



THE WEEK 14 REVIEW

Breathtaking finishes, big scores - and yet more rain - all combined to provide a fascinating day of cricket on Saturday across Cheshire, with the kinder weather of Sunday allowing for a completed 1st XI T20 Finals Day, and glory for Oxton who won their first-ever T20 trophy.

After their T20 QF, it was another expensive day for the Widnes bowlers as [Prem](#) leaders Hyde rattled up 324-5 at Beaconsfield Rd. A magnificent 169 (132 bs) from Tom Partridge saw him and Luke Young (73) add 173 for the 1st in 32 overs as Hyde declared 17 overs later having added another 151. The hosts were taking a standing count at 104-6 before rain washed away any more play, match drawn. Nantwich narrowed the gap to 14 pts with a fourth straight win, defending a modest-looking 188 (Ben Wright 70) at Timperley with ease as the hosts were bowled out for 119, 9 wkts shared between Jimmy Warrington & Phil Stockton. Chester cemented third with a league double over a deflated Didsbury, who have now lost three in a row. Led by Alex Money's 81, CBH amassed 298-9 before Dids, missing 5 regular 1st XI players, managed just 166 between rain delays. That same rain ruined Bowdon's long trip to Neston, but keeper John Sanders' rich vein of form continued with a 52-ball 71 - he has now hit 439 runs in his last 7 inns in all comps. Bowdon made a decent 257 with Neston 81-3 in the 19th before that was that. A second win in three for Alderley Edge, Ed Foster's 6-34 seeing Oxton tumble to 85 all out in response to AE's 218. Tom MacRury whacked 76 off 32 balls as Grapenhall warmed up for T20 Finals Day with a comfortable 7 wkt win at Toft, Arav Shetty joining in with 58* (51 bs) after taking 3-41. Without a win since the end of May, Toft now find themselves 33 pts from safety.

What a game between the [Div 1](#) leaders, Lindow swapping places with Brooklands at the top after a heart-stopping 1 wkt win, their second such win in four games. Choosing to bat first, Brooklands slipped to 109-5 before AJ Hart's 50 helped them reach 218. A nip-and-tuck reply saw Lindow look just about done at 198-9 after 46 overs, but keeper Olly James hit 12 off the penultimate over before last man Will Espley hit the penultimate ball for four, sparking ecstatic scenes after such extraordinary tension. Both sides remain well out in front although Bramhall's second win in a row - a 7 wkt victory over Davenham on a difficult day for batters there - kept them in the picture. Marple, on the other hand, are sliding out of view, grinding out just 106 at Cheadle as they slipped to a fifth straight loss. Led by young keeper Joe Moores' absolutely superb 155 (118 bs, 15x4, 10x6), Macclesfield recovered from losing 4-0 in 14 bs (32-0 to 32-4), and later 145-7, to post 256

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WEEK 14 1ST XI REVIEW cont.

at Romiley. Despite Ans Mohammad's 86 (87 bs), a workmanlike all-round effort from the Macc attack saw them home by 32 runs, grateful that the 24 wides they bowled weren't more costly. Another fantastic century came at Little Budworth as Oulton Park claimed a badly-needed win, their first in seven matches, with a 78 run triumph over Sale. OP did it in style too, an opening stand of 100 paving the way for Adrian Lascu to crash 120 off just 56 balls (14x4, 7x6) as OP posted a massive 311-7. Sale needed a last wkt stand of 55 to put a tiny bit of gloss on their 233, their three-game winning streak at an end. Ryan O'Brien's unbeaten innings streak continued apace, however, the Urmston skipper hitting a terrific 101*, making it 238 runs in three knocks without being dismissed now. O'Brien featured in two century stands in his side's 232-2 against Stockport Georgians before then taking 3-44 as SG slumped to 34-4 and an eventual 178 all out. Thus Urmston got out of the bottom three for now, but with only 9 points separating them from Davenham and Romiley there will be several twists and turns to come at the foot.

In **Div 2** the top three all won so it's as you were, with two points continuing to separate them. Adam Wilde hit 95* as he and Jordan Potts (70, his third consecutive half-century) put on 146, their second century opening stand in three matches, as they swept to a 7 wkt win over struggling Congleton. Maritime's 257-8 was enough for a 68 run DLS win at Alvanley, who were 83-5 before the heavy rain sweeping westwards ended play. Port Sunlight's long journey to Bollington ended happily for them with a big win keeping them third. A dramatic last wkt stand of 28* sealed a superb Stockport comeback as they pinched a 1 wkt win at nearby NE Cheshire, Ben Perry's 60 helping them recover from 86-5 to reach their 228 target with two deliveries remaining. Last week Haslington were 96-7 but then added 96* to win their game - yesterday they were 96-6 but then added 55* to claim a 4-wkt win over struggling Ashton OM. But it's still Mobberley who are redefining 'struggling', as another defeat, this time at the hands of Ashley, meant an 11th loss of the season for the basement side, who conceded 32 wides...and lost by 29 runs.

Div 3 leaders Upton (128-3) were surprisingly easy 7 wkt winners over fourth-placed Hawk Green, while second place Christleton cashed in in style against lowly Hale Barns, winning by 155 runs after opener Max Dunvaband hit a splendid 162* (150 bs). Winnington Park stayed third after an egregious scrap with Tattenhall, WP's 108 in 44 hard going, but Tattenhall fell to bits, 79 all out in response. At the foot Over Peover climbed out of the drop zone with a 67 run win at Runcorn, while Barrow beat Oakmere and Kingsley bowled hosts Heaton Mersey out for just 78 to win by 92 runs.

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
HYDE	243	47
NANTWICH	229	68
CHESTER BH	219	50
DIDSBURY	194	10
OXTON	161	45
WIDNES	155	32
ALDERLEY EDGE	154	83
GRAPPENHALL	130	27
BOWDON	123	47
TIMPERLEY	107	33
NESTON	105	26
TOFT	74	15

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
LINDOW	217	46
BROOKLANDS	215	47
BRAMHALL	184	45
MARPLE	176	9
MACCLESFIELD	169	43
S.GEORGIAN	155	46
CHEADLE	154	46
SALE	137	46
OULTON PARK	133	33
URMSTON	97	45
DAVENHAM	89	24
ROMILEY	88	19

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
CHEADLE HULME	217	60
PORT SUNLIGHT	216	44
MARITIME	215	46
ALVANLEY	190	45
BOLLINGTON	156	47
HASLINGTON	150	60
NE CHESHIRE	142	29
ASHLEY	128	30
STOCKPORT	119	26
ASHTON OM	117	12
CONGLETON	97	28
MOBBERLEY	74	12

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
UPTON	210	51
CHRISTLETON	192	60
WINNINGTON PARK	182	47
HAWK GREEN	158	28
HEATON MERSEY	150	25
TATTENHALL	145	14
KINGSLEY	144	42
OAKMERE	144	29
BARROW	134	42
OVER PEOVER	111	31
HALE BARNS	100	15
RUNCORN	95	31

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	205
CHESTER BH	198
OXTON	185
WIDNES	172
TOFT	156
NESTON	151
S.GEORGIAN	148
BROOKLANDS	146
CHEADLE	131
HYDE	127
LINDOW	103
BOWDON	49

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. TIMPERLEY	216
2. NANTWICH	200
3. SALE	185
11. A.EDGE	108
12. C.HULME	76

2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON 2	238
2. MARITIME	218
3. URMSTON	184
11. ROMILEY	101
12. NESTON 3	90



2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. OAKMERE	214
2. CHESTER BH 3	199
3. UPTON 3	196
11. BOLLINGTON	91
12. BARROW	72

*3RD XI SUN PREM	
TEAM	PTS
SALE	84
DIDSBURY	82
BROOKLANDS	82
S.GEORGIAN	76
MARPLE & COMP.	62
TOFT	56
TIMPERLEY	48
NANTWICH	34
GRAPPENHALL	28
ALDERLEY EDGE	4

*3rd XI Prem table approximate due to Play Cricket discrepancies

3RD XI SUN DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
ASHLEY	102
DIDSBURY 4	90
H.MERSEY	20
ROMILEY	16

3RD XI SUN DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
T.METROVICKS 4	118
DIDSBURY 5	88
DAVENHAM	44
TIMPERLEY 6	18

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS

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

Div 3 West: Top - Widnes
2nd - Runcorn

Div 4: Top - Lindow
2nd - Macclesfield Sun 2s



WEEK 14 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: an impressive team performance secured a crucial 24-run DLS win for Didsbury at a flooded Chester BH in the **Prem**. The hosts recovered from 80-6 to post 201, but a solid response kept Dids well ahead of the DLS requirement by the time rain ended play with 7.2 overs remaining. Oxton (via DLS) and Widnes kept the pressure on with good wins for each, Shashwat Rusia making 92* in Widnes' win at Hyde. Mark Bloomfield (76*) and Piyush Kumar (50*) added 129* to give Brooklands a ten wkt win over lowly Lin-dow, while Tom Metcalfe made 94 in Georgians' important win over Toft which lifted them well clear of danger.

In **Div 1** Timperley hammered Nantwich by 107 runs in the big game, the two swapping places at the top, while Sale's Tom Jenkinson made 96 as his side beat Heaton Mersey by 8 wkts to stay third. At the foot, Alderley Edge pulled off an impressive chase of 223 to beat Marple, for whom James Crisall made 110*.

In **Div 2** leaders Upton claimed 14 pts after a tie with Port Sunlight, but they were left ruing a startling collapse inspired by PS's Adam Pasgon's 6-24, Upton's 187-5 becoming 193 all out three overs later. Maritime and Urmston both won easily to keep up the chase. Bottom side Neston 3 were bowled out for 44 by Warrington.

Oakmere's James Norton made 110* as his side stayed top of **Div 3** with a whacking 173 run win over Barrow, Chester BH 3s losing again as visitors Oxton beat them by 6 wkts. Upton 3s got to 106 from being 70-9, NE Cheshire collapsing from 68-3 in reply to 100 all out. Lowly Bollington picked up a valuable 20 pts to make up ground at the foot.

Sunday 3rd XI cricket in the **Prem** saw Didsbury and Brooklands both win to close in on leaders Sale, whose match v. Alderley Edge was cancelled. In **Div 1** leaders Ashley beat Metrovicks to go clear at the top after Didsbury 4s were beaten in a low-scoring encounter with Hyde (played at Alderley Edge). Ben Argyle made 95 for Bramhall in their big win over Heaton Mersey. **Div 2** leaders T.Metrovicks 4s got another 12 pts after opponents Stockport conceded, while 95* from second place Didsbury 5s Shabih Shah helped them overtake Bollington's 174-8 (Matt Dawson 103).

In the **Cheshire Cup matches** played Hyde joined Elworth & Bowdon in the semi-final draw after Tom Partridge continued his wonderful weekend with 81* in their 8 wkt Q/F win over Timperley, while in R2 Didsbury won a fantastic game with Chester BH by 3 wkts, James Bidwell hitting the first ball of the final over for six to seal a brilliant win for the hosts. Alex Money, having made 81 on the same ground the day before, made 91 this time, and in psp with Warren Goodwin (59) and Rick Moore (57) took CBH to 186-1 in the 29th, but they finished 279-8. After a rapid response Dids slipped to 146-5 after 18 but Rob Sehmi (73) and Jack Hastings (59) added 87 to set up a grandstand finish. Didsbury and Nantwich will contest the remaining quarter-final, date tbc.



Nantwich's excellent record in the T20 continued when they won through to a fourth successive finals day after an exhilarating Q/F at Widnes on Thursday. Luke Robinson hit a dazzling 119 off just 42 balls, adding 119 for the 5th wkt with Jake Pearson in 7.4 overs at one stage as his side piled up 236-7 (including a wicket maiden!) Robinson's 13 sixes made it 24 in two innings en-route to finals day, a passage that was secured only after holding off a terrific Widnes riposte. 49 came off the last two overs of their powerplay as Widnes reached 86-0 in that time (Nantwich 54-2 in the same period), going on to 122-2 at halfway. However the sheer pressure of the required rate saw them fall 28 runs short, Rohan Luthra's brilliant 94 off 60 in vain.

FINALS DAY: GRAPPENHALL CC, 21.7.24

SF 1: Oxton (159) beat Grappenhall (131) by 28 runs A solid if unspectacular Oxton effort, after being put in, was to be the highest total of the day and more than enough to hold off Grappenhall. Henry Dobson (32 & 2-20) and Jack Corran (39 & 2-19) were the standout Oxton performers, while Chris Stenhouse and Grappers' Tom MacRury each returned 3-15.

SF 2: Lindow (157-6) beat Nantwich (154-8) by 4 wkts A shock win for the Div 1 leaders against in-form Nantwich in a fantastic game. Skipper Ray Doyle (68 off 43) got Nantwich off to a flyer. However, the Dabbers lost wkts too regularly, including the key ones of Luke Robinson and Simon Mugava within six balls of each other, to build real momentum and with Lindow - as in their Q/F at Didsbury - again not conceding any wides, their target of 155 looked within range. Nantwich, who were to bowl 12 costly wides, fought hard to have them 62-4 at halfway, and then 111-5 after 15, but Dan Newton (74* off 43) continued his great season with the innings of the day, he and Rob Herriott taking 22 off the penultimate over to leave just four needed off the last, which came off the first ball.

FINAL: Oxton (141-9) beat Lindow (109-8) by 32 runs Oxton secured their first ever T20 crown after a comfortable win in what was an anti-climax of a final, just three sixes struck in the 40 overs as fluency was hard for all the batters to find. It was Oxton's start (61 inside the first 8 overs, Luke Filer 32, Grant Hughes 33) that was to prove to be the batting highlight and the key part of the game, as thereafter the bowlers were generally in control, Charlie Hodge 4-18 the pick. Set 142, the Lindow powerplay yielded just 22, only three boundaries hit and, crucially, the wkts of Wisnewski and Newton lost. With James Duffy's 36-ball 25 an indication of how tough batting had become, it was down to Charlie Hodge to star again with 42 off 38. But Lindow staggered to 73-7 after 15 overs as the experienced Oxton attack kept things well in check, the match petering out but the celebrations no less enjoyable for the Wirral outfit after a well-deserved triumph.