



THE WEEK 18 REVIEW

A big Saturday across all the 1st and 2nd XI games saw more twists and turns as the battles particularly to stay up in each division intensified.

Prem leaders Hyde took a big step towards a first title since 2015 with a hard-fought six wkt win at Timperley, who recovered from 20-4 to post a decent 201 at Stockport Rd. Missing several key players, Hyde were led home by Ryan Masuira's 75*, with Adam Worrall's aggressive 62 in a stand of 89 a key component. Further joy for them came with news of an impressive Chester BH display seeing off second-placed Nantwich at Whitehouse Lane, CBH's 302-9 leading to a convincing 96 run win, while Didsbury came a real cropper in the shock result of the day, as bottom side Toft beat them by 104 runs to claim a first win since May 25th. Henry Hughes batted throughout for a superb 121*, former Dids men Dan Ward and Rohan Aggarwal then taking 5 wkts between them as Dids crashed to 136. Although Toft still need a miracle to escape the drop, they have closed the gap to Bowdon, who remain in the relegation zone after (for them) an agonising loss which was in turn a glorious victory for Oxton, who won a thrilling game by 1 wkt at Townsend Lane. Bowdon fell to 220 all out having been 200-5, Oxton then following suit by going from 155-5 to 185-9 after 45, but veteran Chris Stenhouse (42*) masterminded a last-gasp heist, the game won off the penultimate ball. Neston welcomed back Ash Davis, whose 5-39 helped them to a vital 79 run win over Widnes, while Grappenhall's narrow 9 run loss at Alderley Edge kept both them and Timperley also very much embroiled in the relegation battle.

The **Div 1** leading sides had another day of mixed fortunes. This time Brooklands benefitted, their 22 run win over Macclesfield (Rob Leach returning 10-3-17-6) worth that bit more after Lindow were beaten by a Sale side coming into a late bloom, their fourth win in six achieved after another fine display from George Walker (his 62 following knocks of 57 and 116*), he and Tom Jenkinson (55) adding 118 for the second. Earlier, a whirlwind 83* from Lindow skipper Alex Matthews helped his side add 87 off their last 9 but Sale paced the chase superbly and won with 7 deliveries to spare. Bramhall's big 112 run win over Romiley (for whom games are fast running out) thus helped them make up a little ground to the top two, captain for the day Greg Dixon's wonderful season continuing. After scoring 2 and 0 in his first two inns of 2024, Dixon has since hit 59*, 100, 62*, 29, 40, 45, 63, 76, 36, and now 115* in a golden run of impressive consistency. There is a glimmer of hope for Romiley, however, with Oulton Park's eleventh reverse of the season meaning they have increasingly little room for error at the foot, and with OP having games against the current top three still to come, there is *CONT.*



WEEK 18 1ST XI REVIEW cont.

every possibility of things changing. However, Romiley also have to take on Brooklands and Lindow, and they also have a game against Davenham, another side dicing with the drop all season. But Dav's third win of the season at a fast-fading Marple breathed much needed life into their surprisingly difficult year, Dav holding their nerve to reach their 189 victory target in the 49th over, Zac Phair's earlier 103* for the hosts in vain. With just one win since June 15th, Marple are grateful their collapse in form has not proved more costly. Urmston, on the other hand, have enjoyed a spectacular renaissance after being stuck in the bottom two for much of the year. Their sixth win in seven, a 39 run win in a highly entertaining game at Oulton Park, has lifted them 52 pts clear of the drop zone. Their healthy 279 seemed more than enough, even more so when OP skipper Andrew Dufty fell for 72 to leave OP 137-7 in the 31st, but a violent 54 off 28 from no.9 Jake Forth saw 80 added for the 8th as Urmston used 9 bowlers in an attempt to stem the flow, OP finally all out 240, and, as mentioned, still with work to do. In the other game Cheadle gave themselves a boost with a 5 wkt win over Stockport Georgians.

In [Div 2](#) an impressively composed chase of 252 at Ashley saw Port Sunlight maintain pole position, stands of 113, 54 and then 87* seeing PS home with 8 overs unused, Ashley remaining trapped in the drop zone after their positive batting was let down by an untidy 32 extras conceded. Maritime remained in dogged pursuit, like PS winning for the sixth game in a row, theirs a 5 wkt win at Haslington, while Alvanley are still on the premises after digging deep to squeak home by 2 wkts at Bollington, Steve Charles the cool hand with 74*. Cheadle Hulme have faded faster than an English summer, their fourth straight loss a heavy 122 run reverse at NE Cheshire, who despite moving upto fifth are only 32 pts clear of the relegation spots in a congested mid-lower table. Despite Mobberley winning for the first time since the opening day, the Church Lane goose does seem cooked, 54 pts away from safety with five to play, but despite Stockport's thrilling 1 run win over Ashton OM, both sides are in that clutch of clubs still far from safe.

With James Hodgkinson making 95* for Oakmere in their impressive 6 wkt win at second place Christleton, Upton now have one hand on the [Div 3](#) trophy, the leaders romping to a massive 138 run win over lowly Barrow courtesy of Chris McArthur's fourth ton of a fantastic season for him in which he has now past 1000 league runs. At least Barrow put up something of a fight, however, as the three other struggling sides had a race to the bottom, Over Peover losing by 107 runs at Tattenhall, Runcorn (53 all out) by 10 wkts at Heaton Mersey and Hale Barns (43 all out) by 167 runs at Kingsley. Winnington Park's faint promotion hopes suffered a blow after a third straight loss, Hawk Green beating them by 20 runs.

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
HYDE	310	43
NANTWICH	286	33
CHESTER BH	274	31
DIDSBURY	265	47
OXTON	249	64
ALDERLEY EDGE	223	64
WIDNES	190	30
GRAPPENHALL	168	27
TIMPERLEY	164	34
NESTON	153	46
BOWDON	143	14
TOFT	111	31

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
BROOKLANDS	282	47
LINDOW	267	45
BRAMHALL	232	44
MACCLESFIELD	221	46
CHEADLE	219	45
MARPLE	208	12
SALE	205	48
S.GEORGIANS	187	25
URMSTON	177	60
OULTON PARK	168	15
DAVENHAM	125	29
ROMILEY	121	27

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
PORT SUNLIGHT	296	60
MARITIME	295	60
ALVANLEY	253	43
CHEADLE HULME	234	12
NE CHESHIRE	191	43
STOCKPORT	185	46
HASLINGTON	183	28
BOLLINGTON	173	12
ASHTON OM	168	31
CONGLETON	163	45
ASHLEY	159	25
MOBBERLEY	109	30

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
UPTON	290	60
CHRISTLETON	255	43
WINNINGTON PARK	219	17
OAKMERE	210	46
HAWK GREEN	209	44
HEATON MERSEY	203	46
KINGSLEY	197	46
TATTENHALL	194	44
BARROW	151	11
HALE BARNES	147	27
RUNCORN	141	40
OVER PEOVER	140	9

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	285
CHESTER BH	263
WIDNES	236
OXTON	233
CHEADLE	204
S.GEORGIANS	196
BROOKLANDS	196
NESTON	184
TOFT	176
HYDE	174
LINDOW	118
BOWDON	91

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. NANTWICH	265
2. TIMPERLEY	236
3. SALE	213
11. A.EDGE	154
12. C.HULME	83

2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON 2	304
2. MARITIME	298
3. URMSTON	232
11. ROMILEY	134
12. WARRINGTON	131



2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON 3	276
2. OAKMERE	261
3. N.E.CHESHIRE	237
11. OXTON 3	133
12. BARROW	105

3RD XI SUN PREM	
TEAM	PTS
SALE	110
DIDSBURY	104
BROOKLANDS	102
S.GEORGIANS	76
TIMPERLEY	76
TOFT	66
MARPLE & COMP.	52
NANTWICH	46
GRAPPENHALL	46
ALDERLEY EDGE	-8

3RD XI SUN DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
ASHLEY	146
DIDSBURY 4	120
A.O.MERSEY	38
ROMILEY	32

3RD XI SUN DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
T.METROVICKS 4	142
DIDSBURY 5	110
STOCKPORT	52
TIMPERLEY 6	36

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS	
Div 3 East: Top - Stockport Georgians 4s	2nd - Macclesfield
Div 3 West: Top - Runcorn	2nd - Widnes
Div 4: Top - Lindow	2nd - Cheadle Hulme



WEEK 18 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: A superb opening spell from Didsbury's James Bidwell (7-4-7-3) and Jack Harland reduced Widnes to 11-5, their pursuit of 241-5 (Chris Becker 72, Adam Slater 52) effectively over at that point as the meeting of 1st v 3rd went decisively the way of the leaders, Dids winning by 127 runs. Second place Chester BH lost to fourth placed Oxton at Filkins Lane, Joe Killoran's remarkable 107 out of 177 in vain for the hosts. There was a thrilling encounter at Werneth Low, where Brooklands pulled off a 5 wkt win in a pulsating, high scoring game. Liam Grindley hammered 88 (76 in boundaries) out of an opening stand of 109 for Hyde to set the tone, Hyde piling up 285, but an equally rapid 80* from Sudanshu Rajshetty built on earlier fine knocks from Piyush Kumar and Sam Hill, Brooklands reaching their target with one delivery to spare. In the meeting of the bottom two Bowdon beat Lindow by 5 wkts but both sides still look odds-on to drop into Div 1 next season.

In **Div 1** the top three all lost - leaders Nantwich went down to a resurgent Didsbury 2As who made it four wins on the spin with a 5 wkt victory; Timperley lost by 75 runs at Macclesfield, while third place Sale were swept aside by lowly Marple, who won by 8 wkts. It turned into a very important win for Marple, now 27 pts clear of the drop zone. Alderley Edge's battle to stay up gained momentum, their 5 wkt win at Grappenhall moving them to within 14 pts of Bramhall, who were equally thankful for a 9 wkt win over a doomed Cheadle Hulme.

In **Div 2** Will Colwell made 87* and then swooped with a final over run-out to seal a 3 run win for leaders Upton over thir-place Urmston in a thrilling game. Maritime remain six pts behind in second spot. Romiley gave themselves a life-line with a vital 7 wkt win over Oulton Park, 24 pts separating the bottom four sides.

Upton 3s knocked Oakmere off top spot in **Div 3**, but both sides are still well clear. Bollington finally moved out of the bottom three, leapfrogging Oxton who they beat by 6 wkts. Tattenhall's Max Harper (119) and Alex Sandland (64) added 202 for their side's 3rd wkt as they beat Chester BH 3s by 62 runs.

Sunday 3rd XI cricket in the **Prem** saw Sale go back to the top after they walloped Georgians by 9 wkts. Didsbury lost at Grappenhall, who remain in the second relegation spot but are now tied on pts with Nantwich, who beat Toft. Ashley increased their lead in **Div 1** while Trafford Metrovicks did likewise in **Div 2**, with Didsbury's 4s and 5s currently in second in both divisions respectively.



WEEK 18 CUP CRICKET ROUND UP

CHESHIRE CUP UPDATE

Didsbury recovered from their league loss on Saturday to beat Nantwich by 8 wkts in their much-delayed quarter-final on Sunday, the Dabbers bowled out for 131 in the 34th over. Didsbury now face Elworth in one of the semi-finals, with Bowdon travelling to Hyde in the other semi, which is scheduled for Sun 25th August.

CHESHIRE SHIELD UPDATE

Parkfield Liscard beat Port Sunlight in their semi-final earlier in the month and are awaiting the winner of the Maritime v Hawk Green semi, which is currently still awaiting a date to be scheduled.

2ND XI FINALS DAY

Scheduled for Sunday September 1st at Chester BH. Semi-final draw (tbc): Chester BH v Widnes, Lindow v Didsbury 2s.

3RD XI FINALS DAY

Scheduled for Monday Aug 26th at Brooklands. No semi-final draw yet published. Teams: Brooklands, Didsbury 3, Didsbury 4, Nantwich.

ECB NATIONAL CLUB T20

Two terrific displays by Oxton saw them win their Area Group final on Aug 4th, beating Wellington (Shropshire) by 4 wkts in their semi-final before defeating Birmingham League Harborne in a 15-overs-a-side final. With conditions for batting clearly tricky, Harborne were restricted to 70-9 in their allocation, Oxton reaching 71-4 in the 14th. Jack Corran took 3-10 in the final, to go with a wkt and 44 in the earlier semi.

Oxton thus progressed through to the Northern Regional Final which is scheduled for Sun 25th, where they will face (appropriately enough) Northern in their semi. Townville face Doncaster in the other semi. It looks as though the winners of this date progress through to national Finals Day, so best of luck to all involved at Townfield Lane.