

COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS

on behalf of Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)



AUGUST 2023

The business end!

All to play for after a wet month

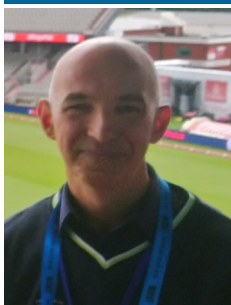
2nd XI T20 Finals completed but
3rd XI Day washed out

Cheshire 3 day side stay up



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FROM THE EDITOR



Hello again and welcome to what will be the penultimate newsletter of 2023. The month has proved busier than previously imagined and in the end it made more sense to produce something that covered the whole of August, which disappointingly finished on the same wet note on which it started, although we were at least spared another blanket washout. But here we are, with just three weeks left of our season in Cheshire! As the end of a poor season weather-wise, clubs will be considering what needs to change in 2024. Do we need win-lose cricket throughout? Well, in 1st XI cricket, of 336 completed games (discounting rain affected matches), 33 have finished as draws (plus one tie). In other words, nine out of every ten 1st XI games has a definitive result - so there's still not the evidence to suggest that 'blocking out' is a common occurrence (nor has there been for the past few seasons). The need for DLS to reset targets in rain-affected league games is something many others are finally acknowledging the need for, as is a rethink of the T20 competitions at all levels, with the need for a rework of the Finals Day format, or a recognition that, in its current format, all Finals Days need to be staged at a club with two grounds, or alternatively at closely neighbouring clubs (of which there are several) to have a chance of succeeding. Anyway, for now, there's still plenty of cricket to enjoy, many nerves to be shredded, and many celebratory/commiserating drinks to be had. All will be celebrated at the League Dinner in October, and I would encourage you to book asap.

James



LEAGUE DINNER

Friday 6th October 2023
7pm for 7.30pm

2 Course Dinner

Marquee at Toft Cricket Club

Speaker - Paul Nixon
Leicestershire CCC and England Player

2023 Trophies and Award Presentation

Tickets £35 each

Each league club will have minimum allocation of 3 tickets

Contact: CheshireCCL@gmail.com or 07771624450
Numbers and dietary requirements by 22nd September
with payment by 29th September

www.cheshirecountycc.org.uk
www.cheshirecountycc.play-cricket.com

DIDSBURY JUNIORS IN LORDS FINAL

More joy for Didsbury CC as their U13s made the national final of their competition, having played (and won) 11 games in total, overcoming opponents from Lancashire, Cheshire, Durham, Scotland and Nottinghamshire to make the final.

Paying tribute to his players and the support he has received from parents, coach Jack Prince described it as follows *"Eleven wins in a row, with treacherous obstacles such as the weather, travel, availability, dodgy pitches (including an astroturf!) and even dodgier umpiring decisions. Questionable organisation and seemingly ever changing rules and regulations. Stubborn groundsman (ours not included of course!), broken scoreboards and blank playcricket scorecards. Sixes and fours. Hat-tricks and golden ducks. 230/2 and 93 all out. We've seen and done it all. Yes, we've had plenty of luck along the way. With availability, with weather, with home draws, and with our cricket. However luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity and we have certainly been prepared!"*



The final takes place at Lords on Saturday, September 2nd with a 14:30 schedule start time. News of how the U13s get on will be included in the final newsletter of the season.

2nd XI RED INSURE T20 FINALS DAY

NESTON CC, SUN 13 AUGUST

DOMINANT DIDSBURY MAKE IT THREE IN A ROW

Comfortable defence for cup holders

The 2nd XI competition reached a mercifully rain-free conclusion in mid-Aug when a Didsbury side playing four games in six days produced two measured performances to win the Red Insure T20 trophy for the third year in a row.



With their quarter-final against Widnes being delayed until Tuesday 8th, **Didsbury** then had their Saturday league game to negotiate before the trip right across Cheshire to take on a Bowdon side who have been in good form throughout the season in the Premier Division. However, having chosen to bat, **Bowdon** couldn't really impose themselves on the Didsbury spin trio of **Ed Catt**, **Max Backhouse** and **Hersh Khatri**, and ended with 130-7. **Jack Hastings** then led off with 33 off 29 as good contributions from several batters saw Dids to an untroubled victory with 9 deliveries in hand. Hosts **Neston** made short work of their opponents **Alvanley**, the only non-Premier Division side at finals day, bowling them out for just 85 inside 19 overs, **Harley Pritchard** and veteran **Paul Stimson** returning 6-27 between them. There was some brief early hope for Alv as **Tom Kenton** struck twice in three deliveries to leave Neston 9-2, but that was as good as it got, **Zak Rogers** striking successive sixes to finish the match with some 6 overs unused. The final saw **Neston** choose to bat first, but like Bowdon before them, they found the **Dids** spin trio hard to get away, their combined haul of 5-79 in 12 overs restricting the hosts to 131-7 despite 8 batters getting to double figures, **Will Brewster's** 32 (24 bs) the top score. **Jack Hastings** was then again to the fore, the Didsbury batter continuing his love affair with the competition by stroking an unbeaten 74 off just 58 balls (4x4, 3x6). Having hit 368 runs in 5 games in the 2021 competition (averaging 122.67), he became ineligible for the quarters and finals day last year, but in 2023 Hastings has hit 303 runs at an average of 151.5, including an unbeaten 125*, 67* in the qf win over Widnes, and then a commanding display in the final, putting on 103 for the opening wkt with **Evan Turner** (33) in 14 overs as Didsbury cruised home. Skipper **Ryan Wilson** was presented the trophy by tournament organiser Brian Boys and praised his side for taking some fantastic catches and the generally tight bowling throughout, also thanking Neston for putting on a fantastic day for all the finalists.



SEMI-FINALS, SUN 13 AUG, NESTON CC

Alvanley 85 (18.4 os) (H.Pritchard 3-11, P.Stimson 3-16)

Neston 90-4 (13.2 os) (I.Gill 28, Z.Rogers 23*)

NESTON WON BY 6 WKTS

Umpires: David Croft & Ray Hunt Scorers: not listed

Bowdon 130-7 (20 os) (J.Teasdale 46)

Didsbury 132-4 (18.3 os) (J.Hasting 33, A.Slater 31)

DIDSBURY WON BY 6 WKTS

Umpires: Phil Thomas & John Edmonds

Scorers: Henrik Holm (Didsbury)

2023 2nd XI Red Insure T20 Trophy Final, Sun 13 Aug, Neston CC:

Neston 131-7 (20 os) (W.Brewster 32)

Didsbury 134-1 (17.3 os) (J.Hastings 74*, E.Turner 33)

DIDSBURY WON BY 9 WKTS

Umpires: David Croft & Ray Hunt Scorers: Henrik Holm (Didsbury)

WK 17 - AUGUST 12

Despite being effectively bowled out for 67, **Alderley Edge** still managed a 27 run win at **Oxton** to go top of the Division. AE actually totalled 176, but after a 109 run opening stand between **Ben Kohler-Cadmore** (80) and **Sam Perry** (45) they fell in a heap, five wkts for **Jordan Collier**. However, boosted by the return of **Chris Sanders**, AE had too much for the hosts, Sanders 4-35 including the wkt of last man **Chris Stenhouse** (pictured). AE thus went top by a point after **Didsbury** were defied by a **Cheadle** rearguard at Kingsway, the hosts thankful to **Andrej Yaksender** making 93* (119 bs) in their 213-7. **Steve Green** had earlier made 94 in Dids' 270-6. **Widnes** had a wonderful trip to Werneth Low, making 251-9, **Aaron Soni** 82 and **Matt Burns** 64. The pace of **Eric Botha** and **Qamar Hafiz** then proved too hot to handle, Hyde crashing to 122 all out as the pair took 8-80 between them. Another shock result at Whitehouse Lane as **Brooklands** made it successive wins there, recovering from 64-7 as **AJ Hart** (41) and **Dan O'Gorman** (47) added 91. Their 166 still looked modest, but Hart was at his irresistible best, 17 overs off the reel to return 5-26, including the key wkts of **Marcus Stables** and **Luke Robinson** for ducks as Nantwich had a real off day, bowled out for 89. **Phil Raikes** made a fabulous 132 as **Toft** racked up 265-8 and a priceless 80 run win at stuttering **Neston**. Meanwhile **Chester BH** quietly continued their revival with a 23 run win over **Grappenhall** - **Warren Goodwin's** 31 was to be the highest score of the match, and after being 110-7, CBH's 164 was respectable. Despite having two extra overs, the pressure proved too much for Grappers who tumbled to 141 all out, the spin of **Jack Williams** and **Joshua Leach** claiming 7-83 combined as a real opportunity slipped through Grappers fingers.



WK 16 - AUGUST 5

Didsbury recovered from 1-2 to reach 122-4 after 24 in an 80 over match at Brooklands, but that was as far as they got. All other games were cancelled: Alderley Edge v Neston; Grappenhall v Cheadle; Nantwich v Oxton; Toft v Hyde; Widnes v Chester BH.

WK 18 - AUGUST 19

A pivotal day in the Prem saw **Alderley Edge** establish a 24 pt advantage at the top, their 55 run win over **Nantwich** perfectly timed as their rivals faltered. Skipper **Sam Perry** led the way with a brilliant 122, putting on 185 for the 2nd wkt with **Subhaan Mahmood** (75) as **Mitchell Spencer's** tireless 7-75 clipped AE's wings in the latter stages. Still, 259-8 proved enough, **Charlie Reid** with 4 wkts as the Dabbers were all out 204 just 10 balls from safety. **Didsbury** chose the wrong time to put in their poorest batting display of the season, managing just 123 against an in-form **Chester BH**, **Josh Leach** and **Jack Williams** taking 8-87 between them. Williams was then very much to the fore with the bat, **Dids** fighting back hard to reduce CBH to 44-6, but the experience of Williams proved the perfect foil for **Noah Vickery** (pic) who hit successive sixes to end on a



highly accomplished 74* and guide his side to a sixth straight win. **Hyde** also had a bad day, crashing to 95 all out as **Grappenhall** recorded an improbably large 145 run win. **Arav Shetty** made 87 and **Tom MacRury** 60 as Grappers made their highest total of the season, Hyde's batting then inexplicably failing for a second week in a row. It got even better for Grappers when news came through of **Cheadle's** loss at **Brooklands**, a result which saw the Kingsway side drop back into a congested relegation mix. **Todd Walker** played a brilliant hand, ninth man out for 131 out of an eventual total of 195, and Cheadle were unable to repeat their escape of the week previous, all out 137 in the 51st. With **Toft** skittling **Oxton** for just 67 and thus recording successive wins, 24 pts separated the bottom four clubs at the close. Third at the end of June, **Neston** have only won once since, and they left **Widnes** pointless after being bowled out for just 97, which led to a resounding 8 wkt loss.

WK 19 - AUG 26

Chester BH's seventh straight win (amidst cancelled games), this one by 4 wkts over **Cheadle**, saw them into third, and ruing that stuttering start to the season. That, and another win for lowly **Grappenhall**, were the stand-out results on another rainy day. Grappers were the latest side to win at **Neston**, four more wkts for **Tom MacRury** seeing the hosts all out 130, the New Zealander then hammering 91* off 66 bs to race his side to victory as the weather closed in. **Alderley Edge** were not so lucky, thwarted by the rain as they chased just 120 to beat **Brooklands**; **Didsbury** were also left frus-

trated at **Hyde**, an astonishing onslaught by skipper **Nick Anderson**, who hit 103* off just 46 bs and an equally mesmerising 113 (77 bs) from **Rob Sehmi**, saw 146 added in 12.2 overs, Dids (having been 4-2) reaching 252-4 in under 30 overs and at least claiming 10 pts, Hyde glad to see the back of a poor month for them. Despite a seven wkt loss at **Nantwich**, **Toft** were able to claim the 7 pt underpin which pushed them one game closer to safety, but it promises to be a close run thing. An 80 over game at Townsend Lane saw **Oxton** chase **Widnes' 182** with an over to spare, **Rohan Luthra** (90) and **Luke McCoy** (54) adding 116 for the visitors.

CCCL PREMIER DIV STATS - AUG 23



TEAM	PTS	HIGHEST	LOWEST	TOP BATTER	TOP WKTS
ALDERLEY EDGE	324	331-6	100	SAM PERRY - 686	RICHARD WILKINSON - 32
DIDSBURY	303	322	123	ED NEWMAN - 622	STEVE GREEN - 46
CHESTER BH	284	305	96	NOAH VICKERY - 572	JACK WILLIAMS - 46
HYDE	279	269-6	154	LUKE YOUNG - 573	DANIEL CRANMER - 36
NANTWICH	262	250-4	44	LUKE ROBINSON - 596	PHIL STOCKTON - 40
NESTON	256	267-6	97	MATTHEW STRONG - 416	ASH DAVIS - 41
OXTON	256	238-3	112	HENRY DOBSON - 549	JORDAN COLLIER - 44
WIDNES	249	301-7	103	ROHAN LUTHRA - 469	ERIC BOTHA - 29
TOFT	205	271-6	49	JIMMY O'SULLIVAN - 400	MATT CORNES - 25
GRAPPENHALL	205	240	115	ARAV SHETTY - 499	TOM MacRURY - 45
CHEADLE	183	274-6	69	ANDREJ YAKSENDER - 515	DAN BROWN - 23
BROOKLANDS	181	264-9	84	TODD WALKER - 520	A.J.HART - 32

AUGUST FORM GUIDE

TEAM	AUG PTS
CHESTER BH	82
WIDNES	68
ALDERLEY EDGE	64
TOFT	64
BROOKLANDS	64
GRAPPENHALL	62
NANTWICH	42
OXTON	41
DIDSBURY	33
CHEADLE	25
HYDE	22
NESTON	19

LEADING RUNS

PLAYER	RUNS
SAM PERRY	686
BEN KOHLER-CADMORE	631
ED NEWMAN	622
ROB SEHMI	607
LUKE ROBINSON	596
LUKE YOUNG	573
NOAH VICKERY	572
ALEX MONEY	570
HENRY DOBSON	567
LUKE FILER	524

LEADING WKTS

PLAYER	WKTS
STEVE GREEN	46
JACK WILLIAMS	46
TOM MacRURY	45
JORDAN COLLIER	44
ASH DAVIS	41
PHIL STOCKTON	40
JASON FOULKES	39
DANIEL CRANMER	36
LUKE YOUNG	34
MITCHELL SPENCER	33

WICKETKEEPERS & FIELDERS

Angus Kilby of Chester BH has 18 ct, 10 st (plus 4 catches as a fielder, and an r/o) to lead the w/k stats at present, followed by Toft's O'Shay Reddy (14/6 and 1 ctach as a fielder) and Nantwich's Spencer Byatt (17/1 & 1 r/o). Neston's **David Hurst** with 13 catches & 1 r/o is the leading outfielder, followed by Brooklands' Todd Walker, who as well as 11 catches also has 3 catches as a keeper to his name.

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

12 Aug: Phil Raikes 132, Toft v Nest; Steve Green 94 (& 2-55), Dids v Chead; Andrej Yaksender 93*, Chead v Dids; AJ Hart 17-8-26-5 (one spell), & 41 in an 8th wkt stand of 91, Brook v Nant; Jordan Collier 5-47, Oxt v AE; Mike Stewart 5-73, Nest v Toft

19 Aug: Todd Walker 131, Brook v Chead; Sam Perry 122, AE v Nantwich; Mitchell Spencer 7-75, Nant v AE; Ben Broadhurst 5-41, Chead v Brook; Qamar Hafiz 5-43, Wid v Nest; Tom MacRury 60 & 3-29, Grapp v Hyde

26 Aug: Rob Sehmi 113, Dids v Hyde; Nick Anderson 103*, Dids v Hyde; Tom MacRury, 91* & 4-21, Grapp v Nest; Rohan Luthra 90, Wid v Oxt; Jack Corran 5-31, Oxt v Wid; Chris Sanders 5-32, AE v Brook

WK 17 - AUG 12

A fairly attritional day in Div 1 saw leaders Bowdon tied at the top with Timperley, **Bowdon** going down by 40 runs at **Oulton Park**, for whom **Frank Farrington** made 73 in their 229-8, **James Bottomley** claiming 5-93. Bowdon made a poor start, losing skipper **Jack Tipton** in the third over, but



Matt Tully hit back with 22 off four successive deliveries. However, he and **Rob Lord** fell in the next over, **Max Butler** (pictured) trapping them both lbw. **Shardul Viinoaday** (72) and **Joe Chapple** (43) fought back, adding 98, but Bowdon were all out 189. Despite an unbeaten 130 (118 bs) from **Jonathan Fletcher**, **Timperley** (244) were frustrated by **Sale** at Stockport Rd, the visitors batting out on 188-7. Mercurial **Romiley** were the latest side to fall victim to reviving **Bramhall**, shot out for just 108 at Brichvale Drive as the visitors made it four wins from their last five games. That result saw **Macclesfield** into third, courtesy of their fifth successive win, this one defending a modest 157-8 made against **Lindow** at Victoria Rd. Skipper **Jon Birchall** (35) and **Craig Melrose** (32*) added a vital 53 for the 7th wkt, but even then a powerful Lindow line-up including **James Duffy** will have fancied their chances. However, veteran **Barney Cutbill** caught his old foe, one of 5 wkts for **Miles Bradshaw**, Melrose weighing in with three as Lindow were all out 131. The bottom two weren't really helped by their respective draws, **Alvanley** holding on at 180-9 chasing **Stockport Georgians'** 247-6, **Ben Jones** a sparkling 108, but the result left SG with a 44 pt cushion between the sides. At Booth St, **Lewis Jackson** made 84 as **Urmston** totalled 202-8 in 48 overs, and despite a beefy 51* from **Jack Goode**, **Congleton** finished on 198-8 and ended the day realistically needing snookers to avoid dropping into Division Two.

WK 16 - AUG 5 No play in any 1st Division fixtures sadly. Matches cancelled: Bowdon v Alvanley; Congleton v Oulton Park; Lindow v Timperley; Sale v Romiley; S.Georgians v Macclesfield; Urmston v Bramhall.

WK 18 - AUG 19

The day ended with both ends of the table looking increasingly settled. **Bowdon's** crushing 9 wkt win over **Congleton** (59 all out) courtesy of 4 wkts apiece for **Rob Lord** and **Xander Selby**, saw them well on course for an immediate return to the Prem, while should Cong fail to beat Georgians next week their relegation will be all but confirmed. **Timperley** went level on pts with Bowdon after they ended **Bramhall's** recent fine run, winning by 5 wkts at Church Lane, **Chris Page** with 5-34. Timpers were made to graft for the 117 they needed, victory coming in the 42nd over with **Fred Vaughan-Hawkins**, on the back of two tons for the 3rd XI, making an important 39*. **Sale's** 3 wkt win over **Macclesfield** - their first win since June 24th - kept them in touch with the top two. Macc's strong run, which had pushed

them to third, looked set to continue at 95-0 after being put in, but **Ben Watkin** (5-64) was the main reason that turned into 192 all out in 48 overs. Sale made full use of the extra six balls as skipper **Mike Bishop** (51*) anchored a nervy chase, hitting two sixes in the penultimate over before no. 9 **Amyln Layton** secured the win with two balls remaining. **Finn Gavaghan's** fine 76 was followed up with 2-15, one of five **Lindow** bowlers amongst the wkts as their big 103 run win left **Alvanley** taking a standing count - with Sale and Timperley amongst their last four games, it's looking bleak for the Alv. **Stockport Georgians** are still not safe just yet, a dramatic draw with **Oulton Park** keeping them honest. After 64 from **Francis Yates** and 50 from **Simon Normanton**, it boiled down to three needed off the last ball, but SG could only scramble a bye, finishing on 207-8. After **Martyn East** (58) and **Nick Ball** (50) put on 80 for the 1st, OP seemed destined for a lot more than their eventual 208-9. In the other game, 62* from no. 8 **Umar Munawar** helped **Urmston** to 194-8 and a share of the spoils with visitors **Romiley** (239-9).

WK 19 - AUG 26

Bowdon survived a real scare as they held their nerve at 99-8 to reach the 122 they needed to beat an **Urmston** side that haven't won since the end of June, skipper **Jack Tipton's** painstaking 69 and a handy 15* from **Xander Selby** (to go with his earlier 5-21) the highlights. With **Timperley** completing a big 108-run win over fading **Romiley** (**Jamie Matthews** 66 and another 5-for from **Chris Page**) the top two look fairly sorted, although **Sale** are chasing hard, their last-ball win at **Alvanley** keeping them in touch. After **Tyrone Lawrence** took 6-31, **Dan Newton** blasted 72, including an enormous six in the last over, as Sale got the 11 runs they needed,

but it was a heartbreaker for the hosts who are now over 50 pts from safety with just three games remaining. **Congleton's** twelfth defeat of the season was sealed within nine overs of **Stockport Georgians** batting at Booth St, the visitors knocking off their 71 target in short order to push the inevitable conclusion for Cong that bit closer to being formally confirmed. In the other games **Lindow** won comfortably at **Oulton Park**, a 68 run victory led by **Will Espley's** 5-27, with OP now having won just twice since May 20th. **Macclesfield's** match with **Bramhall** was blighted and eventually halted by rain, but not before **Alex Thompson** had added a touch of class to proceedings with 59 from 76 balls in Macc's 181-8.

CCCL DIV ONE STATS - AUG 23



TEAM	PTS	HIGHEST	LOWEST	TOP BATTER	TOP WKTS
BOWDON	333	279-6	158	ROSS ZELEM - 484	JOE CHAPPLE - 31
TIMPERLEY	333	264-9	140	JONATHAN FLETCHER - 494	CAEDENCE KUEPPER - 40
SALE	313	264-2	43	PAT ASHLING - 568	DAN NEWTON - 29
MACCLESFIELD	290	229-8	125	JACK MASSEY - 464	CRAIG MELROSE - 28
ROMILEY	280	267-6	79	ISAAC WILLETT - 612	BRADLEY SNAPE - 30
LINDOW	264	283-3	108	JAMES DUFFY - 461	ALEX MATTHEWS - 22
OULTON PARK	238	228-6	140	ANDREW METCALF - 435	ANDREW DUFTY - 45
BRAMHALL	228	249-8	54	NICK CANTELLO - 458	SIMON WILKINSON - 41
STOCK.GEORGIANS	218	250-5	31	NED BAILEY - 437	SIMON NORMANTON - 51
URMSTON	206	265-6	48	RYAN O'BRIEN - 484	LIAM MARSHALL - 24
ALVANLEY	154	240-6	66	JONO WHITLEY - 281	MICHAEL ROWLANDS - 34
CONGLETON	136	230-7	59	ALI AZMAT - 374	MUHAMMAD KASHIF - 35

AUGUST FORM GUIDE

TEAM	AUG PTS
TIMPERLEY	70
SALE	66
BOWDON	64
LINDOW	61
S.GEORGIANS	56
OULTON PARK	53
MACCLESFIELD	49
BRAMHALL	42
URMSTON	36
ALVANLEY	27
ROMILEY	26
CONGLETON	15

LEADING RUNS

PLAYER	RUNS
ISAAC WILLETT	612
PAT ASHLING	568
JONATHAN FLETCHER	494
ROSS ZELEM	484
RYAN O'BRIEN	484
DAN NEWTON	475
JACK MASSEY	464
JAMES DUFFY	461
TYRONE LAWRENCE	460
NICK CANTELLO	458

LEADING WKTS

PLAYER	WKTS
SIMON NORMANTON	51
ANDREW DUFTY	45
CAEDENCE KUEPPER	42
SIMON WILKINSON	41
JOE CHAPPLE	35
MUHAMMAD KASHIF	35
XANDER SELBY	35
MICHAEL ROWLANDS	34
ALEX HOOTON	31
JAMES BOTTOMLEY	30

WICKETKEEPERS & FIELDERS

Bowdon's **John Sanders**, with 6 stumpings & 21 catches (and a r/o and fc) is top of the w/k stats at the end of the month, with Macc's **Ben Gibson** (4 st/19 ct) and Timperley's **Jonathan Fletcher** (19 ct/2 st) next on the list. Stockport Georgians' **Ned Bailey** has 15 catches to his name so far, making him the leading outfielder.

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

12 Aug: Jonathan Fletcher 130*, Timp v Sale; Ben Jones 108, SG v Alv; Caedence Kuepper 5-44, Timp v Sale; Miles Bradshaw 5-47, Macc v Lind; James Bottomley 5-93, Bowd v OP

19 Aug: Ben Watkin 5-64, Sale v Macc; Chris Page 5-34, Timp v Bram

26 Aug: Tyrone Lawrence 6-31 (& 38), Sale v Alv; Xander Selby 5-21, Bowd v Urm; Chris Page 5-26, Timp v Rom; Will Spley 5-27, Lind v OP; Andrew Dufty 5-58, OP v Lind



CCCL DIVISION TWO



WK 16 - AUG 5

No play in any games.

WK 17 - AUG 12

Marple's Joe Cash took 7-23 as the leaders marched on, bowling **Bollington** out for just 50 and winning by 9 wkts in quick time. **Davenham** went second after a fine 7 wkt win at **Ashton OM**. The hosts recovered from 104-7 to post 216, skipper **James Marshall** (58) and **Mark Weighill** (43) adding 109 for the 8th wkt. Hopes soared even higher after Dav were quickly 7-2, but **Jason van der Meulen** (127* off 81 bs) and **Regan Johnson** (82) added a superb 184 for the 3rd wkt to leave a crest-fallen AOM deep in relegation trouble. **Christleton** saw their hopes of a first win similarly dashed, despite reducing **Haslington** to 21-5 in pursuit of 158 to win at Little Heath. **Ben Istead** (60*) and keeper **Joe Goodier** (72*) put on an unbroken 139 to steer Has to a vital 25 pts, Christleton right on the brink. Elsewhere, **Mobberley** could only draw at **NE Cheshire** in an 84-over match, NEC making 143-9, Mobb finishing on 141-8. **Stockport** brought their barren run to an end, their first win since June coming by 2 wkts in a

scrappy game at **Hale Barns**, while **Cheadle Hulme's** last 5 wkts put on 115 between them to take their side to 154 against **Port Sunlight**, the pace of **Scott Howarth** then proving too much as PS folded for 80.

WK 18 - AUG 19

A significant result at both ends of the table with **Davenham's** 5 wkt win over **Hale Barns** putting them top, while HB ended the day nervously looking over their shoulders. It wasn't a classic at Butcher's Stile, **Reece Johnson** taking 5-13 as HB only managed 110, but Dav had to scrap, **Muhammad Abid** taking 95 bs over 33* as he and **Regan Johnson** (41) scratched out the bulk of the total. **Marple's** 52 run loss at **Haslington** was also a key result, Has inspired again by skipper **Ben Istead's** 80 which took them from 30-4 to 191-8, Istead taking the final wkt as two reverses in three saw Marple slip to second. They're still only 4 pts off top spot, however, but Has are now just 8 pts behind them as things got very tight. A huge result at the Rec also, where **Ashton OM** stunned hosts **Bollington**, heisting a 6 run win after themselves man-

aging just 147, **Toby Phipps** 6-39. Skipper **James Marshall** took five wkts as his side stirred themselves to only their third win, setting up next week's trip to Brooks Drive nicely. Elsewhere, **Sohaib Butt's** 6-43 saw **Mobberley** bowl out **Cheadle Hulme** for just 71 and claim a 51 run win. **Port Sunlight's** 8 wkt victory all but spelt the end of **Christleton's** faint survival hopes, while some serious graft at Cale Green from **NE Cheshire's Sam Scragg** (42 off 134 bs) and 70 from **Jayden Camp** helped their side take 25 pts away after beating **Stockport** by 3 wkts.

WK 19 - AUG 26

A rain-wrecked day meant the focus was on the one game that did get completed at Brooks Drive, where **Ashton OM's** attempt at the great escape got a huge boost as they not only beat **Hale Barns** but, in so doing, kept their relegation rivals to zero pts after bowling them out for 109 (one run short of batting pts), **James Marshall** the pick of the four-man attack with 4-33 as all the AOM bowlers picked up wkts. **Henry Murray's** 51 and a rapido 28 from **Macca Hooton** meant AOM won by 8 wkts (so no bowling pts for their opponents either) and they moved two pts ahead of HB, who, with only two wins since May 13th, are now in the drop zone. The result had another impact as it confirmed **Christleton's** demotion to Div 3, their game with **Mobberley** totally washed out at Little Heath. **Marple's** **Conor Ramsay** led the way with 62 in their 200-7 against **Port Sunlight**, another long trip in Creamfields traffic for the Wirral side ended by terminal rain with them 45-1 off 15 overs. Marple are now tied at the top with **Davenham**, who only got 6.5 overs bowled at **N.E.Cheshire**, with **Haslington** frustrated by the downpours after having **Bollington** well and truly on the ropes at 48-7 before that was that.

DIVISION TWO TABLE AND FORM GUIDE

TEAM	PTS	TEAM	AUG PTS
DAVENHAM	323	ASHTON OM	66
MARPLE	323	DAVENHAM	64
HASLINGTON	311	HASLINGTON	64
MOBBERLEY	266	N.E.CHESHIRE	49
CHEADLE HULME	256	MARPLE	46
N.E.CHESHIRE	248	MOBBERLEY	46
STOCKPORT	240	STOCKPORT	46
PORT SUNLIGHT	223	CHEADLE HULME	43
BOLLINGTON	209	PORT SUNLIGHT	43
ASHTON OM	185	CHRISTLETON	26
HALE BARNES	183	BOLLINGTON	20
CHRISTLETON	107	HALE BARNES	16



CCCL DIVISION THREE



WK 16 - AUG 5

The only 1st XI cricket in the CCCL took place, but no game finished. **Sam Barnes** made 60* for **Winnington Park**, his side managing 168-8 in 48 against **Barrow**, who were a wobbly 32-3 off 14 when that was that; **Hawk Green** made the lengthy trip to **Tattenhall** but only managed 11 overs (HG 44-0) when there was no more play. **Warrington** breathed a louder sigh of relief than most after they didn't have to defend their 84 at Kingsley, 4 wkts apiece for **Ben Stoddart & Joel Logan**.

WK 17 - AUG 12

Maritime kept their foot on the accelerator, a whopping 115 run win over **Winnington Park** keeping them well out in front. Despite a decent WP bowling effort, restricting the leaders to 198, they had no answer to the depth of the Maritime attack, all out 83. Not widely fancied at the start of the season, **Oakmere** snuck into second spot with a 3 wkt win over **Tattenhall**; Tatt reached 84-2 (**Rob Okell** 50, **Brett Taylor** 42) but were 158 all out in 48 overs. A gripping chase unfolded, Oakmere tumbling from 94-3 to 101-6 as **Freddie Cheshire's** spin took effect, but **Slade Mitrovic** again proved his value for the hosts, his unbeaten 53 (98 bs) steering his side to a 3 wkt

win in the extra over Tatt had earlier ceded. Despite **Elliot Young's** astonishing performance, **Hawk Green** were frustrated by an **Upton** rearguard at Upper Hibbert Lane. Young hit 79* (123 bs) in HG's 185-6, adding an unbroken 88 with **Brad Holme** (46*), before taking 8-30 in his 15 over spell. Upton were 73-0 but fell away as Young got to work, trapping the returning **Lee Dixon** lbw first ball as Upton went from 118-5 to 123-9, but the last pair blocked out some eight overs to take an extra point on their long return journey. Another virtuoso display at The Croft, where **Heaton Mersey** had a day to forget, a rare trip to **Kingsley** resulting in them being bowled out for 84 and losing by 170 runs. The hosts earlier powered to 254-8 on the back of **Ben Stoddart's** 62 and a jaunty 52* from no.7 **Charlie Loy**. Matt Dunning and Toby Mullins added 44 apiece, Stoddart then getting to work with a pacy 6-42, he and **Joel Logan** again combining to skittle Mersey. Significant results also at the foot; **Barrow** lost a low-key game at **Ashley** by 4 wkts, the hosts making heavy weather of the 140 they needed, while hope sprang eternal at Walton Lea, **Umer Zeb** taking a speedy 6-37 as **Warrington**

bowled out faltering **Northwich** for 108 and went onto secure a 9 wkt win, **Pat Tyrrell** making 54*.

WK 18 - AUG 19

Another massive win for **Maritime**, this time by 165 runs at fading **Ashley**, who were top of the table at the end of June but have only won once since. **Vensakar Kanthiraj** crashed 75 at no.8 to help power his side to 274, then took 3 wkts as the hosts subsided to 109. **Hawk Green's** **Tearan Gleeson** was the key to their nervy 3 wkt at **Winnington Park** which ushered HG to second, making a superb 76 in tricky conditions. **Dan Seaton** all but carried his bat, out for an impressive 101 in the last over as **Upton** reached 210-9 and then bowled out **Oakmere** for just 97. Successive five wkt hauls for **Heaton Mersey's** long-serving **Hassnain Shah**, this one a much happier occasion than the week previous as his side thrashed **Barrow** by 115 runs, Barrow going bottom. **Northwich** are also back in big trouble after collapsing for just 44 in pursuit of 98 to beat **Kingsley**, **Ben Stoddart** (7-27) and **Joel Logan** (3-16) again irresistible. Despite another excellent knock from **Pat Tyrrell** (73), **Warrington** lost a nailbiter by 7 runs at **Tattenhall** to remain in the demotion dogfight.

DIVISION THREE TABLE AND FORM GUIDE

TEAM	PTS	AUGUST FORM	PTS
MARITIME	316	KINGSLEY	82
OAKMERE	282	MARITIME	61
HAWK GREEN	273	OAKMERE	61
ASHLEY	261	HAWK GREEN	52
KINGSLEY	257	WARRINGTON	45
HEATON MERSEY	247	UPTON	43
UPTON	245	ASHLEY	43
TATTENHALL	234	HEATON MERSEY	42
WARRINGTON	222	TATTENHALL	40
WINNINGTON PARK	214	BARROW	38
BARROW	205	WINNINGTON PARK	22
NORTHWICH	203	NORTHWICH	18

WK 19 - AUG 26

A day badly affected by rain saw a sensational 9 run win for **Barrow** at leaders **Maritime**, which injected new life into Barrow's survival hopes after a fifth win of the season on a day when all their relegation rivals either didn't play - **Warrington's** game abandoned after three overs and no play at all for **Northwich** - or played and lost. **Winnington Park's** 103-run reverse at **Oakmere** was thus especially calamitous, Oakmere skipper **James Hodgkinson** taking 4-14 after earlier top scoring with 45 as his side went second. **Hawk Green's** key clash with **Ashley** washed out with Ashley 97-5 in the 34th. **Tattenhall's** heavy defeat at **Kingsley** means they are still not safe, Kingsley's **Joel Logan** taking his 60th league wkt in his 6-24.

CCCL DIVISION TWO STATS

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE IN DIV. TWO - AUGUST

12 Aug

Jason van der Meulen 127*, Dav v AOM

Joe Cash 7-23, Marp v Boll

Scott Howarth 5-38, CH v PS

19 Aug

Ben Istead (*pic*) 80, 1-4

(& 1 catch), Hasl v Marp

Toby Phipps 6-39, Boll v AOM

Sohaib Butt 6-43, Mobb v CH

Reece Johnson 5-13, Dav v HB

Mike Eley 5-26, Stock v NEC

James Marshall 5-37, AOM v Boll

26 Aug

Matthew Hodgson 5-30, PS v Marp



TOP BATTERS	RUNS	BEST
GRANT HODNETT (MAR)	931	141*
JAYDEN CAMP (NEC)	750	150
OSMAN BUTT (MOBB)	574	115
BEN ISTEAD (HAS)	528	108*
MACCA HOOTON (AOM)	500	134
JASON VAN DER MEULEN (DAV)	476	127*

TOP BOWLERS	WKTS	BEST
ABDUL AQEEL (MOBB)	49	7-20
MUHAMMAD ABID (DAV)	46	7-41
WILL FRASER-SMITH (MAR)	44	4-36
JOE COOPER (HB)	41	7-61
JACK TAYLOR (HAS)	39	6-25
NAVEED GONDAL (STOCK)	38	7-38

CCCL DIVISION THREE STATS

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE IN DIV. THREE: AUGUST

12 Aug

Elliot Young 79* and 8-30, HG v Upton

Ben Stoddard 62 and 6-42, King v HM

Umer Zeb 6-37, Warr v North

Jibran Khan 5-31, Ash v Barr

Hassnain Shah 5-54, HM v King

19 Aug

Daniel Seaton 101

(*pic, reaching the milestone*) Upt v Oak

Ben Stoddard 7-27,

King v North

Hassnain Shah 5-13, HM v Barr

Jahangir Mushtaq 5-57, Ash v Mar

26 Aug

Joel Logan 6-24, King v Tatt

James Hodgkinson, 45 & 4-14, Oak v WP



TOP BATTERS	RUNS	BEST
AMMAD MUSHTAQ (ASH)	860	116
TEARAN GLEESON (HG)	732	123
DANIEL SEATON (UPT)	626	101
ELLIOT YOUNG (HG)	589	102*
SLADE MITROVICH (OAK)	554	97*
BRETT TAYLOR (TATT)	530	146*

TOP BOWLERS	WKTS	BEST
JOEL LOGAN (KING)	60	6-24
BEN STODDARD (KING)	47	7-27
JIBRAN KHAN (ASH)	37	6-39
ELLIOT YOUNG (HG)	36	8-30
VISHAL BARIGELA (MAR)	35	6-21
LUKE MARSHALL (HM)	35	5-19

OVER 40s QUARTER FINALS

WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST

BRC: Bollington 117-2 (16.5 os) beat Urmston 113-8 (20 os) by 8 wkts

Only Steve Cartwright reached the retiring score of 30 as Urmston were restricted by Aldo Palazzo who took 4-17, Kevin Waterhouse also chipping in with 3-14. Waterhouse was one of two players to retire on 33* (Ian Eaton the other) as Bolly booked their spot at finals day with plenty to spare.

Butchers Stile: Davenham 128-9 (20 os) beat Hyde 127-5 (20 os) by 2 runs

Although no Davenham batter retired, 29 from Phil Sharples, and 26 from Mark Walker helped propel the hosts to a useful total, Glyn Peacock the pick of the Hyde attack with 3-20. Peacock then retired on 30*, with John Ashley hitting three sixes in his 23-ball 34*. However, Davenham stayed in the contest and with 8 needed off the final over, Steve Percival conceded just five, bowling three dot balls as the tension mounted in the closest finish of the night.

Broad Lane: Chester BH 79-1 (9 os) beat Grappenhall 73 (19.5 os) by 9 wkts

The holders cruised through to another finals day after a totally dominant display, all five of their bowlers taking wickets and none of them conceding more than 15 runs. Andrew McFarlane hammered 31* off 16 balls as CBH eased to their target.

Raikes Lane: Wallasey 104-4 (14.5 os) beat Sale 103-8 (20 os) by 6 wkts

Sale's long journey west ended in disappointment as they fell well short against an organised Wallasey side who bowled very tightly, David Cuthill's 3-17 the pick of an impressive display. Andy Gould retired on 30* and Mark Rowe 27 but Sale's total was proven to be some way short, David Miles retiring on 33* off just 13 balls as Wallasey won with some five overs unused.

FINALS DAY: CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL CC, SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER, 11:00am start

Semi -Final Draw: CHESTER BH v DAVENHAM, BOLLINGTON v WALLASEY

The over 40's Plate Final will be between Neston and Cheadle, at Chester BH, Sun 3rd Sept, 14:30 start. Neston easily beat Didsbury in their semi-final, while Cheadle went through after Bredbury SM conceded.

CHESHIRE OVER 50s

Having doled out a 133-run hammering to Hampshire in the last 16 of the ECB County Championship on Aug 6th, Cheshire were in good heart as they undertook another long journey to Bedfordshire on 13 Aug. Skipper Andy Bennion reports: *"Cheshire had first go on a dry but low-bouncing track and with a few regulars missing Mark Walker stepped up and played as fluently as anyone to post 43. Cameos from Beckley, Busby and bits & bobs from the tail got Cheshire up to 159 but another marginal dismissal robbed the tail the chance to bat the full 45 overs. At 82 for 0 the game looked long gone but this group has fighting spirit and with two wickets falling at 82 and 2 more before 100, the game was back on. Mel Dobson and Nige Muirhead in particular strangled the life out of the innings with economies of 2/over. More wickets fell including two run outs and the game boiled down to the final few balls. A dropped catch at slip in the penultimate over before a leg-bye off a huge LBW shout in the final over snook the home team across the line. On reflection, a great game and a brilliant season for the 50s, maybe in 2024 the team can go a step further?"*



Mention must be made of that win over Hampshire, Cheshire recovering from 13-3 to post 247-7, Chris Hackett hitting a magnificent 108* (67 bs, 8x4,8x6), adding 125 for the 5th wkt with Rob Matthews (85) before taking the new ball and returning 3-31 in a MOTM display.

2ND XI CRICKET - AUGUST

PREMIER DIVISION

5 Aug: No play in any match, unfortunately including the one between the sides currently first and second. Matches cancelled: Cheadle v Sale; Chester BH v Lindow; Didsbury v Brooklands; Hyde v Toft; Neston v Bowdon; Oxton v Nantwich

12 Aug: Ed Catt returned figures of 8-2-12-5 as leaders **Didsbury** dismissed visitors **Oxton** for just 84, winning by 6 wkts after an unbroken stand of 55 between **Max Backhouse** and **Hersh Khatri**. That loss left Oxton perilously close to the relegation zone after **Cheadle** picked up 10 pts despite an agonising 1 wkt defeat at **Brooklands**, who kept up their pursuit of top spot as a result. Cheadle were bowled out for 172 and, despite a strong showing against a strong Brook line-up, the last pair scrambled the necessary runs to get over the line. **Bowdon** stayed third after **Haydn George's** left arm seam reduced bottom club **Nantwich** to 24-4, finally posting just 94 which they knocked off inside 18 overs only 1 down. **Ben Hamilton-Ryan** took 5-14 as **Lindow** dismissed **Hyde** for just 121, BHR (24*) then combining with the prolific **Syed Bilal Hussain Shah** (72*) to record an 8 wkt win for his side. **Chester BH's** good run of form has come too late for this year but nonetheless has added some sparkle to their season, their 6 wkt win at **Sale** a great team effort. 70 from **Tom Jenkinson** was the mainstay of the hosts' 193-9, with five of the six CBH bowlers taking wkts. **Andrew McFarlane** (73 off 56) and **Freddie Ogilby** (57 off 110) put together a vital stand, **Charlie Fleet's** 38* steering CBH home with some 9 overs remaining, a result which left Sale looking over their shoulders. **Toft** were in no mood to muck about, racing to their victory target of 105 in just 16 overs against **Neston**, **Ed Stubbs** crashing 71 off just 38 balls.

2ND XI PREM	PTS
DIDSBURY	381
BOWDON	288
BROOKLANDS	286
LINDOW	266
CHESTER BH	253
TOFT	223
HYDE	222
NESTON	198
SALE	196
NANTWICH	187
CHEADLE	183
OXTON	174

19 Aug: **Didsbury's** season-long dominance means that, with **Brooklands** losing to **Chester BH**, they need just 8 more points from their remaining four games will secure the title. Although they had an almighty scare in a low scoring scrap at **Cheadle**, the leaders' last pair scrambled the six runs needed with just two balls remaining to secure a thirteenth win of the season. That result also had implications at the foot of the table as **Nantwich's** win over **Toft** lifted them off the foot - just - and saw **Oxton** slip beneath them after a tenth loss, this time losing to visitors **Bowdon** (pictured) by 72 runs. All is not lost, however - **Jahangir Hussain's** 89 for **Hyde** helped them to a three wkt win over **Sale**, which left the Dane Rd club right in the relegation mix, as are **Neston**, after **Lindow's** **Gus Watson** hit 85* which was a key part of their 105 run win. So with five clubs separated by 18 pts, the battle to stay up is intriguing. Sale have games against Neston & Nantwich coming up, and Neston facing Cheadle on the final day. Oxton and Cheadle meet on the final Saturday of the month.



26 Aug: and so it came to pass on another soggy day that **Didsbury** were formally confirmed as champions, albeit in the most anti-climatic way possible. Their scheduled game against **Chester Boughton Hall** was cancelled without a ball bowled, while **Brooklands** were finally thwarted by the rain as they took on **Hyde**, Brooklands making 223-8 (**Mark Bloomfield** 57, **Caleb Jones** 42, and 39 extras) with Hyde on 119-5 (**Charlie Hewitt** 53) when rain ended things. Thus, the side who have led the table from week one had a 93 point advantage with just three games remaining. **Nantwich** did at least get some tangible reward for making 207-9 at **Lindow** (**Ricardo Rebelo** 74*, **Ben Hamilton-Ryan** 5-46 the hosts 130-4 (**Syed Bilal Hussain Shah** 61) when play was rained off - the 11 pts gained by the Dabbers lifting them out of the drop zone at the expense of **Cheadle**, who restricted bottom club **Oxton** to a buttock-clenching 92-9 from a full 50 overs, but had no opportunity to reply. There will be some tense fixtures ahead with 24 pts now separating five sides all fighting to stay up.

2ND XI DIVISIONS cont. - AUGUST

2ND XI DIVISION 1

Aug 5: no play

Aug 12: **Louis Burns** hit 50 and then took 5-16 as **Widnes** went top after beating third place **Macc**; **Stockport Georgians** slipped to second after a thrilling draw with **Alvanley**, **Sam Bailey** making 77* as SG finished on 192-8 in pursuit of 195 to win. Sg still had a 34 pt cushion between them and third, however. **Grappenhall** beat **Timperley** by 5 wkts, **Ian Hall** taking 5-30 as Timpers were 160 all out, while **AE** beat **Marple** by 6 wkts. The bottom two both lost, **Ayaz Cheema** scoring 42 and then taking 5-38 as **H.Mersey** beat winless **Romiley** by 20 runs, while **Oulton Park** could only manage 134-9 in their 50 overs at **Bramhall**, who won by 7 wkts.

Aug 19: Leaders **Widnes** won again to keep their lead in excess of 30 pts, but **Stockport Georgians** suffered a setback, losing at Marple by 45 runs. Third place **Macclesfield** closed the gap to just 12 pts after they beat **Grappenhall** by 73 runs, **Finley Nash** taking 5-36 after earlier hitting a useful 31. At the foot, **Romiley's** 105 run win over **Bramhall** came too late to make much difference, while **Oulton Park's** five wkt loss to **Allderley Edge** dealt a blow to any lingering hopes they harbour of a great escape.

Aug 26: Leaders **Widnes** were pushed all the way by visitors **Marple**, getting over the line by 3 wkts in their chase of 182 after **Alex Curlett's** patient 55, and three other batters reaching 30, sealed victory with the gap to third now 59 pts. **Stockport Georgians** didn't have chance to reply to **A.Edge's** 212 (**Liam Yahathugoda** 67, **Tejas Rao** 64) but third place **Macclesfield's** 17 run loss at **Heaton Mersey** kept SG 13 pts ahead in second. Macc were 94-8 chasing 171, incidentally, a thrilling fightback led by no.10 **Will Jennings** (44 off 34) almost pulling off a remarkable win. **Oulton Park** conceded their match with **Romiley** which makes consecutive relegations for OP a formality now; despite the 25 pts, **Romiley** are still in equally dire straits, 62 pts from safety.

2ND XI DIVISION 2

Aug 5: no play

Aug 12: wins for the top two - **Cheadle Hulme's** **Rob Bone** (57*) and **Chris Beckley** (47*) carefully adding an unbeaten 97 to build on **George Robinson's** run-a-ball 52 as they beat **P.Sunlight** by 8 wkts, Bone and Beckley earlier taking 5-71 between them. **Didsbury 2A** made the long ride to Upton well worthwhile, recording an 89 run win, **Sean Reilly's** 79 the star turn of their 236-9. Third place **Ashton OM** bowled out fourth place **Urmston** for just 84 en-route to a 5 wkt win. **Aditya Strivastava** made 87 for **Neston** as they beat **Haslington** by 55 runs. **Warrington** lost again and are now 46 pts drift at the foot; **Stockport** drew with **Hale Barns** to leave both clubs still battling to avoid the other drop spot.

Aug 19: **Didsbury 2As** skipper **Muhammad Rehmani** took 5-22 as his side skittled **Stockport** for just 67 to go top of the table, the Cale Green side slipping into the drop zone as a result. **Cheadle Hulme** lost at home to **Upton**, being bowled out for 97, which allowed **Ashton OM** - after a nervy 2 wkt win over **Davenham** - to close the gap to second to 26 pts. **Davenham** are well and truly in the relegation mix, as are **Hale Barns**, who fought really hard to draw 9-down with **Urmston**. Three clubs at the foot are thus separated by 15 pts, bottom club **Warrington** giving themselves a glimmer after cobbling together 98-7 to beat **Haslington** by 3 wkts.

Aug 26: **Tom Brady** made 101* for **Didsbury 2As** at **Urmston**, the 11 pts gained from the eventual washout giving them a 29 pt cushion at the top. **Cheadle Hulme** stay second after an abandonment at **Stockport**, but in a remarkable game at The Beets, **Ashton OM** chased 247 (**Sam Kingsman-Ali** 95*) to beat **Warrington** in a game which saw some 97 overs of cricket, the visitors staying bottom but well capable of overhauling both **Stockport** and third-bottom **Hale Barns**, who lost by 7 wkts at **Davenham**. In the other games **Upton** beat **Neston** by 73 runs to secure local bragging rights there, while a little further south **Haslington** skittled **Port Sunlight** for 53, winning by 8 wkts.

2ND XI DIVISION 3

Aug 5: no play

Aug 12: **Maritime** bowled out **Runcorn** for just 63 en-route to a 7 wkt win, while **Stefan Stubbs** made 89*, adding 102* with **Gareth Cresswell** (53*) as second place **Congleton** beat **CBH 3s** by 8 wkts. **Ian Eaton** (50) and **Paul Guilford** (55*) added 97 as third place **Oakmere** won at **Tattenhall**. **Jamie Barlow's** 89 helped **Ashley** go from 2-2 to 251-9 against **Christleton**, for whom a grim rearguard, with nos 7 & 9 taking 95 balls over 14 runs, staved off defeat as they finished 147-9. Basement outfit **Mobberley** had a really disappointing day - things were looking promising after veteran **John Whittick** took 5-18 as **Upton** made just 91, but he was to be one of five ducks as Mobb were skittled for 40.

Aug 19: **Maritime's** untidy 103-6 was enough to overcome **Bollington** and move them to within two wins of the title. Second place **Congleton** managed only 111 and were beaten, albeit in a nailbiting finish, by **Tattenhall**, which enabled **Chester BH 3s** to close the gap. **Mobberley's** second concession of the season all but confirms their fate, but three sides - **Barrow**, **Runcorn** and **Upton** - will be battling to avoid the other drop spot, the latter two drawing after **Runcorn** finished on 194-8 in pursuit of 206, **Faizan Ahmed** making 110* for **Upton**.

Aug 26: the 14 pts **Maritime** gained from their high scoring draw at **Ashley** left them requiring just 3 pts from their remaining fixtures to assure promotion, after **Chester BH's** surprising collapse to 57 all out at **Tattenhall** and an 81 run loss put a real dent in their own promotion aspirations, as well as all but confirm **Maritime's**. Second place **Congleton's** whacking 182 run win at **Mobberley** brought some cheer to Booth St, **Sean Cardall** taking 6-24 after a jaunty 26 earlier. Although academic in terms of their position, **Christleton** put a little gloss on an otherwise depressing day for the club with a 127 run win at struggling neighbours **Barrow**.

3RD XI CRICKET - AUGUST

6 Aug: Of all the results - wins for Sale, Didsbury, Timperley, Alderley Edge - the most significant was the abandonment of leaders Stockport Georgians' match with Nantwich, which enabled Sale and Didsbury to nibble into their lead, Sale still with a game in hand.

13 Aug: Skipper **Tom Riley** was the **Sale** hero as he took the last two **Nantwich** kts in two balls to snatch a dramatic 1 run victory for his side in a match that looked lost, Nantwich collapsing horribly from 159-3 to 179-8, with two needed off the final over, before Riley held his nerve to claim an improbable four pts, which kept Sale in pole position for the title. **Didsbury** racked up 260 en-route to a 149 run win over **A.Edge**, while leaders **Stockport Georgians** won just as emphatically, **Saj Hussain** (89*) and **Sean Duckworth** (59*) adding a superb unbroken 125 as **Romiley** suffered another hammering, sinking into the bottom two. **Bramhall** drew level with them after bowling out **Marple/Compstall** for 69. **Toft** are also embroiled at the wrong end after losing a remarkable game against **Timperley**, who thrashed 297-5 after choosing to bat. **Fred Vaughan-Hawkins** hit a brilliant 113 (92 bs), putting on 131 for the 1st wkt with **Muhammad Haris** before **Kiran Mogal** (39) added 105 for the 5th with **Vijay Sundarandan** (74*). Undaunted, Toft gave the chase a real go, **Jonah Wasilewski** leading off with 79 before skipper **Ben Calvin** whacked 87 off 63 bs. **Noah Wasilewski** then threatened to outdo his brother, his 42 (30 bs) part of a sequence that saw 53 come off overs 35-39, meaning Toft needed 15 off the last, but they fell short by just 9 runs. There cannot be too many instances of a side scoring 288-9 batting second in the Sunday Prem and getting zero pts!



20 Aug: A magnificent opening stand of 225 by **Saj Hussain** (127) and **Sajjad Ayub** (102) helped propel leaders **Stockport Georgians** to 263-5 against **Alderley Edge**. AE gave the chase a real go, **Liam Yahathugoda** blasting 93 off 56 bs as his side reached 162-2 after 21 overs, but SG fought back to complete a 40 run win in a terrific game. **Sale** won easily at **Romiley**, while **Didsbury** also won by 22 runs at **Toft**. While it was 'as you were' at the top, Toft's loss saw them slip into the bottom two after **Bramhall's** 6 wkt win at **Nantwich**, a result which saw five clubs separated by just eight pts at the foot.

27 Aug: With rain washing out the two scheduled matches, the situation polarised at both ends of the table. At the top, Sale's match at Nantwich on BH Monday assumes even more significant proportions ahead of their trip to Didsbury next Sunday. At the foot, Toft have three games left, including a clash with Georgians; Romiley and Alderley Edge each have two games left, Bramhall just one. Any two of those four could be relegated.

DIVISION 1 Aug 6: Grappenhall won while Bowdon saw their game abandoned. **Aug 13:** Grappers won big again, Iain Wright making 94 in their 230-6, which led to a 114 run win over AOM. Moin Shah 95* for Cheadle in their win over Heaton Mersey; Sam Hill 92 & Richard Palmer 74 for Brooklands v Hyde, Brook won by 6 runs. Bowdon a big 114 run win over Dids 4s; NEC remain at the foot. **Aug 19:** Despite giving Bowdon 37 extras, Grappenhall scrambled a 2 wkt win; Brooklands won by 21 runs at Ashley to keep the chase on. NE Cheshire lost by just 2 runs at Heaton Mersey. **Aug 26:** Brooklands beat NE Cheshire by 7 wkts to keep alive their title hopes, Grappenhall's game cancelled. If Grappers beat Didsbury 4s next Sun, they are champions.

DIVISION 2 Aug 6: Trafford Metrovicks 3s and Stockport Trinity both won to maintain their title battle, TM with a 2 pt advantage. **Aug 13:** Praveen Pattisapu took 8-13 as TM crushed beleaguered Timperley 6s by 195 runs. Remarkably, despite not having won a match all season, Timpers are only 2 pts from safety! **Aug 19:** Muhammad Sohail Shams hit 156* for Trinity in their 70 run win over Bollington, Trafford MV also won at Elworth. Timperley, still winless, moved off the foot of the table after their game was abandoned and Bredbury lost, humiliated in their derby with Woodley by being bowled out for 33. **Aug 26:** all matches cancelled so it's still between TM 3s and Trinity.

DIVISION 3 WEST SUMMARY Runcorn, Middlewich and Davenham are all in contention for the title, while Northwich, Lymm OP and Oakmere are contesting the relegation spots.

DIVISION 3 EAST SUMMARY **Trafford Metrovicks 4s** have defended their title, holding off a strong challenge from Macclesfield 4s. TM have an eight point lead with just one match remaining, after their opponents Bowdon conceded on Sun.

DIVISION 4 SUMMARY After beating Cheadle Hulme on the 20th and then claiming two pts from a rained-off fixtures, **Sale 4s** are champions. A remarkable 55 extras (including 33 wides) helped Cheadle Hulme 4s to 234-3 and a 102 run win over neighbours CH Ladybridge on Aug 13th.

3RD XI T20 FINALS DAY

SALE CC, SUN AUG 27

RAIN THE WINNER WITH FINALS DAY FATE UNCERTAIN



A depressing scene at Dane Rd as sheeting rain on an already saturated ground meant there was no possibility for the Sale v Didsbury and Macclesfield v Nantwich 3rd XI semi-finals to take place.

A number of alternatives are being discussed as the newsletter is being circulated, including having the Finals Day after the finish of the league season, having the Finals Day at the start of 2024, or sharing the trophy.

News of the decision will be included in the final newsletter of this season.

CHESHIRE SENIORS NEWS

A busy schedule for the over 60s and over 70s have seen both age brackets performing admirably. On Aug 14 the over 70s hosted Australia over 70s at Chester BH (pictured), the Aussies winning comfortably on what was, by all accounts, a thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

In their ECB Competition group, the over 70s hammered Hampshire by 9 wkts in their quarter final at Crewe on Aug 17, Nick Bell finishing 85*. That led to a semi-final against Surrey, played at Warrington on Aug 24th, but as was feared, the Surrey side were far too strong for their Cheshire counterparts, Cheshire all out for just 99 after 39 overs of hard work, Ian Brown (37 off 88 bs) the top scorer. Surrey reached their target after 25 overs to win by 7 wkts, leaving Cheshire to reflect on what was overall an encouraging season.

On Aug 22 the over 60s (no doubt thanking their lucky stars for a home draw) welcomed Cornwall to Chester BH for the semi-final of the over 60s Bowl, in what became an epic encounter. Cornwall recovered well from their travel exertions (and being 140-5) to post 228 in their 45 overs. Cheshire's reply started poorly, 20-4 on the board as the visitors got well on top. Skipper Phil Thomas reported: *"hereafter a wonderful, sensible partnership between Collyer and Saddington kept Cheshire in contention. Tension mounted as both sides realised that any result was now possible. Collyer was finally dismissed for a wonderful 57. The splendid Saddington (62) was next to depart....a quite magnificent effort. With 8 required from the last 2 balls, Wilson smashed the ball down the ground only for it to fall 3 inches inside the boundary line. Another spoonful of spinach would have turned into a six. Such fine margins. A single from the final ball meant that Cheshire had lost by 2 runs. An absolutely brilliant game of cricket that ebbed and flowed all day. Congratulations to the men of Cornwall. And good luck to them in the Final."*

Cheshire over 60s 2nd XI finished third in their division, welcoming Somerset for their 60s 2nd XI Vase quarter-final which was played at Upton on Aug 8, Somerset winning a really tense game by 5 runs.



CHESHIRE CUP 2023



CHESHIRE SHIELD 2023

The Shield Final will take place on Sun 3 Sept, with North East Cheshire hosting Marple.

Both clubs progressed emphatically through their semis, NEC crushing Bollington by 155 runs while Marple hammered Mobberley by 163 runs at Bowden Lane.

6th Aug

NEC 251-4 (J.Camp 88, J.Reynolds 73, added 165 for 2nd wkt); **BOLLINGTON 96** (D.Oldfield 4-39, D.Williams 3-7)

20 Aug

MARPLE 265-9 (M.Fitzgerald 72, G.Hodnett 56, J.Noakes 53, C.Turner 4-58); **MOBBERLEY 102** (C.Turner 41, J.Grundy 3-16).

ROUND 3 UPDATE

AUG 27:

WALLASEY CC: WALLASEY 86-4 (19.4 os) beat OULTON PARK 85 (35 os) by 6 wkts

The decision to bat first didn't work out for OP, who were 12-4 after 9 overs, only Ollie Law (33) resisting for any length of time. Despite Andrew Dufty claiming a wicket with his first ball, Wallasey suffered few other difficulties reaching their target.

WHITEHOUSE LANE: NANTWICH 71-8 (19.5 os) beat DIDSBURY 70 (23.4 os) by 2 wkts

Having reached 39-0 in the 10th, Didsbury collapsed badly, losing all 10 wkts for another 31 runs inside 14 overs. Olly Griffiths, returning after suspension, emphasised his value to the Nantwich side with 5.4-2-12-5, including the key wicket of Nick Anderson. A modest chase saw great tension arise as the holders struggled to get going, a panicky run-out part of a wobble as 58-4 became 62-7, but the strength in depth of the Dabbers side saw them through to the semis.

**The scheduled match between Hyde v Birkenhead Park did not take place, with an announcement due regarding the fixture.*

FAIR PLAY TABLES

After wk 15, Hyde lead the Premier Div FPT, with a mark of 4.0; Alderley Edge, Cheadle & Chester BH all have 3.98; Nantwich are at the foot on 3.69. Prem average = 3.91 (eight teams above average).

Div 1: Macclesfield (4.0) lead, with Stockport Georgians and Alvanley both on 3.98; Timperley (3.69) are bottom. Div 1 average = 3.88 (seven teams average or better).

Div 2: Hale Barns (4.02) are top, with Cheadle Hulme, Marple & NE Cheshire on 3.98; Christleton (3.83) are bottom. Div 2 average = 3.93 (six teams above average).

Div 3: Upton (4.02) are top, with Oakmere & Tattenhall on 4.0; Ashley (3.63) are bottom. Div 3 average = 3.91 (eight teams above average).

Thanks to Simon Smith (FPT co-ordinator) - a full final table will appear in the last newsletter of 2023.

CHEADLE KNOCK OUT CHEADLE!



Sadly it was Cheadle (Staffs) who beat Cheshire's Cheadle in the Gp 4 Area Final on a rain-affected day in Staffordshire on Aug 6, with all games 14 overs a side. Josh Dooler's side swept past Menai Bridge in their reduced overs semi, Dan Brown (40*) and Andrej Yaksender (76*) blasting 117 in under 10 overs en-route to a 9 wkt win. Staffs Cheadle beat Beacon (Staffs) in their SF and then opted to bat first in the final, scrambling 103-7. Crucially, Brown and Yaksender both fell in the same over, the latter run out without scoring (pic), Cheadle going from 41-3 to 46-8 inside 3 disastrous overs as their challenge fell away, all out for 67. But the side were in good spirits and represented Cheshire superbly.



In the CHESHIRE CRICKET LEAGUE, **Over Peover**, with a 65 point cushion at the top of Div 1 after completing a crushing 171 run victory over Wilmslow on the 26th, are as runners-up. Bredbury SM having started so well, have at the top of Div 2, three clubs vying for the other promotional title in Division 3.

all but assured of finishing top, with **Runcorn** looking well set to finish fallen away badly since the last update. **Middlewich** are sitting pretty on slot, while **Aston** and **Prestbury** will be the clubs fighting it out for



CHESHIRE CC NEWS

A superb display which sealed a 73 run victory over Oxfordshire meant Cheshire stayed in the NCCA Western Div 1 championship group, rounding off a busy 3-day fixture schedule. After the Herefordshire washout, the team travelled to Finchampstead and played out an entertaining draw with Berkshire, Henry Dobson's 121 (and a remarkable 80 at no.10 from Chris Sanders) the highlights batting-wise, with 5 wkts for Andrew Jackson. A rain-affected game at Chester then saw Cheshire set 350 by Devon, Alex Money's 102 sadly in vain as Devon won an exciting game by 34 runs. That meant that relegation was a possibility as Cheshire travelled to Banbury, but Joe Cooke made 96 (out of a first inns total of 170) and then 99 in the second, as Oxfordshire were set 300 to win. Steve Green, with match figures of 10-150, made the breakthrough, ending an opening stand of 104 as Oxford were bowled out for 227.

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