CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One - July 14:

Nantwich v Lindow: A first league defeat of the year for Lindow as Nantwich maintained their 100 per cent league record from completed matches. Beth Hughes (56) and Morganne Prince (37) saw Nantwich to 162-7, and Lindow folded to 139 all out, with Heidi Cheadle stranded on 97 not out as none of her team-mates passed 12. Hughes took three wickets to complete an excellent day for her.

Chester Boughton Hall v Leigh: Leigh are still very much in contention and have just a single defeat after another excellent performance here. Sophie Heaton's 3-20 return continued her fine form with the ball as Chester were restricted to 131. Despite three wickets for Shana Kelly, Leigh won by six wickets, with 55 each from Ellie Mason and Kirsten Smith doing the bulk of the work by guiding their side to 121-1. There's a lot of cricket still to be played, but the best indication is that the title could be a three-way fight between Leigh, Nantwich and Lindow.

Oakmere v Appleton: Appleton's total of 142, where Anni Rashid top scored with 42, was their highest total yet of a difficult season. Kerry Hartnett took three Appleton wickets and then steered her side home to a four-wicket win with 44 not out.

<u>Didsbury v Stockport Georgians</u>: Despite having lost all of their league matches, Appleton are not adrift at the bottom. Georgians have won only once, and Appleton would draw level by winning the game in hand. Georgians total here was 113, with Gracie Whittle top scoring with 36 and Pooja Singh taking 3-8. Didsbury were struggling at 64-6, with Amelie Batey taking three wickets and Bree Craven two, before Roshini Prince-Navaratnam and Jodie Filer's seventh wicket stand saw them home.

July 21:

Nantwich v Oakmere: Nantwich went marching on here, overwhelming an Oakmere team who were all out for 31 inside 14 overs. Charlotte Kirk needed just 15 deliveries to complete her five-wicket haul. Nantwich had earlier posted 165-4, with 149 of these coming in the opening partnership between Morganne Prince (83) and Grace Michell (52).

Appleton v Chester Boughton Hall: Appleton came agonisingly close to a first league win of the year. Marianne Lea and Thusumi Jayawarna added 29 for the tenth wicket, but they would have needed four more to complete the win, but instead their final wicket fell from the first ball of the final over. Katie Bennett top scored with 32 in Boughton Hall's score of 124-7, which narrowly proved to be a winning total.

Division Two – July 14:

Buxton v Greenfield: Greenfield's good run continued in some style here. Faye Smith made 53 in what appeared to be a solid Buxton total of 150, but Greenfield openers Amelia Buckley and Megan Russell chased this down inside 27 overs for no loss. Russell finished unbeaten on 41, while Buckley's unbeaten 81-ball innings ended with her just managing to become the first division two centurion of the year.

July 21:

<u>Upton v Hayfield</u>: Upton sent a message to Leyland that they are very much still in title contention. Hayfield managed just 25 here in 19 overs, with Hannah McGowan's 3-10 the best of several very impressive bowling figures. It also took the Wirral club just 21 balls to complete their run chase.

Greenfield w/o Hawarden Park

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

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

Division Three West – July 8:

Appleton 2nd XI v Nantwich 2nd XI: This game featured one bowler on each side that took four wickets - Nethuli Denuwara for Appleton and Ashlee Prince for Nantwich, as well as one batter on each side who scored a significant proportion of their team's runs. Prince's unbeaten 51 trumped Maddi Lawson's 42, with Nantwich also winning the match by 115 runs to 100.

July 18:

Nantwich 2nd XI v Appleton 2nd XI: Another excellent result for Nantwich. Laura Midwinter and Sophie Winward each took 2-10 in four overs as Appleton were kept down to 72. Ashlee Prince's 39 not out led a successful run chase to secure a nine-wicket win.

July 25:

Nantwich 2nd XI w/o Chester BH 2nd XI

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 Appleton 2nd XI v Chester BH 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 1/7

Division Three East – July 8:

<u>Buxton 2nd XI v Stockport Georgians 2nd XI:</u> Despite Nicola Grainger's 3-13 return, Georgians posted a solid 98 in 20 overs – Holly Batey the top scorer with 26. Lola Bailey took 3-15 in the reply as Buxton only reached 75.

July 21:

Stockport Georgians 2nd XI v Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley: Georgians got home to their target of 43, for the loss of six wickets, after a nervous chase. Flo Batey's 13 was the top score and was a crucial contribution after the top order damage wrought by Shanza Shafqat and Amanda Gettins.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley v Lindow 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 16/7

Division Three Cross-Divisional Matches - June 30:

Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley v Nantwich 2nd XI: There were three wickets each for Grace Carter and Sophie Winward as the South Manchester team slipped to 17-7 and only partially recovered to post 70. Nantwich replied with 40-1 in 6.1 overs for a big run rate victory after weather curtailed their chase.

Chester BH 2nd XI v Stockport Georgians 2nd XI – Chester BH unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 9/6 and will not be re-arranged – awarded to Georgians by forfeit

Fixtures awaiting mandatory re-arrangement:

Stockport Georgians 2nd XI v JG Meakin Northern Stars – ground availability on original date of 7/7

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

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

Didsbury 2nd XI v Nantwich 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 7/7
Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley v Chester BH 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 11/7
Alvanley v Lindow 2nd XI – Alvanley unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 21/7

Division Four West - July 14:

Lymm Oughtrington Park v Toft: Toft recorded their second win of the year, with their opening bowlers Zoe Talbot and Kate Lang conceding just five and eight runs respectively in their four over allocations. Chasing 72, the Knutsford club lost three wickets, but still completed the chase with 11 balls to spare.

July 21:

<u>Kingsley v Lymm Oughtrington Park</u>: Kingsley regained the lead in this division with a comfortable win here, making 114 to Lymm's 64. Tarryn Warman's 30 retired was easily the top score of the match, and Jules Bates' 3-8 return snuffed out any hopes Lymm may have had in reply.

Division Four East – July 14:

Stockport Georgians 3rd XI v Didsbury 3rd XI: Hannah Wilke was able to return to the crease after initially retiring, and finished 37 not out as she guided Georgians to their target of 88 and a one-wicket win.

Heaton Mersey & Cheadle v Lindow 3rd XI: Eliza Chadwick took three wickets for five runs as Heaton Mersey & Cheadle moved within two points of leaders Stockport in this most closely fought of all divisions. Lindow were finally all out for 40 in reply to the hosts' 77-5.

Stockport w/o Hawk Green

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Stockport Georgians 3rd XI v Lindow 3rd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 11/7 Lindow 3rd XI v Stockport Georgians 3rd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 16/7

Division Four South East - July 21:

<u>Buxton 3rd XI v Macclesfield</u>: Macclesfield extended their lead at the top after a 26-run win here. Despite 3-11 from Hannah Semple, useful contributions throughout the card guided the visitors to 100 in 20 overs. Emilie Ward claimed a 3-9 return in the second innings.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

North East Cheshire v Langley – no play due to unfit ground on original date of 16/6 New Mills & High Peak North v Macclesfield - no play due to unfit ground on original date of 16/6 North East Cheshire v New Mills & High Peak North – New Mills unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 23/6

Lindow Development XI v North East Cheshire - no play due to unfit ground on original date of 7/7

North East Cheshire v Macclesfield – no play due to unfit ground on original date of 16/6 North East Cheshire v Buxton 3rd XI – no play due to unfit ground on original date of 10/7 Buxton 3rd XI v Langley – no play due to unfit ground on original date of 7/7

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Player loans:

Abbey Mayers (Hawarden Park) to Chester BH for maximum three league matches commencing July 11

Bella Williams (Hawarden Park) to Oakmere for maximum three league matches commencing July 15

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Division 5

Local rivals Runcorn and Widnes are fighting it out in the Mid Cheshire section, but Romiley are dominating the Eastern division, with six wins from six.

Elworth also have a 100 per cent record in the South, while Neston and Old Parkonians are setting the pace in West Cheshire.

The full League Committee will meet remotely at 1930 this Wednesday, July 24. Club representatives should have received the Zoom link.

An important reminder of some of the wording regarding 2nd/3rd/4th XI selection in the regulations:

"When selecting players for 2nd, 3rd and 4th XIs, clubs are required to consider the Spirit of Cricket as well as the League's Code of Conduct on this subject. When players are selected for these teams who regularly play for the club's higher ranked teams, it is important that the club communicates with the opposing captain prior to the match and explains the reasons for their selection. Where a club believes that their opposition has selected an inappropriate player, they should refer the matter to the League Committee, who can take appropriate action, which can include the deduction of points."

With the league having decided to discontinue its Pitchero site, a number of general documents have now been uploaded to the Play Cricket site.

Back issues of this newsletter are still available via the Cheshire Cricket Board site.

The <u>Cricket Playing Survey</u>, run by the ECB, provides a chance for recreational players and volunteers to have their say and influence the future of cricket at grassroots level. Sharing your opinion on how the sport is run today, and how you think cricket could develop and improve, provides valuable insight to the ECB, counties and leagues across England and Wales, to turn your ideas into actions. The League Executive will only get feedback on your responses if a sufficiently large number of responses are received. The survey is only open until August 12.

T20 DIVISIONAL COMPETITION

Western Division - July 15:

Appleton Tigers v Nantwich Vipers – cancelled due to rain

May 16:

Chester Boughton Hall Deemons w/o Oakmere Kats

These two results from unplayed fixtures in the final round confirmed Nantwich Vipers as Western Division champions. The club won the Knockout Cup in 2022 and 2023, and while they have been eliminated from that competition this year, they still get to chase the other Cheshire T20 prize.

Eastern Division - July 18:

Stockport Georgians v Lindow: Lindow are in to their first Cheshire T20 final as winners of the Eastern Division and will play Nantwich in the final at Hale Barns on August 11. Rapid scoring from Heidi Cheadle, Libby Ackerley and Emily Murray took them to 144. Manvi Rajshetty and Lucy Neill did their best for Georgians in reply, but they closed a little way short on 120. Lindow's Emilia Rossi was the only bowler on either side with an economy rate of less than five per over.

<u>Didsbury Swordettes v Buxton</u>: Georgina Macey and Caitlin McClurg got Buxton off to a flying start, but things fell away, and they only posted 97. Kashmira Shinde made 40 retired from 30 balls in a comfortable seven wicket win for Didsbury.

LEAGUE TABLES

All CWCL League Tables

KNOCKOUT CUPS

Development Knockout Second Round - July 17:

Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI v Lindow 2nd XI: Chester won with some 22 balls and eight wickets in hand. Ava Rogers' 30 retired from 19 balls set them on the way to a successful chase of a target of 90. Rogers, along with both Meg Cureton and Alys Evans, claimed two wickets in the Lindow innings, where the card was dominated by Louise Long's 36 not out.

Quarter-Final - July 9:

<u>Heaton Mersey & Cheadle v Alvanley</u>: After an uncertain start, unbeaten 30s from Isla Entwistle and Charlie Barratt lifted Alvanley to 112 in 20 overs. Barratt then produced another fine bowling return as the home side managed just 60.

July 21:

<u>Didsbury 2nd XI v Stockport Georgians 2nd XI</u>: Hannah Wilke made 33 retired for Georgians, but in general it was a good all-round bowling display by Didsbury, ensuring they only had 79 to chase. Ramilee Cabral and Helen Johnson made rapid cameos in reply as Didsbury comfortably won by eight wickets inside 14 overs.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Cup Northern Final – July 21:

<u>Didsbury v Sessay</u>: Didsbury were edged out by 20 runs as the Yorkshire club amassed 139-3, dominated by Trudy Johnson's 79 from 56 balls. A slow start ultimately cost Didsbury in reply, even with Roshini Prince-Navaratnam and Kashmira Shinde going well at the end.

Plate Midlands Semi-Final - July 11:

Stockport Georgians v Burnley: Early wickets for Holly Batey and Bella Woodside and four wickets in two overs later on from Emily Thomas kept Burnley to 91 all out, an innings dominated by Iqra Shafqat's 54. Skye Thomas' 37 set Georgians on their way in reply and they duly won by five wickets to set up a group final in Birmingham club.

Plate Midlands Final – July 21:

<u>Five Ways Old Edwardians v Stockport Georgians</u>: CWCL involvement in the main cup competition may have ended, but the league how has half of the remaining teams in the Plate. With Bella Woodside, Holly Batey and Beth Tittensor all conceding 10 or less from four overs, the Birmingham club managed just 73 in 20 overs. Skye Thomas was unbeaten on 34 as Georgians cruised to a nine-wicket win.

Plate Northern Final - July 21:

<u>Leyland v South Northumberland</u>: Leyland are also through to the national semi-finals of the Plate after a commanding win. Katie Poole made 53 from 52 balls and Hannah Snape 40 from 30 as they amassed 150. Despite the efforts of Melissa Banks in reply, the North East club ended well short on 113.

REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

I have pleasure in unveiling the latest League XI to play MCC in the annual fixture. Hope to see you at Lindow on August 6 for an 1130 start. Heidi Cheadle returns to the team for a third time, this time as captain, but all of the other selected players will be experiencing this fixture for the first time.

Heidi Cheadle (capt) Skye Thomas Rosie Ackerley Emilia Rossi Grace Michell Carys Lambe Holly Batey Kashmira Shinde Emily Wilkins (WK) Holly Topp Holly Mayers

Additional fielders - Holly Humphreys & TBC

Scorers - Rosie Davis & Nicola Deane

SENIOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

There will be a comprehensive series of <u>women and girls' softball festivals</u> across Cheshire this summer.

Cheshire continues to offer its wide range of <u>umpiring and scoring courses</u>.