

COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS

on behalf of Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)



And we're away!

Flurry of cricket gets season off strongly

Cheshire Cup & 3rd XI T20 underway

Great start for Cheshire's T20 side



RSK PROUDLY SPONSORS CHESHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE CRICKET



So we are indeed off again on another season that promises much, bringing with it that sense of positivity and enjoyment as the County league was again blessed with a dry (if chilly) first thing to get things going. Covid has not left us by any means, of course, and all of our cricket will still be affected to some degree by the reality of it. For example, umpires are under strict instructions not to allow saliva to be applied to the ball, although at the same time the feeling of a bit more 'normality' will return with umpires

able to hold bowlers' jumpers (but not caps or other headwear). There is also a new disciplinary reporting procedure in place, and all clubs will be reminded that over-rate stipulations will be applied now that the sanitizing breaks have been done away with. It is also a season of change for the County League with the newly formed Division 3 becoming the fourth grade of County League cricket. After the abrupt change of rules mid-season which led to such confusion in the Cheshire Cricket League in 2021, Port Sunlight and Cheadle Hulme, who finished first and second in CCL Div 1 now find themselves in the CCCL Div 2 (as they would have been under the previous system). You can see how they have been getting on, PS making their CCCL bow whilst the Grove Park outfit make a welcome return after a four year absence. In the new Division 3, six clubs have recent CCCL experience, most notably Barrow and Stockport, the bottom two last time round, whilst Poynton, relegated from Div 2 in 2014 and latterly merging and reforming with Disley to become N.E.Cheshire, have made an impressive start. Off the field, my understanding is that unless explicitly informed

FROM THE EDITOR

otherwise, players and officials will provide their own teas. The arguments for and against have been heard across many meeting rooms and on social media forums, and has of course been featured within these pages too. My views on the subject are well known but there does seem to be disgruntlement at how the decisions have been reached. One other point is that administrative requirements will remain an essential part of club management, especially the registration of players and retention of team sheets. Ineligible players, however inadvertently done, can lead to heavy penalties for clubs, while team sheets at all matches are part of the league regulations.

I can only apologise that, in the end, a pre-season newsletter proved to be beyond me, but with a particularly busy period of matches almost upon us, I have been working hard to get this first edition out at the very start of May, with another edition following in mid month, which will feature more news of 2nd XI matches, for which I had no space!

James

10 YEARS AGO

The 2012 season had a soggy start, with many games cancelled on the opening day. In the Premier Division, Oxton's Andy Birley grabbed the early season headlines with spells of 24.2-2-52-8 on day 1, his team squeaking home by just 4 runs against Toft, and then 14-10-9-6 on day 2 as Oxton won far more easily after skittling Didsbury for just 58. The other notable scalp on day 1 was at Moorside Rd where a bowling attack of Adam Syddall, Sumit Panda, Rana Malook and Kurt Edginton helped Urmston bowl Chester BH out for just 98. It was to be a very tight division all round, Nantwich claiming the title by just 12 points from Hyde, while, despite their first day glory,



Urmston (227 pts) were relegated by virtue of Toft (also 227) having won one more match than them, with Widnes (224) also going down. Neston (229) and Didsbury (231) just survived. In Division 1 a depressing first day (4 games off) saw eventual champions Bowdon muster just 144-4 in 50 overs, consequently losing to Sale, whilst the other side who would attain promotion, Grappenhall, beat Bredbury SM. In a Division 2 that included Poynton and Malpas, no side managed to pass 200 in the first two rounds, although eventual champions Middlewich beat a strong Timperley side at Stockport Rd on day 2.



Cheshire CCCL are delighted that RSK are continuing their sponsorship of the league throughout 2022.

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APRIL 23

The opening round of Premier Division fixtures were played out against a generally bright but distinctly chilly backdrop, with four decisive wins, one tight squeak, and the relatively rare bird of a drawn game. The most resounding result was at Werneth Low, where a magnificent opening stand of 160 between captain **Tom Partridge** (86) and the returning **Luke Young** (77*) set **Hyde** well on their way to an 8 wkt win over **Widnes**. There was the added cheer of five wkts on debut for **Andrew Jackson** after his move from **Toft**, who themselves lost to last season's runners-up **Didsbury**. Although boosted by having Lancs' **Rob Jones** in their ranks, Toft were depleted by two of their first teamers both having weddings. 6-31 from Dids' **Liam Booth**, including that of Jones for just 6, was the decisive factor as **Marcus Fisher** (72) and captain **Nick Anderson** (56) propelled the visitors to 254 and a 102 run win. **Chester BH** hosted promoted **Bowdon** in an entertaining affair at Filkins Lane, a superb 100 from **Jack Tipton** taking the visitors to a heartening 243-7, but it proved nowhere near enough against the always powerful Chester batting line up,

Alex Money (82) and **Warren Goodwin** (77) adding 115 before captain **Harry Killoran's** unbeaten 53 saw CBH to a 6 wkt win with almost 20 overs unused. The other promoted club **Brooklands** lost out by 66 runs as visitors **Oxton** bowled them out for 114, **Joe Mennie** taking 6-36. Earlier, **Luke Filer's** 77 helped the visitors total 180-8. Champions **Nantwich** were involved in the tensest finish, their 2 wkt win over **AE** coming in the 58th over of their reply. **George Bell's** 83 helped the hosts to 192, his stand off 55 for the 9th with **Dan Fesmer** crucial. Nantwich were 117-7 but, as so many times in 2021, the lower order, marshalled this time by **Spencer Byatt** (55*) got them home. **Danny Leech** hit a brilliant 121 for **OP** in their clash with **Neston**, who were indebted to **Ash Davis** not just for 6-64, but also for his 13* at no 11. as he and no.10 **Ian Gill** batted out almost 12 overs for a draw.

APRIL 30

Three clubs made it two from two, **Hyde** making it two emphatic wins in a row with a 7 wkt win at

Didsbury, an unbeaten 88* from **Charlie Barnard** in an unbroken stand of 115 for the 4th wkt the highlight in a match which featured 67 fours and 6 sixes. **Oxton** are another 100% side, a terrific win over **Alderley Edge** making it smiles all round. For the second week in a row, it was **George Bell** (65) who was the standout with the bat for AE who again gave their opponents three extra overs, again losing in the 58th. Champions **Nantwich** are also off to a perfect start, making short work of **Toft** after they knocked off 92 in under 10 overs. **Bowdon** produced a fabulous show at **Oulton Park**, after the hosts raced to 132-0 (**Danny Leech** 77). **Rob Lord** (6-51) led a brilliant revival as all 10 OP wkts went for 42 more runs, before an unflustered reply led by **Jack Tipton** (53) and **Ross Zelem** (54*) gave the visitors an impressive 8 wkt win. Despite the heroics of **AJ Hart** (17 overs, 3 wkts, 59* batting at 8) **Brooklands** could not quite do enough to chase a gettable looking 176 at **Neston**, all out 142 in a game that got away from them.

APRIL TABLE

TEAM	PTS
HYDE	50
NANTWICH	50
OXTON	50
CHESTER BH	39
BOWDON	34
DIDSBURY	34
NESTON	30
OULTON PARK	19
ALDERLEY EDGE	15
WIDNES	14
BROOKLANDS	8
TOFT	5

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
DANNY LEECH (OP)	191
JACK TIPTON (BOW)	153
GEORGE BELL (AE)	148
ALI CHUGTAI (WID)	130
NCIK ANDERSON (DID)	118
LUKE YOUNG (HYD)	111
PLAYER	WKTS
ANDREW JACKSON (HYD)	9
JOE MENNIE (OXT)	9
ASH DAVIS (NEST)	9
CHRIS STENHOUSE (OXT)	7
LIAM BOOTH (DID)	7

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Danny Leech 121, Op v Nest, 23.4
 Jack Tipton 100, Bow v CBH, 23.4

 Liam Booth 6-31, Dids v Toft, 23.4
 Joe Mennie 6-36, Oxt v Brook, 23.4
 Rob Lord 6-51, Bow v OP, 30.4
 Alan Day 6-52, AE v Nant, 23.4
 Ash Davis 6-64, Nest v Op, 23.4
 Andrew Jackson 5-42, Hyd v Wid, 23.4

APRIL 23

An interesting round of results heralded the first week of Division 1 action, with six winners and six losers the result. The most emphatic winners were **Macclesfield**, who would have been as surprised as anyone to have beaten **Cheadle** by as big a margin as they did after totalling just 124 at Victoria Rd, and that only due to the last two wkts adding 46. The returning **Craig Melrose** then ran amok, returning 8-28 as Cheadle were bowled out for 68 in under 20 overs. The other side relegated from the 2021 Prem, **Timperley**, also tasted defeat at **Alvanley**, who were bolstered by both **Jarryd Basson** (80) and the world's best female ODI & IT20 bowler **Sophie Ecclestone** being available to play. Her 3-29 was part of an excellent team display as Alv won by 40 runs, **Ed Galley's** classy 85 not quite enough. Two clubs who almost got promoted last year met at the Rec, **Bollington** squeezing home in a fantastic game by 2 wkts against **Bramhall**, for whom **Greg Dixon** carried his bat for a magnificent 136* as the visitors totalled 236-6. Struggling in reply, Bolly were revived by a fabulous 91* off 77 balls from the bat of **Tom Horsfield**, who received just enough support from the lower order -

and 39 runs in the extras column - to take Bolly to victory with just two balls remaining. Moor-side Rd also saw some great batting as **Grant Hodnett** hit 112*, **Grappenhall** posting 233-4 against **Urmston**. The hosts were wobbling at 55-4 but promising youngster **Sumit Panda** hit a terrific 111* which, with good support from the lower order, was enough for a 3 wkt win. **Marple** were another side to pull off a good comeback from a dicey position, recovering from 89-5 to chase the 182 they needed to overcome **Congleton**. Promoted **Lindow's** recovery from 88-7 to reach 168 at **Sale** was due mainly to **Johan Wessels**, who was run out nine short of a ton after a stylish 67-ball knock. Boosted by **Pat Ashling** in their ranks, Sale had few problems reaching their target with some 13 overs & 6 wkts in hand.

APRIL 30

No side made it two from two, **Marple** ending April top of the early table after having had the better of their draw at **Grappenhall**, 86* from **Mark Makin** tak-

ing them to 223-7. Grappers were indebted to an adhesive 61* from **Ben Bodha** in their successful rearguard. The first of numerous lengthy trips for **Alvanley** culminated in a five wkt loss at **Cheadle**, who were pleased to shrug off the horrors of week one against an Alv team again having **Sophie Ecclestone** (3-35) available, **Liam Fitzpatrick** again top-scoring for the hosts. It was a tale of the shoe being on the other boot for **Macclesfield**, who saw **Congleton** recover from 127-8 to make 181 before themselves folding for just 87 with extras top scoring, four bowlers each taking four wkts each in the game. **Urmston** produced another impressive batting display, 89 from skipper **Lewis Jackson** the highlight of their 251-6 at **Lindow**, who lost a wkt to the first ball of their reply before being rallied by a magnificent 106 from **Johan Wessels** which took them agonisingly close to a win finishing on 241-8 in a great match which also featured 53 extras. **Timperley** took visitors **Bollington** for a massive 281-3 in just 48 overs, **Jonathan Fletcher** 110, Bolly never in the hunt as they were all out 174. 94 from **Pat Ashling** & a quick 61 from **Dan Newton** powered **Sale** to 267-8 at **Bramhall**, who finished on 170-8.

APRIL TABLE

TEAM	PTS
MARPLE	40
SALE	39
URMSTON	39
CONGLETON	34
ALVANLEY	31
TIMPERLEY	31
BOLLINGTON	29
CHEADLE	29
MACCLESFIELD	29
BRAMHALL	18
GRAPPENHALL	17
LINDOW	12

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
JOHAN WESSELS (LIN)	191
GREG DIXON (BRAM)	161
GRANT HODNETT (GRA)	126
JONATHAN FLETCHER (T)	122
PAT ASHLING (SALE)	116
SUMIT PANDA (URM)	111
PLAYER	WKTS
CRAIG MELROSE (MAC)	8
JACK HIGGINBOTTOM (CO)	7
JOE CASH (MAR)	7
WILL ESLEY (LIN)	6
BEN WATKIN (SALE)	6

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Greg Dixon 136*, Bram v Bol, 23.4
 Grant Hodnett 112*, Grap v Urm, 23.4
 Sumit Panda 111*, Urm v Grap, 23.4
 Jonathan Fletcher 110, Timp v Boll, 30.4
 Johan Wessels 106, Lind v Urm, 30.4 (& 91 v Sale, 23.4)
 Pat Ashling 94, Sale v Bram, 30.4
 Craig Melrose, 8-28, Macc v Chea, 23.4
 Will Esley 5-37, Lind v Urm, 30.4

APRIL 23

Three decisive wins, two draws and a thriller summarises the opening day in Division 2. Said thriller occurred at **Haslington**, where visitors **Christleton** were bowled out for 156, captain **Josh Morgan-Jones** making 51. Lurching at 21-3 in reply, Haslington reached 121-4 before losing three more wickets without addition, and although the tail battled valiantly, the hosts were bowled out for 151 with some 11 overs remaining, in a match where six bowlers all took three wickets each. Flowery Field hosted a high scoring opening fixture as visitors **Davenham**, starting afresh after a difficult 2021, dealt with the loss of a wicket third ball to put together a healthy 234-6, led by the returning **Sam Hunt** (captaining this year) with 61. In reply, **Stockport Georgians** were given a flyer by **Ned Bailey** (72), who, along with **Ben Jones**, posted 120 in 20.2 overs for the opening wicket. Jones continued on and reached his hundred in the 49th over, hitting the winning runs next ball to give his side a famous 7 wicket win. **Romiley** got their campaign off to a winning start with a 6 wicket win over **Hale Barns**, who were grateful for an 8th wicket stand of 52 to take them to 123, but it was

never going to be enough and **Ans Muhammad's** 56 helped settle the matter in short order. The biggest win of the day occurred at Walton Lea where **Warrington** got their 2022 off with a win, grinding out an 8 wicket win over promoted **Cheadle Hulme**, although it took the hosts almost 47 overs to reach the victory target of 110, **Muhammad Abid** making 52. A high scoring draw at **Upton**, where **Macca Hooton** hammered 87 out of the first 116 for **Ashton OM** before his dismissal, which triggered a sharp decline in the scoring rate, but nonetheless their 219 looked enough. Upton gave it a real go, however, finishing on 196-7. Another Wirral club, **Port Sunlight**, made their County League debut hosting **Mobberley**, and will have been disappointed to see the visitors get to 196-8 after having them 107-7. **Hamza Butt** 51*. A grim rearguard which included 15 off 71 balls from no.9 **Matthew Howard** saw PS finish on 138-9.

APRIL 30

Stockport Georgians made a statement with a rapid demolition of **Mobberley** at Church Lane, **Ned Bailey** celebrating his elevation to

the Cheshire ranks with a quickfire 54* as the visitors were home and hosed in 40 overs of cricket. Assisted by 38 extras, **Romiley** raced to 263-6 at home to **Warrington** before calling a halt, **Ans Mohammed** 61 (113 with **Tom Rolph** for the 1st) **David Badrock** 60. The visitors were held together by a fine 91 from **Richard Lyons** as they finished 211-7. A highly entertaining run-fest at The Beets, where **Macca Hooton's** 81-ball 110 saw hosts **Ashton OM** make 251-9, as **Jack Taylor** took a hat-trick for visitors **Haslington**. Taylor then followed up with an exhilarating 80* off just 40 balls as Has raced to their target off just 38.3 overs, **Charlie Kemp** 72, **Matt Kennerley-Ryan** 68. At Butchers Stile, a splendid 120 from **Joshua Agar** helped visitors **Hale Barns** to 232-8 which proved too much for **Davenham** who were all out 189. The last two **Cheadle Hulme** wickets added 64 as they wrung out 153-9 in their allocation at Grove Park against visitors **Upton** who were disappointed to be dismissed for 111 with some 11 overs unused. No details were available at time of writing regarding **Christleton's** high scoring draw with **Port Sunlight**.

APRIL TABLE

TEAM	PTS
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	50
CHRISTLETON	40
ROMILEY	39
WARRINGTON	32
HASLINGTON	31
HALE BARNES	28
CHEADLE HULME	25
ASHTON ON MERSEY	23
DAVENHAM	15
MOBBERLEY	14
UPTON	13
PORT SUNLIGHT	13

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
MACCA HOOTON (AOM)	197
BEN JONES (SG)	128
NED BAILEY (SG)	126
JACK TAYLOR (HAS)	126
RICHARD LYONS (WAR)	124
JOSHUA AGAR (HB)	124
PLAYER	WKTS
JACK TAYLOR (HAS)	7
MUHAMMAD ABID (WAR)	6
SIMON NORMANTON (SG)	6
TOM GLEDHILL (HAS)	6
DAVID WILLIAMS (UPT)	6

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Joshua Agar 120, HB v Dav, 30.4
 Macca Hooton 110, AOM v Hasl, 30.4 (& 87 v Upt, 23.4)
 Ben Jones 104*, SG v Dav, 23.4
 Richard Lyons 91, Warr v Rom, 30.4
 Robin Taylor 5-59, Dav v HB, 30.4
 Jack Taylor 80* and 4-80 incl a hat-trick, Hasl v AOM, 30.4

APRIL 23

It was a generally encouraging start in the 100 over format for the teams finding themselves in the new look CCCL Div 3. The two clubs most used to the format who were relegated last season, **Barrow** and **Stockport**, met at The Croft in what became a high scoring encounter. It didn't look that way when the hosts went from 79-1 to 96-5 before a 58-ball 76 from **Phil Johnson** and 62 from **Chris Morrison** took them to 224. In reply, a superb run-a-ball 115* from **Taimoor Malik**, who combined with **Calum Davies** (57*) to add an unbroken 113 for the 4th wkt, took Stockport to an impressive win with almost 10 overs in hand. **Ashley** racked up the highest total of the day, 117* from **Imran Butt** the highlight of their 265-7 against **Barnton**, who were in the doodoo at 69-5 before a splendid 85* from **Joel Cross** got them to 206-7. **Maritime** were another side to motor past 200, despite losing a wicket to the first ball of their game against **Runcorn**. **Vensakar Kanthiraj** made an excellent 103* as the hosts reached 231-6. The visitors lost a wicket fourth ball of their reply, and dug in for the draw, **Rob Magee** making 67 before becoming one of

three run out victims. **North East Cheshire** made 200-9 against **Kingsley**, with 'unsure' recording a nine wicket haul according to the scorecard. Kingsley were all out 167 in reply, five wickets for **Will Westerby** the standout performance. **Winnington Park** returned to County league action after a lengthy absence, entertaining **Hawk Green** and making 174-8, **Alec Butcher** 68. In reply, **Jack Needham** and **Ollie Whisker** both made half-centuries as the visitors claimed a four wkt win in the 42nd over. **Oakmere** were the other winners of day one, captain **Craig Phelan** making 56* as his side reached the 86 needed with plenty in hand to claim a comfortable 8 wkt win at **Tattenhall**.

APRIL 30

Will Westerby was again to the fore for **NE Cheshire**, his 6-37 seeing hosts **Runcorn** bowled out in 40.5 overs for just 139, **Andrew Clarke's** unbeaten 65 easing NEC to an encouraging 8 wkt win which put them on top after two games. An excellent all round performance from **Barrow's Gareth Hughes** was the lynchpin of their 9

wkt win at **Barnton**, Hughes making 90 after taking 3-44 to secure an emphatic win. It's not often that **Tattenhall's** batting has fired in recent times but at last it did after their epic odyssey across to **Hawk Green**, the visitors totalling 256-9 with **Ethan-Jai Evans** making 91* off 61. Despite 74 from **Elliott Young**, HG couldn't get going and in increasing tension they were bowled out in the final over. A fine all-round performance from **James Hodkinson** was not quite enough for **Oakmere** to overcome visitors **Ashley**. Hodkinson first made 85 out of 219-7 and then took 4-47 as Ashley clung on to finish 183-9, **Syed Azam Shah** making 73. There was also plenty of encouragement for **Maritime** after their long ride to Cale Green to take on **Stockport**, **Ali Suthaagan** taking 5-19 as the hosts were skittled for 115, **Zafar Jatoi's** 63 off 43 the only knock of substance. Maritime eased to their target with almost half their overs unused. The most notable feature of the draw between **Kingsley** and **Winnington Park** was that visitors WP didn't concede a single extra in the 50 overs they bowled, their last pair surviving 5.3 overs.

APRIL TABLE

TEAM	PTS
NORTH EAST CHESHIRE	50
OAKMERE	40
MARITIME	38
BARROW	34
HAWK GREEN	33
STOCKPORT	28
TATTENHALL	25
KINGSLEY	21
ASHLEY	20
WINNINGTON PARK	14
BARNTON	12
RUNCORN	8

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
IMRAN BUTT (ASH)	165
VENSAKAR KANTHIRAJ	139
TAIMOOR MALIK (STO)	115
JOEL CROSS (BARN)	102
ANDREW CLARKE (NEC)	102
GARETH HUGHES (BAR)	99
PLAYER	WKTS
WILL WESTERBY (NEC)	11
ADAM PORTER (STO)	6
JONNY WALES (WP)	6
ALAGIAH SUTHAAGARAN	6
MICHAEL YEATS (KIN)	5

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Imran Butt 117*, Ash v Barn, 23.4
 Taimoor Malik 115*, Stock v Bar, 23.4
 Vensakar Kanthiraj 103*, Mar v Run, 23.4
 Will Westerby 6-37, NEC v Run, 30.4
 Ali Suthaagan 5-19, Mar v Sto, 30.4
 Will Westerby 5-26, NEC v King, 23.4
 Adam Porter 5-50, Stock v Bar, 23.4
 Gareth Hughes 90 & 3-44, Barr v Barn, 30.4
 James Hodkinson 85 & 4-47, Oak v Ash, 30.4

2022 CUP COMPETITIONS

T20 FORMATS



The 1st XI and 3rd XI T20 mini-groups have been allocated with 1st XI fixtures commencing on Thursday May 19th. This year a 16 group set up has been decided upon, with 4 of those groups comprising just two teams, who will, it seems, only play the one match to decide who goes through, instead of facing each other twice. The holders Alderley Edge are in one of these two-team groups, facing Cheadle. The other twelve groups all have three teams, with ten of the twelve Division 3 clubs making their debuts in this competition. All the Premier Division clubs are in separate groups.

Again splayed out across the whole season, the 3rd XI competition has got underway already, with eight mini groups. News of the early games is elsewhere in the newsletter.

The 2nd XI competition is a straight knock-out and the first round of 15 matches has been drawn, matches taking place either on Tuesday 18 or 25 May with a 6.15 latest start time arranged, as follows:

CHEADLE v HEATON MERSEY ROMILEY v CHEADLE HULME OXTON v WARRINGTON
BRAMHALL v MARPLE NANTWICH v MACCLESFIELD DIDSBURY 2 v HALE BARNES TOFT v CONGLETON
URMSTON v SALE BOWDON v BROOKLANDS TIMPERLEY v ASHTON OM UPTON v CHESTER BH
DAVENHAM v LINDOW HYDE v STOCKPORT WIDNES v GRAPPENHALL TATTENHALL v NESTON

CHESHIRE CUP 2022

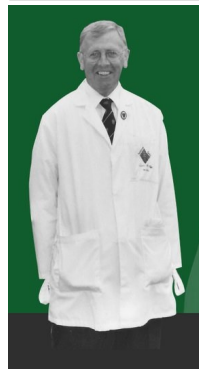
There are 30 entries for this year's Cheshire Cup. Round 1 is scheduled for May 22, with current holders Chester BH given a bye through to round 2 along with 2021 runners-up New Brighton. One match has already taken place, Oxton winning at Stockport Georgians by virtue of having lost fewer wickets with the scores level. The 1st Round draw is:

MAY 22: BOLLINGTON v BIRKENHEAD PARK; BOWDON v SALE; BRAMHALL v NANTWICH; BROOKLANDS v ROMILEY; CHEADLE v NESTON; GRAPPENHALL v WALLASEY; HYDE v P.SUNLIGHT; N.E.CHESHIRE v WIDNES; OULTON PK v LINDOW; TIMPERLEY v DIDSBURY; TOFT v MACCLESFIELD; URMSTON v ALDERLEY EDGE WARRINGTON v ELWORTH

At the time of publication, no new regulations had been introduced for the 2022 competition.

CLUBS SALUTE TWO CHESHIRE STALWARTS

TONY MORRIS



Affectionally known as 'tangles', Tony Morris, whose funeral took place at the height of the pandemic, had a match played in his memory between the two 'Parks' with which he had long association, Winnington and Oulton, on Easter Day. A selection of photos are available on twitter. Visitors to Little Budworth will also see an engraved wooden seat which remembers a highly regarded player, umpire and administrator.

RAY DAVIES

Although it's a number of years since their County League heydays, Middlewich's announcement of the death of Ray Davies in February drew tributes from all across the county. After representing the club's 2nd XI and Sunday teams, Ray became an umpire and then a scorer, covering games for Cheshire League representative teams, and always retaining a great passion for his club, whom he served latterly as President.



CHESHIRE SHIELD 2022



Shield holders Hawk Green are one of 11 sides given a bye in the first round - as are losing finalists Barrow - which gets underway on May 16th (1.00pm start) as follows:

APPLETON v STOCKPORT GEORGIANS;
BUNBURY v KINGSLEY; CHEADLE HULME
v ASHTON-ON-MERSEY; PARKFIELD LIS-
CARD v ALVANLEY; WIRRAL v CALDY



CHESHIRE CC NEWS

PERFECT START FOR T20 CAMPAIGN

It was a very happy Easter at Oxton as Cheshire were finally able to play T20 cricket again, two comprehensive wins over Shropshire giving them the best possible platform in the competition. On a lovely Spring day and with a decent crowd in attendance, skipper Nick Anderson (right) chose to field first in game one, inspiring an excellent display from his new team as Shropshire spluttered to 124-4, Cheshire conceding just one wide and Michael Finan taking 3-8 in his 4 pacy overs. Rob Sehmi (61* off 40) and Sam Perry (51 off 44) opened up with a stand of 114 in 13.3 overs and victory was attained with a quarter of the overs unused. Game two followed on and Anderson again got the call right at the toss, electing to bat and watching Sehmi again blaze a trail, the OP man hammering 70 off 39 as Harry Dearden (*pictured below finding the boundary*) and Will Evans also got stuck into a dispirited Shropshire attack. Anderson then rounded things off with 42 off 23 as Cheshire soared to 212-5. The visitors understandably found this way too many to chase, 75-3 at halfway leaving them needing almost 14 an over from that point, Cheshire easing to a 74 run triumph. So a heartening start but a tough test lies ahead, two double headers on consecutive days against Northumberland at Leek (Sun May 1st) and then against Cumbria at Toft on Bank Holiday Monday. Free admission for all matches, with a review to follow in the next edition of the newsletter.



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3RD XI JACK GARDNER TROPHY MINI GROUP MATCHES

The first round of matches took place on Sunday 24th April, with the following outcomes:

Grp 1: GRAPPENHALL (179-4) beat Ashley (110) by 69 runs

NORTHWICH beat Runcorn, Runcorn conceded

Grp 2: TIMPERLEY (163-3) beat Brooklands (160-4) by 7 wkts

ASHTON-ON-MERSEY (137-5) beat Sale (113-5) by 24 runs

Grp 3: BOWDON (217-3) beat Hale Barns (67) by 150 runs

TRAFFORD METROVICKS (173-3) beat Toft (86) by 87 runs

Grp 4: DIDSBURY 3s (187-5) beat Stockport Trinity (92-5) by 95 runs

HEATON MERSEY (100-5) beat Stockport (99-7) by 5 wkts

Grp 5: BRAMHALL (120-9) beat Didsbury 4s (113-6) by 7 runs

STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (121-3) beat Cheadle (118-4) by 7 wkts

Grp 6: ROMILEY (151-2) beat Bredbury St.Marks (149-7) by 8 wkts

MARPLE & COMPSTALL (154-2) beat Woodley (93-8) by 61 runs

Grp 7: N.E.CHESHIRE 4s (103-3) beat Lindow 4s (100-8) by 7 wkts

ALDERLEY EDGE (157-4) beat Hyde (153-7) by 4 runs

Grp 8: NANTWICH (82-2) beat Haslington (78-5) by 8 wkts

MACCLESFIELD (151-8) beat Elworth (121-4) by 30 runs

Send your feedback and information to: editorclnews101@gmail.com