CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One - August 25:

<u>Lindow v Appleton</u>: Lindow got back to winning ways, while it was another defeat for Appleton that moved them closer to relegation. Maddie Lawson's 40 not out lifted Appleton to 82, after they had been reduced to 8-4 via excellent opening spells from Emilia Rossi and Libby Ackerley. Jess Lewis took all three wickets to fall in the second innings as Lindow completed a seven-wicket win inside 10.1 overs.

August 26:

Nantwich v Leigh: The six-run win achieved by Nantwich here may just have set up the most exciting three-way title race of recent years. Grace Michell top scored with 52 and Bethan Hughes and Charlotte Neal both made scores in the 30s as the South Cheshire club posted 164. Kasey Bentham returned 3-22 for Leigh. Ellie Mason got Leigh's reply off to a flying start, but when she was run out for 37, the run rate began to slow. Kirsten Smith's 43 was the top score, but many batters were tied down by the likes of Hughes, Eleanor Sinker and Morganne Prince.

<u>Didsbury v Lindow</u>: The result at Nantwich allowed Didsbury to claim top spot with their win here, although just three points separated the top three after this round of matches. Roshini Prince-Navaratnam made a crucial contribution by bowling her eight overs straight through at the start of the match and conceding just 24 runs, not to mention taking the prize wicket of Heidi Cheadle in the first over. Emily Murray made 54 but otherwise the going was difficult for Lindow, who were restricted to 131-9. Murray's wicket was the start of a collapse of five wickets for 11 runs, all to Kashmira Shinde and Isabelle Hevican. With Shinde's 62 leading the way in reply, Didsbury got home with all of seven wickets and seven overs to spare.

<u>Chester Boughton Hall v Stockport Georgians</u>: Georgians' recent good form continued with a comfortable win here. They were reduced to 23-3 early on but reached 196 as Gaby McKeever hit 81 from 72 balls with 11 fours. Charlie Thompson was the pick of the home attack with 4-15. Meg Cureton made 56 but didn't receive much support as Chester closed on 111-7.

September 1:

<u>Chester Boughton Hall v Nantwich</u>: Nantwich are very much playing catch up in the title race now after collapsing to 83 all out and an eight-wicket loss here. Bethan Hughes scored more than half the runs herself (45) as Gemma Rose was the chief destroyer with 4-10. A rapid 34 from Georgia Munro saw Chester home in only 13.2 overs.

<u>Lindow v Didsbury</u>: Another title contender losing ground today was Didsbury. Lindow posted 191 (Carys White 61, Grace Hemsted 42, Heidi Cheadle 32). A nervous run chase followed where some fine strokes from Roshini Prince-Navaratnam were punctuated by the loss of regular wickets at the other end. Prince-Navaratnam was the last player out for 67 in a total of 129, with Claire Ashworth returning the best figures with 3-15.

Leigh v Appleton: Leigh took full advantage of the losses suffered by their rivals to regain top spot, although it was not entirely plain sailing here today. Firstly, Appleton, having struggled for runs throughout the season, posted 206-9. Amy Seddon (53), Kathryn Jackson (34) and Abbey Gore (28*) all made their runs at around one per ball. Leigh cruised to 108-0 in 14.3 overs before the next nervous moment came via a lengthy rain break, and at that stage, the match would have been a 'no result' had there been no resumption. Play eventually resumed with a revised target of 124 in 24 overs, which Leigh passed for no loss in just 16.3 overs. Ellie Mason was 65 not out from 57 deliveries and Adelaide Mather finished unbeaten on 51 from 42. This 12th successive loss for Appleton confirmed their bottom place finish. Unless there is a league re-structure, or the Division 2 champions decline their promotion, the four times champions will be playing in the

second division next year – the first time they have been outside the top division since the multidivision format was adopted in 2007.

It all leaves Leigh in pole position with each contender having two matches to play. Will Didsbury v Leigh on September 15 become a decider, or will there be something left for Nantwich to play for seven days later?

Leading Positions (all played 12)

Leigh 247, Didsbury 235, Nantwich 227

Remaining Fixtures at the top

September 8: Didsbury v Appleton, Leigh v Oakmere, Stockport Georgians v Nantwich

September 15; Didsbury v Leigh September 22: Lindow v Nantwich

Oakmere v Stockport Georgians: Georgians' revival continued here with a run rate win in a weather-affected match, and they can now look up the table and how high they might finish, rather than looking down at the relegation zone. Gaby McKeever's performances have been hugely important in their recent good results and here she top scored with 49 not out in a total of 164-5. In the 24 overs that were possible in the second innings, Oakmere struggled to 80-8. McKeever picked up two wickets here as well, but the best bowling return came from Bella Woodside with two for four in five overs.

Division Two – August 25:

<u>Greenfield v Buxton</u>: Buxton eased any relegation worries as Georgina Macey's fine season continued with an innings of 64 from 58 balls that led her side to a nine-wicket win. Despite a half-century from Caitlin McDonald, Greenfield had earlier been kept down to 116 by some tight Buxton bowling.

August 26:

<u>Upton v Leyland</u>: These two sides have been a cut above the rest in division two this year. Leyland won the first match between the sides by just one wicket, but anyone expecting another close contest here was proved wrong. Instead, Leyland moved to the brink of the title with a 10-wicket win. Upton were soon reduced to 17-3 – Charlotte Whittaker taking all three wickets – and never really recovered, closing on 104-8 and thus setting their title rivals just three per over to win. Charlie Scudder's 47 proved to be the only significant score. Katie Poole and Abi Bates then both made unbeaten half centuries as Leyland powered to victory inside 22 overs.

September 1:

Greenfield v Leyland: Leyland duly completed matters in style here, clinching the Division 2 championship – and the right to play in the top-flight next year – with an emphatic win. Isobel Cordingley top scored with 64 from 65 balls, supported by 50 from Grace Nuttall and 39 not out from Charlotte Whitaker as they posted a formidable 232-9. Amelia Buckley's 44 dominated a Greenfield reply of 101-9.

<u>Hawarden Park v Upton</u>: As their title hopes slipped away, Upton fell down to earth with a bump in North Wales. They mustered just 50 all out as Imogin Powell took three for 10 in four overs. Poppy Smith made 21 as Hawarden won by eight wickets.

Buxton v Hayfield: Hayfield recorded only their second league win of the year after an impressive run chase. A second century of the year from Buxton's Georgina Macey – hitting exactly 100 with 17 fours and a six – was not enough to finish on the winning side. Alice Olivia-Tremble's 33 provided the only significant support in a total of 182-7 in 35 overs. Hayfield needed their own individual innings of substance to pull off the win, with Alice Dyson finishing unbeaten on 83 with 12 fours and a six. Sarah McCann made 39 in the first significant stand with Dyson, before Rhiannon Cowan joined Dyson to see Hayfield home with three overs to spare. The bottom placed club in this division could still be relegated, dependent on the wishes of the division three regional winners, and with one match to go, three sides could yet end up with the wooden spoon. Two of these meet this Sunday, where a Hayfield defeat to Hawarden would almost certainly be terminal. A Hayfield win where Hawarden claim nine points or fewer could leave the Welsh club nervously waiting on Buxton's final game against champions Leyland.

Division Three West - August 25:

Alvanley v JG Meakin Northern Stars: Victory for the Stars in a run spree as they made 179 in 30 overs, with Isabel Higgins making 52 and Peyton Hulme 48. The home side posted 139 in reply, with Charlie Barratt's 54 the top score.

September 1:

Alvanley w/o Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Appleton 2nd XI v Chester BH 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 1/7 Chester BH 2nd XI v JG Meakin – JG Meakin unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 28/7

Matches can be re-arranged by mutual consent for dates up to and including September 22. Any match not played by this date will be recorded as Cancelled where ground or weather conditions prevented play on the most recent arranged date. Other matches will be recorded as a concession by the team that was unable to fulfil the fixture on the most recent arranged date.

Division Three East - August 29:

<u>Didsbury 2nd XI v Stockport Georgians 2nd XI</u>: Didsbury completed a tense win that took them to the brink of the divisional title. Had the result gone the other way, Georgians would very much have been in contention themselves. Eleanor Brennan's 21 was the top score in Didsbury's 16-over total of 89. Georgians got off to a superb start, knocking off half of their target for no loss in seven overs. It was when Manvee Rajshetty was dismissed for 43 from 39 balls that things changed, and Georgians finally ended up eight runs short in the face of some tight overs from Brennan, Ramilee Cabral and Abby Nicholson.

Buxton 2nd XI w/o Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley

September 1:

<u>Didsbury 2nd XI v Lindow 2nd XI</u>: Didsbury wrapped up the title in slightly anti-climactic fashion via an abandonment here. The two sides were desperately unlucky to be hit by a downpour, as play continued at all of the neighbouring grounds. In the 10.3 overs that were possible, Ramilee Cabral scored 41 of Didsbury's 59 runs.

Alvanley w/o Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

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

Matches can be re-arranged by mutual consent for dates up to and including September 22. Any match not played by this date will be recorded as Cancelled where ground or weather conditions prevented play on the most recent arranged date. Other matches will be recorded as a concession by the team that was unable to fulfil the fixture on the most recent arranged date.

Division Three Cross-Divisional Matches - August 25:

<u>Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI v Didsbury 2nd XI</u>: Didsbury's title hopes in the Eastern Division suffered a blow as they went down to a second defeat of the year. Eleanor Brennan made 42, but otherwise the team was kept in check by the Chester attack. Ava Rogers' 2-8 in five overs was the best analysis as Didsbury closed on 116 after 30 overs. 45 from Tanvee Karasagod-Pallath and 32 from Carys Lambe led Chester to a six-wicket win.

August 26:

<u>Lindow 2nd XI v JG Meakin Northern Stars</u>: Louise Long and Alice Smith both made scores in the 20s and got Lindow off to a decent start, but they soon folded to 91 all out, with Luana Sims and Cerys Andrews both taking three wickets. Lindow took three cheap wickets in reply, but victory was achieved in just 10 overs as Helen Hughes plundered 78 not out from 34 balls with an incredible 17 boundaries.

August 28:

Appleton 2nd XI v Didsbury 2nd XI: Amelia Short's 50 from 27 balls with six fours and three sixes completely dominated Appleton's score of 68-5 in 15 overs. Helen Jackson's 28 from 21 balls led the way as Didsbury completed a comfortable eight-wicket victory.

Appleton 2nd XI v Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley – AOM & Woodley unable to fulfil fixture on original date of 3/6 and on re-arranged date of 2/9 – awarded to Appleton 2nd XI by concession.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

Ashton-on-Mersey & Woodley v Chester BH 2nd XI – no play due to rain on original date of 11/7

Matches can be re-arranged by mutual consent for dates up to and including September 22. Any match not played by this date will be recorded as Cancelled where ground or weather conditions prevented play on the most recent arranged date. Other matches will be recorded as a concession by the team that was unable to fulfil the fixture on the most recent arranged date.

Division Four West – September 1:

<u>Wistaston Village v Toft</u>: Lisa Taylor made 30 retired as Wistaston reached 87 in 20 overs. Kerry Knight made 20 not out, but Toft struggled to 37-4 in 11 overs against the bowling of Anna Bourne and Caroline Lambden. It was all sufficient to give Wistaston a win on faster run rate.

<u>Lymm Oughtrington Park v Grappenhall</u>: Sally Casson top scored with 23 to guide Lymm to 100 in 20 overs, before Bethany Johnson's 2-9 return helped restrict Grappenhall to 77.

September 8: Grappenhall w/o Toft

Division Four East – August 20:

Stockport Georgians 3rd XI v Lindow 3rd XI: A comfortable win here wrapped up the divisional title for Georgians – becoming the first team in this year's hardball divisions to do so. They posted an imposing 130 here with rapid runs from Lucy Brindle and Esme Halford and were then able to give a bowl to all 10 outfielders in restricting Lindow to 71.

September 1:

Stockport Georgians 3rd XI v Heaton Mersey & Cheadle: The champions were run close in a high scoring encounter here, winning by 112 runs to 110. Esme Halford and Sara Mirza made 30 retired for Georgians, while Heaton Mersey & Cheadle's top scorer was Amy Shaw with 26.

Hawk Green v Lindow 3rd XI: There was another close match here, but of a very different nature. The hosts managed just 46, with Lindow's Steph Walker taking three wickets for three runs. 4-13 from Richmal Giles looked to have helped pull off a dramatic victory for Hawk Green, before Sarah Bujac and Phoebe Mallinson added 23 for the tenth wicket to secure the points for Lindow.

Division Four South East – August 22:

North East Cheshire v New Mills & High Peak North: Two wickets for two runs and 30 from 21 balls from Rachel Monteath led New Mills to a comfortable seven-wicket win.

August 25:

New Mills & High Peak North v Macclesfield: Another comfortable win for leaders Macclesfield as they racked up 131, with Autumn Greensmith's 30 retired the top score. Despite 32 retired from 20 balls from Rachel Monteath, New Mills finished some 30 runs short.

August 28:

<u>Lindow Development XI v Langley</u>: Lindow's pursuit of 92 to win looked a long shot when three Jenny Wallace wickets reduced them to 12-3, From 31-5, it was Elspeth Headridge's 30 from 28 balls that played the major role in taking them to a four-wicket win in the final over.

Fixtures awaiting possible re-arrangement:

North East Cheshire v Langley – no play due to unfit ground on original date of 16/6 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 Langley v North East Cheshire - no play due to unfit ground on original date of 17/7

Matches can be re-arranged by mutual consent for dates up to and including September 22. Any match not played by this date will be recorded as Cancelled where ground or weather conditions prevented play on the most recent arranged date. Other matches will be recorded as a concession by the team that was unable to fulfil the fixture on the most recent arranged date.

Permanent transfers:
Alex Denn, Upton to Chester BH
Division 5
Runcorn – in Division 5 West – have joined Romiley and Elworth in wrapping up a regional division title.
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<u>LEAGUE TABLES</u>
All CWCL League Tables

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>.