



THE WEEK 9 REVIEW

It was a depressing weekend across Cheshire cricket with every match affected to some degree by overnight rain on Friday, and/or more rain on Saturday. In total 13 of 24 1st XI matches were cancelled or abandoned, but it was at least a good workout for the DLS system which reset and adjusted targets for sides who did get some cricket in.

In the [Prem](#), great disappointment as the key meeting of leaders Hyde and third place Nantwich was the first casualty of the day. Timperley's game at Toft and Alderley Edge's game at Widnes were both later abandoned with first innings incomplete. Where there was play, second place Chester BH drew a truncated game with visitors Oxton. Details are unclear but CBH finished 112-8 in 20 overs after Oxton declared on 183-8 after 31.4 overs. Didsbury were therefore the really big winners after a dramatic victory off the very last ball of their clash with Neston. The match was initially reduced to 46 overs a side, with the hosts declaring after 40 overs on 239-7 dec (Tom Hafil 85), mindful of the likelihood of further interruptions. Set 240 off 35, a burst of four wkts in 7 balls left Neston reeling on 44-5. Skipper David Hurst (73) then led a defiant rearguard, but with further rain meaning Didsbury needed 4 wkts in 6 overs, Liam Booth, who earlier took 5-50, held on to the final delivery which Hurst flicked low to leg slip, to spark jubilant scenes. Grappenhall (17 pts) had much the better of their draw with Bowdon, who escaped 9 down after Matt Tully (5-66) helped block four overs to stave off defeat.

In [Div 1](#) there is no stopping Marple after they pulled off an 8 wkt win at Sale amidst delays and re-set targets, with the home side's 160-8 in 43.2 overs converting to a chase of 105 in 20 for the leaders, which they achieved inside 18 overs. However the chasing pack also all managed to win their games despite the conditions, Lindow's revised target of 157 in 29 at Macc reached after a 29-ball 49 from skipper Alex Matthews tilted the balance. They remain second while Brooklands are hot on their heels after a massive 189 run win at struggling Urmston, who shipped another 33 extras as half centuries from Todd Walker and Ben Cunliffe saw 307-6 posted. The home side were set a revised 289 in 45 but were all out 99. Another side ruing the extras column were Oulton Park, the 49 they conceded helping lift visitors Bramhall to a handsome 260-9, Greg Dixon's superb 100 - the only 1st XI centurion of the day - holding things together. All six Bram bowlers shared the wkts as OP were all out 214. No play was possible at Romiley (Rom v Cheadle) or at Stockport Georgians, where visitors Davenham at least had the small consolation of closing the gap to Urmston at the foot of the table.



WEEK 9 1ST XI REVIEW cont.

In **Div 2** Port Sunlight had a real arm-wrestle in a reduced overs game at Congleton but came out on top by 2 wkts. Extras almost top-scored in both innings - they were Congleton's top scorer in their 162-9 but they then ceded 33 to the visitors, for whom skipper Simon Melbersz (34) was again a leading light. Maritime stayed on the heels of PS with a quick rain-dodging win over Ashton OM, who were bowled out inside 24 overs for just 104, Maritime racing to their target inside 14. Cheadle Hulme got two balls past the required minimum 20 overs to be ahead of the DLS par at home to struggling Haslington, for whom skipper Ben Istead made a valiant 64, CH winning by 7 wkts. Fourth placed Alvanley were frustrated by the rain, as basement side Mobberley were struggling on 121-6 before that was that, while Stockport followed up their T20 win over Brooklands with a morale-boosting 8 run win over Ashley in a shortened game at Cale Green. Only 10.3 overs were possible at Poynton as NE Cheshire v Bollington was abandoned.

Another remarkable day in **Div 3** but not for the best of reasons this time, as every match in the division was abandoned! You can decide for yourself who would have been the most relieved - was it leaders Upton, who, having hit just three boundaries in the 47.1 overs they faced, were skittled for 80 at Heaton Mersey (Ian Hughes returning 10-6-6-4) before rain prevented any further play? Or was it third place Winnington Park, 77 all out at Kingsley before no more play was possible? (Incidentally WP entertain Upton next Saturday). Hawk Green were probably another side quietly thankful as a revived Over Peover had raced to 223-5 in just 34 overs before rain stopped play. On the back of successive tons, Aiden Anthony was dismissed for a duck, but Steve Price (98) and Matt Dobson (84) clattered the bowling hither and yon, adding 148 in barely 17 overs. Hale Barns bowled 41 wides at Oakmere, almost a third of the hosts' eventual 150, and with HB off to a good start at 38-0 they were the ones cursing the weather (and their wayward bowling) louder as play was called off. The other two matches were barely started when they were halted, second place Christleton in the field for 18.1 overs at Runcorn before play was suspended and finally abandoned - the struggling hosts picking up a handy 9 pts - while Tattenhall at least had a short trip home after they only faced 14.3 overs at Barrow.

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
HYDE	148	48
CHESTER BH	144	58
DIDSBURY	136	72
NANTWICH	131	27
GRAPPENHALL	94	61
WIDNES	89	50
OXTON	77	26
TIMPERLEY	65	13
BOWDON	62	21
NESTON	57	28
TOFT	53	14
ALDERLEY EDGE	46	29

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
MARPLE	160	60
LINDOW	131	60
BROOKLANDS	128	60
BRAMHALL	118	60
MACCLESFIELD	101	30
OULTON PARK	87	32
S.GEORGIANS	73	30
CHEADLE	68	14
SALE	67	28
ROMILEY	57	15
URMSTON	43	15
DAVENHAM	40	15

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
PORT SUNLIGHT	146	60
MARITIME	143	60
ALVANLEY	119	48
CHEADLE HULME	117	60
N.E.CHESHIRE	88	31
ASHTON OM	79	41
STOCKPORT	71	21
ASHLEY	71	13
BOLLINGTON	69	16
HASLINGTON	64	11
CONGLETON	56	29
MOBBERLEY	52	16

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
UPTON	132	46
CHRISTLETON	118	46
WINNINGTON PARK	111	46
HAWK GREEN	103	48
HEATON MERSEY	103	34
TATTENHALL	93	33
KINGSLEY	91	35
OAKMERE	90	20
HALE BARNES	63	36
OVER PEOVER	56	38
RUNCORN	54	18
BARROW	52	15

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
CHESTER BH	150
DIDSBURY	115
OXTON	115
TOFT	102
CHEADLE	95
BROOKLANDS	95
NESTON	86
HYDE	79
WIDNES	72
LINDOW	68
S.GEORGIANS	63
BOWDON	34

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. TIMPERLEY	130
2. NANTWICH	129
3. H.MERSEY	114
11. A.EDGE	56
12. DIDSBURY 2A	55

2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON	144
2. MARITIME	118
3. CONGLETON	111
11. NESTON 3	60
12. ROMILEY	47



2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. CHESTER BH 3	131
2. UPTON 3	130
3. OAKMERE	128
11. HALE BARNES	49
12. BOLLINGTON	32

3RD XI SUN PREM	
TEAM	PTS
MARPLE & COMP.	50
SALE	46
S.GEORGIANS	42
BROOKLANDS	40
NANTWICH	34
TOFT	32
DIDSBURY	32
TIMPERLEY	24
GRAPPENHALL	20
ALDERLEY EDGE	0

3RD XI SUN DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
ASHLEY	50
T.METROVICKS 3	46
ROMILEY	10
BRAMHALL	6

3RD XI SUN DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
T.METROVICKS 4	60
ELWORTH	52
URMSTON	14
TIMPERLEY 6	6

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS

Div 3 East: Top - Macclesfield
2nd - Bredbury SM

Div 3 West: Top - Middlewich;
2nd - Widnes

Div 4: Top - Lindow
2nd - Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge



WEEK 9 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: The weather was unkind to **Prem** leaders Chester BH, who would have fancied their chances of overhauling bottom side Bowdon's 157-9, but rain washed away their hopes. This allowed the chasing pack to close, Didsbury rattling off a swift 8 wkt win at Brooklands before the rain fell there, while across on the Wirral, a magnificent 132* (127 bs) from Oxton skipper Grant Hughes led his side to 250-5 and an eventual 143 run win over Hyde. Two others trying to catch the top three met at a soggy Kingsway, hosts Cheadle edging a low-scoring game against Toft by 2 wkts, while rain didn't prevent Lindow from completing a comfortable 9 wkt win over Stockport Georgians, a generous DLS-adjusted target of 86 off 28 overs proving to be no problem. Sam Bailey's fine 91 (out of 176 while batting) for SG went unrewarded.

In **Div 1** only the top two got to complete their games, and both won - Timperley beating Heaton Mersey, while Nantwich beat Grappenhall. All the other matches were abandoned, the match between Bramhall and Alvanley intriguingly poised when it was halted, with Bramhall 42-5 chasing 102.

Div 2 A routine win for leaders Upton against bottom side Romiley gave them a handy cushion at the top as second place Maritime's game at Neston was rained off. Congleton and Urmston won their games to stay third & fourth.

In **Div 3** Chester BH 3s are a point clear of Upton 3s, both sides winning, the latter by just 5 runs in an exciting DLS-affected game at Davenham. The hosts were left ruing 47 extras as promising prospect Ian Sharrock made 93, Upton eventually winning by 5 runs. Zachary Howdle made 102 for Oakmere in their whacking 116 run win over Ashley.

Sunday 3rd XI cricket saw Marple & Compstall top the Prem after A.Edge conceded for the second time in four scheduled games; Stockport Georgians beat Sale in the day's big game off the very last ball of an exciting match. In Div 1 Hyde beat leaders Ashley by 6 wkts. As has happened in other games, despite scoring 176-9 and taking 4 wkts, Ashley got no points at all from the match - the new points system in Sunday cricket for this year in need of a rejig (imo).

The 3rd XI T20 Quarter-Final draw has been made: Cheadle v Brooklands; Didsbury 3 v Bramhall; Grappenhall v Didsbury 4s; Nantwich v Neston. Dates are being arranged for each tie, but they must be completed by end of July. The held-over and then delayed 2023 final (Sale v Macclesfield) is scheduled for Thurs 20th at Macclesfield.



WEEK 9 1ST XI T20 UPDATE

Competition organiser David Gane has released the following statement: "As a number of 1st XI group games will not be completed by June 13 (and many 2nd XI Cup games were cancelled) I am postponing the 1st XI Last 16 KO round until June 27 which will give more notice to clubs, particularly those drawn at home. As a result I am allowing outstanding 1st XI group games to be played up to and including June 20, with the draw for the KO round on June 21. I hope this will allow outstanding games to be rearranged."

Revised 1st XI KO Dates are as follows: Last 16 - June 27
Finals Day Reserve date - July 28

Quarter-Finals - July 11
Finals Day - July 21
National Area Finals Day - August 4 (in Cheshire)

Along with the 12 group winners the four best runners-up in the mini-groups shall progress to the k/o stage, determined firstly by the number of points or secondly net run rate. If, in the unlikely event that all is still tied after these considerations, the qualifying teams will be decided by the toss of a coin.

Sides currently through to the last 16 are: **Bowdon, Brooklands, Chester BH, Didsbury, Hyde, Lindow, Nantwich, Neston, Oxtan**. It seems highly probable that Davenham and Macclesfield will also qualify as two of the best placed runners-up (each club finishing with 5 pts). Clubs who finished on 4 pts (NRR in brackets) are Grappenhall (1.39), Stockport Georgians (0.47) and Tattenhall (0.38).

In Gp 12, Bollington currently sit top (4 pts, 1.08) but Timperley can win the group with 5 pts if they beat Cheadle. In Gp 10, assuming their NRR (currently 2.58) does not alter much, Toft will finish with 4 pts if they beat Oakmere. Widnes or Oulton Park will qualify from gp 5 - Widnes currently top on 3 pts and an NRR of 7.37 with a game to play, but OP also have 3 pts and an NRR of 2.45. Finally, Bramhall (2 pts from 1 game) have the destiny of the group in their hands, with games against Alderley Edge and Hawk Green to arrange. AE are currently top on 3 pts with 1 game left, Hawk Green have had both their games cancelled so far.

CHESHIRE SHIELD NEWS: Upton left their stodgy batting display of Saturday well and truly behind as skipper Matt Owen (87) and Chris McArthur (141) put on a majestic 211 for the 1st wkt against Prestbury at Old Greasy Rd on Sunday, the hosts emphatic 134-run winners. Maritime and Parkfield Liscard won their games while Tattenhall conceded to Hawk Green.

ECB NATIONAL KNOCKOUT NEWS: Didsbury progressed to the national stages after Longton conceded their game on Sunday. Dids now face a trip to Nottinghamshire to take on the powerful Kimberley Institute on July 7th.