



THE 2025 WEEK 2 REVIEW

Week 2 almost saw a long-standing league record eclipsed, an amazing start to home fixtures for a promoted club, seven centuries, a hat-trick, and another full programme across the county.

Cheshire's current best batsman, Sam Perry, came within one big blow of setting a new record for the highest ever score in the Premier Division in an extraordinary display of concentration and wonderful all-round strokeplay at Bowdon. His Alderley Edge side made the most of being put in as the hosts were soon reeling, 90 runs coming off the first powerplay with Arav Shetty (45 off 22 and later 4-27) enjoying a fine game. But Perry was the headline act, going through the gears as the runs continued to flow, and after 19x4 and 6x6, he had reached 197 (152 bs) in the final over with former Bowdonian Jon Bean's proud record of the only Prem double century looking set to tumble. But the persevering James Bottomley (4-76) induced a nick down the leg side and Perry had to settle for a magnificent 197, his AE side out of sight on 364 and going on to complete a massive 171 run victory.

Warren Goodwin was another Prem centurion, but as umpire Graham Pugh told me, it could have been all so different if Neston had taken a glorious opportunity to run Goodwin out before he had faced a ball. *"Off the first ball of the match Warren slipped and was crawling back to the non-striker's end on all fours when the shy at the stumps missed with him 5 yards short of safety!"* Goodwin went on to crash 125 as Chester BH racked up 331-6, and despite another David Hurst gem (73 off 68) and some later order fight, CBH won by 47 runs, although the 53 extras they conceded would not have pleased them. And so to one of the results of the day at Upcast Lane, as Lindow well and truly announced their Premier Division arrival, crushing Hyde by 197 runs. Lindow's top five all scored at least 35, and all eight batsmen reached double figures as Lindow made the most of being asked to bat by piling up 292-6. Jamieson Hedges followed on from his heroics the week previous by bowling Luke Young first ball, Hyde blown away for just 95.

Timperley's Tim Reynolds top scored with 68 as they welcomed back Chris Page, his 4-34 a key component of a morale-boosting 59 run win over Nantwich, whose batting failed again in a chase of a modest-looking 214. Nantwich host Didsbury next week, Dids putting in a more disciplined bowling effort at Brooklands, led by 16 year old Alex Young (4-27) as they won with few alarms by 6 wkts, while Oxton's Dane Williams made 106* and his side made it an impressive two from two, their 322-6 being enough for an 85 run win at Widnes.



2025 WEEK 2 REVIEW cont.

In **Div 1** Bramhall's Ryan Macciocchi had a day to remember as his side's first-ever trip to Maritime ended with a resounding 9 wkt win. The left arm spinner ran through the hosts, recording figures of 9.4-3-19-8 as Maritime were bowled out for 82, Greg Dixon's unbeaten 54 sealing a handsome win. Another player having a salad day was Marple skipper Jack Grundy, who made 55* (batting at eight) and then took 6-21, including a hat-trick, as he led his side to a huge 160 run win over a dazed Davenham. Sale's inaugural visit to Port Sunlight produced a superb game, Tyrone Lawrence continuing his good form with 69 as Sale posted 244-8. PS seemed done at 210-8 in the 47th but Jordan Collier and Matt Howard crashed 34 off 2.4 overs before Howard fell, Collier scampering a bye off the penultimate ball to seal a 1 wkt win. Macclesfield made it two from two with a 6 wkt win over Grappenhall, while Cheadle and Stockport Georgians both bounced back from opening day losses. Ashley Burton took 3-27 and then made a brilliant 101* (77 bs) rescuing Cheadle from 28-3 chasing 198 at Toft, Burton & Dan Brown (74*) adding an unbroken 170 to seal a famous 7 wkt win, while Georgians had Ben Staniforth (69*) principally to thank as they secured a nervy 2 wkt win chasing 180 to beat Urmston, who had recovered relatively well from 105-7 to reach 179.

Upton skipper Matt Owen took the **Div 2** headlines, carrying his bat for 102* out of his side's 235-8 against visitors Ashton OM, whose long trip west looked totally wasted as they slumped to 104-8 in reply. However a remarkable 77* from Charlie Eaton stirred his tail-end partners, AOM finishing on 217-9 as a relieved Upton won by 18 runs. Other familiar names starred, Steve Charles making 69 for Alvanley as they won at Stockport, while a few miles away at Romiley, Ammad Mushtaq's 65* secured a 6 wkt win for Ashley. Ben Balderson took 6-34 for Cheadle Hulme, before picking up the bat to wonderful effect, finishing 90* as his side beat NE Cheshire by 6 wkts, while there was a welcome win for Oulton Park, Johnny Litler getting a wicket with the first ball of the match as Christleton could only muster 131 at Little Budworth. OP made heavy weather of it but clinched a 4 wkt win in the 33rd over. In the other game a Haslington side seemingly shorn of all confidence managed only 126 at Bollington, Ben Gibson making 51 as Bolly jollied along to a 5 wkt win.

Div 3's display of the day came at Runcorn, visitors Oakmere shrugging off last week's collapse as Joshua Westwood made a superb 114 (129 bs) and Zack Howdle 82*, Oakmere amassing 303-4 before Westwood grabbed the ball and took 5-34, Runcorn all out 157. But Winnington Park went even better as they walloped Middlewich by 164 runs, WP's 247-8 featuring 52 extras. Only two Middlewich batsmen got into double figures as they folded from 40-1 to 83 all out. Warrington made it two from two with a 5 wkt win at Over Peover, while Lewis Clarke (108) and Jack Needham (90) hammered the Tattenhall attack hither and yon as Hawk Green piled up 299-5, Tattenhall never at the races as they were bowled out for 191. Ibrar Latif made 65 for Mobberley as they recorded consecutive wins, perennial strugglers Hale Barns their victims as Mobb won by 5 wkts, while Heaton Mersey's long ride to Barrow was a rewarding (and quite swift) one, HM winning easily by 8 wkts.

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
DIDSBURY	40	40
OXTON	40	40
ALDERLEY EDGE	40	40
CHESTER BH	36	36
TIMPERLEY	34	34
LINDOW	26	26
BROOKLANDS	23	23
HYDE	22	22
NANTWICH	11	11
BOWDON	10	10
NESTON	10	10
WIDNES	9	9

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
BRAMHALL	40	40
MACCLESFIELD	40	40
SALE	27	27
CHEADLE	26	26
MARPLE	26	26
PORT SUNLIGHT	25	25
DAVENHAM	25	25
S.GEORGIANS	24	24
TOFT	23	23
MARITIME	20	20
URMSTON	11	11
GRAPPENHALL	9	9

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
UPTON	40	40
ALVANLEY	40	40
ASHLEY	40	40
ASHTON OM	26	26
CHEADLE HULME	24	24
BOLLINGTON	24	24
ROMILEY	24	24
N.E.CHESHIRE	23	23
OULTON PARK	23	23
CHRISTLETON	9	9
STOCKPORT	8	8
HASLINGTON	6	6

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
WARRINGTON	40	40
HEATON MERSEY	40	40
MOBBERLEY	40	40
OAKMERE	25	25
HAWK GREEN	24	24
WINNINGTON PARK	24	20
TATTENHALL	24	24
MIDDLEWICH	23	23
BARROW	21	21
RUNCORN	8	8
HALE BARNS	8	8
OVER PEOVER	8	8

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
NANTWICH	40
DIDSBURY	40
CHESTER BH	40
OXTON	40
TIMPERLEY	25
WIDNES	25
HYDE	25
S.GEORGIANS	10
CHEADLE	7
BROOKLANDS	6
NESTON	6
TOFT	4

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. MACCLESFIELD	40
2. MARPLE	40
3. BOWDON	40
11. MARITIME	5
12. GRAPPENALL	2



2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. URMSTON	40
2. P.SUNLIGHT	40
3. A.EDGE	40
11. OULTON PARK	7
12. AOM	5

2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. W.PARK	40
2. ASHLEY	40
3. N.E.CHESHIRE	35
11. BOLLINGTON	10
12. NESTON 3	7

Sunday 3rd XI tables will appear when the fixture schedule commences in early May.

Eight mini-groups of four teams have started their season contesting quarter-final berths for the 3rd XI T20 competition, with the highlights of the second round of matches following the 2nd XI round up.



WEEK 2 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: Four club all have 40 pts after two games. No surprise that Didsbury (8 wkt winners over Neston) and Chester BH (4 wkt winners over Timperley, who were 215 all out after an opening stand of 121) are two of those four, joined by Nantwich (6 wkt winners over Brooklands) and Oxton, who recovered from 24-3 to post 200 and beat Widnes by 53 runs. Although it's early days it is shaping to be a more competitive year in the Prem, Hyde and Toft both notching their first wins, the latter bolstered by a fantastic 146 (134 bs) from Liam Clorley, who then took 2 wkts as Jimmy Lomas claimed 4-41 in a rare 2s outing. Didsbury play Nantwich next week, Chester travel to Toft, while Oxton travel to Stockport Georgians who are winless thus far.

In **Div 1** four clubs have two from two. Marple fell from 103-2 to 131-9 but a last wkt stand of 40 proved decisive, Bramhall suffering stage fright as they went from 158-6 to 166 all out. Lindow thrashed Alvanley by 170 runs while Macclesfield were also comfortable 7 wkt winners at Grappenhall. Bowdon maintained their bright start with aa 57 run win over Didsbury 2As, Haydn George taking 5-35 to follow up his 6-16 last week. Sale won easily against Maritime while H.Mersey just prevailed against Upton, who went from 205-7 to 210 all out, losing by just 9 runs.

In **Div 2** Urmston collapsed to 49-6 chasing just 84 to beat Stockport, but they held on to scrape over the line by 4 wkts and lead the way, level on pts with P.Sunlight, who bowled Haslington for 68, and Alderley Edge, who were thankful for keeper Simon Pickering's 49 from 25 which lifted them from 61-6 to their target of 138 set by Oulton Park. Alex Napier made 126* for Romiley in their win at Ashton OM.

In **Div 3** Ed Parkinson's 109* led N.E.Cheshire's climb from 105-5 to 215-5 against CBH 3's, their match tied in a breathless finale. Timperley (296-8) and Oxton (264-8) had a wonderful match, but Winnington Park's less spectacular 37 run win at Davenham kept them top, Ashley's well-paced chase of 194 to beat Bollington giving them two from two also.

Sunday 3rd XI T20 News In **Group 2**, cup holders Didsbury hammered Woodley to ease their passage to the knockout stages., Madhukar Mekhala's 21-ball 50 the headline act. Cheadle's Sheil Patel hit a 27-ball 62 in the other group game, his side walloping Timperley 6s. **Group 1** has a winner-take-all match on BH Monday between Ashley 4s & Brooklands 4s, both sides with two wins, and it will be the same scenario in **Group 4** as Bramhall & Marple/Compstall 5s will contest the top spot, Bramhall beating Bredbury SM by 5 runs in a nail-biter on Sun. **Group 5** is up for grabs, all four teams on two pts after Runcorn beat Didsbury 4s by 8 wkts - however, Runcorn scrambled two off the last ball of the match to ensure victory - and Metrovicks 4s beat Sale. **Group 7** saw another Saj Hussain special, the Georgians opener hammering 68* (31 bs) out of a winning total of 77 against Romiley. Georgians vs Macc 5s on BH Monday will decide the group although the Prem side are widely expected to progress. With Nantwich now unable to qualify from **Group 8** after conceding last week, Toft are almost certain to progress but will want to beat Middlewich on BH Monday to make certain. Grappenhall can qualify from **Group 3** if they beat Elworth on BH Monday. Timperley 5s made it two from two in **Group 6**.



Geoff Wellstead's lovingly researched and superbly chronicled account of the first 50 years of the CCCL is now available and a must-read for anyone who is involved in Cheshire cricket.

The book is available to purchase on line through either the Cheshire Board web site or the CCCL via the Play Cricket site.

Costs are £10 for a posted copy or £5 for collection from either Neston, Toft, or Didsbury

However you obtain a copy, you will be glad you did!

Cheshire made a disastrous start to their National Knockout (50 over) campaign as their long trip to Hitchin ended with a 10 wkt thrashing at the hands of Hertfordshire. Harry Dearden fell in the first over, skipper Sam Perry fell for a duck off the last ball of the second and Alex Money was run out off the first ball of the third over. George Lavelle's dismissal in the fifth over left Cheshire 9-4 and Herts rampant, dismissing Cheshire inside 20 overs for a paltry 68, the hosts requiring just 13.4 overs to complete a demolition job. Cheshire need to regroup quickly as they face Wiltshire away next Sun.

Alvanley suffered a disappointing exit in the National Village K/O, going out at Broadbottom who chased down Alv's 197 to win by 4 wickets. Thanks to Ian Barber for the information.



CCCL XI v MCC

An anniversary match to mark 50 years of the CCCL

THURSDAY 19th JUNE

11.30 AM, TOFT CRICKET CLUB

Followed by a 3-course dinner at 19:30 with league figures past and present,
and special guest speaker ROBERT CROFT (ex-Glamorgan & England).

Dinner tickets - £45 via Cheshire Cricket Board website ('News' section)

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