CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One - July 27:

Oakmere 165-6, Lindow 150

Looking back at the end of the year, will we consider this to be a crucial day in the title race? Leaders Lindow slumped to a second league defeat of the season, as firstly Oakmere compiled a decent total via scores of 43 from Phoebe Cottam and Sarah Worsdale. Natalie Lyons and Worsdale then produced fine spells to reduce the Wilmslow club to 30-3, and they never truly recovered. Carys White top scored with 34 but Lyons and Worsdale returned to complete their allocations in the final overs and finished with returns of 4-24 and 2-19 respectively.

Stockport Georgians 194-6, Leigh 198-2

If Lindow are to be denied a first league title, then Leigh look best placed to capitalise, given their number of games in hand. The reigning champions have already tasted defeat on three occasions, which is more than any Division 1 winning side in recent years, but of course if Lindow lose just one more, every team will have three defeats to their name, and we will be in uncharted territory. Georgians had Lucy Neill (72) and Manvi Rajshetty (66) in fine form, but the total of 194 was chased down by Leigh in just 26 overs, as Ellie Mason smashed a 78-ball century that included 13 fours and two sixes. Danielle Collins (47) and Lucy Page (31*0 also provided fast scoring support during the chase.

Chester Boughton Hall 186-6, Didsbury 100

Another excellent team performance from Chester, who currently stand second, albeit having played the most matches. Megan Cureton's 66, supported by 42 from Holly Mayers, led them to a good total, despite Pooja Singhs' 3-35. Shree Dayama continued her fine season with a 4-23 return as the Manchester club's reply never really got going.

August 3:

Nantwich 134, Lindow 137-5

Lindow got back to winning ways and remain in the box seat in the title race, although Leigh have games in hand and have still to play Lindow on Bank Holiday Monday, when the county players on both sides are expected to be available. All three matches in the first division today were relatively low scoring but were all highly competitive. Emilia Rossi's superb opening burst reduced Nantwich to 13-3, and despite Grace Michell's cultured 40, Nantwich never truly recovered, with Katie Farmer also grabbing a three-wicket haul later in the innings. Lindow were made to fight all the way but ultimately got home with Heidi Cheadle and Faye Smith adding 47 for the first wicket and Carys White and Libby Ackerley another 46 for the third wicket.

Oakmere 140-8, Chester Boughton Hall 141-7

If Chester can win three more matches, could they still pip Lindow and Leigh? After Oakmere's opening pair of Thisumi Jayawarna (53) and Kerry Hartnett (29) had added 93, they both fell on the same score and a collapse followed as Carys Lambe recorded a superb 4-12 in eight overs. Georgia Munro's 30 guided Chester to 62-1 and they too began to lose regular wickets, including three to Annie Rashid, before being guided home by Abbey Mayers' 28 not out.

Didsbury 161-7, Stockport Georgians 136

Both Georgians and Nantwich still have only one league win and a relegation showdown on Bank Holiday Monday looks likely. The ever-consistent Roshini Prince-Navaratnam made a round score of 50 to take her side to a competitive total, but the next highest score was Emily Wilkins' 25. Rhia Sedha took 3-14 in eight overs and looks a quality acquisition who may have a vital role in Georgians' efforts to avoid the wooden spoon. The Stockport club's reply here was dented by some miserly overs from the Didsbury new ball pair of Hannah Marshall and Rosie Ackerley. Holly McCurrie later took three in three overs as Georgians fell short, Hannah Wilke top scoring with 34.

.....

Division Two - July 27:

Northop Hall 184-3, Upton 143

Leaders Upton suffered a setback here as Northop Hall produced an excellent all-round performance. There were more runs for Hollie Sigsworth (86), with Laura Nicholls contributing a run per ball half-century. Lily Scudder top scored in reply with 35, but the Wirral club were always losing regular wickets, and Elen Weigh's three for three runs put the icing on the cake of a result that gives new hope to Didsbury seconds in the title race.

August 3:

Northop Hall 195-3, Hayfield 109

Northop Hall are still in the title race after another dominant batting display. Hollie Sigsworth had four scores of between 69 and 87 to her name this year, but here she powered on to three figures, completing an unbeaten 102 from 99 balls with four sixes. Laura Nicholls made 42 in adding 98 for the first wicket with Sigsworth, before two early wickets, both caught behind by Nicholls off the bowling of Poppy Smith, set Hayfield's reply back.

Greenfield v Upton – no play due to rain

.....

Division Three West - July 22:

Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI 80-6, Oakmere 2nd XI 51-7

Tanvee Kasaragod-Pallath made 30, but Chester's innings still didn't scale the heights, with Carys Salomon's 3-8 the best of the Oakmere bowling performances. 80 though proved to be more than enough as Oakmere's reply was stifled by some economical figures on the Chester side, including Ffion Jones' 2-9 and Shana Kelly conceding just two in her four overs.

July 29:

Alvanley 92-6, Oakmere 2nd XI 93-2

Alvanley's title hopes suffered a blow here as Oakmere got home with 16 balls to spare, anchored by Emily Faulkner's 40 not out as she accelerated the scoring well at just the right time. Isla Entwistle's 46 from 32 balls had taken Alvanley to 64-1, but the innings faded away after her dismissal as the likes of Charlotte King (3-12) took charge with the ball.

Nantwich 2nd XI 72-7, Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI 75-2

Both of these teams remain in contention, but it was Chester who were well on top here. Hannah Thorley's 32 not out led a run chase completed with 28 balls to spare.

Division Three East – July 27:

Woodley 133-7, Lindow 2nd XI 134-4

Lindow maintained their 100 per cent record after something of a scare, with Claire Anderton's 56 leading Woodley to a solid total, despite 3-15 from Jo Sedddon. After the loss of early wickets, Seren Bull's 46 not out from 45 balls allowed Lindow to take charge of their reply.

July 30:

Macclesfield 89-7, Lindow 2nd XI 93-3

Another significant win for Lindow here. Libby Taylor dismissed both openers early and there were then three wickets for Emma Moore. Louise Long's 45 not out from 38 balls led the way in reply, with Long and Claire Ashworth knocking off more than half of the runs in their opening stand of 50 in six overs.

Division Four West - July 27:

Runcorn 126-4, Oxton 72

Runcorn go marching on as they moved within two wins of the title. Molly Price contributed 31 and 2-6 for Oxton, but the leaders once again had Steph Woodstock in form with the bat, and then had a remarkable bowling spell from Hayley Rose of five for two in 14 balls.

Elworth 118-5, Lymm Oughtrington Park 91-4

Rosie Richardson followed up her 30 runs with an economical spell as Elworth won with a degree of comfort.

Grappenhall 78-7, Wistaston Village 79-4

Anna Bourne and Bela Smith enjoyed considerable early success with the ball, before Ellie Mead's 30 retired revived Grappenhall. The final target posed little difficulty for Wistaston though as they won with four overs to spare, despite 4-12 from Jess Morkel. Nicki Jarvis (32 retired) made the only double figure score in the second innings.

August 3:

Lymm Oughtrington Park 104-4, Oxton 105-3

Alex Davies and Molly Price did their bit with the ball to set up a run chased where Price top scored with 31 from 23 balls.

Division Four East - July 22:

Stockport Georgians 3rd XI 90-1, Brooklands 80-7

Brooklands' second defeat here took Whalley Range to the brink of the title. Holly Clarke and Blythe Beckett scored runs at the top of the order and they both took two wickets in the reply as well.

July 23:

Whalley Range 121-6, Didsbury 3rd XI 49

24 hours later, Whalley Range did indeed become the first team to wrap up one of the league's divisional hardball titles this year. Although there was some success for the Didsbury attack in terms of wicket taking, their opponents maintained a run rate of six per over throughout, with Sairah Zafar top scoring with 31 retired. Zafar wasn't finished there as both her and Hattie Palmer took three wickets in the reply.

August 3:

Stockport 79-5, Brooklands 80-2

Katie Billings' 30 retired was the only score of note as Stockport failed to break four per over. Billings 2-9 return was not enough then to stop a comfortable Brooklands win, with Emily Hillier reaching 32 retired in 28 balls.

Division Four South East - July 24:

Macclesfield 2nd XI 116-4, Buxton 2nd XI 83-8

Macclesfield seconds reached the halfway point with a 100 per cent record, but still with one game to play against all of the other top four teams. Autumn Greensmith made an unbeaten 31 in a testing total and then she also took 2-10 in Buxton's unsuccessful reply.

July 27:

New Mills & High Peak North 103-6, Macclesfield 2nd XI 88-3

Three days later, Macclesfield did indeed lose one of these potential banana skin fixtures. Rachel Monteath and Jill Langton made the lion's share of the New Mills runs at the top of the order, before their bowling unit came together to restrict Macclesfield in reply. Autumn Greensmith continued her good form with the bat but there was little else for Macclesfield to cheer here.

Hawk Green 54, Buxton 2nd XI 55-1

Richmal Giles' 33 retired dominated the Hawk Green scorecard, before Vicky Morten anchored a successful Buxton chase.

July 28:

Langley 70-5, Lindow Development XI 71-8

Lindow continue to set the pace with the points in the bag, having played more games than their rivals. They kept Langley down to a modest total here with Bethany Seddon and Jemima Levy starring with the ball. Langley initially reduced their opponents to 29-5 via early wickets for Jenny Wallace, before Ella Hirst struck three times with the score on 60. Freya Pilkington perhaps made one of the most important scores of 13 not out you're likely to see to complete the nervy run chase successfully.

Permanent transfers for remainder of season:

Shana Kelly, Chester BH to Northop Hall, effective from July 30 onwards

Player loans:

Shana Kelly, Chester BH to Northop Hall for league match on July 27 Nicole Lloyd, Alvanley to Kingsley for maximum three league matches commencing August 3

The ECB has opened its <u>National Playing Survey</u> for 2025. This is your chance to shape the future of recreational cricket. The ECB values the opinions of players and volunteers, and your feedback is crucial for helping the game evolve.

As in previous years, you'll have the option to win one prize from the thank you prize draw!

The survey is open until Sunday August 24. Don't miss your chance to have your voice heard and win one of the fantastic prizes!

The next meeting of the League Committee will be held on Wednesday next week, August 13. Club representatives will receive the Zoom meeting link via email.

T20 CHAMPIONSHIP

July 31:

Didsbury Swordettes 104-8, Oakmere Kats 88-6

Didsbury finished their campaign in this competition with a 100 per cent record, although they lipped to 8-3 and then 61-8 and needed Jodie Filer and Stacey Miles to lift them to a competitive total. Kate Renshaw took 3-8 and Sarah Worsdale 2-10 in the first innings. Rosia Ackerley took 2-11 in the reply to ensure Oakmere fell short.

Final League Table

	TEAM	Р	w	ı	NRR	Pts
1	Didsbury CC	5	5	0	1.22	15
2	Chester Boughton Hall CC	5	3	2	1.18	9
3	Lindow CC	5	3	2	0.88	9
4	Stockport Georgians CC	5	3	2	0.1	9
5	Nantwich CC	5	0	4	-1.14	2
6	Oakmere CC	5	0	4	-2.16	2

LEAGUE TABLES

All CWCL Tables

KNOCKOUT CUPS

Senior Knockout Semi-Final – July 22:

Nantwich Vipers 69-9, Didsbury Swordettes 70-2

This comprehensive win takes Didsbury within one game of retaining this cup and completing what would be a T20 double. Madi Hudson's 26 was the only significant score for the Vipers, who fell away from 52-3 in a collapse where Kashmira Shinde and Louise Hevican each took two wickets. Despite the best efforts of Bethan Hughes (2-11) the chased was completed inside 12 overs, with Emily Wilkins making 28 from 26 balls.

Development Knockout Semi-Final - July 31:

Stockport Georgians 2nd XI 107-5, Lindow 2nd XI 108-7

Despite several sets of impressive figures from the Lindow attack, Georgians fought their way to a testing total, with Neve Boon top scoring with 24. Carys White (33 retired) and Claire Ashworth (27) were the only ones to reach double figures in reply as Lindow squeezed over the line in the final over. Flo Batey's 3-12 bowling return proved to be in vain.

T20 Finals Day, Hale Barns, August 31

1100 Development KO Final – Lindow 2nd XI v Oakmere 2nd XI / Alvanley 1500 Senior KO Final - Didsbury Swordettes v Lindow / Oakmere Kats

EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

Plate National Northern Final - July 25:

North Leeds 85, Leyland 87-0

Leyland powered into the last four nationally as Sarah Brown (4-16) and Lowri Whittaker (3-13) ran through the North Leeds line up. Olivia Cunliffe and Charlotte Whittaker completed the chase for no loss inside 11 overs.

Plate National Semi-Final - August 3:

Berkswell 99-8, Leyland 101-5

For the second year in succession, the league has a representative in the national final of the Plate. After Georgians went down at this stage last year, it will now be Leyland who play in the showpiece match in two weeks' time against Berkshire club Falkland. After a series of impressive bowling displays kept their target to just 100, they slumped from 57-1 to 69-5 before Abi Bates and Grace Nuttall guided them home.

REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

The following players have been selected for the League XII to play MCC at Alvanley on Thursday 28th August at 11.30:

Emily Wilkins (c, Didsbury)
Holly Topp (wk, Lindow)
Heidi Cheadle (Lindow)
Shree Dayama (Chester BH)
Isla Entwistle (Alvanley)
Peyton Hulme (Leigh)
Hannah Marshall (Didsbury)
Adelaide Mather (Leigh)
Abbey Mayers (Chester BH)
Lucy Page (Leigh)
Charlie Scudder (Upton)
Faye Smith (Lindow)
13th (additional fielder) TBC

Umpires – Graham Church & Jasmine Naeem Scorers – Rosie Davis (Didsbury) & MCC appointee

Many congratulations to all of the selected players. 12 players have been selected, and the team will operate on the same basis as the senior county selections this year, i.e. we just need to make sure only 11 bat and only 11 are on the field at one time. Whoever isn't selected to be in the batting 11 will certainly get a bowl. Only three of these 12 have played for the League team previously and all of the top three divisions are represented.