

# COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS

on behalf of Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)



**AUGUST 20-29 2022**

## All to play for!

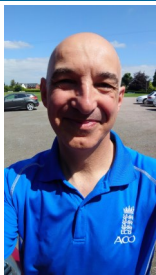
**Tight finishes in every division**

**Nantwich go back to Lords**

**Cheshire safe in 3 day Championship**

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## FROM THE EDITOR



Another beautifully warm and dry month comes to an end and so much remains up for grabs. As ever, it seems to have gone by quite quickly, but there has been plenty of good cricket at all levels to enjoy, and it remains something of a frustration of mine that there is only so much space and time that the newsletter can give to reflecting all that is going on. Enjoying an U13s match recently on a lovely evening at my club, with the barbeque in high demand and a good crowd gathered was another reminder of how much work is put in by so many, at so many clubs, to enable younger players to enjoy the game. Some clubs - but only a minority - publicise their junior achievements, as well as all the other goings-on, effectively and regularly, but the majority still lack a meaningful presence online and I remain as convinced as ever that this one aspect that many clubs miss out on in terms of potential recruitment and retention of members. It's easier than ever to update a twitter feed or website, and also to use photographs

and other media to celebrate great achievements. One media presence that is strong is that of Nantwich, who deserve great credit in reaching another Lords final, their fixtures being squashed into the final few weeks of the season as a result. Earlier in the year Alderley Edge almost got through in the national T20s, Alvanley got a good way into the national Village Cup, while Cheshire County came through an exhausting season to look back on all their feats in the three formats with pride. With the ECB apparently concluding in their recently released 'review' that there needs to be less domestic cricket played it will be interesting to see how that impacts the NCCA side of the game, and women's cricket, which was not included in this initial review. As you may be aware, 'the Hundred' is exempt from any such review and is apparently set in stone for many years to come, and although I personally have no interest in it as a format or as potential viewing, it

can only be a matter of time before county boards are being asked to find time in the calendar to schedule a '100' competition - indeed, it's already a format being tried at junior level. It will be interesting to see what if anything is received as a proposal during the close-season for debate amongst clubs, as it will also be interesting to see if there is any consensus reached on a split-format league season (half of 1st XI games 'timed', the other half win/lose) as has been mooted previously. As all the competitions reach their conclusions there is still much up for grabs, and we can only hope the weather remains as kind as the natural daylight ebbs away that bit quicker. The best of good fortune to all those battling away at summit, and foot! The final newsletter of the season will be published shortly after the last weekend of September 17-18.

*James*



## CHESHIRE CC NEWS

### AMAZING TURNAROUND SECURES DIV 1 STATUS

After two disappointing results in their championship fixtures which left Cheshire staring at the prospect of relegation, Cheshire's match against leaders Berkshire at Nantwich in mid-August assumed even greater importance. Rob Sehmi made 108, Andrew Jackson a rapid 93\* and David Wainwright 89 as Cheshire made 451-8 in their first innings. Berkshire replied with 334-9, then Cheshire, batting again made 220 in some 85 overs, all but ensuring a draw. However, Berkshire's steady second innings was shaken up by losing 3 wickets in 5 balls and Cheshire sensed an opening; after Jackson (8-4-8-3) had done his part, Wainwright (10-5-17-3) and Andrew Dufty (11.2-10-2-4) induced an astonishing collapse, Dufty with the final wicket (pictured above) as Cheshire puled off a stunning 253 run win deep into the last hour.



Spirits were much higher in the Cheshire camp as they made the long journey south to take on Dorset at Wimborne, and a series of solid knocks (Nick Anderson 88\*, Rob Sehmi 73, Ali Chughtai 64 the highlights) helped Cheshire to a stout 385-8 in their first innings. Dorset, needing a win to survive, replied with 357-9 but with poor weather taking time out of the game, Henry Dobson (87) and Sehmi again (60) ensured a draw which meant Cheshire finished a creditable third in the Division (Dorset were relegated, however).



last year but no opportunity availed itself to make the presentations then. (Image: Cheshire CC website).

Pictured: (l-r) Rob Sehmi, Nick Anderson, Sam Perry, & David Wainwright all received their Cheshire caps at Dorset. Anderson was capped this season, the others

# THE STATE OF PLAY

## Your at-a-glance summary of the key issues in each 1st XI division as the season comes to a close

### PREMIER DIVISION

The top flight is neatly split into three groups of four: four teams could potentially be champions (Hyde, Nantwich, Didsbury, Alderley Edge); two of four will be relegated (Bowdon, Toft, Brooklands, Oulton Park) while the other four are mid-table.

### DIVISION ONE

Grappenhall need 3 more points to assure promotion, Cheadle another 17; either side could still go up as champions. At the foot, any two of seven sides - Lindow, Bramhall, Alvanley, Urmston, Macclesfield, Marple, Bollington - could be relegated.

### DIVISION TWO

Stockport Georgians and Romiley are favourites to be promoted with SG more likely to do so as champions. Mobberley could also go up but are dependant on other results. At the foot, two of Upton, Warrington or Hale Barns are most likely to be relegated.

### DIVISION THREE

North East Cheshire are favourites to gain promotion, with one of Maritime, Stockport or Hawk Green joining them. At the foot, either Tattenhall or Runcorn will go down along with already-relegated Barnton.

## GAMES TO WATCH OUT FOR IN SEPTEMBER

**PREMIER DIV:** Hyde's run-in sees them take on Oxton (h), Neston (a) and Bowdon (h); three wins will be the most straightforward way to seal what would be a third Premier Division title and a first since 2015 at Werneth Low. Didsbury and Nantwich's potentially crucial game has been moved from the last day to Sun. 4th due to the scheduling of the National Club Final (see final page) so both clubs will have a double header weekend - Dids taking on Widnes (h) and Nantwich entertaining Bowdon before travelling to Widnes on the 10th, when Didsbury welcome Alderley Edge, who are the other side well within title range. AE's fixture run-in will also have a significant bearing on the battle to avoid the drop, as they entertain both Oulton Park and Brooklands in their final three games. Sept 10th will be a tense day for all four sides at the foot, Bowdon visiting Toft and Oulton Park travelling to Brooklands.

**DIV 1:** Grappers travel to Kingsway on Sept 10th for the game of the day in the division, but at the foot there are many permutations. Marple entertain Bramhall in a critical game on the 3rd, travel to Timperley on the 10th, and then play Cheadle, so their fixtures are testing ones; Lindow's last three games are against clubs also scrapping to stay up - Macclesfield (a), Alvanley (h), then Bollington (a). Bramhall themselves host Macclesfield after their trip to Marple, before their game at Alvanley on the last day, when Macc take on Timperley at Victoria Rd. Alvanley's other Sept fixture is on the 3rd against Sale. Urmston have also slumped at the wrong time and need a win.

**DIV 2:** Georgians travel to Romiley on the 10th in the division's game of the day; Georgians have Port Sunlight and Haslington to play, while Romiley face Cheadle Hulme and finish at Davenham. At the foot, none of the struggling sides play each other in Sept although both Upton and Warrington have Mobberley to take on.

**DIV 3:** NE Cheshire entertain Maritime on the 10th in a crunch match; Stockport travel to Hawk Green on the 3rd and then play Tattenhall and Ashley; Hawk Green have Barnton and Oakmere to play. Tattenhall welcome Runcorn on the 3rd in a big game for both clubs.

## WK 18 - AUGUST 20

**Oxton's** revival, which has all but assured their place in the Premier Division, reached a new high after they claimed a dramatic last ball win at champions **Nantwich** in undoubtedly the result of the day. After the drama of their tie the previous week, Oxton's third win in four was courtesy of their highest total of the season - and in fact, the first time they passed 200 in the league in 2022 - as **Henry Dobson's** superb 131\* (144 bs) and a 3rd wkt psp of 129 in some 32 overs with **Matt Jones** (65) as Oxton totalled 275-8. Nantwich replied fluently enough but fell from 51-0 to 63-3, before **Marcus Stables** found support in the middle order. However, when Stables was run out for 52, hopes of victory faded, and in a tense finale, **Jack Corran** bowled **Mitchell Spencer** with the last ball of the match to seal a 28 run win. The result saw Nantwich down to fourth after the top three all won, leaders **Hyde** overcoming struggling **Oulton Park** by 5 wkts to stay out in front. OP opted to bat at Werneth Low but were suffocated by the relentless home attack, only **Rob Sehmi's** two and a half hour stay for 72 at least meaning some batting pts were claimed. Another strong opening stand between Messers **Partridge** and **Young** (86 in 17.2 os) set the platform for win no.13 of the season. **Didsbury** kept up the pressure with a fourth win in five games, **Noah Croes** hitting an accomplished 106\* (87 bs), he and **Tim Hughes** (50) putting on 105 for the 1st to pave the way for a comfortable 7 wkt win over an under-strength **Neston** side who lost their last 5 wkts for 24, 197 all out the result. **Alderley Edge** also remained very much in the hunt after their impressive league form continued, beating **Chester BH** by a resounding 8 wkts at Moss Lane. **Richard Wilkinson** took 5-51 to see the visitors 220 all out, a disappointment after **Rick Moore** (68) and **Alex Money** (50) had guided them to 104-1 after 24 os. In reply, **Ed Fos-**

**ter** (87\*) and **Sam Perry** (43) added 94 for starters before Foster and **Archie Vaughan** (70) added 126 for the 2nd to seal 25 pts for the twelfth time this season. At the foot of the table it was an especially bad day for **Toft** who were left pointless after a nine wkt hammering by visitors **Brooklands**, **AJ Hart** rampant with 7-29 as the hosts were bowled out for just 77, **Todd Walker** hitting 51 as Brooklands won within 47 overs of playing time. The gloom at Booths Park was deepened further as news of **Bowdon's** dramatic two run win at **Widnes** came through, which renewed hopes of survival at South Downs Rd. **Ross Zelem** hit a superb 121 off 120 bs, but he was out with the score 219-2, which led to a shuddering collapse as Bowdon were dismissed for 240, **Tom Evans** with 5-42. Half centuries from **Kieran Maher** and **Luke McCoy** kept things ticking for Widnes but wkts kept tumbling too, McCoy ninth out at 229. The last pair edged towards the target before **Rob Lord** bowled Evans to pull off a famous win for Bowdon.

## WK 19 - AUGUST 27

All the top four clubs won, three of them by 6 wkts, as the title race hotted up. **Hyde's** 6 wkt win at **Brooklands** was the most straightforward, **Andrew Jackson's** 6-51 leaving his side just 116 to chase, which they did without too much trouble. **Bowdon** were praising the Lord after all-rounder **Rob** made a fantastic 153\* (141 bs) helping his side hammer 96 from the last 10 and set **Didsbury** 256 to win at South Downs Rd. **Tim Hughes** (43) and **Noah Croes** (111) made it successive century opening stands as they added 118 in 19 overs, Croes making it

A c&b at Toft was their only wicket against Brooklands on Aug 20th



IMAGE: JEFF TENNER, TOFT CC WEBSITE

back-to-back tons as a series of solid knocks saw Dids to victory in the 47th over. A rare wicketless spell by **Phil Stockton** was of no consequence to **Nantwich** as **Mitchell Spencer's** 6-35 saw **Neston** crumble from 176-2 (**Luke Jones** 75, **Dane Williams** 63) to 200 all out. Fifties from **Marcus Stables** and **Spencer Byatt** - and 37 extras - saw Nantwich cruise home inside 30 overs. **Ed Foster** (110) and **Sam Perry** (57) put on 127 as **AE** pursued **Widnes'** 249-8 at Beaconsfield Rd, although what looked like a walk in the park became a very tense last over win for AE by just 2 wkts as the hosts fought back hard. A runfest at Townfield Lane saw almost 600 runs scored, **Oxton** making light of their battling struggles this season with a massive 349-2 dec against a bruised **Toft** attack. **Luke Filer** (163 off 182) and **Joe Mennie** (96 off 104) each played superb knocks, adding 240 for the 1st in good time. **O'Shay Reddy's** 80 led the determined Toft response, as they just held on at 239-9 to claim a vital 5 pts. Despite a wonderful 147\* from **Oulton Park's** **Rob Sehmi**, a **Chester BH** batting display of yore saw them make light work of a daunting 286 target as **Alex Money** (83), **Rick Moore** (73) and **James Duffy** (69) eased the visitors home by 6 wkts in the 46th over. All of which meant the bottom four were separated by just 7 pts at the end of another amazing day.

# CCCL PREMIER DIV STATS - AUG 22



TEAM	PTS	HIGHEST	LOWEST	TOP BATTER	TOP WKTS
HYDE	385	372-3	92	LUKE YOUNG - 735	DANIEL CRANMER - 50
DIDSBURY	370	299-7	150	NOAH CROES - 748	STEVE GREEN - 45
ALDERLEY EDGE	368	271-5	152	SAM PERRY - 841	JAMES NAYLOR - 34
NANTWICH	356	306-6	118	MARCUS STABLES - 859	OLLY GRIFFITHS - 38
CHESTER BH	299	302-8	112	RICK MOORE - 686	JACK WILLIAMS - 32
NESTON	250	257-6	72	LUKE CAMDEN - 534	ROWAN SHELTON - 48
OXTON	247	349-2	97	LUKE FILER - 506	JORDAN COLLIER - 45
WIDNES	238	310-4	99	KIERAN MAHER - 597	QAMAR HAFIZ - 41
BROOKLANDS	196	331-7	62	TODD WALKER - 659	A.J.HART - 48
OULTON PARK	192	273-7	91	MARTYN EAST - 768	ANDREW DUFTY - 26
BOWDON	189	270-6	38	ROB LORD - 531	ROB LORD - 33
TOFT	189	273-7	91	ROB JONES - 471	TOM FORSTER - 19

AUG FORM GUIDE	
TEAM	PTS
DIDSBURY	91
ALDERLEY EDGE	86
OXTON	81
HYDE	70
NANTWICH	64
BOWDON	48
OULTON PARK	41
CHESTER BH	40
BROOKLANDS	38
TOFT	38
NESTON	36
WIDNES	36

LEADING RUNS	
PLAYER	RUNS
MARCUS STABLES	859
SAM PERRY	841
MARTYN EAST	768
ROB SEHMI	767
NOAH CROES	748
LUKE YOUNG	735

LEADING WKTS	
PLAYER	WKTS
DANIEL CRANMER	50
ROWAN SHELTON	48
A.J.HART	48
ANDREW JACKSON	47
STEVE GREEN	45
JORDAN COLLIER	45

**WICKETKEEPERS & FIELDERS**  
**Spencer Byatt** of Nantwich has 23 ct, 5 st, to lead the w/k stats at present, followed by Brooklands' Dan O'Gorman (17/4) and Hyde's Adam Worrall (16/3). Bowdon's Oliver Simons (18/1) and Widnes' Chris Kirby (15/4) each have claimed 19 victims.  
 With 16 catches, Brooklands' **Kevin Carroll** is the leading outfielder, with CBH's **Alex Money** having 14 catches and 2 run out victims.

## PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

### 20 August

Henry Dobson 131\*, Oxt v Nant; Ross Zelem 121, Bowd v Wid; Noah Croes 106\*, Dids v Nest; AJ Hart 7-29, Brook v Toft; Tom Evans 5-42, Wid v Bow; Richard Wilkinson 5-51, AE v CBH; Steve Green 5-70, Dids v Nest

### 27 August

Luke Filer 163\*, Oxt v Toft; Rob Lord 153\*, Bowd v Dids; Rob Sehmi 147\*, OP v CBH; Noah Croes 111, Dids v Bowd; Ed Foster 110, AE v Wid; Joe Mennie 96 (& 1-40), Oxt v Toft; Mitchell Spencer 6-35, Nant v Nest; Andrew Jackson 6-51, Hyde v Brook; Jordan Collier 5-73, Oxt v Toft



## WK 18 - AUGUST 20

Leaders **Grappenhall** were in the unusual situation of battling to stave off defeat on match day 18, after **Lindow's Max Law** (79) and **Gus Watson** (70) helped take their team to 230-5 at Broad Lane and set Grappers a testing chase. Youngster **Will Espley** (5-42) led the visitors attack really well, dismissing key man **Grant Hodnett** (73) which left Grappers 174-4 in the 41st. Four overs later the board read 188-8 and when **Ben Bodha** fell for a hard-fought 45, the last pair had to hold on for two uncomfortable overs, which they did as Grappers finished 199-9. Despite this narrow squeak, their three-year absence from the Prem was all but confirmed after **Timperley's** loss at **Cheadle**, Grappers needing a handful of points to assure promotion. Cheadle themselves almost there from their remaining matches to ensure an immediate return to the top flight, **Will Holmes** 5-47 the highlight as they bowled out an unusually subdued Timpers for just 175 at Kingsway. **Adam Dooler** blazed 98 as he and **Ben Marsden** (57\*) added 139 for the 1st, Cheadle winners by 5 wkts. The main interest in the Division after all of this was at the foot, where any two of six clubs were notionally left staring at relegation, although **Bollington**, despite a heartening 6 wkt derby day win at **Macclesfield** (**Jack Ward** 91\*, **Ben Gibson** 68) need a miracle, still 58 pts from safety, while Macc themselves are very much in the relegation dogfight. With **Lindow's** maximum pts draw it was not a good day for **Bramhall** to slump as they did at **Congleton**. Asked to bat, no Cong batter reached 50 but some useful contributions, and 36 extras, saw a total of 189-9 posted. Bramhall's top four were dismissed inside 14 overs and the visitors never recovered, all out 116, meaning a nervous last four games ahead. **Alvanley** are also right in the mix after a batting seizure at **Urmston** saw them crash from 65-0 to 118-9, the last pair biffing a few to claim what could be vital batting pts, but 79\* from **Matt Thomas** and a rumbustious 49\* from **Matt Kilcourse** eased the hosts to a 7 wkt win and all but confirm their place in Div 1 for another year. **Marple's** topsy-turvy season continued with a heavy defeat at home to **Sale**, **Josh Patel** taking 5-36 as the hosts could only muster 123, Sale racing to an 8 wkt triumph inside 21 overs. Another game like this - and with their next two games against Lindow and Bramhall - and Marple's end to 2022 could be a very edgy one indeed.....



MARPLE'S MAX FITZGERALD BOWLS TO DAN NEWTON (image: Marple CC)

Church Lane side, it will do for now. Bramhall came a cropper chasing 161 to beat **Grappenhall**, losing a wicket off the first ball of their reply and folding for 140. Bramhall's run of one win in five has put added spice into their game at Marple, both sides now shifting uncomfortably but both still well able to escape. As for Grappers, after a 15th win of the season, they need just three more points to guarantee promotion back to the Prem after a three year absence. **Cheadle** are really well placed for an immediate Prem return after **Liam Fitzpatrick's** breathtaking 120\* (78 bs, 10x4, 10x6) saw them race to a 9 wkt walloping of **Urmston**, Fitzpatrick helping to add an unbroken 172 for the second wkt in the process as well as taking a wicket earlier too. Urmston are still mathematically involved in the relegation issues but in reality another win should suffice for them. That is far from the case for **Macclesfield**, who suffered an eleventh reverse of the season and are very much in the thick of it at the wrong end after a hiding at **Sale**, who knocked off their paltry 113 target in under 20 overs. **Pat Ashling** hit a run-a-ball 59 which leaves him 14 away for 1,000 league runs, a truly impressive achievement. **Alvanley** sealed a crucial win for them in a tight squeak at their place, coming out on top against **Bollington** by 15 runs and moving 26 pts away from the drop zone as result. Alv were really in the soup at 128-8 but got the total upto 168. That still seemed inadequate when **Rick Hough** and **Ben Gibson** (78 off 88) added 85 for the 1st, but **Ben Tumilty** and skipper **Michael Rowlands** each took 5 wkts, Gibson departing at 127-4 and Bolly slumping to 153, now 59 pts from safety and looking doomed. **Timperley** kept up their hopeful pursuit of the top two with a five wkt win over **Congleton** in an entertaining tussle at Stockport Rd. **Jonathan Fowler's** 6-60 seeing Cong all out for 191. In reply, Timpers were in a spot of bother at 79-4 but a fine unbeaten 78 from **Ed Galley** helped ensure the 25 pts.

## WK 19 - AUGUST 27 ...and it did indeed come to pass that **Marple** found **Lindow** too hot to handle, skipper **Alex Matthews** with 5-30 at Upcast Lane as they bowled the visitors out for 153, with 60 apiece from **Max Law** and **Charlie Hodge** taking Lindow to a 6 wkt win and lifting them out of the bottom three. This was due to another defeat for **Bramhall**, and although is only a one point cushion from the

# CCCL DIV ONE STATS - AUG 22



TEAM	PTS	HIGHEST	LOWEST	TOP BATTER	TOP WKTS
GRAPPENHALL	404	233-4	171	GRANT HODNETT - 638	IAN HALL - 27
CHEADLE	390	271-5	68	LIAM FITZPATRICK - 876	WILL HOLMES - 44
TIMPERLEY	331	287-7	115	JONATHAN FLETCHER - 701	JONATHAN FOWLER-35
SALE	304	267-8	62	PAT ASHLING - 986	TYRONE LAWRENCE-33
CONGLETON	283	269-7	108	ALI AZMAT - 476	MUHAMMAD KASHIF-52
URMSTON	255	251-6	81	HARRY SINGH - 562	CALLUM STOW - 42
ALVANLEY	250	260-6	98	JARRYD BASSON - 523	CHRIS CHARLES - 24
MARPLE	248	264-4	125	MARK BENNETT - 548	JOE CASH - 29
MACCLESFIELD	232	258-3	65	ROB PORTER - 352	CRAIG MELROSE - 36
LINDOW	225	284-5	94	JOHAN WESSELS - 889	WILL ESLEY - 35
BRAMHALL	224	258-3	65	NICK CANTELLO - 779	SIMON WILKINSON & SEAN McNICHOLL - 35
BOLLINGTON	166	240	85	BEN GIBSON - 648	M.HAROON CHEEMA-23

## AUG FORM GUIDE

TEAM	PTS
CHEADLE	85
GRAPPENHALL	81
ALVANLEY	80
TIMPERLEY	73
LINDOW	70
CONGLETON	68
SALE	65
URMSTON	56
BRAMHALL	44
BOLLINGTON	43
MARPLE	37
MACCLESFIELD	17

## LEADING RUNS

PLAYER	RUNS
PAT ASHLING	986
JOHAN WESSELS	889
LIAM FITZPATRICK	876
NICK CANTELLO	779
JONATHAN FLETCHER	701
BEN GIBSON	648

## LEADING WKTS

PLAYER	WKTS
MUHAMMAD KASHIF	52
WILL HOLMES	44
CALLUM STOW	42
JOSH DOOLER	41
JOHN COPELAND	38
CRAIG MELROSE	36

### WICKETKEEPERS & FIELDERS

Congleton's **Jacob Wilshaw**, with 15 stumpings & 13 catches (and a r/o) is top of the keeper stats to date, with Cheadle's Greg Dixon (16 ct/10 st), Bolly's James Longhorn (19/1) and Timperley's Jonathan Fletcher (17/2) next on the list.

Cheadle trio **Will Holmes, Josh Dooler and Dan Brown** have 13 catches each this season, making them the leading outfielders.

### PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

20 Aug: Adam Dooler 98, Chead v Timp; Jack Ward 91\* (& 3-64) Boll v Macc; Josh Patel 5-36, Sale v Marp; Will Esley 5-42, Lind v Grapp; Will Holmes 5-47 Chead v Timp; Matt Kilcourse 49\* (& 4-21), Urm v Alv.

27 Aug: Liam Fitzpatrick 120\*, Chead v Urm; Jonathan Fowler 6-60, Timp v Cong; Michael Rowlands 5-20, Alv v Boll; Ben Tumilty 5-22, Alv v Boll; Alex Matthews 5-30, Lind v Marp

## WK 18 - AUGUST 20

It was very much a case of 'as you were' after Saturday's fixtures, with the top three all winning and two of the bottom three losing. **Stockport Georgians** got themselves properly dusted down after the previous weeks' loss, although a 3 wkt win after chasing just 149 against lowly **Upton** was perhaps not as convincing as they might have hoped, but it was very much a case of 'never mind the quality, feel the points' at Flowery Field. All too familiar batting frailties saw the visitors tumble from 37-0 to 50-5, as Messers **Locke** and **Normanton** spun their way through the top order, so 148 was a creditable effort from the tail. However, Georgians' strong batting line up was much less fluent than earlier in the season, Upton causing a few butterflies as they reduced them to 33-4 in reply before Normanton (34) inspired the lower order who cobbled together effective partnerships to seal the win. **Romiley** kept their grip on second spot with an easy 9 wkt win over **Christleton**, who were back down to earth with a real crash after scoring 270 the week previous, succumbing for just 88 at Birchvale Drive. **James Badrock** and **Mark Flattley** took four wkts apiece as the match was concluded within 55 overs. **Mobberley** remained just about in touch with the top two with their fourth win in a row, this one a 143 run spanking of **Davenham**, who were initially pleased with their

choice to field first at Butchers' Stile as **Sohaib Butt** (out hit wicket for 0) and **Sam Gainsford** (5) both fell cheaply, but 76 from **Osman Butt** and 50s from **Matt Mounthey** and **Ibrar Latif** enabled Mobb to declare after 46 overs on 254-6. Gainsford then took 4-11 as Davenham folded for just 111. At the other end of the table, **Port Sunlight** fell in a heap at **Hale Barns**. PS reached 95-2 with **Steve Graham** continuing his fine form, but his run out for 44 was part of a sequence which saw PS go from 138-6 to 140 all out. **Joshua Agar's** good season then continued with 62 anchoring a crucially successful chase for HB, who were further boosted by news of **Haslington's** 65 run win at **Warrington**, where the hosts battled hard from 53-7 in pursuit of 190, but ultimately fell short. In the other match, **Cheadle Hulme's** faint promotion hopes were all but mathematically extinguished after what became an attritional draw with **Ashton OM**. After losing a wkt to the first ball of the match, CH recovered with some sparkling strokeplay led by **Adam Wilde's** 106, but their 280-6 proved beyond AOM's ambitions, as **Henry Murray's** 90 led their reply of 211-6.

## WK 19 - AUGUST 27

**Stockport Georgians** made short work of a **Cheadle Hulme** side who have well and truly faded in August, bottom of the form guide for the month and

totally outplayed at Grove Park, all out 105 and going down to a third heavy loss in four. SG remain in pole promotion position but **Mobberley's** fantastic form has propelled them into serious contention, 202 pts out of a possible 225 attained in their last 9 matches. Their latest win came after a brilliant chase of 250 set by lowly **Hale Barns**, **Joe Cooper's** 105 the centrepiece. But another well paced chase with all six batters contributing solidly saw Mobb make use of the extra over they gained to record a fifth win on the trot. **Romiley** remain second after a good team performance in their 5 wkt win at **Ashton OM**, five batters making 30 or more. At the bottom it is looking bleak for **Upton**, **Jack Taylor's** fine all-round performance for **Haslington** (4-23 followed by 58) proving too much for the Wirral side who are now 37 pts from safety after going winless in August. Just how crucial the draw point a dogged **Warrington** side attained at **Port Sunlight** remains to be seen, after **Simon Melberz's** 93 took PS to 260-6. **Muhammad Abid** played a lone hand as Warrington collapsed, teetering on 94-7 before **Aamir Ali** made 46 and helped Abid add 104 for the 8th before the latter was run out for 93. Skipper **Ashley Scholes** played out the last over as Warrington finished on 216-9. In the other game **Christleton** drew with **Davenham**.

## PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

### 20 August

Adam Wilde 106, CH v AOM  
Henry Murray 90, AOM v CH  
Joe Cooper 7-46 (& 20), HB v PS  
Jack Taylor 44 (& 3-47), Has v Warr

### 27 August

Joe Cooper 105 (& 2-61), HB v Mobb  
Simon Melberz 93, PS v Warr  
Muhammad Abid 93, Warr v PS  
Mark Flattley 5-38, Rom v AOM  
Jack Taylor 58 & 4-23, Hasl v Upt

## DIVISION TWO TABLE AND FORM GUIDE

TEAM	PTS	AUGUST FORM	PTS
STOCK. GEORGIANS	366	MOBBERLEY	100
ROMILEY	351	HASLINGTON	82
MOBBERLEY	319	STOCK.GEORGIANS	80
HASLINGTON	275	ROMILEY	67
CHEADLE HULME	264	HALE BARNs	66
PORT SUNLIGHT	258	PORT SUNLIGHT	57
CHRISTLETON	250	CHRISTLETON	53
ASHTON-ON-MERSEY	244	ASHTON OM	48
DAVENHAM	240	DAVENHAM	40
HALE BARNs	227	WARRINGTON	39
WARRINGTON	215	UPTON	23
UPTON	190	CHEADLE HULME	22

TOP BATTERS	RUNS	BEST
BRAD MUNRO (CHRIS)	883	130*
MAX DUNVABAND (CHRIS.)	712	118
JOSHUA AGAR (H.B.)	674	120

TOP BOWLERS	WKTS	BEST
STEVE GRAHAM (P.S.)	57	7-46
SIMON NORMANTON (S.G.)	52	8-52
ALEX JONES (S.G.)	50	7-14





# CCCL DIVISION THREE



## WK 18 - AUGUST 20

A day when arguably the shock result of the season in Div 3 really put the fox amongst the pigeons. **North East Cheshire's** five match winning streak came to an unexpected but decisive end at lowly **Tattenhall**, scrapping like mad for survival and boosting their chances with a splendid 44 run win. The man of the match was skipper **Tom Hyslop**, who rolled back the years with a magnificent 143 (132 bs, 20x4, 4x6) which dominated proceedings, and was some two-thirds of the Tatt total of 217 (and in fact was three-quarters of his side's score when Hyslop was sixth out at 193). As if that wasn't enough, Hyslop then took the first NEC wicket on a day when the leaders just couldn't get going with the bat and were all out 173 - which, curiously, was the total they bowled Tatt out for in the reverse fixture in June. This news from the Flacca was a real boost for **Maritime**, for whom **Vensakar Kanthiraj** produced an unbelievable display, his 5-46 followed up by 105\* at almost a run-a-ball as they knocked off 210 at **Ashley** to win by 5 wkts. **Hawk Green** were similarly lifted, clearly in no mood to trifle as **Kingsley** were blown away by 9 wkts, all out 102 before skipper **Josh Hampson's** 54\* ensured a pointless day for the unfortunate visitors. **Winnington Park's** **Sam Barnes** carried his bat for 81\* as his side made 222-7 against **Barrow**, who were soon in a real how-do-you-do at 12-3, only three

batters making double figures as **Neil Langham's** 6-33 saw them all out for 97. A vital win for WP in their quest to avoid the drop, as was **Runcorn's** nail-biting 7 run win over **Oakmere**. **Will Magee** made 80 and **Ian Cherry** a lower order 42\* which ushered Runcorn to 220. Although detail is sketchy, Oakmere got themselves into a terrific position thanks to 75 from Ciaran McDonnell and 87 from Zander Potgeiter but a dramatic collapse ensued which saw them all out for 213. Meanwhile **Barnton's** 8 wkt loss at **Stockport** formally confirmed their relegation, whilst also ensuring the Cale Green side kept the pressure on the top two after their 12th league win of 2022.

## WK 19 - AUGUST 27

**Stockport's** perfect month put them right in the promotion hunt, their 5 wkt win over **Oakmere** a little on the scratchy side but still with plenty to spare, 50\* from **Naveed Gondal** the highest score of the match. That result kept the pressure on leaders **North East Cheshire**, who beat out-of-form **Ashley** in a low scoring struggle at London Rd, making hard work of the 103 they needed after alarm bells were sounding at 15-3. Ashley's fourth defeat in a row saw them slip out of promotion contention and effectively leave it to Maritime and Hawk Green to jostle with the other two clubs highlighted. **Maritime**

made short work of **Barrow** who laboured for almost 42 overs but made just 60, Maritime mercifully putting the game out of its misery in just 10.1 overs. **Hawk Green's** **Jordan Henderson** took 6-51 as struggling **Runcorn** failed to build on **James Wells' 65**, going from 102-3 to 141 all out, and then were unable to finish the job after reducing HG to 70-5, Henderson to the rescue with the bat this time, making 20\* as **Pete Richards** (40\*) secured the points. Runcorn's trip home was made worse by learning that **Tattenhall** had pulled off a brilliant win at **Kingsley**. The two captains were the star players, Tatt's **Tom Hyslop** continuing his golden summer with a rasping 96 (85 bs) as Tatt totalled 198, **Tom Eyley** with 6-49. Hyslop was then in action with 3 wkts as Kingsley fell to 104-7, but Eyley marshalled his tail with 56, his stand with the last man worth 33 as Tatt nerves started to jangle before Eyley finally fell. All of which set up Runcorn's visit to Tattenhall on Sept 3rd very nicely, the same day that Stockport travel to Hawk Green in what will be two huge games in the Division. In the other match a fine all round display by **Johnny Wales** decisively settled the mid-Cheshire derby as **Winnington Park** won comfortably at **Barnton**.

### PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

#### 20 August

Tom Hyslop 143, Tatt v NEC  
Vensakar Kanthiraj 105\* and 5-46,  
Mar v Ash

Neil Langham 6-33, WP v Barr  
Will Magee 80 (& 3-13) Runc v Oak  
27 August

Tom Hyslop 96 (& 3-31), Tatt v King  
Tom Eyley 6-49 (& 56), King v Tatt  
Jordan Henderson 6-51 (& 20\*), HG v Runc  
Toby Carson 5-28, NEC v Ash  
Johnny Wales 53\* & 3-23, WP v Barn

### DIVISION THREE TABLE AND FORM GUIDE

TEAM	PTS	AUGUST FORM	PTS
NORTH EAST CHESHIRE	401	STOCKPORT	100
MARITIME	370	WINNINGTON PARK	84
STOCKPORT	365	TATTENHALL	83
HAWK GREEN	345	NORTH EAST CHESHIRE	89
KINGSLEY	280	MARITIME	82
ASHLEY	276	HAWK GREEN	79
WINNINGTON PARK	252	RUNCORN	56
BARROW	248	OAKMERE	44
OAKMERE	248	KINGSLEY	37
TATTENHALL	214	BARROW	32
RUNCORN	200	ASHLEY	20
BARNTON	43	BARNTON	7

TOP BATTERS	RUNS	BEST
VENSAKAR KANTHIRAJ (MAR)	722	105*
TOM HYSLOP (TATT)	701	158
ROB MAGEE (RUNCORN)	680	152

TOP BOWLERS	WKTS	BEST
NAVEED GONDAL (STOCK)	53	7-18
HAKEEM RAUF (MAR)	44	6-20
DAVE OLDFIELD (N.E.C)	38	5-11

DIDSBURY CC, SUNDAY 28th AUGUST

## DIDSBURY 3s RETAIN JACK GARDNER TROPHY

Didsbury 3s' splendid run in the T20 competition continued with a fourth successive victory in front of a large crowd at their home ground.



### SEMI-FINAL 1

**DIDSBURY 187-4 (20 os) beat Stockport Georgians 113 (19 os) by 74 runs**

Holders Didsbury were in some difficulty after the powerplay, just three boundaries and a score of 38-2 as Georgians got on top with some impressive bowling. However, the field was suddenly scattered after the powerplay and **Adam Slater** in particular made hay, his 79 off 39 (11x4, 3x6) seeing 96 added off the next 9 with **Jamie Collinge** as Didsbury gained total control. A five over stand of 51\* between Collinge and captain **John Battersby** left Georgians contemplating 9 an over to win, and despite taking 22 off the first two, the run-rate pressure was too much as Didsbury ran out comfortable winners.



### SEMI-FINAL 2



**ASHLEY 129-6 (20 os) beat North East Cheshire 124-8 (20) by 5 runs**

A remarkable turnaround saw unfancied Ashley go through. Put into bat, the Ashley batters struggled for fluency but **Mohammed Kamran** (42\* off 42) and **Farrukh Subhani** (pictured, 43 off 41) stuck around and saw 45 added off the last 5 overs. N.E. Cheshire were progressing serenely at 52-0 after 7 but the loss of 5 wkts in 16 balls saw the jitters set in as Ashley sensed an opening. The wickets kept falling and the dot balls kept mounting as 15 were needed off the last over, which Ashley kept contained, to the delight of their sizeable band of supporters.

### FINAL

**DIDSBURY 121-5 (15.3 os) beat Ashley 118-8 (20) by 5 wkts**

Having unexpectedly made it to the final, Ashley opted to bat first and although they found boundaries hard to come by (just 7x4 and 1x6 in the first 15 overs), they kept wickets intact, and when **Farrukh Subhani** (48) took 19 off over 16 to make the score 107-3, a challenging total looked on the cards. However, a disappointing collapse in the face of accurate bowling saw a final total of 118-8, and when Didsbury, thanks to some excellent strokeplay and untidy bowling, raced to 54-0 after 5 overs, the match looked over. An extraordinary passage of play then followed as 5 wkts fell in the next 13 deliveries for just 6 more runs, the tension amongst the large crowd in fading light palpable as Didsbury were reeling. Thankfully for them, **Enam Hoque** (43\*) and **Finn Lowe** (17\*) stayed calm and their increasingly assured stand of 61\* off 9.3 overs saw off a plucky effort from underdogs Ashley, the T20 trophy remaining at Didsbury for a fourth successive season.



# 2ND XI DIVISIONS - AUGUST 20 & 27

**AT A GLANCE SUMMARY: PREMIER DIVISION** - CHESTER BH or DIDSBURY will be champions; two of HYDE, BOWDON, O.PARK or A.EDGE will be relegated. **DIV 1** - LINDOW and BROOKLANDS lead, UPTON & DIDS 2As are both 52 pts adrift at the foot. **DIV 2** - ALVANLEY need 5 pts to assure promotion, BRAMHALL or CHEADLE HULME will join them; CONGLETON & URMSTON are 27 and 12 pts away from safety respectively. **DIV 3** - Any two of five sides (HASLINGTON, STOCKPORT, CBH 3s, LYMM OP, ASHLEY) could gain promotion; MOBBERLEY & IRBY are at the bottom.

**Chester BH** and **Didsbury 2s** kept their winning runs going on **August 20th** to see the 9 point gap between the top two remain in place. Both recorded win 15 of the season against the bottom two, **Chester** winning by 5 wks against **Hyde**, a result which sent the Werneth Low side back to the bottom of the table (but only just). **Didsbury** won with little fuss at **Bowdon**, their 8 wkt win also leaving their hosts in the relegation spots. However, **Alderley Edge**, struggling for so much of 2022, did themselves a power of good with a thumping 8 wkt triumph of their own, beating basement rivals **Oulton Park** to leave OP just 8 pts outside the drop zone while themselves opening up a handy 26 pt gap to those relegation spots. AE's **Calum Wilson** (68\*) and **Tejas Rao** (60) put together a big stand to give their side a crucial 25 pts. Elsewhere, **Oxton** skipper **Richard Fennah** took 3-31 and then made a vital 29\* at no.8 to guide his side to a 3 wkt win over **Nantwich**, a result which all but killed off any faint hopes the Dabbers had of claiming second spot. **David Hurst** made 109 and **Chris Hackett** 60 for Neston as they reached 228-8 against visitors **Cheadle**, who replied with 231-6, **Dan Osborne's** 67 and 59 from **Matt Samuels** the highlights of an excellent win. **Grant Whittaker** made 52\* and then took 5-30 as **Sale** claimed a 100 run win over **Toft**.

2ND XI PREM	PTS
CHESTER BH	435
DIDSBURY	426
NANTWICH	362
OXTON	288
NESTON	278
CHEADLE	273
SALE	238
TOFT	219
ALDERLEY EDGE	189
HYDE	181
OULTON PARK	169
BOWDON	165

The main interest in the division on **August 27th** was the switcharound at the foot of the table. **Hyde** produced a dominant performance to beat **Oulton Pk** by 8 wks (**Zak Kelly** 81\*) which saw them out of the drop zone, Bowdon slipping back to bottom spot after losing at **Nantwich**, for whom **Phil Marsh** made 131 as the Dabbers won by 4 wks. **Alderley Edge** lost at **Sale** by 5 wks (**Grant Whittaker** again to the fore with 3-43 and 51) leaving four clubs separated by 24 pts with three games each to play. At the top, 63 apiece from **Matthew Griffiths** and **Luke Ramsay** helped **Chester BH** to a 10 wkt win against **Neston** while **Tom Bidwell** made 81 and **Ed Catt** took 5-5 as **Didsbury** beat **Cheadle** by 132 runs. **Will Clayton** made 95 for Oxton in their win at Toft, **Richard Fennah** 6-48.

## 2ND XI DIVISION 1

**Aug 20:** **Lindow's** lead at the top was reduced after they lost at home to **Grappenhall**, and **Brooklands** - thanks to an opening psp of 165 (**Ben Cunliffe** 82, **Mark Bloomfield** 77) - beat **Marple** by 7 wks. Marple remain third and **H.Mersey** fourth, although they lost ground after losing to **Georgians**. At the bottom **Upton's** hopes of survival suffered a blow after they lost at **Macc**, while **Didsbury 2A** were 54 pts from safety after **Widnes' Aaron Soni** made 111 in a drawn game. **Aug 27:** the top two both won, **Syed Bilal Hussain Shah** making 81\* for **Lindow** as they beat **Marple** while **Brooklands** bowled **Georgians** out for 99. **H.Mersey** recorded a much needed 71 run win over **Macc** to stay on their heels. The bottom two met and although **Upton** beat **Dids 2As** by 4 wks, both sides remain some way adrift. **Romiley's Paul Stuart** made 81 at no.8 to help his side pull off a 10 run win over **Widnes**.

## 2ND XI DIVISION 2

**Aug 20:** **Alvanley 's** **Mark Szymura** made 85\* in their 5 wkt win over Warrington which all but assured their promotion but the other promotion spot was up for grabs after **Bramhall** lost heavily to local rivals **C.Hulme**, who are just 20 behind Bram now. At the bottom, **Congleton** got a crucial win at **Ashton OM** while **Bollington's** whopping 118 run win over **Urmston** gave them a 25 pt cushion from the drop zone. **H.Barns'** opening pair added 172 in their 9 wkt win at **P.Sunlight** which aided their survival hopes. **Tom Jones** took 8-26 for **Neston** against **Davenham**. **Aug 20:** **Bramhall** inflicted a rare defeat on leaders **Alvanley** although both clubs are most likely to go up. Bottom club **Congleton** pulled off a shock win over third place **C.Hulme** to boost their hopes of survival, while fellow strugglers **Urmston** also won. **Bollington** were frustrated by **Thomas Jones' 63\*** off 158 bs as they drew with **Warrington**.

## 2ND XI DIVISION 3

**Aug 20:** **Haslington** swept aside 10-man **Irby** (55 all out) to go back to the top. **Stockport's Robert Barber** made 124 as his side beat **Oakmere** by 5 wks, for whom **Henry Young** made 128\*. **CBH 3s** beat **Mobberley** by 8 wks but **Lymm OP** were frustrated by **Tattenhall** who batted out to draw in a match featuring 73 extras. **Ashley** were also held - just - by **Barrow**, but the top spots remained up for grabs. **Aug 27:** **Haslington** beat **Ashley** to stay top by 19 pts from **CBH 3s**, for whom **Ben Harvey** made 103\* in their 68 run win over promotion rivals **Stockport**. **Lymm OP** returned from their long trip to **Irby** with a 5 wkt win, Irby 20 pts shy of safety. **Mobberley** are even further adrift after suffering a 184 run caning at **Tattenhall**, for whom **Tilip Kumar Sappani** took 6-18. **Oakmere's** loss to **Upton 3s** leaves them just outside the drop zone.

# CHESHIRE SHIELD 2022

THE CHESHIRE SHIELD FINAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4 AT MOBBERLEY CC, WITH MOBBERLEY PLAYING ROMILEY, 12.30pm START.

Two contrasting semi-finals were played on August 21st.

**BIRCHVALE DRIVE: ROMILEY (219-8, 40 os) beat Sandbach (94, 29 os) by 125 runs.**

TRIUMPHANT ROMILEY APPLAUDED OFF



A remarkable comeback by hosts Romiley saw them coast through to the final in front of a good-sized crowd. Choosing to bat first, a succession of poorly-executed shots saw Romiley slump to 108-8 in the 23rd over, some sharp catches by the Sandbach side putting them into a strong position. Alex Hooton (74\*) and James Bashford (27\*) then turned proceedings around completely, the pair adding an unbroken and largely untroubled 111 for the 9th wkt to make a mockery of what had gone on before. With the mood of the match completely changed, Sandbach never got to grips with the required run rate, Conah McFarlane's patient 47\* their only double figure score.

**CHURCH LANE: MOBBERLEY (226-7, 40 os) beat Maritime (217, 39 os) by 9 runs.**

Sadly, no details were available for what looked to have been a close-run thing for the home side, as Div 3 Maritime's great run in the Shield came to an end.



# CHESHIRE CUP 2022

THE CHESHIRE CUP FINAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH AT BIRKENHEAD PARK CC, 12.00 NOON START  
The semi-finals were played on Sunday 28th August.

**BIRKENHEAD PK:**

**BIRKENHEAD PARK 201-4 (36.5 os) BEAT WIDNES 200-8 (40 os) BY 6 WKTS**

Widnes started brightly but slipped from 55-0 to 75-4, and although a solid effort from the mid-lower order took them to 200-8, but despite an early breakthrough, BP's increasingly assured batting effort saw them through to the final.

**LONDON RD: NANTWICH 64-2 (16.1 os) BEAT ELWORTH 60 (23.1 os) BY 8 WKTS**

Nantwich's impressive form continued as they doled out a thrashing after choosing to field first. A burst of 3 wickets in 7 balls had Elworth in severe difficulty at 19-5 after just 5 overs, the hosts limping to a penurious 60 as Olly Griffiths finished things with 4-4. Nantwich had little difficulty knocking off the runs in a match which lasted barely 40 overs.



## NANTWICH AT LORDS - AGAIN!

Nantwich hammered Wallasey by 8 wkts in front of a big home crowd on Aug 21st to claim a place in the National Club Final, where they will take on Bexley CC at Lords on Saturday Sept 17th. Nantwich were in total control of their semi-final opponents, putting Wallasey in and thence reducing them to 49-7 in the 14th over, the prolific Phil Stockton (4-39) and Jimmy Warrington (2-16) shredding the Wallasey top order. A stand of 63 for the 8th spanning some 20 overs put a sheen of respectability on things for Wallasey, but a total of 133 was never likely to trouble the Dabbers who eased home, Luke Robinson whacking 46\* off 21 as he and

Chris Simpson (39\*) completed the chase inside 27 overs. There were great celebrations afterwards as Nantwich reached their second Lords final in the last four years in what will be a busy end to the season for the club.

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