

CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One – June 2:

Lindow v Leigh: Another real statement of intent from Lindow as they ended Leigh's 100 per cent record. Emily Murray's 77 was the top score in their 211-3, with Holly Topp adding 63 and Heidi Cheadle an unbeaten 40. Libby Ackerley took an important early wicket in reply and Grace Hemsted took 4-18 to round off an 86-run win.

Appleton v Nantwich: Defending just 143, Nantwich made it three wins from the three games the weather has allowed them to play. They took regular wickets, especially Grace Michell's 4-9, and, making just 61 here, Appleton had another and day with the bat.

Stockport Georgians v Chester Boughton Hall: Like Appleton, Georgians are also without a league win so far. Liv Fuller top scored with 39 not out as Chester reached 171. Despite 42 from Gaby McKeever, Georgians fell 23 short, with Shana Kelly taking 4-22.

Oakmere v Didsbury: Didsbury stumbled to 132, with Amy Jones and Becky Jones each taking three wickets. It proved to be enough for the South Manchester club though, with Hannah Marshall and Katie Chomse soon reducing Oakmere to 37-5, eventually making 73.

June 9:

Oakmere v Chester Boughton Hall: Many of the day's matches were played to a result, but this was not the case in the only top-flight game of the day. Katie Bennett's 64 rescued Chester from a poor start, with Natalie Lyons starring with the ball for Oakmere, but after Chester closed on 151 from 40 overs, rain prevented the reply from commencing.

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Division Two – June 2:

Hayfield v Leyland: Leyland's good start continued with a comprehensive win here. Hayfield struggled to 75 in the full 35 overs, with Lowri Whittaker, Abi Bates and Charlotte Whittaker all conceding little more than one run per over. Katie Poole's 35 not out anchored the run chase, which was completed in 16 overs for the loss of two wickets.

Hawarden Park w/o Oxton

June 9:

Greenfield v Hayfield: Greenfield won a low-scoring reduced overs game for a second win of the year. Sarah McCann's 28 was the only double figure score in Hayfield's 76 in 24 overs, amid a series of impressive Greenfield bowling figures. Megan Russell's 35 not out anchored the reply as Greenfield won with six wickets and four overs in hand.

Upton w/o Oxton

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Greenfield v Buxton – unfit ground on original date of 28/4

Division Three West – May 30:

JG Meakin w/o Appleton 2nd XI

June 5:

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Chester BH 2nd XI v Nantwich 2nd XI – unfit ground on original date of 14/5

Chester BH 2nd XI v Appleton 2nd XI – Appleton unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 26/5

Chester BH 2nd XI v Stockport Georgians 2nd XI – Chester BH unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 9/6

Division Three East

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Didsbury 2nd XI v Buxton 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 16/5

Division Three Cross-Divisional Matches – June 2:

Buxton 2nd XI v Alvanley: Alvanley's impressive start continued with a 35-run win here. After an uncertain start, Agatha Simmons' 48 not out took them to 129 in 30 overs. Buxton lost early wickets in reply and never managed to pick up the run rate.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

JG Meakin Northern Stars v Buxton 2nd XI – unfit ground on original date of 21/4

Appleton 2nd XI v Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley – AOM & Woodley unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 3/6

Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley v Lindow 2nd XI – AOM & Woodley unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 9/6

Buxton 2nd XI v Appleton 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 9/6

Appleton 2nd XI v Didsbury 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 10/6

Division Four West – June 2:

Grappenhall v Lymm Oughtrington Park: Lymm held on to win by two runs, with their total of exactly 100 – thanks to contributions from Sue Jones and Elena Downes - eventually proving to be a winning one.

Toft v Kingsley: Two out of two for Kingsley with a comfortable nine-wicket win with 10 overs to spare, easily reaching their target of 64.

June 9:

Kingsley v Toft: Kingsley's third win came seven days later against the same opposition. Jules Bates took three early wickets to put Toft under pressure from the start and they eventually limped to 39 in 20 overs, setting up a seven wicket win for Kingsley.

Division Four East – June 2:

Stockport v Lindow 3rd XI: Lindow got home with two balls to spare as Stockport couldn't quite get over the line in their first ever hardball match. Victoria Merrill and Gaby Lamplugh guided the Wilmslow club home from a difficult position at 42-5 to reach the target of 88 for no further loss.

June 9:

Lindow 3rd XI v Heaton Mersey & Cheadle: Solid contributions from all four players who reached the crease took Heaton Mersey & Cheadle to 114-2, before wickets for Ellie Pagan and Ruby James sealed an emphatic win.

Fixtures awaiting mandatory re-arrangement:

Heaton Mersey & Cheadle v Hawk Green – ground unavailability on original date of 28/4
Heaton Mersey & Cheadle v Stockport Georgians 3rd XI – ground unavailability on original date of 2/6

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Didsbury 3rd XI v Heaton Mersey & Cheadle – no play due to rain on original date of 22/5

Division Four South East – June 2:

Buxton 3rd XI v North East Cheshire: Sian Avery-Lofthouse's 32 retired was perhaps the difference between the sides as North East reached 93, despite Holly Blackwell's 2-8. With no one reaching 20 in reply and Avery-Lofthouse completing a fine match with a bowling return of 2-3, Buxton closed on 76.

Langley v New Mills & High Peak North: Charlotte Stevens' 33 retired allowed Langley to recover from 19-3 to 97-5. With Ella Hirst taking four wickets for three runs in the second innings, New Mills closed 14 runs short, despite an unbeaten 32 from Rachel Monteath.

Macclesfield v Lindow Development XI: Charlotte Lloyd's 1-7 in four overs was a crucial bowling spell as Lindow fell six short chasing 88.

June 6:

Macclesfield v North East Cheshire: Macclesfield won another close, low-scoring encounter here. Liz Jones' 24 for North East was the highest individual score on either side, but the bowling efforts of Bethany Mottram (3-11) and Bella Moore (four overs for four runs) ensured Macclesfield won by seven runs.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Buxton 3rd XI v Lindow Development XI – unfit ground on original date of 21/4
North East Cheshire v Buxton 3rd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 9/6

Overseas player registrations:

Kashmira Shinde (Didsbury), age 27, India

Player loans:

Nicola Deane – Hawarden Park to Nantwich for maximum three Division 1 matches commencing 2/6

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(Memo to all umpires that officiate at any level of the CWCL, whether qualified or not. Club representatives are requested to ensure that their regular umpires receive this)

A reminder to all umpires officiating in the league that the relevant competition regulations should be applied where applicable. This particularly applies to the 'leg side wide' regulation in the senior T20 competitions and the penalty for not bowling 20 overs in 75 minutes that also applies in the Senior Knockout and the T20 Divisional Competition. We realise that there may be delays that are not the fault of the fielding side, and here the League Executive Committee encourages umpires to communicate with the batters and explain why the time penalty is not being applied.

Any Division 1 side that can't bowl 40 overs in 2 hours 40 minutes should also be reported to the league committee. While there are no penalties here at present, this is to allow the league to gather some insight as to the extent of the slow over rate problem, and which clubs are having the most difficulty in this area.

Due to the current arrangement where clubs appoint their own umpires and where some of these umpires are not known personally to the League's Umpires & Scorers Officer, clubs need to take their share of responsibility to ensure that the umpires that they are using are familiar with the Laws and competition regulations and are seen to be totally impartial. An umpire's level of responsibility for control of the match does not diminish in any way just because they may not hold an umpiring qualification, or because they have been appointed by one of the participating clubs.

Any decision to suspend play, or to allow play to continue when light, ground or weather conditions become less than ideal, must always be made with player safety as the primary consideration.

Clubs, please remember our umpires as well, as we couldn't do without them. Please ensure they are offered a suitable hot or cold drink between the innings, please ensure they receive their expenses prior to the match, and please agree what expenses they will be receiving in advance of the matchday.

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Clubs' important messages

The League is pleased to announce that it can re-open the Small Grants application scheme. Provided they do not owe money to the league for balls, affiliation fees or anything else, all clubs are eligible to apply for £100 via this scheme, with those with two hardball and/or softball teams allowed to apply for £150 and those with three or more entitled to request £200. Please read the guidelines on the separate email – sent to club main representatives – carefully as these grants are only intended to fund a club's medium to long term development of female cricket and cannot be used to meet regular club expenses.

Clubs should make contact with me as soon as possible if they are aware of any issues that might arise should the league choose to take down its Pitchero website. The League will need to pay £600 per year from July onwards if it wishes to retain this site.

REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

We now open up the nominations process for the League XI to play MCC at Lindow CC on Tuesday August 6. Initially, I would like to hear from anyone who plays regular weekend cricket in the league who would like to put themselves forward as either a player in the main XI, or as an additional fielder. Club captains and managers will be given the chance to make nominations at a later date. Heidi Cheadle will captain the League XI on her own club's turf this year.

17 players to have played senior regional cricket in England since 2016 who have also appeared in the CWCL:

Laura MacLeod, Lauren Griffiths, Sophie Ecclestone, Hannah Jones, Grace Potts, Liv Bell, Sophie Morris, Daisy Mullan, Danielle Collins, Rachel Dickinson, Scachi Pai, Seren Smale, Alice Dyson, Laura Jackson, Kate Coppack, Nalisha Patel, Eve Jones.

There really is a pathway now for aspiring club players to make it as a professional or semi-professional.

LEAGUE TABLES

[All CWCL League Tables](#)

KNOCKOUT CUPS

Senior Knockout Quarter Final – June 6:

Didsbury Swordettes v Nantwich Vipers: Chester Boughton Hall remain the only club to have won this competition three years in succession, after 2022 and 2023 winners Nantwich were beaten by 22 runs here. Zara Matthews' 30 from 16 balls was the top score in Didsbury's total of 128, and Matthews and Pooja Singh were the most economical bowlers as the Vipers' run chase faltered.

Development Knockout Round Two – June 3:

Alvanley v Grappenhall: A big win for Alvanley, with Ellie Wright taking three cheap wickets to restrict Grappenhall to 45, in reply to the home side's 123.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Cup Round Two – June 9:

Lindow w/o Tarleton

Cup Northern Quarter Final – June 9:

Nantwich Vipers v Didsbury: Didsbury's 42 from 5.3 overs meant they were well ahead on Duckworth-Lewis-Stern when the rain intervened. Nantwich's 87 in 20 overs was dominated by 44 from Madi Hudson. Hannah Marshall and Roshini Prince-Navaratnam both recorded fine bowling returns of 2-12 in four overs. Didsbury will now play Lindow or Leigh in the northern semi-final, ensuring the CWCL will again be represented in the regional final.

SENIOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

There will be a comprehensive series of [women and girls' softball festivals](#) across Cheshire this summer.

Cheshire continues to offer its wide range of [umpiring and scoring courses](#).