Just 9.4 overs of play were possible in the league's finals day at Hale Barns before the frequent heavy showers had the last word. This brief passage of play saw Lindow 2<sup>nd</sup> XI struggle massively to 39-9 against Alvanley. Charlie Barratt took three very early wickets and recorded final figures of 4-12, while Isla Entwistle took 3-11.

This means that the reserve weekend of September 20-21 is likely to be used, please keep any eye on league media platforms for details of the new dates and timings.

The league once again extends its thanks to Hale Barns for acting as hosts, especially as today involved so much additional work on the ground in an effort to achieve a resumption. Thanks also go once again to umpires Graham Church and Ankit Jain.

# CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One - August 24:

### Didsbury 226-5, Leigh 227-6

Leigh pulled off the highest successful run chase in league history here. Lucy Page almost doubled her previous runs tally for the season in making an extraordinary 129 not out from 99 balls with 16 fours and a six. At 69-4, it had seemed Didsbury were well on top, but Page, who had been starved of much of the strike up to this point, took charge, adding 95 for the sixth wicket with Ella Cotton. It all meant that Kashmira Shinde's own fine innings of 102 from 89 balls with 18 fours proved to be in vain.

#### Oakmere 140-8, Lindow 142-3

Lindow moved within 18 points of the title with a comfortable win, completed with 16 overs to spare. Libby Ackerley took 3-23 as Oakmere posted a below par total, where Amy Jones' 37 not out was the top score. In making 71 not out from 67 balls in the reply, Lindow's Heidi Cheadle moved to 752 league runs for the season, and with two matches still to go, this equals the previous league record for runs in a season, held by Ellie Mason when a Stockport Trinity player in 2021. In 2024, it seemed that both Cheadle and Mason were on track to exceed the old landmark, before some weather affected matches at the back end of the year saw them finish on 674 and 672 respectively.

## Leyland 141, Stockport Georgians 142-2

This excellent win for Georgians gave them something of a lifeline at the foot of the table. Superb opening spells from Holly Batey and Rhia Sedha reduced Leyland to 23-5, and although there followed a knock of 72 from Hannah Snape, the final total still looked a modest one. Hannah Wilke underlined her massive potential by making an unbeaten 73 from 70 balls, with Skye Thomas finishing 30 not out as the chase was completed with more than 14 overs to spare.

#### August 25:

#### Lindow 237-9, Leigh 215-7

Lindow are champions of Cheshire for the first time, just six years after their first team came into the league and won Division 4 in their first season. Their formidable total here was based around Grace Hemsted's 82 from 74 balls, but others played their part with cameo knocks of 20 or so to maintain a good scoring rate throughout. Heidi Cheadle was second top scorer with 25 to take her to an outright record of 777 for the highest aggregate runs in a season. Many Leigh bowlers were expensive here, so Kasey Bentham's 3-24 from eight overs really stands out. For a while, there looked more than a possibility that Leigh would chase down the target and break their record from the previous day, especially when Lucy Page and Sophie Heaton were together.

They added 108 in 19 overs for the third wicket, including 42 in the 5.3 overs immediately after the halfway point, but after Page fell for 69, Heaton swiftly followed for 47 and Lindow could breathe a little easier.

#### Nantwich 61, Stockport Georgians 62-4

Georgians' great escape could be well and truly on. After starting the weekend in a parlous position at the foot of the table, they now stand 50 points better off than on Saturday morning. Once again Holly Batey and Rhia Sedha were superb with the new ball. This time, there was also no semblance of a revival from the opposition, with change bowlers Gaby McKeever and Neve Boon both striking in their first over. The highest partnership for Nantwich proved to be the last one, with Morganne Prince ending 19 not out having held out for some 73 balls. Batey finished with a 4-11 return and Liv Bell with 2-11. The chase was then completed in 13.4 overs, sending Nantwich to the foot of the table, albeit with a game in hand. Georgians may still need to win their final game and there's a scenario where that may not be enough as well. It could be September 21 before the issue is decided, when Nantwich host Leyland, with Leyland themselves not mathematically certain of safety.

#### August 31:

# Leigh 251-2, Leyland 175-5

Leigh topped 200 for the third time in eight days and have now won two of these matches. Once again it was Lucy Page who played the major role with 127 from 106 balls, featuring 15 fours and one six, and adding 180 for the first wicket with Danielle Collins (67). After making just 135 in her first nine league innings, her season aggregate now stands at 460. Leyland performed creditably in reply, led by Katie Poole's 64 not out, but were never truly in the hunt for the win.

All division 1 matches in September will have a default start time of 1230. The start time remains at 1330 in all other divisions, unless the clubs mutually agree an earlier time.

### Division Two - August 24:

### Didsbury 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 189-6, Greenfield 87

Greenfield are still without a win as Didsbury bossed this match. Ramilee Cabral and Amelia Grace both made half centuries and then both played their part with the ball.

# August 31:

# Hayfield 160-3, Didsbury 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 61

Hayfield have been the form team of division two in the second half of the year and here they delivered another comprehensive win to effectively end Didsbury seconds title hopes. Emily Bell produced a run-per-ball half century, with Alice Dyson scoring at a similar rate in her knock of 37. Molly Doody's 3-9 return led the way in completing the win.

### Division Three West - August 24:

#### Alvanley 190-6, Nantwich 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 185-7

The runs flowed here in this thrilling, closely fought contest, which ended with Alvanley taking pole position in the title race. Eleanor Sinker made 78 during the reply, but Isla Entwistle made 77 in the first innings and crucially received just a little more support from her team-mates.

#### **Division Three East - August 19:**

# Heaton Mersey & Cheadle 88-3, Lindow 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 89-0

Ruby James and Ann Tomi reached the 20s here but all of the Heaton Mersey & Cheadle batters struggled to score quickly, with Jo Seddon bowling her four overs for eight runs. Louise Long and Claire Ashworth then made light work of the modest target.

#### August 21:

#### Stockport Georgians 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 137-6, Lindow 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 127-8

A Lindow win here would almost have been game, set and match in the title race. Instead, Georgians stayed in the hunt as they turned round what appeared to be a cruise by Lindow towards their target. Tess Bailey made 36 and Lucy Neill 31 in the Georgians innings. Lily Beckley's 48 from 37 balls propelled Lindow to 76-1 after eight overs, but this became 93-5 after 15 as Bailey and Amelie Batey both returned 2-7 in four overs. Flo Batey took two important wickets in the closing overs as Georgians held on, despite Jo Seddon's cameo.

# August 27:

#### Macclesfield 100-8, Buxton 57-8

Macclesfield's first team signed off for the year with a comfortable win, while Buxton ended without a win. Buxton new ball pair Sophie Tremble and Alice-Olivia Tremble shared five wickets but could not prevent Macclesfield reaching three figures, with Autumn Greensmith top scoring with 34. Anna Tunnicliffe took 3-2 as regular wickets fell in reply.

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#### **Division Four West - August 20:**

#### Grappenhall 107-5, Lymm Oughtrington Park 80-9

After the loss of three early wickets, Cheska Hales' 32 retired steadied Grappenhall, and their final total of 107 in 15 overs proved to be more than enough, with Jess Morkel taking 3-9.

#### August 26:

# Elworth 66-5, Lymm Oughtrington Park 67-2

Lymm secured their first win of the season at the ninth attempt. Bethany Johnson took 2-5 with the ball before Jennifer Milliams' 23 not out anchored their chase.

#### **Division Four East - August 27:**

#### Stockport Georgians 3rd XI 91-8, Stockport 93-3

Katie Billings took 2-8 and then made an unbeaten 30 to anchor the chase as Stockport won this derby clash with room to spare.

#### August 31:

## Brooklands 105-5, Stockport Georgians 3rd XI 87-7

Brooklands finished an excellent first season in the league's hardball competitions by wrapping up second place. Connie McCarthy delivered their top score of 27 today. Ellie Raynes made 33 for Georgians, but the loss of early wickets to Emily Hillier and others set their chase back.

**Division Four South East – August 18:** 

# Macclesfield 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 97-6 (20), North East Cheshire 76-5 (10.3)

A second loss for Macclesfield as North East Cheshire maintained their interest in what remains a four-way title race, with New Mills and Lindow also in contention. Autumn Greensmith made 31 retired and 3-16 for Macclesfield, but North East emerged victorious after being way ahead on run rate when bad light halted play. Becky Scholes took just 17 balls to make her score of 31 retired.

# August 20:

#### Macclesfield 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 65-5, New Mills & High Peak North 66-3

New Mills reached their target and scored at six per over to boot – led by Rachel Monteath's 31 from 23 balls - to seal what could be a vital win. With four still chasing the title, matches between the sides are of vital importance, and Macclesfield slipped to defeat at the hands of one of their rivals for the second time in three days.

August 24:	
Buxton 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI w/o Langley	

#### Division 5

Much of the softball title issues are now concluded, with Widnes winning Division 5 Mid, Elworth Division 5 South 2, Sale Division 5 East 1, Macclesfield Division 5 East 2 and Old Parkonians Division 5 Wirral. It leaves only Division 5 South 1 to be decided.

Kingsley and Widnes are through to the final of the softball knockout.

# **LEAGUE TABLES**

All CWCL Tables

# **KNOCKOUT CUPS**

# **Development Knockout Semi Final – August 25:**

# Alvanley 114-6, Oakmere 2<sup>nd</sup> XI 101-5

Alvanley booked their place in the final with this narrow win, although Oakmere always seemed to be behind in their chase. Isla Entwistle's 33 retired from 27 balls dominated the early part of the match, but Alvanley also got a late boost from Charlie Barratt. Maddie Keable's 2-10 was the pick of the figures in the reply as Oakmere stuttered to 32-4. Maddie Lawson did her best to revive the chasem but it proved too little, too late.

# REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

# Annual Showpiece Friendly - August 28:

# Cheshire Women's League Rep Team 260-8, MCC 128

The League XII dominated the MCC to claim a significant win in the annual fixture. The runs started flowing almost right from the start via Holy Topp's 26 from 29 balls and a rapid scoring rate was maintained throughout, with the CWCL line up boasting massive depth in its batting line-up.

Heidi Cheadle made 61 from 56 balls and Poppy Smith 60 from 72. Once their third wicket stand of 112 had been broken, the momentum was maintained by Adelaide Mather (40 from 35) and Charlie Scudder (27 from 25).

In a further illustration of how this was a matchday squad packed with all-rounders, no less than nine bowlers were used in the second innings, with seven of these taking wickets and five recording economy rates of three or lower.

Scudder took 2-8 in five overs, which included her clean bowling women's cricket legend Claire Taylor. Shree Dayama underlined her growing reputation with 2-11 in six overs, including the scalp of MCC top scorer Olivia Ashburn; and Lucy Page recorded 2-4 from 19 deliveries in the closing overs.

Sincere thanks go to Alvanley – the 12<sup>th</sup> different club to host this fixture – and to umpires Graham Church and Jasmine Naeem and scorer Rosie Davis.

League XII: Heidi Cheadle (Lindow, c), Holly Topp (wk, 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), Poppy Smith (Northop H). 13th (additional fielder) Kashmira Shinde (Didsbury).

Roshini Prince-Navaratnam (Didsbury) captained MCC, alongside other familiar faces from the local scene such as Grace Michell and Katie Haszeldine (Nantwich), Rachel Monteath (New Mills & High Peak North), Madi Arthur (most recently with Oakmere) and Gillian Spragg (Hayfield).

# Metro Bank Women's One Day Cup Tier 3 Division 1 - August 24:

# Buckinghamshire 208-9, Cheshire 139

Cheshire's hopes of making the final stages received a setback as Bucks took charge of this game once Cheshire had taken the eighth wicket of the first innings. The Cheshire bowling effort featured economical spells from Rebecca Othick and Emily Page, and there were three wickets for Peyton Hulme and two for Hannah Marshall. From 138-8, however, the visitors were given a major boost by Natasha MacBean and Kertha Kethes. Cheshire slumped to 18-4 against the bowling of MacBean and Molly Carter, effectively ending the game as a contest. Roshini Prince-Navaratnam made Cheshire' stop score of 37.