



THE 2026 SEASON - OVERVIEW

1ST XI PREMIER DIVISION: **CHAMPIONS:** CHEADLE **RUNNERS-UP:** NANTWICH
RELEGATED: BROOKLANDS, BRAMHALL

1ST XI DIV 1: **CHAMPIONS:** BOLLINGTON **PROMOTED:** WIDNES
RELEGATED: URMSTON, ALVANLEY

1ST XI DIV 2: **CHAMPIONS:** HASLINGTON **PROMOTED:** UPTON
RELEGATED: GRAPPENHALL, ASHLEY

1ST XI DIV 3: **CHAMPIONS:** ASHTON-ON-MERSEY **PROMOTED:** HEATON MERSEY
RELEGATED: MIDDLEWICH, MOBBERLEY

2ND XI PREMIER DIVISION: **CHAMPIONS:** DIDSBURY **RUNNERS-UP:** BROOKLANDS **RELEGATED:** WIDNES, NESTON

2ND XI DIV 1: **CHAMPIONS:** MARPLE **R/U:** MARITIME **REL:** ALDERLEY EDGE, ROMILEY
2ND XI DIV 2: **CHAMPIONS:** GRAPPENHALL **R/U:** WARRINGTON **REL:** HASLINGTON, ASHLEY
2ND XI DIV 3: **CHAMPIONS:** N.E.CHESHIRE **R/U:** TIMPERLEY 3 **REL:** OXTON 3, NORTHWICH

3RD XI PREMIER DIVISION: **CHAMPIONS:** DIDSBURY **RUNNERS-UP:** BROOKLANDS **REL:** ASHLEY & TBC

3RD XI DIV 1: **CHAMPIONS:** CHEADLE **3RD XI DIV 2:** **CHAMPIONS:** BREDBURY S.M.
3RD XI DIV 3 W: **CHAMPIONS:** MARITIME 4 **3RD XI DIV 3 E:** **CHAMPIONS:** LINDOW 5 **3RD XI DIV 4:** **CHAMPIONS:** STYAL

1ST XI T20: **WINNERS:** LINDOW **R/U:** MARITIME
1ST XI T20 PLATE: **WINNERS:** CHEADLE HULME **R/U:** UPTON
2ND XI T20: **WINNERS:** NESTON **R/U:** CHEADLE
3RD XI T20: **WINNERS:** DIDSBURY **R/U:** TOFT

CHESHIRE CUP:
WINNERS: HYDE
R/U: BOLLINGTON



THE 2026 WEEK 22 REVIEW - PREMIER DIV

A dank and distinctly autumnal final Saturday saw Cheadle get the better of opponents Nantwich - and the elements - to record a brilliant first-ever Premier Division title. There was also plenty of last day drama in 1st XI Div 2.

It was wet, breezy, and dusk was spreading, but none of that stopped the delirious celebrations at Kingsway as Cheadle won the **Premier Division** after a 17 run win on DLS over Nantwich, who were denied a seventh PD crown at the last. After defeat at Whitehouse Lane at the end of June, Josh Dooler's men drew their next four matches before an amazing run of seven straight wins powered them to their first-ever title - remarkably, apart from the first two weeks of the season when they were joint-leaders with several other clubs, this last day was the only time Cheadle were top of the table.

For the neutral it was a shame that the weather had the say it did but the quality of cricket was nonetheless there for all to behold, the two best bowling attacks in the division holding sway. After a 30 min delay at the scheduled start*, the match got underway with the hosts inserted on a pitch that proved difficult to get any batting fluency on, an absolutely brilliant catch by Ray Doyle to dismiss Jasper Wong early giving Nantwich a real lift. Adam Dooler's 26 was the top score in Cheadle's 122 off 45.1 os, testament to the accuracy of the visitors attack with just 6x4 and 1x6 conceded.

It looked a modest target for Nantwich to chase but they were to find run scoring no easier as the bustling, skilled Cheadle attack, backed by superb fielding, took a grip of the game. When the key wicket of Luke Robinson fell, it was 35-4 in the 17th over, and from that point Nantwich got further and further behind. Having caught a blinder, Ray Doyle was to fall to an even more stunning catch, James Clift the man that produced the magic, and with the weather closing in again, a becalmed Rob Jones (33* off 73 bs) was left high and dry (only metaphorically) as the umpires took the players off at 17:51, Nantwich some way behind the DLS par at 84-7 in the 39th over. The umpires twice attempted a restart but the rain would not desist, with the match officially abandoned around 18.15. And so, (cont.)



PHOTO - CHEADLE CC X

CHEADLE CC AFTER THEIR KEY VICTORY AT DIDSBURY IN AUGUST:

BACK (L-R) - ASH BURTON, JAMES CLIFT, DAN OSBORNE, WILL HOLMES, SUBHAAN MAHMOOD, BEN BROADHURST

FRONT (L-R) GEORGE DICKINSON, JOSH DOOLER (C), ADAM DOOLER, DAN BROWN, MAX FISHER

THE SIDE THAT BEAT NANTWICH ON THE FINAL DAY WAS THE SAME APART FROM JASPER WONG (NOT PICTURED) REPLACING DAN BROWN.



2026 WEEK 22 REVIEW - PREM cont

after a week of waiting and hoping, Cheadle realised their dream and celebrated long into the night. For a side that, since Covid, have twice been relegated from and promoted to the Prem, this was an astounding achievement. Looking at their fixture calendar when it was released, the team had serious discussions about what might be needed to avoid another relegation - but the belief and confidence that Cheadle developed since that heavy loss at Nantwich sets a great example to the rest of the CCCL. Thirteen players were used throughout the season - three other players made two appearances, four others played once - and that consistency of selection was another key factor in Cheadle developing momentum and real team spirit that led them to their historic triumph.

**before the match at Kingsway, both sides observed a minute's silence in honour of lifelong Nantwich servant Ian Strachan, who sadly died last week. Nantwich posted a heartfelt tribute to 'Strach', who, amongst many other roles, was the club's 1st XI scorer for over 40 years.*

Elsewhere, with only pride to play for, there was still some good, watchable cricket on offer. Neston rounded off an encouraging spell at the end of the season with a well-timed chase of 225 at Brooklands, Matt Strong (92 off 55) and Matt Maritz (88* off 110) adding an eye-catching 127 after Strong had earlier claimed 5-47 and Maritz three catches. Their Wirral neighbours Oxton also signed off 2026 with a decent run of form, a third win in their last four completed games coming at the expense of Lindow, who were beaten by 57 runs at Townfield Lane. Set 223, Lindow were held together by Dan Newton's typically hard-hitting 88 (65 bs) which ended a superb season for the Cheshire all-rounder, top of the Prem batting averages and also the highest Prem run-scorer. Oxton's Mike Baker took 5-49 to end as joint-second top wkt-taker in the prem, behind Lindow skipper Alex Matthews. Timperley's Dan Scholz also rounded off a fine season with 72 against Chester BH at Stockport Rd, the match terminally halted by rain with CBH just an over short of being able to claim batting points.

1ST XI PREM - RUNS			1ST XI PREM - WKTS		
PLAYER	TEAM	RUNS	PLAYER	TEAM	WKT
DAN NEWTON	LIND	1234	ALEX MATTHEWS	LIND	46
DAN SCHOLZ	TIMP	919	MIKE BAKER	OXT	44
LUKE ROBINSON	NANT	900	BEN BROADHURST	CHEA	44
HENRY DOBSON	OXT	836	RAY DOYLE	NANT	43
ROB JONES	NANT	813	ANDREW JACKSON	HYDE	41
LUKE YOUNG	HYDE	740	JOSH DOOLER	CHEA	40
ASH BURTON	CHEA	726	HENRY DOBSON	OXT	39
SUB. MAHMOOD	CHEA	708	JON FOWLER	TIMP	37
MATT MARITZ	NEST	693	CHRIS PAGE	TIMP	35
ROB SEHMI	DIDS	632	MITCHELL SPENCER	NANT	35

1st XI PREM STATS

Batting

Double Centuries = 1 Centuries = 49 (incl. six of 140 or more)

Highest = 229, Tym Crawford, Oxton v Alderley Edge, 26 Apr

Fifties = 249 (most = 7, Chris Sanders)

Totals in excess of 300 = 29 (most = 5, A.Edge, Didsbury, Lindow)

Highest = 423-6, Oxton v Alderley Edge, 25 July

Lowest = 71, Lindow v Nantwich, 13 Jun
(5 double figure totals in all)

Bowling

5 wkt analysis = 52 (most = 3, Ray Doyle)

(8 wkt hauls = 1 7 wkt hauls = 2 6 wkt hauls = 7)

Best = 8-48, Ben Giddy, CBH v Dids, 18 July



2026 WEEK 22 REVIEW - DIV 1

The final day of the **Division 1** season was a 'dead rubber', with all the key matters already settled. Champions Bollington didn't exactly sign off in style as they tumbled to a rapid 8 wkt loss at Stockport Georgians, skittled for just 75 inside 20 overs with the match concluded inside 30. A disappointing way for Bolly to conclude what has still been the most successful season for their 1st XI in their history, and they will already be planning for life at the top CCCL table. As for SG, their 2026 was another one with signs of promise, but inconsistency cost them the chance of a real tilt at the top - although they were far from alone in that regard.

Widnes marked their return to the Prem with an entertaining win over Macclesfield at a blustery Beaconsfield Rd, four batsmen passing 50 as Zimbabwean Sean Bennett marked the end of his first playing season in England with an accomplished 88* - Widnes passing 300 for the fourth time this season - and the final wicket as all 11 Widnes players had a bowl, Macc (needing 308) all out 243. At Dane Rd, Sale's Jon Davidson made a second ton of the season, his fine 130 (127 bs) lifting his side to 243-8 in a reduced 44 os against Maritime, who were 69-3 in the 15th when play was abandoned. Not the end to his final match that Sale skipper Mike Bishop would have wanted, but he has steered his team through a sticky period mid-season to end a creditable fifth, and will no doubt remain as involved as ever behind the scenes.

Someone who did end in the manner they were dreaming of was Toft overseas Connor Hastings, who smacked a fifth ton of 2026 (to go along with six half-centuries), making 108 off 123 bs at Port Sunlight as his side reached 234-8 in their reduced 45 os. PS will be glad to see the back of the season as they were bundled out for just 103, their twelfth loss of a forgettable campaign, but Toft have grounds for optimism as they continue to build back towards a Prem return.

Elsewhere, cheerless conditions led to a scrappy 3 wkt win for Alvanley after visitors Bowdon ground out 142-9 in their 40 over allocation, while Owen Reilly (61*) stood firm for Marple during a rain-interrupted clash at Urmston. Reilly and keeper Mike Schofield added 91 for the 7th to scramble their side to a 3 wkt win, but the match highlight was an absolutely staggering six from Urmston's Istiqlal Hanif that cleared the leg-side housing and landed in a nearby street, a blow of almost 100 mtrs. If Istiqlal remains next year, expect many more where that came from!

1ST XI DIV 1 - RUNS		
PLAYER	TEAM	RUNS
ANDREJ YAKSENDER	BOLL	1217
CONNOR HASTINGS	TOFT	1126
RICK HOUGH	BOLLY	862
LUKE McCOY	WID	857
ALEX THOMPSON	MACC	830
SEAN BENNETT	WID	826
MATT FIELDING	MACC	771
JAMES DODDS	SALE	760
JOE CHAPPLE	BOWD	700
NED BAILEY	S.G.	693

1ST XI DIV 1 - WKTS		
PLAYER	TEAM	WKT
WILL DUNKERLEY	TOFT	41
HARRI DICKINSON	BOLL	39
QASIM ALI	MARI	37
SOHAIB AHSAN	S.G.	36
STUART PLANT	BOLL	36
VISHAL BARIGELA	MARI	35
JAMES HODGSON	TOFT	33
JORDAN COLLIER	P.S.	32
HAFIZ RAZA	WID	32
PALITHA KUMARA	WID	30

1st XI DIV 1 STATS

Batting

Centuries = 41 (incl. four of 150 or more)

Highest = 224, Andrej Yaksender, Boll v Macc, 11 July

Fifties = 205 (most = 7, Rick Hough)

Totals in excess of 300 = 16 (most = 4, Widnes)

Highest = 346-1, Bollington v Macclesfield, 11 July

Lowest = 40, Urmston v Maritime, 5 Sept (5 double figure totals in all)

Bowling

5 wkt analysis = 22 (most = 2, Matt Hodgson / Will Dunkerley)

9 wkt hauls = 1 7 wkt hauls = 3 6 wkt hauls = 3

Best = 9-15 Qasim Ali, Maritime v Urmston, 5 Sept



2026 WEEK 22 REVIEW - DIV 2

An extraordinary, dramatic, and for some, heartbreaking conclusion to the **Division 2** campaign saw Haslington clinch the title and a first-ever elevation to Div 1. At the same stage last season Haslington needed to win their last game to avoid relegation - this time around they knew that a win would secure promotion at least, and, as in 2025, they did their last-day job with great efficiency, bowling out Tattenhall for just 115 before skipper Ben Instead fittingly hit the winning boundary to start the celebrations at Clay Lane. Haslington also had the luxury of following events at Upton from the comfort of their clubhouse, where visitors Christleton needed a win to secure their own Div 2 status, and Upton - knowing just two pts would confirm their promotion - eyeing 20 pts to claim the title. Ben Stoddart made a hard-fought and impressive 84 (106 bs) as Christleton battled hard after being put in at Old Greasby Rd, but the hosts had a good grip on proceedings until an energetic late dart from Alex Livingstone and Josh Morgan-Jones saw 38 pummelled off the last 3 overs, Christleton 227-8. Upton lost key man Luke Camden early and thereafter struggled to build any momentum, Jack Randle's dismissal in the 29th leaving Upton on 109-5. Remarkably there were to be no further wickets as Nathan Brown and Joe Green consolidated, but with the overs running out the pair knew it was now or never, and Livingstone's crucial 5 over spell at the death went for just 22, no boundaries conceded as Upton ran out of road and ended 218-5. And so a season of struggle for the Little Heath outfit ended with exhausted relief, while the hosts could still enjoy the rewards of a good season with the prospect of Div 1 cricket at Upton for the first time since 2019.

But Haslington it was who were crowned champions, the only time this season they had been top of the league. Upton's loss not only meant that the long-time table toppers missed out on the title, but also that third place Davenham finished just 5 pts behind them, their 6 wkt DLS-adjusted win at Romiley in vain. Oulton Park, who ended fourth after being in the top two until five weeks ago, well and truly ran out of steam in the final strait, and ended 2026 with a home hammering at the hands of Grappenhall, for whom Jason Batson made a fabulous 125 and Arthur Pennington 90 as Grappers piled up 275-9 in just 35 overs at Little Budworth, Batson taking two wkts and Arran McCabe five as OP slumped to a 181 run loss. But that Christleton win made escape impossible for Grappenhall, who were playing in the Prem in 2024 but will start 2027 in Div 3 after a third successive relegation. Ashley, the other relegated side, have had a tough year with all three of their senior sides demoted - extraordinary to recall that they started the season bowling Upton out for 85 en-route to a 6 wkt win. A word too for Cheadle Hulme, who were battling hard to stay up after week 17, but ended the season in fifth place, T20 record breaker Hayden Forner signing off with 92* in their 9 wkt win at Oakmere, who, like fellow-2025 promotees Tattenhall, will be delighted to have survived with some comfort.

1ST XI DIV 2			1ST XI DIV 2		
PLAYER	TEAM	RUNS	PLAYER	TEAM	WKT
CONNOR MIZZI	DAV	890	PHIL McGOWAN	UPT	47
ANDREW DUFTY	O.P.	866	MATT HOLLAND	OAK	40
HAYDEN FORNER	C.H.	742	FREDDIE TAYLOR	HAS	38
JASON BATSON	GRAPP	741	AVINASH SHASTRI	O.P.	37
DANNY LEECH	O.P.	733	DAN GOODIER	HAS	34
LUKE CAMDEN	UPT	732	ARCHIE MURRAY	ASH	34
BRODIE RICHARDSON	ROM	724	SEVRIANO CUPIDO	OAK	33
ADAM WILDE	C.H.	712	TOM GLEDHILL	HAS	32
COREY BOVEY	TATT	677	JIMMY O'SULLIVAN	DAV	32
BEN ISTEAD	HAS	637	ADRIAN WADDELOVE	TATT	32

1st XI DIV 2 STATS

Batting

Centuries = 28 (incl. two of 150 or more)

Highest = 158, Danny Leech, Oulton Park v Ashley, 6 Jun

Fifties = 185 (most = 6, Adam Wilde)

Totals in excess of 250 = 33

Highest = 324-5, Oakmere v Romiley, 1 Aug

Lowest = 52, NEC v Romiley, 25 Apr (8 double figure totals in all)

Bowling

5 wkt analysis = 35 (most = 3, Matthew Holland)

7 wkt hauls = 2

6 wkt hauls = 6

Best = 7-18, Kev Douglas, Oulton Park v Christleton, 8 Aug



2026 WEEK 22 REVIEW - DIV 3

Ashton-on-Mersey duly wrapped up the **Division 3** title and secured an immediate return to Div 2, their 16-run DLS victory over Hale Barns also ending HB's chances of their own promotion. It wasn't a classic at The Beets as AOM had to work hard to accumulate 200-7 in their full 50, Charlie Eaton (and extras) top scoring with 33, skipper James Marshall then nipping out three key wkts as Joe Cooper also fell cheaply, HB at 88-4 after 25 when rain washed out any further play.

While all of this was going on, further south in the county, Heaton Mersey's Ibrar Latif was rounding off a successful personal season and a triumph for his club, as his super 106* (111 bs) secured a 6 wkt win which ensured their return to Div 2 after a 12-year stint in both the CCL and the CCCL Div 3. Mersey were in early doo-doo at 3-2 as hosts Middlewich, boosted by an excellent 96 from Syed Abid, made a real game of it, although their late tumble from 170-6 to 180 all out underlined the batting frailties that have been a regular feature of their 2026. Led by Latif - who made 167 in the reverse fixture in June - HM recovered their composure to win out with something to spare in the end and ensure second spot.

Elsewhere there was only pride to play for, with Winnington Park finishing fourth. Their game at home to Mobberley was cancelled, but Bredbury SM's hopes of overtaking WP to truly seal a very successful return to the CCCL were dashed as they copped it from the division's entertainers Runcorn, who hammered a 300+ total for the second successive week (and the fourth time in 2026). Skipper Kieran Maher clattered his fourth ton of the campaign, his 97-ball 114 (made out of 192 whilst batting) backed up by Muhammad Adnan's 92 (94 bs) as Runcorn racked up 310-8, an outgunned BSM bowled out for 192. Nonetheless, captain Kyle O'Reilly (who made 55) will be pleased to have led his side through a potentially tricky campaign in such a positive fashion, BSM effectively just three wins off a promotion spot.

The other side promoted to the CCCL in 2025, Irby, also went for a big one at Cale Green, as the new-look and resurgent Stockport banjoed 347-8 in their 50 overs, Sunny Malik's 122 off just 79 balls the stylish lead act, the 77 garnered off the last ten taking Stockport way beyond Irby's reach with a massive 187-run victory following shortly after drinks. But the popular Irby skipper Rafi Afridi will be pleased to have seen his side survive their first season back, more than holding their own. The other match was a much more egregious affair as Barrow - who would have been promoted in 2025 but for a last-day loss at Mobberley - ended 2026 third from bottom, all out 131 at Walton Lea as hosts Warrington won by 5 wkts.

1ST XI DIV 3			1ST XI DIV 3		
PLAYER	TEAM	RUNS	PLAYER	TEAM	WKT
IBRAR LATIF	H.M.	911	NAUMAN AKRAM	RUNC	43
KIERAN MAHER	RUNC	891	JOE COOPER	H.B.	40
MUHAMMAD ADNAN	RUNC	770	JAMES MARSHALL	A.O.M.	40
NACHIKET VERLEKAR	H.M.	766	KYLE O'REILLY	B.S.M.	39
CHARLES ERASMUS	A.O.M.	762	MURTAZA ALI	STOCK	38
MATT SPELLS	H.B.	755	HASSNAIN SHAH	H.M.	37
LOGAN MALTHUS	BARR	725	MATT WRIGHT	WARR	36
ZAFAR JATOI	STOCK	627	HARVEY CLIFF	B.S.M.	35
KYLE O'REILLY	B.S.M.	596	RAFI AFRIDI	IRBY	32
CHARLIE EATON	A.O.M.	563	MICHAEL DUNNING	W.P.	31

1st XI DIV 3 STATS

Batting

Centuries = 20 (incl. three of 130 or more)

Highest = 167, Ibrar Latif, Heaton Mersey v Middlewich, 27 June

Fifties = 161 (*most = 8, Matt Spells*)

Totals in excess of 250 = 38

Highest = 372-7, Runcorn v Warrington, 13 Jun

Lowest = 54, Middlewich v Heaton Mersey, 27 June
(14 double figure totals in all)

Bowling

5 wkt analysis = 30 (five bowlers had two 5-wkt hauls)

Best = 6-39, Joe Cooper, Hale Barns v Runcorn, 2 May



FINAL CCCL TABLES - WK 22 (SEPT 12-13)

1ST XI PREM		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
CHEADLE	365	40
NANTWICH	356	25
DIDSBURY	343	26
HYDE	339	14
LINDOW	322	11
CHESTER BH	269	30
TIMPERLEY	260	31
OXTON	253	40
ALDERLEY EDGE	247	10
NESTON	231	28
BRAMHALL	171	10
BROOKLANDS	134	11

1ST XI DIV 1		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
BOLLINGTON	357	20
WIDNES	352	24
MARITIME	318	29
TOFT	282	25
SALE	276	31
S.GEORGIANS	264	40
MACCLESFIELD	244	25
MARPLE	236	25
BOWDON	225	25
PORT SUNLIGHT	222	8
ALVANLEY	181	21
URMSTON	133	5

1ST XI DIV 2		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
HASLINGTON	323	40
UPTON	316	9
DAVENHAM	311	40
OULTON PARK	268	11
CHEADLE HULME	259	40
ROMILEY	256	26
N.E.CHESHIRE	255	25
TATTENHALL	252	8
OAKMERE	247	22
CHRISTLETON	226	40
GRAPPENHALL	212	21
ASHLEY	171	11

1ST XI DIV 3		
TEAM	PTS	MONTH
ASHTON OM	357	26
HEATON MERSEY	341	40
HALE BARNS	324	25
WINNINGTON PARK	285	26
BREDBURY SM	283	11
RUNCORN	267	40
STOCKPORT	259	40
WARRINGTON	247	22
IRBY	239	25
BARROW	222	10
MIDDLEWICH	153	8
MOBBERLEY	121	13

2ND XI PREM	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	348
BROOKLANDS	340
CHESTER BH	304
OXTON	297
TOFT	286
CHEADLE	271
NANTWICH	255
TIMPERLEY	221
LINDOW	215
UPTON	210
NESTON	178
WIDNES	176

2ND XI DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. MARPLE	375
2. MARITIME	331
3. S.GEORGIANS	311
11. A.EDGE	192
12. ROMILEY	165



2ND XI DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. GRAPPENHALL	353
2. WARRINGTON	316
3. UPTON 3	315
11. HASLINGTON	151
12. ASHLEY	109

2ND XI DIV 3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
1. N.E.CHESHIRE	384
2. TIMPERLEY 3	319
3. BOLLINGTON	285
11. OXTON 3	223
12. NORTHWICH	39

3RD XI SUN PREM	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	285
S.GEORGIANS	256
BROOKLANDS	237
MARPLE/COMPS.	216
SALE	212
TIMPERLEY	188
NANTWICH	183
TOFT	175
HYDE	155
ASHLEY	105

3RD XI SUN DIV 1	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
CHEADLE	294
ELWORTH	259
HEATON MERSEY	138
RUNCORN	75

3RD XI SUN DIV 2	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
BREDBURY SM	287
DIDSBURY 5	281
S.TRINITY	159
DAVENHAM	81

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS

Div 3 East: Top - Lindow
2nd - Bollington

Div 3 West: Top - Maritime 4
2nd - Northwich

Div 4: Top - Styal
2nd - Cheadle 4



WEEK 22 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET

2ND XI CRICKET: After a minor hiccup, Didsbury eased to an 8 wkt win over Cheadle to claim a fourth successive **Premier Division** title - and continue their dominance of 2nd XI league cricket in Cheshire. It was Didsbury's fifth championship in six seasons post-Covid, being runners-up in 2022 (with 462 pts!), although this year was the closest 2nd XI campaign in some years, runners-up Brooklands finishing just 8 pts behind after an excellent season, with both them and Dids winning 15 of their 22 games. Toft and Oxton also put in strong challenges, as did perennial form-horses Chester BH - in a transitional season for them - and with some 60 pts covering the top five clubs, it has been a decidedly competitive Prem campaign. And, curiously, none of the top five made it to T20 Finals Day! Didsbury lost more games (four) in 2026 than in previous seasons - they didn't have any batsmen in the top 20 divisional run scorers - and have been pushed to the wire in several matches, but when it mattered on the last day, they found the necessary. Brooklands did all they could, winning by 3 wkts at Lindow, but by that time Didsbury had already completed their win. With the relegation issues having been settled the week previous, it was very much end-of-term elsewhere - both the relegated clubs lost (Widnes at Chester, Neston to Timperley at Parkgate), while Nantwich beat Oxton by 26 runs. Toft's game with Upton was cancelled.

*LEADING PREM RUN SCORERS: NOAH WASILEWSKI (TOFT) 782, MARK BLOOMFIELD (BROOK) 733, GRANT HUGHES (OXT) 677
LEADING PREM WKTS: ALEX READ (CHEA) 47, NOAH BIRCHALL (NANT) 44, MICHAEL TAYLOR (DIDS) 44*

The issues in **Div 1** were all to do with the bottom of the table. Romiley already knew their fate, the end of their brief stay in Div 1 marked by a 9 wkt thrashing at Macclesfield, as Raghav Vyas smashed 87* off just 34 balls for the hosts who knocked off their 104 target inside 10 overs. At the end of a rain-affected day it was Alvanley breathing a sigh of relief as they avoided joining their 1st XI in dropping down, despite losing by 5 wkts to Didsbury 2As. They had an anxious wait before it was confirmed that Alderley Edge had been thwarted by the rain at Hyde. AE had a foothold in a rain-affected game, having put the hosts in and reducing them to 98-5 after 25 of 37 overs, but Hri Nath walloped 5x6 in a 28-ball 60 which powered Hyde to 207-8, and those runs on the board, as well as the precious time eaten up, proved critical for AE, 64-4 off 17 when the rain had the final say, confirming both they and Romiley would be making an immediate return to Div 2.

In **Div 2** Warrington belly-flopped over the line to secure promotion, beaten by bottom side Ashley but getting the five points they needed in defeat. Upton, who hammered P.Sunlight by 128 runs, thus finished just a point behind Warrington in third place.

Div 3 saw Timperley duly get the point they needed to join NE Cheshire in Div 2 next season - they actually bagged 20 in a 6 wkt win over CBH 3s - but it was heartbreak for Oxton, who despite posting a chunky 252 saw champions NEC knock off their target with 10 balls unused. With Tattenhall whacking a humongous 354-8 at Northwich (Harvey Salt 134 off 62 bs, Joe Clark 92), their subsequent 273 run win lifted them well clear of any danger of relegation and left Oxton 13 pts shy of safety.

3rd XI League News The one match **Premier Division** saw Nantwich banish relegation worries after a comfortable 8 wkt win at Hyde, who remained in the drop zone as a result. Hyde have one scheduled match left on Saturday at Marple where any result other than a win would see them drop back into Div 1. If Hyde can get the 20 pts, it would mean relegation for Toft - with both sides equal on points, games won and games lost, Hyde's greater tally of batting points would mean survival for them.

FAIR PLAY NEWS

PREMIER DIV	1	2	3	4	TOT	WK 14	WK 7
Hyde	4.00	3.95	4.00	4.05	16.00	16.00	16:00
Didsbury	4.00	3.95	4.05	3.95	15.95	16.21	15.86
Nantwich	3.95	3.95	4.00	4.00	15.90	16.00	16:00
Chester BH	3.95	3.95	4.00	3.95	15.85	15.92	16:00
Bramhall	3.95	3.74	4.05	4.05	15.79	15.85	15.66
Lindow	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	15.75	15.68	16:00
Neston	3.89	3.95	4.00	3.89	15.73	15.84	15.60
Alderley Edge	3.84	3.84	3.95	4.00	15.63	15.77	15.83
Brooklands	3.85	3.85	3.90	4.00	15.60	15.39	14.67
Cheadle	3.81	3.86	3.95	3.95	15.57	15.61	15.83
Oxton	3.90	3.76	3.95	3.95	15.56	15.38	14.99
Timperley	3.84	3.68	3.95	3.95	15.42	15.42	15.80

DIVISION TWO	1	2	3	4	TOT	WK 14	WK 7
Cheadle Hulme	3.95	4.00	4.00	4.05	16.00	16.00	15.83
Haslington	3.85	4.00	4.05	4.05	15.95	16.08	16.17
Ashley	4.00	3.95	4.00	4.08	15.95	16.00	15.83
NE Cheshire	3.90	3.95	4.00	4.05	15.90	15.77	16.00
Oulton Park	3.90	4.00	3.90	4.05	15.85	15.78	15.84
Tattenhall	3.90	3.95	3.95	4.00	15.80	15.69	15.83
Oakmere	3.95	3.90	3.95	3.95	15.75	15.61	16.00
Romiley	3.84	3.95	3.95	4.00	15.74	15.61	15.83
Christleton	3.80	3.85	3.95	3.90	15.50	15.38	15.83
Grappenhall	3.75	3.85	3.90	4.00	15.50	15.24	15.66
Upton	3.71	3.62	3.86	3.90	15.09	15.38	14.99
Davenham	3.55	3.70	3.90	3.90	15.05	14.70	13.68

Chairman of the Cheshire ACO Martin Roberts has released the final fair play figures for 2026. Many congratulations to Irby CC, who, on their return to the CCCL, are the overall winners of the FP award. Special commendations are also given to Cheadle Hulme and Hyde, who both achieved the required 16.00 mark.

Hyde topped the Premier Division FP table for the fourth year in a row.

Acknowledgement and thanks is also given to many clubs who achieved the expected mark of 4.00, or above, in any of the four categories, which represents an excellent effort throughout the season.

Many clubs improved their marks from 2025 which is also noted, and is an encouraging trend in Cheshire cricket. Fair Play, which embodies the Spirit of Cricket, is integral to our game, and will continue to be emphasised in coming seasons.

CATEGORIES

1 = Respect for Opponents

2 = Respect for Umpires

3 = Captain team management

4 =

Captain co-operation with umpires

DIVISION ONE	1	2	3	4	TOT	WK 14	WK 7
Port Sunlight	4.00	4.00	3.95	4.00	15.95	16.00	16.00
Toft	3.95	4.00	3.95	4.00	15.90	15.84	15.66
Macclesfield	4.00	3.95	3.95	3.95	15.85	16.00	16:00
S.Georgians	3.95	3.90	4.00	4.00	15.85	15.84	15.83
Alvanley	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	15.75	15.61	15.49
Marple	3.95	3.90	3.95	3.95	15.75	15.76	16:00
Bollington	3.90	3.95	3.90	3.95	15.70	15.76	16:00
Maritime	3.90	3.85	4.00	3.95	15.70	15.77	15.66
Bowdon	3.89	3.89	3.95	3.95	15.68	15.84	16:00
Widnes	3.89	3.95	3.89	3.89	15.62	15.47	15.00
Urmston	3.90	3.75	3.95	4.00	15.60	15.54	15.50
Sale	3.80	3.90	3.95	3.95	15.60	15.61	15.66

DIVISION THREE	1	2	3	4	TOT	WK 14	WK 7
Irby	4.00	4.00	4.01	4.05	16.15	16.23	16.67
Ashton OM	3.94	4.06	3.94	4.06	16.00	15.84	16.00
Runcorn	3.94	4.00	3.94	4.11	15.99	15.91	16.00
Barrow	3.95	4.00	4.00	4.00	15.95	16.00	16.00
Mobberley	4.00	3.94	3.94	3.94	15.82	15.64	15.49
Winnington Pk	3.84	3.84	3.89	3.95	15.52	15.84	15.83
Stockport	3.90	3.80	3.90	3.90	15.50	15.32	15.40
Heaton Mersey	3.89	3.89	3.79	3.89	15.46	15.75	16.00
Warrington	3.70	3.80	3.90	3.95	15.35	15.23	15.67
Hale Barns	3.88	3.75	3.81	3.88	15.32	15.10	16.00
Bredbury SM	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.90	15.30	14.84	15.32
Middlewich	3.82	3.76	3.76	3.76	15.10	15.19	15.20

CHANGES TO THE LAWS

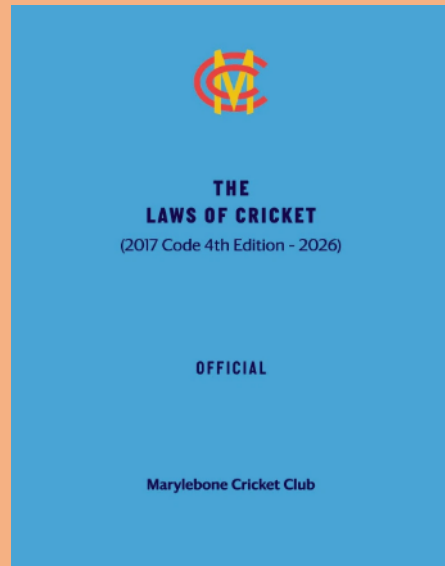
On October 1st 2026 the 4th edition of the 2017 code of laws will become applicable. In total there are 73 changes to the existing code.

Of these 73, MCC has advised that **ten** are of particular significance, although for weekend league cricket, that number reduces to **nine** (as these matches are not multi-day).

In brief, those nine involve:

- ♦ dealing with short runs
- ♦ 'bunny-hop' catches near to or over the boundary
- ♦ overthrows
- ♦ defining 'finally settled'
- ♦ position of the wicket keeper
- ♦ hit wicket
- ♦ 'held in the fielder's hand' and 'complete control over the ball'
- ♦ size and weight of cricket balls (mens and womens)
- ♦ laminated bats in senior cricket

Fuller information can be easily accessed online, with new editions of the 'blue book' available later this month. Officials and players alike are strongly encouraged to get themselves thoroughly acquainted with the new code - familiarisation sessions for officials will be announced in due course in plenty of time for the 2027 season.



CCCL & CCL MERGER

A merger between the Cheshire County League and Cheshire Cricket League was agreed in principle at AGM's earlier in the year. Since that time intensive work has been conducted by the Project Steering Group to make these aspirations a reality. Things are now at a stage where the proposals can be shared with a view to being voted on and adopted.

A special meeting has been arranged for **Monday 12th October, at the Halton Stadium in Widnes, 7.00pm-9.00pm**. Attendance by every club's chair, or nominated proxy, is mandatory, with clubs not attending facing a fine, as well as losing the opportunity to help shape Cheshire Cricket.

At this meeting dissolution proceedings of the two current organisations will be conducted, before moving on to a vote on ratifying the new constitution for the merged league. There will also be a vote on whether to move to an open structure in 2027 where 1st XI and 2nd XI teams are integrated into a single structure.

All Club Chairs have been sent six full length documents to share with their players to allow discussion and to give the Chair a club mandate as to how they vote, particularly on the Open Structure proposal.

The complete documents can also be found on both the CCCL and CCL Play-Cricket sites. If you haven't seen the material - or if your opinion has not yet been sought - then please ensure that it is, and encourage debate at your club so that your Chair can properly reflect your club's view as to how they should vote on October 12th.

RON GRAHAM: *Following on from the sad recent news of Ron's death, there will be a memorial gathering with a cricket tea at Marple CC on Friday 25th Sept from 3.00pm-7.00pm, with all welcome to attend.*