – only Test, North Sydney Oval, 03:30 GMT
November 17– first T20I, North Sydney Oval, 08:10 GMT
November 19 – second T20I, Canberra, 03:35 GMT
November 21 – third T20I, Canberra, 08:10 GMT

The Ashes will be awarded to the country who gains the most points across all three formats. Four points will be awarded to the winner of the Test and two to the winner of each limited overs match. If the two teams finish level on points, Australia will retain the Ashes as holders.

Current indications are that the ODI and T20 matches will be live on BT Sport, and the Test will be live on the Cricket Australia website stream.

One-day warm-up matches against an Australia XI will take place on October 16 and 18, with a three-day Test warm-up between November 3 and 5.

Sophie is also this year's Lancashire Cricket Board Young Player of the Year in recognition of her stellar performances during the County Championship.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The League's Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday November 14 at Oakmere CC at 1930. The business of this meeting will include:

Considering applications from clubs wishing to join the league

Any clubs wishing to join the League's senior competitions for 2018 must submit an application ahead of this meeting. The application must answer all of the questions in the League's 'New clubs application guidelines' checklist. Each applicant club must also send a representative to the meeting to answer any queries the Committee may have. A fully completed application has already been received from Marple CC. Nantwich CC have firmly indicated their intention to join the league, but are yet to submit a full application.

Considering applications for promotion from division 3 to division 2

Any clubs currently in Division 3 who believe they may be interested in promotion to Division 2 should also make their intentions known to the League prior to this meeting, and should confirm that they will be able to meet the additional requirements relating to the higher division, which include:

- All matches are played as 40 overs per side
- Up to seven days prior to the start of the season, matches can be re-arranged to an alternative date for any reason if so agreed by both sides. After this time, matches can only be postponed and then re-arranged if the ground of the home team becomes unavailable for the match on the scheduled date due to it being required for another fixture. Matches cannot be re-arranged during the season due to a shortage of players on the part of either team
- Each team must appoint a qualified umpire for all League matches
- Coaching shall not be permitted from non-players during a match. In such an event, the umpire shall request the coach/manager/parent/spectator or other person carrying out the coaching activity to stop. If this persists, the umpire shall have the power to warn the offending team captain and manager that the matter will be reported. For the purposes of this regulation, 'coaching' will include assistance with setting the field and the conveying of detailed tactical instructions
- The home and away scores, the number of overs batted, the total number points for each side and any significant performances on either side, i.e. anyone who score more than 20 and above or takes two or more wickets must be communicated to the League by 1900 on the Monday following the match

Considering applications from clubs wishing to field a second team

Although the process here will be less formal, any existing League member club wishing to enter a 2nd XI for the first time in 2018 will need to make their intentions known at the meeting. They will need to confirm that they have the necessary playing and coaching/management resources to fulfil the additional fixture commitment, and that they have ground availability for the additional matches.

Election of Officers

Ahead of the meeting, nominations are invited for all League Officer positions:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Fixture Secretary
- Press Officer
- League Secretary
- Results Secretary (currently vacant, consideration will need to be given as to whether to retain this position)
- Treasurer
- Umpires & Scorers Officer
- Disciplinary Secretary
- Welfare Officer
- Competitions Secretary

If any of the existing League Officers are wishing to stand down, and not seek re-election at the AGM, it would be appreciated if they could let the Chair/Vice-Chair know of their intentions as soon as possible.

Officers' Reports

With the exception of League Secretary and Competitions Secretary, all existing League Officers should submit a report to the AGM on their activities over the last 12 months.

UMPIRING & SCORING MATTERS

October 2017 saw the most far-reaching changes to the Laws of Cricket for a decade. Hence anyone who umpires in the CWCL - whichever division's matches they umpire, and whether they are a qualified umpire or not - will need to attend an official refresher course during the winter. Details of the courses being run by the Cheshire ACO will follow in due course.

A full summary of the main changes will appear in this newsletter prior to the 2018 season. It is notable that for the first time, the Laws are written in a gender-neutral way, with an increased use of generic nouns like 'fielder' and 'bowler' and use of 'he/she' when required. The term 'batsman' remains however, as it is in regular use in women's cricket.

Some sad news to report is that Keith Warburton, who umpired a number of matches in the League in recent years, passed away at the end of September, after losing his battle with cancer. He played for Woodford CC, Wilmslow Wayfarers CC and Cheadle CC, and umpired in the Cheshire (men's) League for many years.

The Association of Cricket Officials has launched an [Online Scorers Course](#), suitable for complete beginners who want to score on a regular basis, or for existing scorers who want to improve their skills.

CHESHIRE JUNIOR GIRLS' TEAMS

The girls' cricket award winners at the Cheshire Youth Cricket presentation dinner were:

	BATTING	BOWLING	FIELDING	MOST IMPROVED	PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Under 17	Ellie Mason – 489 runs	Christine Lawson – 17 wickets	Natalie Bell – 10 dismissals	Katie Bennett	Ellie Mason
Under 15	Amy Jones – 390 runs	Madeline Arthur – 25 wickets	Megan Cureton – 11 dismissals	Becky Jones	Not awarded
Under 13	Tilly Arton – 113 runs	Izzy Pearson – 10 wickets	Tilly Arton – 6 dismissals	Maddie Hudson	Tilly Arton

Overall Girls' Player of the Year: Ellie Mason

[Full statistics from the 2017 CYC season](#)

The special guests at the event were former England captain Michael Vaughan and BBC sports presenter Mark Chapman.

OTHER NEWS

The Cheshire Cricket Board is excited to announce a Women's only Level 2 coaching course will take place over three Saturdays between November 4 and November 18, with an additional assessment date to be confirmed for 2018. These sessions will take place at Wilmslow High School, SK9 1LZ between 0900 and 1530 on each day. Participants should be aged 17+.

The funding from the ECB will cover most of the cost however there will be a small charge of £50 for anyone wishing to complete the course. The usual cost of the course is £195 so you can see there is a considerable reduction. It may be the case that clubs will also subsidise the cost of the course, however individuals will need to contact their club to discuss this.

Coaches will be required to complete online e-learning tasks between modules (one hour per module) and deliver six one-hour sessions of supported practice in their club or school environment. The six supported practice sessions should be completed between modules 4 and 8 with players aged under 13. Please check with your club/school that you're able to do this before applying.

We do have limited numbers so early reservation is encouraged. As of Tuesday, there were only two places remaining!

If you would like to reserve a place please email your name, date of birth and email address to Jessica Lewis, the Board's Development and Coaching Officer- Women and Girls at Jessica.lewis@cheshirecricketboard.co.uk.

JUNIOR GIRLS CLUB CRICKET & SENIOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

It is anticipated that the Indoor League will be run from four regional centres in 2017/18, greatly reducing clubs' travelling times, and that midweek evening fixtures will be introduced. Further details to follow in due course.

Jessica Lewis, the Board's Development and Coaching Officer- Women and Girls, would be interested in hearing from any clubs who believe they have suitable candidates for the first ever Cheshire Under 11 Girls team. Contact her at Jessica.lewis@cheshirecricketboard.co.uk