

COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS

on behalf of Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)



MAY 1 - MAY 16 2022

A fascinating month!

**Weekend weather holds as divisions
take shape**

Cup Cricket underway in busy month

Cheshire into T20 Finals Day



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FROM THE EDITOR

With fixtures in full swing it has been a real job keeping up with the amount of cricket being played! But that can only be for the good. Already there have been a few surprise results, plenty of excellent individual performances and, thankfully, mainly dry days to enjoy our game. As we go fully into the first round of Cup matches - National K/O, T20s and Cheshire Cup alongside the league fixtures and junior competitions - it will be a very busy period. I have been focusing on scoring duties during these first few

weeks and it has given me chance to reflect on just how far the game has come in a relatively short time. From a scorer's perspective this is especially true - technology has made life a lot easier when it works, and a lot more stressful when it doesn't - if you have become totally reliant on it, that is! But despite all the possibilities, some clubs are still struggling to find scorers. I was checking through all the fines levied by the County League in 2021 - roughly £2,500 in total - and some £1100 of that was for 1st XI clubs not having a scorer, which is a considerable sum. It's a situation I would hope is not repeated although, judging from the conditions that many scorers are expected to operate in, it's hardly surprising. Speaking of those fines, the most common reason in 2021 was the failure to submit umpires marks, with approximately 60 fines being issued. Again, with technology making it so much easier to take on this small piece of post-match admin, I do wonder why it crops up so often. I've already noticed a considerable number of 'unsure' entries on Play Cricket scorecards too - and quite apart from the potential of clubs receiving a fine, there are safeguarding implications to

consider. All umpires recently received a reminder about ensuring team cards are correctly completed in all circumstances and it is worth remembering that team sheets need to be completed for all games (not just panel appointed umpires). It's the kind of thing that's too easy for clubs to assume "we'll be okay, there's never been an issue"...and then, guess what. Hopefully as we go into this particularly intense part of the season, there will be a minimal number of these types of problems.

Any number of apologies are due after the April edition. I omitted to note Nigel Muirhead's 5-64 for Toft against Didsbury on the opening day, and I was also corrected by a number of people regarding the result of the Stockport Georgians/Oxton Cheshire Cup match, which was won by Oxton on super over (not fewer wickets lost as stated). There was also an erroneous list of fixtures published for the Cheshire Shield but hopefully this did not cause undue confusion. My thanks to all those who got in touch with corrections.

James

CATCHING AND CROSSING



MCC's decision to make an early announcement about law changes for the next cricket season (Oct 2022 onwards) has led to confusion, with some players seeming to think the proposed new law about the new batter taking strike even if the batters crossed when a catch has been completed is in force now. It isn't! It will apply next season.



FRED HIGNETT (WIDNES CC)

The sad news of the death of Fred Hignett was announced by Widnes towards the end of April. A long standing part of the club, Fred's proud legacy includes sons Richard (*"the most exciting and destructive cricketer Widnes has produced in living memory"* said their website) and Mark, who was voted the CCCL Umpire of the Year for 2021. Instrumental in the development of the Widnes junior section as far back as the 1980s, Fred's loss will be felt by all involved at the club, where he and his family are highly regarded.



GAYLE AT SALE

Cricket legend Chris Gayle was at Sale CC on Bank Holiday Mon to promote 'Cricket All Rounder', a new coaching app. A well attended session was greatly appreciated by all, who were able to take selfies with the man himself after watching him demonstrate some of the app's exercises. (One to ponder: who has scored more Test Match triple hundreds, Chris Gayle or Brian Lara?)



IMAGE: GEORGE FRANKS

MAY 7

An amazing day in the Prem saw two shock wins, two sides bowled out for 99, a high scoring draw and a dramatic local derby. This latter event occurred at **Oxton**, where **Andy Crick** hit the last ball for four to give the hosts a nail-biting two wkt win over local rivals **Neston**. **Jack Corran** had earlier taken 5-44, with the ever-reliable **Chris Stenhouse** taking 3-53 from 17 overs, before coming to the rescue with the bat, his 36, along with 58 from **Jack Smith**, enabling the match to reach its thrilling conclusion. This left Oxton on their own at the top of the table, as the other two sides with 50 points at the start of the day, **Hyde** and current champs **Nantwich**, shared the spoils in a high scoring match at Werneth Low. 140 off 138 balls from **Marcus Stables** powered the Dabbers to 291-7, but Hyde again enjoyed a fruitful opening stand, **Tom Partridge** and **Luke Young** adding 92, before **Ray Doyle** led the fightback with the ball as Hyde finished 204-7. Both these sides remained unbeaten, although **Didsbury** moved into third after an emphatic 102 run win at **Chester BH**. Shorn of several regular first teamers (including captain Nick Anderson), Dids confounded all expecta-

tations at a ground where they average 4 pts a visit, racking up 299-7 after being put in, **Charlie Lowen** (73) and **Lewis Bramley** (68) adding 124 for the 4th wkt. Called up from the 2nd XI, **Raza Mian** returned 5-26 as the visitors claimed a notable 25 points. Equally astonishing was **Brooklands'** 78 run win over **Bowdon** - not so much the margin, but the fact that the hosts had been bowled out for a meagre 116. **A J Hart** and **Rob Leach** then caused havoc, Bowdon's first four batters all out for 0, and the scoreboard reading 1-5. Skipper **Matt Tully** made 3 off 32 before his dismissal left Bowdon 13-7, finally folding for just 38. Another batting struggle at Moss Lane saw a last wkt stand of 35 take **Toft** to 99; they had **Alderley Edge** 4-3 early on but another classy knock from **George Bell** got AE over the line. Speaking of classy knocks, **Rob Sehmi's** 128* led **OP** to an easy win over **Widnes**, who were soon 21-5 chasing 229 and all out 99.

MAY 14

Oxton continued their expectation-exceeding start by topping the division after a fourth straight win,

and like the week previous it was another tight two wkt triumph as hosts **Bowdon** struggled to 178-6. Oxton found it equally hard going, slumping to 15-4, but an adhesive **Johnny Crick** (53 off 147) added 100 with **Jack Breheny**, before **Chris Stenhouse** repeated his batting heroics of wk 3, Oxton winning with 7 balls to spare. It took the Townfield Lane club until June 12th to pass 100 pts in 2021, and having been deprived of the services of **Joe Mennie** by Lancs call ups, it's been an amazing effort. A sparkling 70 from **Tim Hughes** guided **Didsbury** to successive wins as they beat **OP** by 5 wkts. **Rob Jones'** 105 for **Toft** was eclipsed by 106* from the in-form **Luke Young** (who also took 3-49) as **Hyde** knocked off the 215 needed only 3 down. **Alex Money** made a dazzling 90* out of 144 as **CBH** won at **Nantwich**, while an unbroken stand of 107 between **Sam Perry** (78*) and **Richard Wilkinson** (59*) helped **AE** to an excellent 6 wkt win at **Neston**. **Brooklands** made it successive wins, 93 from **Dan O'Gorman** the ballast in 234-8 at **Widnes**, who were well placed in reply at 168-3 before they lost 7-45, all out 213.

TABLE - MAY 14

TEAM	PTS
OXTON	100
DIDSBURY	84
HYDE	82
CHESTER BH	70
NANTWICH	68
ALDERLEY EDGE	65
BROOKLANDS	58
OULTON PARK	48
BOWDON	45
NESTON	44
WIDNES	24
TOFT	14

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
LUKE YOUNG (HYDE)	273
GEORGE BELL(AE)	232
ALEX MONEY (CBH)	219
MARCUS STABLES (NAN)	215
DANNY LEECH (OP)	214
JACK TIPTON (BOW)	181
PLAYER	WKTS
ANDREW JACKSON (HYD)	16
DANNY CRANMER (HYD)	12
ROWAN SHELTON (NES)	11
CHRIS STENHOUSE (OXT)	11
ASH DAVIS (NES)	10

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Marcus Stables 140, Nat v Hyde, 7.5
 Rob Sehmi 128*, OP v Wid, 7.5
 Luke Young 106*, Hyd v Toft, 14.5
 Rob Jones 105, Toft v Hyd, 14.5

 AJ Hart 5-10, Brook v Bow, 7.5
 Martin Green 5-23, CBH v
 Nant, 14.5
 Raza Mian 5-26, Dids v CBH, 7.5
 Jack Corran 5-44, Oxt v Nest, 7.5

MAY 7

A generally low scoring day in Div 1, three drawn matches, and no side passing 240. The highest total came at Upcast Lane where **Lindow's Johan Wessels** continued his purple patch, making 89 off 94, which, allied with a run-a-ball 49 from skipper **Alex Matthews**, set **Bramhall** 236 to win. **Nick Cantello's** 65 was the mainstay of the reply, with **Ashley West** contributing a valuable 47 to add to his earlier 3-53 as the visitors closed on 223-6, the 35 extras Lindow conceded almost proving very costly. **Marple's** 207 at Moorside Rd proved to be 29 too many for **Urmston** to chase, despite 63 from **Sumit Panda** and 51 from **Matt Thomas**. **Alex Pannell** took 3-46 for the visitors, having earlier top scored with 54 as Marple, who had a stuttering 2021, found themselves clear at top of the table as a result. After their disastrous opening day, **Cheadle** made it two wins in a row with a 44 run victory in a low scoring affair at **Bollington**. Put into bat, the visitors were all over the place at 49-6 before 65 from no.8 **Will Holmes** took them to 144. Bolly looked to be progressing okay at 65-3, but Holmes got to work with the ball, his 4-27, and 4-32 from skipper **Josh Dooler**, seeing

Bolly all out 100. An equally encouraging day for **Macclesfield** saw them beat still winless **Grappenhall** by 4 wkts. **Ben Bodha's** 60* helped Grappers recover from 20-4 to post 168-9. Macc were accumulating serenely but **Ian Hall's** 4-22 helped reduce them from 61-0 to 95-5, before veteran **John Birchall** helped young opener **Jack Massey** add 69, Macc getting over the line with an over to spare. Elsewhere, **Congleton** took 13 points from their drawn game at **Alvanley**, **Jack Higginbotham's** 75* off 66 lifting a hitherto stodgy innings upto 196-5. **Jarryd Basson** made 56 to give Alvanley a sniff but **Muhammad Kashif's** impressive 8-40 left the hosts clinging on, just surviving on 175-9. **Timperley** had the better of their draw at **Sale**, who, despite having 52 overs to chase 216, closed on 170-8.

MAY 14

Marple's relatively comfortable defence of a modest looking 135 continued their strong start to the season as they beat visitors **Macclesfield** by 23 runs, topping the table as a result. The hosts didn't last 35 overs as three run outs hobbled them. But a great effort by the six

bowlers used, who all took wkts, got Marple home, Macc losing 5-7 as they were all out 112, captain **James Cross** the only player to pass 50 (57 from 128). Much better for batting at Kingsway, where **Liam Fitzgerald's** 131* (145 bs) and 53 from **Dan Brown** lifted **Cheadle** to 241-8 against **Sale**, **Tyrone Lawrence** 5-60. But the visitors were pegged back as **Rashid Amin** led the way, his 6-68 helping the hosts to a 66 run win. **Congleton's** big 144 run win over **Bolly** saw them upto third, 96 from **Ali Azmat** (10x4, 7x6) the fireworks in their 229. Bolly lost 5-12 mid-inns and only got to 85, **John Copeland** 6-12. A magnificent opening stand of 182 by Urmston youngsters **Harry Singh** (83) and **Arav Shetty** (103*) saw them pull off an impressive 6 wkt win at **Bramhall**, who have yet to get going in 2022 but **Timperley** seem to be finding their sea legs, **Jonathan Fletcher** (78) leading a decent chase of 229 to overcome **Lindow**, for whom **Charlie Hodge** (84*) and **Alex Matthews** (81*) added 137* in 21 overs. **Grappenhall** had few issues overtaking **Alvanley's** 98 at Broad Lane.

TABLE - MAY 14

TEAM	PTS
MARPLE	90
CHEADLE	79
CONGLETON	72
URMSTON	71
TIMPERLEY	70
MACCLESFIELD	59
SALE	53
GRAPPENHALL	48
ALVANLEY	38
BOLLINGTON	37
BRAMHALL	36
LINDOW	36

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
JOHAN WESSELS (LIN)	293
JONATHAN FLETCHER (TI)	230
LIAM FITZPATRICK (CH)	221
GREG DIXON (BRAM)	210
PAT ASHLING (SALE)	170
NICK CANTELLO (BRAM)	168
PLAYER	WKTS
CRAIG MELROSE (MAC)	14
JOE CASH (MAR)	13
WILL ESPLEY (LIN)	11
MUHAMMAD KASHIF (CON)	11
SIMON WILKINSON (BRAM)	10

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Liam Fitzpatrick 131*, Che v Sale, 14.5
 Arav Shetty 103*, Urm v Bram, 14.5
 Ali Amzat 96, Cong v Boll, 14.5
 John Copeland 6-12, Boll v Cong, 14.5
 Rashid Amin 6-68, Che v Sale, 14.5
 Harri Dickinson 5-54, Boll v Cong, 14.5
 Tyrone Lawrence 5-60, Sale v Che, 14.5

MAY 7

Stockport Georgians great start to the campaign continued, a third straight victory achieved by way of a 7 wkt triumph over **Hale Barns** which maintained their perfect start. **Alex Jones** took 6-39 as **James Guest's** 48 was the only crumb of comfort for the visitors in their 120. The in-form **Ned Bailey** cracked 54 off 47 to conclude matters with bags of overs unused. A much closer match at Walton Lea, where **Warrington** overtook **Davenham's** 178 (**Sam Hunt** 52) off the penultimate ball of their reply, **Patrick Tyrrell's** 67 and a patient 55* from **Muhammad Abid** proving just enough as the hosts recovered from being 15-3. Much more comfortable for **Romiley**, who made the long schlek to **Upton** worthwhile with a thumping 8 wkt win, 5-37 from **Alex Hooton** seeing the hosts muster just 103 before a sparkling 73* from **Kane Scanlon** saw Romiley coast home in under 26 overs, Upton taking no pts from the fixture. **Ashton-on-Mersey** had almost as long a ride to their game at **Port Sunlight**, but they also came away with the 25 pts after an excellent run chase in an entertaining match. PS made 210, **Simon Melberz's** 55 their highest individual score as **James**

Marshall took 5-68 before also playing a major part with the bat. Captain **Macca Hooton** followed his rapid century of the week before with a second ball duck as AOM were soon 28-3, but **Tom Scott** made a superb 87, adding 128 for the 4th with **Mike Roberts** before **Marshall's** 35* took AOM to their target with 7 balls remaining. **Haslington** scored 32 too many for visitors **Cheadle Hulme** to chase, the 33 extras they conceded in the hosts' 194-8 proving crucial. 80 from **Matt Kennerley-Ryan** had earlier been the standout innings for Haslington. **Christleton** needed just 30 overs to overtake **Mobberley's** buttock-clenching 136-9 off their full allocation at Church Lane, **Kamran Hussain's** 59* easing the visitors to a five wkt win, ensuring second spot in the early table.

MAY 14

The meeting of two form teams at Little Heath saw hosts **Christleton** take the 25 pts and go top after a 31 run win over **Stockport Georgians** whose hitherto powerful batting had an off-day as they could manage just 156 in reply to the hosts 184, with capt **Josh Morgan-Jones**' 64 surprisingly the only half

century of the match. **Haslington's** trip to **Romiley** was a happy one as they won by 46 runs, a solid batting effort taking them to 237-9 - 8 of those wkts falling to bowlers called James! The hosts fought hard after being 23-4 but they were all out 191. A remarkable win from **Mobberley** gave them a much needed lift, although it looked like their chase of **Ashton On-Mersey's** modest 145 was heading for disaster as, 8 overs into their reply the scoreboard showed 19-6. Capt **Matt Mountney** (67*) and **Abdul Aqeel** (58*) then left everyone wondering what the fuss was about, their unbroke 129 stand sealing a 4 wkt win. **Adam Wilde's** 75 ensured **Cheadle Hulme** had few alarms overtaking **Port Sunlight's** 125 at Grove Park, **Reuben Jamieson** taking 5-24 for the hosts, while **David Stewart** was the **Upton** hero at **Davenham**, his 50* guiding them to a nervy 3 wkt win in a low scoring contest. **HB's** usual 2nd XI captain **Jack Wylie** took 5-30 as they beat **Warrington** by 4 wkts, **Joshua Agar's** 63* helping the hosts cope with a few stutters to record their second win of 2022.

TABLE - MAY 14

TEAM	PTS
CHRISTLETON	90
HASLINGTON	81
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	81
ROMILEY	71
WARRINGTON	63
HALE BARNES	56
CHEADLE HULME	55
ASHTON ON MERSEY	54
MOBBERLEY	43
UPTON	38
DAVENHAM	30
PORT SUNLIGHT	26

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
MACCA HOOTON (AOM)	197
NED BAILEY (SG)	182
MAX DUNVABAND (CHR)	175
JACK TAYLOR (HAS)	165
ANS MUHAMMAD (ROM)	164
ADAM WILDE (C.H.)	156
PLAYER	WKTS
ALEX JONES (SG)	14
IMRAN KHAN (HAS)	13
SIMON NORMANTON (SG)	12
REUBEN JAMIESON (C.H)	12
BRAD MUNRO (CHR)	12

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Reuben Jamieson 5-24,
C.H. v P.S., 14.5
Jack Wylie 5-30, HB v Warr, 14.5



CCCL DIVISION THREE



MAY 7

A bright and sunny Saturday did not encourage a run-fest in Div 3 but there were six winners come end of play, **North East Cheshire** making it 3 from 3 after a shuddering **Stockport** collapse gave them an 83 run win. NEC had been bowled out for a modest looking 142, **Mike Eley's** 5-34 leading the way for Stockport, who seemed to have steadied an early glitch by getting themselves to 35-3, only for **Dave Oldfield's** 5-11 to see them lose 7-24, an egregious 59 all out the result. Two wins were by the emphatic margin of 10 wkts, **Maritime** the earliest finishers after their demolition of **Barnton**, who limped to just 52 from 33.1 overs, no batsman managing double figures. **Vensakar Kanthiraj** returned 9.1-6-5-5 as Maritime knocked the runs off in under nine overs. **Kingsley's** big win over visitors **Runcorn** can't have taken much longer, the hosts racing to 97-0 inside 15 overs, after a mini-revival for the last Runcorn wicket took them from 66-9 to 94. A very different sort of game not so very far away at **Barrow**, where the division's only century of the day was recorded by the hosts' **Matthew Parks**, whose splendid 121*

(103 balls) enabled them to successfully pursue **Oakmere's** 198-7 (**James Hodgkinson** 51*). As Barrow reeled at 5-3 in reply, Parks joined **Chris Morrison** (53), the pair adding 149 for the 4th as Barrow eased home with almost 10 overs in hand. **Tattenhall** recorded back-to-back wins, doing well to defend 145 at **Winnington Park**, for whom **Tom Speak** took 5-28. An encouraging show by Tatt then saw WP, who were 56-1, all out for 114. **Ashley's** decision to insert visitors **Hawk Green** seemed fair enough when, despite **Elliot Young's** 55, HG found themselves a precarious 115-8, but the last two wkts added what turned out to be a decisive 37 runs. **Jack Needham** (5-24) and **Jason Downey** then reduced Ashley to 20-5. The slump slowed, and from 60-8 the Ashley lower order fought hard, but Downey ended the fightback to give HG a 33 run win.

MAY 14

Although **NE Cheshire's** 10 wkt demolition of **Barnton** - in a match which lasted barely 40 overs - sent them top, it was **Barrow** who took the headlines after a brilliant win at **Hawk Green**. The long trip east

seemed to have taken the spark out of the visitors as the hosts racked up 244-7, but **Matthew Parks** continued his fabulous form, reaching a second successive ton by going 6,4,6,6 to power past the target with overs in hand. In all Parks faced 65 bs, and hit 10x4,6x6. **Maritime's** well paced chase of 223 at **Oakmere** sent them second (no details available) while **Ashley** were another side to pull off an impressive away win, theirs a 9 wkt hammering of **Tattenhall** at The Flacca, **Alex Morfitt** (52*) and **Harry Hatchell** (50*) adding 103* for the second wkt after **Syed Azam Shah** made 65 - the 30 extras conceded by Tatt had a significant bearing. At Cale Green **Stockport** won a dramatic encounter with **Kingsley** by just 7 runs, the hosts managing just 146 after being 91-2, **Zafar Jatoi** 69. However Kingsley virtually mirrored Stockport in subsiding from 93-2 to 139 all out with plenty of overs unused. Equally dramatic at **Runcorn** where the hosts overtook **Winnington Park's** 214-9 with just two balls remaining, **Ryan Beech's** 90* (70 bs) the standout.

APRIL TABLE

TEAM	PTS
NORTH EAST CHESHIRE	100
MARITIME	88
BARROW	84
HAWK GREEN	58
OAKMERE	58
STOCKPORT	57
TATTENHALL	56
ASHLEY	50
KINGSLEY	35
RUNCORN	33
WINNINGTON PARK	29
BARNTON	12

LEADING PLAYERS

PLAYER	RUNS
MATTHEW PARKS (BAR)	222
IMRAN BUTT (ASH)	173
TAIMOOR MALIK (STO)	156
JACK RANDLE (BAR)	147
ZAFAR JATOI (STO)	141
SYED AZAM SHAH (ASH)	140
PLAYER	WKTS
WILL WESTERBY (NEC)	17
ADAM PORTER (STO)	12
TOM EYLEY (KIN)	10
NICK MUMFORD (BAR)	9
DAVE OLDFIELD (NEC)	8

PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Matthew Parks 121*, Bar v Oak, 7.5
 Matthew Parks 101*, Bar v HG, 14.5

Vensakar Kanthiraj 5-5, Mar v Barn, 7.5.

Dave Oldfield 5-11, NEC v Stock, 7.5

Tom Speak 5-28, WP v Tatt, 7.5

Mike Eley 5-34, Stock v NEC, 7.5

2ND XI CRICKET APRIL ROUND-UP

PREMIER DIVISION- APRIL



A number of impressive batting displays highlighted the opening day in the Prem, three centurions and some high scoring games. However, it was more bowling highlights in the case of champions' **Didsbury's** comfortable 8 wkt win over **Alderley Edge**, who they dismissed for just 90 to get their season off well. **Chester BH's Reg Wyatt** (right) made 114 as he and **Luke Ramsay** (86) added 174 for the 1st wkt in their resounding win at **Bowdon**, who had no answer to their 257-4, **Martin Green** taking 4-2 as the hosts were all out 77. **Neston's Paddy Brown** made a brilliant 123*, a big partnership with **David Manchett** (81*) helping them to an impressive 6 wkt win over **Sale**, whose earlier 231-4 had **Grant Whittaker's** 86 as its mainstay. A different sort of ton for **Toft's Tom Maddocks**, whose unbeaten 104 helped his side claim a tense draw at **Nantwich**, after the hosts had racked up 251-8. The match featured 60 extras and Toft's last pair surviving as their valiant chase closed on 222-9. Elsewhere on day 1, **Cheadle** beat **Hyde** and promoted **Oxton** found life tougher in the Prem, as they collapsed to 19-7 at **Oulton Park**. Despite a defiant effort from the lower order, their 86 was never going to extend the hosts, for whom **Andy Mills** made 50* in an 8 wkt win. **OP** followed this up in **week 2** with an even more impressive display, **Mills** again in wonderful form with an unbeaten 112* as he and **Ben Tomlinson** (89*) put together an unbroken stand of 219 and a magnificent 10 wkt win over **Bowdon**, for whom **Alex Robinson** had earlier made 96*. **CBH** and **Cheadle** played out a high scoring draw, 85 from Cheadle's **Richie Straughan** helping them to 234-8 chasing 248-9. **Neston** also scored big, 97 from Jamie Wilson helping them to 254-9 against **Toft**, who were grateful to a defiant 14* from 74 by **Nigel Muirhead** (3-45 earlier too) to stave off defeat. It was a similar tale for **Oxton** whose last pair survived 7 balls to draw at **Sale** in another tense game, the hosts making 215-9 and Oxton finishing 200-9. 106 from **Nantwich** keeper **Phil Marsh** and 87 from **Ben Wright** helped them to a chunky win over **AE**. **Raza Mian** took 6-40 for **Didsbury** as they restricted **Hyde** to 185-9, **Jack Hastings** then scoring 61 off 46 and **Stuart Stoneman** 64 to secure a 4 wkt win.

2ND XI DIV 1

Upton took the batting plaudits on the opening day, 131 from **Ian Potter** and an 101* from **Luca de Stefano** taking them to 255-3 against **Timperley**, who just fell short with a valiant 231 in reply. **Ben Cunliffe** made 108 for **Brooklands** as they beat **Dids 2A** by 68 runs, while a 100* opening psp saw **Widnes** beat **Macc** by 10 wkts. In **wk 2** **Upton** made it two from two beating **Widnes**, while Georgians **Neil Pennington** hit 4 sixes in an over as he made 99, his side thumping **Grappers** by 149 runs. **Rob Matthews** made 118 off 117 for **Timpers** but their 213-7 was no problem for **Heaton Mersey**, who followed up a first day win with a 5 wkt victory here. **Connor Bergin** took 5-9 for **Romiley** in their draw with **Macc**. **Brooklands** finished April also with two wins after they beat **Lindow**.

2ND XI DIV 2

Phil Sharples was the man of the opening day in Div 2, bowling 10 tidy overs (1-25) and then hitting an unbeaten 90 as he and **Mark Jones** added 162* for **Davenham's** 2nd wkt as they hammered **HB**. **Hamza Ahmed** took 8-40 for **Urmston** as they beat **Congleton**, while **Rhys Collister** made 95 for **CH** as they won at **Warrington**. Another all-round display of note from **Alvanley's Phil Erasmus**, 4-16 and 32* as his side won at **AOM**, **Andy Bennion's** 82* also a decisive factor here. **Phil Sharples** was at it again on day 2, his 5-23 leading **Dav** to a tense 10 run win over **Urmston**. **Lalchlan Anson** took 8-25 for **Bramhall** as they beat **HB**, while **Tom Jenkinson** made 92 for **AOM** as they overtook a challenging 224-7 at **Boll**. Two wins for **Port Sunlight** meant they, **Davenham** & **Alvanley** led the way.



A LEAGUE RECORD?

Didsbury 2s captain and wicketkeeper **Ryan Wilson** took eight catches in his team's win at **Oulton Park** on Sat 14th - full story next page.

2ND XI DIV 3

Ashley were the only side to win both their games in the new division. On day 1 **Lymm OP's Aatrayo Daw** made 139 as they piled up 319-5 in their draw with **Runcorn**, while **Tattenhall** recorded a tense 12 run win in their derby with **CBH 3s** despite 6-53 from **Alex Cotton**. **Haslington** & **Oakmere** were the other day 1 winners, but the latter came a cropper at **Ashley** on the 30th, bowled out for 79. **Oliver Williams** made 114 as **Haslington's** batting again impressed, although opponents **Stockport** held out for the draw. **Lymm OP** and **Runcorn** both won on day 2, while **Upton** and **Barrow** tied!

PREMIER DIVISION

Wk 3 (May 7) Bowdon 2s had almost as big a hiccup as their 1s suffered, being bowled out for just 45 by rampant visitors **Sale**, who must have been as surprised as anyone to record a 124 run win after themselves managing a modest looking 169-6. **Josh Patel** led the Sale attack superbly with 6-14 as five Bowdon players got ducks and the 18 runs from no.11 **Dominic Ball** was the highest contribution, lifting the total from 27-9 on his own. Remarkably, Bowdon's was not the lowest total on the day - playing with just 10, **Alderley Edge** were bowled out for 36 by **Toft**. At 25-2 there was little hint of the calamities to follow, **Pete Talbot** and **Nigel Muirhead** taking 6-10 between them as the match was done and dusted within 40 overs, Toft 9 wkt winners. There were other equally emphatic wins. **Nantwich** went top of the table with a 10 wkt triumph over **Hyde**, **James Rowland** (88*) and **Ben Wright** (30*) racing to the 129 target in under 20 overs, Wright earlier taking 4-62. **Mark Hampson** took 5-19 as **Cheadle** swept **Oulton Park** aside, needing just 18 overs to overtake OP's 106. **Oxton** continued to find life in the Prem rather different as they were comfortably beaten at near neighbours **Neston**, the hosts winning by 8 wkts after restricting Oxton to just 127. Although recording the narrowest victory margin of the day, the 5 wkt win **Chester BH** pulled off at champions **Didsbury** was no less resounding. An excellent bowling display saw Dids muster just 148-7 in their allocation, and an in-form **Reg Wyatt** again produced the goods for CBH, his 81 off 90 balls the decisive innings of the match. **Chester** kept their good run going on **Wk 4 (May 14)** going top with a comfortable win over **Nantwich**, who they dismissed for just 89. As mentioned previously, keeper **Ryan Wilson** took 8 catches as Didsbury dismissed OP for just 33 at Little Budworth, **Mathew Laker** returning 13-9-6-6. **Cheadle** won at **Sale** to remain unbeaten, while at the other end, **Alderley Edge** finally got off the mark by beating **Neston**. **Bowdon**, who went from 71-0 to 120 all out at **Oxton**, and **Hyde**, who were beaten by **Toft**, both stay winless.

2ND XI DIV 1

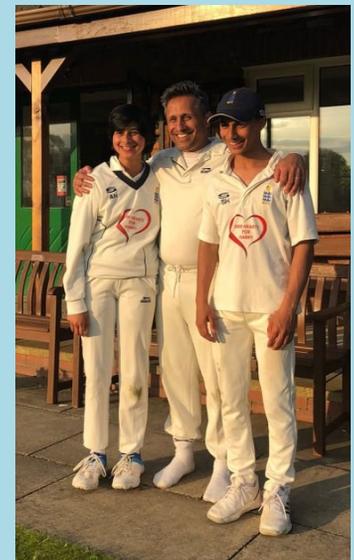
Heaton Mersey top the early Div 1 table after their draw with **Romiley** on Sat. Long serving Merseyman **Ayaz Cheema** finishing 88* after scoring 66 in their impressive win chasing 201 at **Widnes** the week previous. **Lindow** and **Marple** have won both their May fixtures so far, **Andy Wild** with 80* for the latter on Sat, while **Hassan Mahmood** hit 93* for **Lindow** in their win over **Timperley**, who, the week before played out a tense, high scoring draw with **Brooklands**, Timpers finishing 202-9 in pursuit of 214 for victory. **Joshua Hayes** produced a notable all-round display for **Grappenhall** in their draw with **Macclesfield** on May 7, finishing 97* (opening psp of 137) before taking 6-3-5-1.

2ND XI DIV 2

Alvanley's 6 wkt win over **Davenham** on Sat made it 4 straight wins, going top with **Port Sunlight** second. PS were thwarted by a fine individual display from **Mohammed Kamran** on Sat, his 77 (after 15-2-46-2) seeing **Cheadle Hulme** finish 171-9 in pursuit of 187. The week before, CH made short work of chasing **Bollington's** 75 while **Bramhall** defended the 144 they totalled against **Neston**, who were bowled out for 99. Also on the 7th, 83 from **Charlie Jones** helped **Warrington** overtake **Davenham's** 197-9. **Ben Hicks** took 5-23 and then hit 56* as **Hale Barns** recovered from 9-4 to successfully chase **Urmston's** 115.

A BRAMHALL FAMILY AFFAIR!

Father (Syedul) daughter (Aneesa, 13) and son Sameer (15) all played together for Bramhall 3s, acquitting themselves well despite losing their game with Ashley on May 8th. *(Image: Bramhall CC Twitter)*



2ND XI DIV 3

Ashley lead the way despite losing to **CBH 3s** on the 7th, when **Jack Riley's** 91* helped his side to a tense win. Chasing 192, CBH were 30-3 and later lost 4-21, but held it together. **Oakmere's** **Henry Young** (89) and **Aaron Court** (82) opened with 178 for in their win over **Haslington**, while a two man show saw **Barrow** beat **CBH**. **Prashant Pandey** scored 97* and took 5-29, **Joe Piller** also weighing in with 74* and 3-44. **Ben Perry** scored 95 as **Stockport** chased 225 to beat **Mobberley**, for whom **Toby Ansell** had finished 95*.

CUP CRICKET NEWS

2022 CHESHIRE CUP



May 8th: Bollington R.G.

BIRKENHEAD PARK 198-3 (30.2) beat BOLLINGTON 195-8 (40) by 7 wkts
Bolly were put into bat, 53 from Harri Dickinson, 40 from skipper Jack Ward, and a late cameo from Julian McGovern proving to be no match for BP's batting. An untidy effort in the field which included 37 extras did nothing to help Bolly's cause as a superb 109 from opener Mark Rowland (86 bs, 10x4, 7x6) helped the visitors to victory with some 10 overs in hand.

ECB NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP K.O

Three of our Premier Division clubs progressed through to the next stage of the competition on Sunday, with Chester BH's Warren Goodwin (right) dominating the news. His magnificent 221 (116 bs, 21x4, 16x6) in CBH's 421-4 against Birmingham side Moseley left team mates and spectators speechless, with the range and power of his strokeplay. Head over to the CBH website to view the live stream of the day if you want to see for yourself, although I suspect there won't be too many views recorded in the Moseley area, their difficult day compounded by transport issues, as well as the small matter of a 229 run loss. Elsewhere, Nantwich needed just nine overs of batting to defeat Timperley, who they bowled out for 59, whilst an opening stand of 145 by Didsbury's Tim Hughes (65) and Noah Croes (84*) gave their side the impetus to complete an 8 wkt win over Widnes. Another side with connections to CCCL cricket, Elworth, got a bit of a towelling at Porthill Park, as the hosts, set 186 to win, reached their target for no loss in just 18 overs, PP capt John Hancock hitting 115* from just 61 bs. On a personal note I was disappointed to see that the team with the best name in the competition, Hook & Newnham Basics, fell at the first hurdle, beaten by Richmond.



IMAGE: CBH WEBSITE

3RD XI JACK GARDNER TROPHY UPDATE

Grappenhall powered through from **Gp 1**, winning all 3 games. On May Day, **Ben Clissold's** brilliant 92* from just 36 balls took Grappers to a crunching 153 run win over **Northwich**, the same player hitting 74 off 42 in Grappers' opening match 69 run win over **Ashley**. **Gp 2** was one of two groups to have two Premier Division teams, but it was **Ashton OM** who won 3 from 3 to progress, including a nail biter against **Timperley**. A magnificent 101* from keeper **Henry Murray** took AOM to 157-4, and in a dramatic finish, a run out off the last ball secured them a 1 run win. In **Gp 4** holders **Didsbury 3s** won all their games to progress, while in **Gp 5**, **Stockport Georgians'** batting really fired, easing to 121-3 in under 16 overs to beat **Cheadle**, then 207-4, then 182-5, topping the group as a result. It was a similar tale in **Gp 8**, where **Nantwich** recorded three big wins, two by 8 wkts and one by 106 runs, to qualify comfortably. Two groups were decided on NRR. In **Gp 3**, despite losing their final match, **Trafford Metrovicks** pipped **Bowdon** and Premier Division **Toft**. Two big wins in their other games proved to be just enough for the Vicks, as Bowdon paid the price for only managing 88-7 in their heavy defeat at Toft. **Gp 6** ended up being very close - **Bredbury SM** finished top after Premier Division **Romiley** (who won their three games) played an ineligible player in their match against **Marple & Compstall**. **Gp 7** saw some high scores and tense finishes, **NE Cheshire** twice overcoming Premier League opposition in **Hyde** and **Alderley Edge** to go through. **Lindow's Joe Ashworth** blasted 88 off 37 in their 202-4 against AE, for whom **Andy Kennedy** made 99* off 49 balls out of 166-4 in reply.

JACK GARDNER TROPHY 3RD XI QUARTER FINAL DRAW:

TRAFFORD METROVICKS v GRAPPENHALL

ASHTON-ON-MERSEY v DIDSBURY 3s

STOCKPORT GEORGIANS v BREDBURY ST.MARKS

NANTWICH v NORTH EAST CHESHIRE 4s

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED BY SUNDAY JUNE 26th



CHESHIRE CC NEWS

BRILLIANT CHESHIRE GO THROUGH

CHESHIRE OVERCAME A FRANTIC T20 SCHEDULE TO QUALIFY FOR FINALS DAY AFTER A RUN OF IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCES. HERE'S A SUMMARY OF THAT PACKED SCHEDULE, AND A DRAMATIC FINALE!

Sun May 1st: It was honours even with Staffs after the May-Day double header at Leek, a brilliant effort in the field restricting the hosts to 124-7 in game one, debutant **Charlie Barnard** (Hyde) claiming 2-17 in 4 probing overs along with 3 catches. AE's **Sam Perry** anchored the reply, a super 41 from 29 by **Will Evans** (C.Bay) and a cameo 20 off 9 from skipper **Nick Anderson** (Dids) sealing victory with almost 2 overs in hand. **Barnard** did it again in game two, one of four Cheshire bowlers to claim 2 wkts as Staffs were bowled out for 120. However, Cheshire couldn't get going as **Grant Thornton** claimed 5-12, slumping to 90 all out.

Mon May 2nd: Cheshire decamped to Toft CC for a double-header with a strong Cumbria team who had both **Gary Pratt** and Lancs paceman **Richard Gleeson**. Game one saw Cheshire put into bat, 54 from **Perry** and 42* off 26 from CBH's **Alex Money** lifted the hosts to 147-6. **Steve Green** (Dids) then got rid of the dangerous Pratt and returned 2-15 as Cumbria were restricted to 130-8. Having had their games the day before washed out, it was thought that the visitors might take advantage of a tiring Cheshire outfit, but in game two the hosts dug deep and reached 135-8, taking 74 off the second half of their innings - although the last over was a double wicket maiden. However, another amazing effort in the field, led by Flowery Field's **Michael Finan** (3-20) saw Cumbria stutter to 117-9 after 19. A twist threatened when 10 came off the first two balls of the final over, but Hyde's **Andrew Jackson**, back on familiar territory, held his nerve to concede just three more, and Cheshire were home by 5 runs.

Cheshire, with a highly creditable three wins from four games, were top of NCCA Group 1 heading into their final matches against Northumberland, which involved a considerable journey north on the Saturday evening after a day's league cricket.

Sun May 8th: the well appointed home of the mighty South Northumberland proved very much to Cheshire's liking as the two wins they secured held off a strong challenge from Staffs, who were playing Cumbria on the same day. In game one, Northumberland were restricted to 139-5 after choosing to bat, captain **Nick Anderson** the main man with 3-25, and to his great delight he was one of nine Cheshire batsman not needed after **Rob Sehmi** (86*) (*pictured in action for OP, right*) and **Sam Perry** (51*) took them to a thumping 10 wkt win with almost 5 overs unused. Both batters faced 46 balls, Sehmi in particular imperious, hammering 12 x 4 and 3 x 6 on the back of an unbeaten league ton the day before. However, the jubilation was tempered by discovering Staffs had knocked off 107 in just 7.4 overs to beat Cumbria, which meant Cheshire had to win game two to be sure. Northumberland again chose to bat, their 184-1 (**Alasdair Appleton** a fine 102*) set an imposing target, but having been 113-1 after 10, it should have been more. Any Cheshire nerves were quickly banished as **Sehmi** and **Perry** put on 81 in just 7.4 overs, Sehmi's 53 off 25 (which took his personal boundary tally for the day to 19x4 and 5x6) the catalyst for some dazzling stroke-play as **Harry Dearden** (26 off 18) and **Will Evans** (36* off 15) accompanied **Sam Perry**, 63* off 54, ending the match with a six to complete the remarkable feat of being on the field for the entirety of the two matches.



Along with the rest of the team, Sehmi must be an automatic choice for finals day (sorry Jim!) which takes place at Tring CC (Herts) on Sun May 22nd. Cheshire will face Oxfordshire in s/f 1 (10.00 am start, if you please!) with Dorset taking on Cambs in s/f 2.

Send your feedback and information to: editorclnews101@gmail.com