



THE WEEK 21 REVIEW

Despite blanket cloud and gloom across much of Cheshire on Saturday, all matches were completed and a number of promotion and relegation places were settled going into the last weekend.

Premier Division Summary:

Champions will be one of Hyde, Nantwich, Didsbury or Chester BH. Hyde are 10 pts clear at the top.

Relegation: two of Toft, Neston, Grappenhall and Bowdon will go into Div 1.

Hyde have matters in their own hands but it was a jittery 2 wkt win over Bowdon which kept things that way. After two fine, high-scoring cup games between the two, including last Sunday's Cheshire Cup semi, it was a very different story this time round, Bowdon pegged to 165 by the parsimonious Hyde attack, but in reply the Bowdon spinners reduced the hosts to 83-5 before two Lancs stars (Keshana Fonseka and Charlie Barnard) rescued them with a patient 76 run stand which helped secure a precious 20 pts. Two more wins will mean Hyde claim a first Prem title in nine seasons. Nantwich kept up the pressure in second, sweeping to an emphatic 9 wkt win at Widnes chasing 204, Ben Wright (78*) and Ali Chughtai (84) putting on 165 for the 1st wkt, while Didsbury racked up the highest total of the Prem season, Nick Anderson hammering 10x6 in a 41-ball 91 as his side reached 347-8 against Timperley, going on to a comfortable 126 run win. Andrew Metcalf's superb 91 was the feature of Chester BH's recovery from 20-4 to win by 2 wkts at a crestfallen Grappenhall, Metcalf and Pat Roberts (30) adding 151 for the 5th. Despite more Grappers pressure seeing CBH 166-8 needing 195, they inched over the line, keeping their mathematical title hopes alive and putting extra spice into the visit of Hyde next Saturday. As for Grappenhall, two tough games await as their battle for survival goes into the last weekend, albeit they have a 15 pt cushion to Neston, who despite putting out a strong XI ran into Cheshire captain Harry Dearden in fine form, his 5-28 and 70 steering Oxton to a 7 wkt win at Parkgate. Toft beat Alderley Edge to keep faint survival hopes alive, Dan Ward (59*) and Michael Forwood (57) putting on 108 for the 6th as AE paid the price for collapsing from 95-1 to 176 all out.

PREMIER DIVISION FINAL WEEKEND FIXTURES

Sept 14: ALDERLEY EDGE v DIDSBURY; BOWDON v WIDNES; CHESTER BH v HYDE; NANTWICH v TOFT;
OXTON v GRAPPENHALL; TIMPERLEY v NESTON

Sept 15: ALDERLEY EDGE v NESTON; BOWDON v TOFT; CHESTER BH v WIDNES; GRAPPENHALL v HYDE;
NANTWICH v DIDSBURY; OXTON v TIMPERLEY



WEEK 21 1ST XI REVIEW cont.

1st Division Summary:

Promoted: Brooklands

Other promotion spot: one of Lindow, Bramhall or Macclesfield

Relegation: two from Romiley, Davenham or Oulton Park will drop into Div 2.

Congratulations to Brooklands who secured an immediate return to the Prem after thrashing Oulton Park by an eye-watering 236 runs at Little Budworth. Jim Hugall's 92* (53 bs) helped power Brooklands to 327-6, OP bundled out for 91 in less than 19 overs in reply. One more win for Brooklands secures the title while for OP, their dismal season just keeps getting worse, six straight defeats leaving them with a potentially uncomfortable last weekend. The only crumb of comfort for OP is that the two sides beneath them weren't able to capitalise - Davenham ran into a strong Macclesfield side, Alex Thompson (62) and Khalid Sawas (92) adding 149 together in Macc's 247-9 before Thompson took 3-22, Davenham all out 171 but still closing the gap to OP a little, 29 pts between the two sides. As for Romiley, the visit of promotion aspirants Lindow produced a nerve-shredding finale to a gripping game. Lindow managed 206 but the hosts rued dropping two big chances which cost some 60 runs in total. Romiley then seemed finished at 128-8 but Brad Snape redeemed a hitherto disappointing day for him with an explosive 73 off 39, 5 huge sixes bringing roars of approval from an increasingly buoyant home crowd as he and Mark Flattley added 61 for the 9th in 8 overs, before Dan Newton produced the desperately needed wicket of Snape for his side, Flattley then bowled four balls after that as the Lindow supporters dashed to the bar for stiff drinks all round. Another agonisingly close loss for Romiley - this one 15 runs - meant that they are 49 pts adrift of safety and, barring a cricketing miracle, will be in Div 2 next season. Bramhall followed events at Birchvale Drive with as much interest as anyone, after they completed a scrappy four wicket win over Marple, for whom the season cannot end soon enough. Bramhall remain 20 pts behind Lindow and eager to pounce on any slip-ups, although with Lindow's remaining two games against Urmston and Oulton Park both at Upcast Lane, they are firm favourites to get the points they need. Stockport Georgians (over Sale) and Cheadle (over Urmston) were the other Div 1 winners.

FINAL WEEKEND DIVISION 1 FIXTURES

Sept 14: BROOKLANDS v BRAMHALL; CHEADLE v OULTON PARK; DAVENHAM v ROMILEY; LINDOW v URMSTON; MARPLE v STOCKPORT GEORGIANS; SALE v MACCLESFIELD

Sept 15: CHEADLE v BRAMHALL; DAVENHAM v URMSTON; LINDOW v OULTON PARK; MARPLE v BROOKLANDS; SALE v ROMILEY; STOCKPORT GEORGIANS v MACCLESFIELD



WEEK 21 1ST XI REVIEW cont.

2nd Division Summary: **Promotion:** Two from Maritime, Port Sunlight and Alvanley

Relegation: one of five clubs (AOM, Ashley, Stockport, Bollington, Haslington) will join Mobberley in Div 3

An horrendous Port Sunlight collapse (their last six batsmen failed to score) handed Maritime an easy 8 wkt win and a decisive lead in the race for the Div 2 title, and with Alvanley skipper Alex Reid (44*) and Simon Gee (55*) adding an unbroken 111 to secure a 7 wkt win over struggling Ashton OM, the race for the other promotion spot has become an intriguing one. AOM's defeat may prove terminal as Bollington and Ashley took 14 pts each from a thrilling tie at The Rec, Bolly's last pair needing 4 from the final over but managing just 3 after Tyran Liddiard's 82 had set Bolly well on their way to their 193 target. Stockport took 6 pts from their loss at resurgent Congleton to keep themselves 19 pts above the drop zone. Congleton's late burst of form - they have now won 6 of their last 7 - has pushed them into the top half, while the team they replace there, Haslington, should be safe enough despite a loss at NE Cheshire after mustering just 64. Rhys Collister made 100* for Cheadle Hulme in their easy win over Mobberley.

FINAL WEEKEND DIVISION 2 FIXTURES

Sept 14: ASHLEY v CONGLETON; ASHTON OM v CHEADLE HULME; HASLINGTON v BOLLINGTON; MOBBERLEY v NE CHESHIRE; PORT SUNLIGHT v ALVANLEY; STOCKPORT v MARITIME **Sept 15:** ASHLEY v HASLINGTON; ASHTON OM v NE CHESHIRE; CONGLETON v MARITIME; MOBBERLEY v BOLLINGTON; PORT SUNLIGHT v CHEADLE HULME; STOCKPORT v ALVANLEY

3rd Division Summary: **Promoted:** Upton **Promotion:** Christleton or Oakmere most likely to claim a Div 2 spot.

Relegation: two of Runcorn, Over Peover, Barrow and Hale Barns will drop into the Cheshire Cricket League.

Congratulations to Upton who sealed an immediate return to Div 2 with a handsome 92 run win over a Winnington Park side that have faded badly in the past weeks, Dave Williams taking 7-18 as the celebrations began at Old Greasy Rd. Christleton's long trip to Heaton Mersey saw them crawl to 144-9 and lose by 3 wkts, giving encouragement to Oakmere, who bowled out a Hawk Green side who made 356 last week for just 147 en-route to a 6 wkt win. At the foot, Aiden Anthony's fifth ton of the season (this one 133 off 75 bs) propelled Over Peover to a priceless 20 pts, which was bad news for fellow strugglers Runcorn and Barrow. The latter lost a high scoring game at Hale Barns after Josh Agar made 102 for the hosts in their 281-8, but HB still remain in the relegation mix as the final weekend comes round.

FEATURE FINAL WEEKEND DIVISION 3 FIXTURES

Sept 14: CHRISTLETON v UPTON; HALE BARNES v RUNCORN **Sept 15:** HAWK GREEN v RUNCORN; OVER PEOVER v OAKMERE

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
HYDE	356	20
NANTWICH	346	20
DIDSBURY	325	20
CHESTER BH	319	20
OXTON	275	20
ALDERLEY EDGE	234	5
WIDNES	221	3
TIMPERLEY	210	6
BOWDON	188	5
GRAPPENHALL	183	5
NESTON	168	3
TOFT	155	20

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
BROOKLANDS	342	20
LINDOW	312	20
BRAMHALL	292	20
MACCLESFIELD	281	20
CHEADLE	262	20
SALE	249	4
MARPLE	235	4
S.GEORGIANS	215	20
URMSTON	192	6
OULTON PARK	182	2
DAVENHAM	153	6
ROMILEY	133	6

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
MARITIME	355	20
PORT SUNLIGHT	322	0
ALVANLEY	313	20
CHEADLE HULME	261	20
NE CHESHIRE	251	20
CONGLETON	223	20
HASLINGTON	209	6
BOLLINGTON	209	14
STOCKPORT	200	6
ASHLEY	198	14
ASHTON OM	181	3
MOBBERLEY	122	5

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
UPTON	335	20
CHRISTLETON	299	4
OAKMERE	270	20
HEATON MERSEY	263	20
HAWK GREEN	251	2
TATTENHALL	237	20
KINGSLEY	229	6
WINNINGTON PARK	228	5
HALE BARNES	193	20
BARROW	171	7
OVER PEOVER	169	20
RUNCORN	153	3

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	327
CHESTER BH	323
OXTON	277
WIDNES	263
CHEADLE	248
S.GEORGIANS	238
BROOKLANDS	225
NESTON	215
TOFT	204
HYDE	202
LINDOW	141
BOWDON	120

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. NANTWICH	311
2. TIMPERLEY	296
3. DIDSBURY 2A	247
11. H.MERSEY	209
12. C.HULME	92

2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON 2	364
2. MARITIME	358
3. URMSTON	292
11. WARRINGTON	159
12. NESTON 3	145



2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. UPTON 3	336
2. ASHLEY	292
3. OAKMERE	291
11. OXTON 3	178
12. BARROW	134

3RD XI SUN PREM	
TEAM	PTS
SALE	132
DIDSBURY	120
BROOKLANDS	114
S.GEORGIANS	100
TOFT	94
TIMPERLEY	80
GRAPPENHALL	62
MARPLE & COMP.	56
NANTWICH	50
ALDERLEY EDGE	-8

3RD XI SUN DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
ASHLEY	166
DIDSBURY 4	148
ROMILEY	46
ASHTON OM	42

3RD XI SUN DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
T.METROVICKS 4	164
DIDSBURY 5	122
STOCKPORT	44
TIMPERLEY 6	38

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS

Div 3 East: Top - Stockport Georgians 4s
2nd - Macclesfield

Div 3 West: Top: Runcorn
Joint 2nd: Widnes and Middlewich

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



WEEK 21 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: A first defeat since May 25th for reigning champions Didsbury has given the final weekend of fixtures huge significance as Chester BH closed the gap at the top to just 4 pts. Dids came a cropper at near-neighbours Cheadle, for whom James Clift made a superb 107* (113 bs) as his side raced to their victory target of 174 inside 38 overs. Chester BH skipper Dan Riley's 7-2-9-5 was the standout for his side as they easily overcame Widnes, so the two long trips they have on the final weekend (to Georgians and then Hyde a day later) will have everything riding on them. Didsbury have two home games to finish, facing third place Oxton on Saturday before finishing against relegated Lindow. Lindow did at least have the pleasure of a win on Sat, a scrappy 3 wkt triumph chasing the 124 set by Hyde rounding off their home fixtures on a positive note. Elsewhere, an amazing Stockport Georgians recovery at Bowdon, from 25-6 to 229 all out, rather took the shine off Haydn George's 6-50, as did the subsequent 38 run loss his side suffered. Another bowler also took an ultimately fruitless 6-for, Toft's Ben Calvin taking 6-28 as Oxton bellyflopped over the line in their pursuit of 111, winning by 2 wkts.

In **Div 1** a massive 158 run win sealed promotion back to the Prem for Nantwich, with the divisional trophy likely to follow next weekend. Timperley will not be long in joining them, their 100 run win over Bramhall meaning they need one more point to be assured of going up. Didsbury 2As capped off a remarkable turnaround in form by going upto third in the table (having been bottom at the end of May), Nigel Bellamy taking 6-17 in their victory over Grappenhall. At the foot, Alderley Edge recorded a dramatic fifth win in a row, Shahbaz Qasim taking 14 off the final over to claim a 2 wkt win over a shattered Heaton Mersey, who slipped into the relegation places as a result, but still plenty of hope for HM with 15 pts separating six sides at the wrong end.

In **Div 2** Upton 2s and Maritime have won promotion to Div 1, while at the bottom, any two of five clubs could drop into Div 3. Romiley's recovery from 77-6 to reach 174-8 and win by 2 wkts at Stockport was a key result, as was Warrington's 9 wkt demolition of Oulton Park, although Warrington play Upton next week and finish against another struggling side in Haslington, who travel to Romiley next Saturday.

Div 3 saw Upton 3s maintain their cushion at the top and are well set for promotion, but who will go up with them is far from clear. Ashley racked up 282-7 on their way to a 47 run win over struggling Oxton, leapfrogging Oakmere into second spot after they went down by 26 runs at Hale Barns. At the foot, two of any four clubs could drop into the CCL.



WEEK 21 CUP CRICKET ROUND UP

CHESHIRE CUP FINAL

Played at Hyde CC, Sun 8 Sept

DIDSBURY 207-9 (40 os)

Nick Anderson 85*

HYDE 19-0 (1.4 os)

MATCH ABANDONED



The pall of drizzly gloom which refused to lift from Werneth Low put paid to an intriguing 2024 Final, much to the disappointment of a hardy crowd who had enjoyed some excellent cricket in far from ideal conditions to that point. Having to play on a used strip, Hyde had no hesitation in putting Didsbury into bat, and for 30 overs they held the whip hand as Dids slipped to 133-8, a succession of batters getting in and then out. However, skipper Nick Anderson, who had made a watchful 18* from 40 balls, decided he had seen enough, and in a breathtaking passage of powerful hitting launched seven enormous sixes as the last two Didsbury wickets added 74 runs, Anderson finishing 85* off 80 balls as the final ten overs saw 81 runs added in total. Hyde almost lost a wicket to a run out off the first ball of their reply but the drizzle got too heavy shortly after and the umpires had no alternative but to suspend play. Despite the valiant efforts of the officials, the Hyde players and groundstaff, attempts to resume play were to no avail, and the teams will return to try again in a fortnight.

REPLAYED FINAL: HYDE v DIDSBURY at Hyde CC, Sat 21 Sept, 11.30am start.

OVER 40's FINALS DAY: SUNDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER, UPTON CC

Cup Semi-finals: CHESTER BH v HYDE

WALLASEY v SALE

Plate Final: ASHLEY v GRAPPENHALL