

COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS

on behalf of Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)



TRIAL EDITION

At the business end!

Tight tussle for the Prem
Hyde close in on top flight return
Brooklands eye up Division 1

Plus news from 2nd & 3rd XI cricket

Over 40s T20 Finals Days
Cheshire Cups UK Fast League



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August 2018



CCCL PREMIER LEAGUE IN AUGUST

A quick word with **DANNY LEECH**



It's been a hugely enjoyable return to the Prem for Oulton Park, who after a number of years in Division 1 have re-established themselves as a top flight club, in no small part thanks to the runs that have flowed from Danny's bat. 748 and counting to be precise, including no ducks and a best of 154 against CBH. *"That was a brilliant game of cricket"* said Danny. *"These days I need 55 overs to have a chance of making a really big score! But even though we lost that one, and we saw Cheadle knock off 300 against us to win, I've enjoyed the year so much. Great conditions, being up against really skilful bowlers - there is a real quality to Premier League cricket."* And how has being Cheshire's 3-day captain affected him? *"Well, the travelling doesn't get any easier - playing a hard Premier League game and then going to Cornwall, arriving at 4am and having to play a full day a few hours later for example - but it's part of what Minor Counties cricket is about, it's the same for every team. No doubt that coming up against the likes of Ash Davis, Jack White and Jimmy Warrington sharpens your game up for Minor Counties level. And the camaraderie that builds up between the players, the support staff and the club as a whole does everyone good, that's really special."*

Nantwich enjoyed a month of success, in which - despite just losing out in the Cheshire Cup semi - they secured a place in the prestigious national T20 finals day and stayed at the top of the league, two tons from Niall O'Brien a big part of that. This was despite losing their first game of August at Chester, who overtook Timperley into second spot and are fighting hard to retain their title. Timpers had a lull at just the wrong time, two defeats - including taking no points against lowly Grappenhall - and two dramatic draws, with CBH (see next page) and then Toft, for whom James Lomas scored consecutive 96s. Neston topped the form table for the month and are still right in with a shout. Alderley Edge had a solid run but it was a mixed bag for Oulton Park, with one win, two defeats and a rain interrupted draw with Bramhall, who themselves had an especially

tough month. Travellers on their ground caused severe disruption and a fixture re-arrangement, which ended up being washed out. This means they still have work to do to retain Premier status - and their last three games are against the top three. August was also agony for Marple. Their loss at Moss Lane (see next page) was remarkable in itself, but the following week brought further heart-ache when centurion Mark Makin was out to the final ball of the game against Cheadle, which saw 25 points head to Kingsway, Cheadle then making it two nail biters in a row with a seven run win on Saturday. And despite their best efforts, it seems that Didsbury and Grappenhall, who came up to the Prem together in 2017, could both be doing a return trip for 2019, although there is still time for both.

PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE, AND THE AUGUST FORM GUIDE

TABLE AT END OF AUGUST	PTS
NANTWICH	359
CHESTER B.H.	345
TIMPERLEY	340
TOFT	326
NESTON	323
ALDERLEY EDGE	294
OULTON PARK	242
CHEADLE	237
MARPLE	205
BRAMHALL	195
GRAPPENHALL	179
DIDSBURY	162

FORM GUIDE FOR AUGUST	PTS
NESTON	81
CHESTER B.H.	81
CHEADLE	75
ALDERLEY EDGE	72
TOFT	66
NANTWICH	60
BRAMHALL	47
OULTON PARK	40
DIDSBURY	39
GRAPPENHALL	36
MARPLE	28
TIMPERLEY	27

CCCL PREMIER LEAGUE

A MONTH FOR LAST WICKET PARTNERSHIPS!

Partnerships are the key to an innings gaining substance. And while we all admire the big stands built by the openers and top-order batters, there's something about a last wicket partnership that has a particular appeal. Perhaps because it's so unlikely, or because it invariably features one player who can more or less hold a bat but that's about it - whatever your view, August in the Premier League featured more than its fair share of heroics by that pesky last pair.....

ALDERLEY EDGE V MARPLE, 11th Aug

A one wicket win for AE made possible by a 10th wicket stand of 98 between Kieran Elliott (75*) and Blair Campbell (21*). Marple's press officer Mark Brook explained in his detailed report for the club website that a steady drizzle started to make the pitch more docile, and added:

"With the ball wet, Elliott and Cambell went serenely on their way, although the acquisition of further batting bonus points seemed to be the limit of their ambition. Despite the ball now skidding onto the middle of the bat, and Paul Wood tiring after a long and quality spell, this could not last. Or could it? Wood tried the extra pace of Moroney, but it played into Elliott's hands. He thrashed the ball to all parts....with Campbell adopting the forward lunge in the knowledge that there was now no movement or lift. No chance came Marple's way, as Wood switched his bowlers around. With Campbell looking secure, Elliott continued to savage the bowling, and nothing Marple tried could force the mistake. A packed home pavilion whooped in delight as an amazing one wicket win was brought up with six overs remaining."



CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL

v Nantwich (4th Aug) and Timperley (11th Aug)

Charlie Fleet played out two rearguards in successive weeks, one which bought victory at Whitehouse Lane and the following week toughing out a draw at title chasing Timperley. At Nantwich, Fleet and Harry Killoran added the 11 crucial runs needed for 25 points from 60 balls in a tense finale; at Stockport Rd a week later, (where Timpers themselves had recovered from 74-6 to make 173) victory was a bridge too far for CBH, but Tom Wyatt was Fleet's partner this time as they absorbed 112 balls between them in defying the rampant home attack, stirring the intrigue at the top of the league as September beckons...



DIDSBURY

v Bramhall (4th Aug) and Oulton Park (18th Aug)

Struggling Didsbury had already suffered from 10th wicket traumas in July, when Toft's last pair added 64 to rescue them at Booth's Park and post a total that was to prove out of reach. At Bramhall, Didsbury had got themselves into a good position (despite dropping Ifty Naseer first ball...he made 64) but Andrew Reynolds and no.11 Luke Littlewood turned 143-9 into 192 all out, which was enough to condemn Didsbury to another defeat. However, the boot was finally on the other foot when captain Matt Gregson and last man Michael Taylor eked out 13 vital runs together to scramble to a crucial one wicket win over Oulton Park.

THE PREMIER LEAGUE AUGUST HONOURS BOARD

CENTURIONS

Robert Sehmi 122* TOFT v Nant, 18.8
Niall O'Brien 114, NANT v Grapp, 11.8
Liam Banthorpe 113, BRAM v OP, 11.8
Niall O'Brien 110, NANT v Toft, 18.8
Harry Killoran, 104*, CBH v Grapp, 25.8
ALMOST.....
Sam Perry 98, AE v Toft, 4.8
James Lomas 96*, TOFT v Timp, 25.8
James Lomas 96, TOFT v Nant, 18.8
Mohammed Shabaz Bashir 95*, OP v Bram
(when the rain started falling....) 11.8

BEST BOWLING

Ash Davis 14-2-41-8 NESTON v Didsbury, 11.8
Matt Parkinson 17-4-51-8, OP v Didsbury, 18.8
Jack Williams 6-26, CBH v Nantwich 4.8
Charlie Reid 6-62, AE v Marple, 11.8
Luke Jones, 5-19, NEST v OP, 25.8
Tom Hyslop 5-21, OP v Marple, 4.8
Ollie Freckingham 5-28, NANT v Grapp, 11.8
Rick Moore 5-34, CBH v Neston, 18.8
Chris Page 5-34, TIMP v CBH, 11.8
Liam Booth 5-40, DIDS v Bram, 4.8
Nick Anderson 5-49, DIDS v Neston, 11.8



AUGUST IN CCCL DIVISION 1

A quick word with **IAN LINWOOD**

It was at Davenham on the 4th August that Ian earned himself a coveted *Yog Bar* voucher (Upton's weekly prize for their best performer) and perhaps more significantly a personal best in terms of bowling, as he returned 10.5-6-28-9 at Butcher's Stile in what can only be described as a quite astonishing achievement. He also came to the fore with the bat, his 12 off 8 balls proving crucial as Upton sneaked home by 3 wickets. It sounds like quite a match - Davenham's Sam Hunt hit 52 off 39 after the hosts were 13-6, carrying them to 82. What does Ian recall about the game? *"To be honest, having retired from playing again, I hadn't reckoned on playing much, but the team keep asking when they're short! It was just one of those days - my rhythm felt good, the ball did what I wanted it to, the guys caught everything, and suddenly there I was with nine. Dave Williams took the third wicket that fell so he got some stick afterwards! Then we did our best to throw the game away! When I came in I just swung, hit a few and missed my eighth, but thankfully we flopped over the line to keep our promotion hopes going, so despite having the harder run-in of the top teams, we'll give it a good go."*



After a fascinating month, Hyde need just 18 more points to secure a return to the Premier league, helped by a tight one wicket win at Upton on the 11th, thanks to a last wicket stand (!) between captain Danny Berry and 2nd XI capt Steve White. After a brilliant August, including a tense one wicket win at Stockport, Widnes went second and set up an intriguing race for the line with Upton, whose topsy-turvy month saw them just out of second spot for now. I had the pleasure of umpiring a fantastic fixture between Bollington and Oxton on the 4th, where Bolly won by three runs in the last over, just managing to defend 261. Oxton skipper Dane Williams hit his third ton of a great season the following week, with Macc's Khalid Sawas keeping pace, his third ton helping him near 1,000 runs for 2018 although Macc's win-

less August means it could be a nervy September for them. Another prolific player, Pat Ashling (recording ton no.2 for the season) is almost past 800 runs (along with his wk duties) to keep spirits up at Bowdon, despite this season not producing all they had hoped for. Sale and Urmston, (who had a thriller of their own on the 4th, with Sale winning off the penultimate ball) are just about ok in lower-mid table after mixed months. Sale won twice, while Urmston shrugged off their Dane Rd disappointment by winning their next two (including Hyde) only to lose to then-bottom Barrow, who have suddenly rallied with successive wins. Davenham's amazing tie with Macc (who were 62-0 chasing 142 at one stage), which they followed up with an impressive win at Oxton gives them the advantage, but Stockport can also still stay up. They're at Davenham on the last day, when Barrow host Widnes....

D1 LEAGUE TABLE, THE AUGUST FORM GUIDE & HONOURS BOARD

TABLE AT END OF AUGUST	PTS	AUGUST FORM GUIDE	PTS	AUGUST HONOURS
HYDE	396	WIDNES	100	Chris McArthur 134 - Upton v Hyde
WIDNES	340	HYDE	83	Pat Ashling 130 - Bowd v Barrow
UPTON	338	UPTON	73	Khalid Sawas 115 - Macc v Stock
OXTON	267	SALE	68	Andrej Yaksender 110 - Boll v Bowd
BOWDON	266	URMSTON	65	Dane Williams 107* - Oxt v Stock
BOLLINGTON	248	BARROW	60	David McClements 103 - Barr v Urms
URMSTON	243	DAVENHAM	49	Ian Linwood 9-28, Upton v Dav
SALE	234	BOWDON	45	Daniel Hancock, 7-36, Dav v Macc
MACCLESFIELD	222	MACCLESFIELD	43	Jack Tipton 6-30 Bowdon v Barrow
DAVENHAM	216	BOLLINGTON	42	Rob Porter 6-37 Macc v Stockport
BARROW	188	OXTON	41	Ross Dixon 6-66 Upton v Hyde
STOCKPORT	182	STOCKPORT	32	Plus eight 5 wicket hauls: George Balderson & Danny Cranmer (Hyde); Liam Sundve (Upton); Mike Eley (Stock); Ben Gough (Dav), Otis Palmes (Macc) and two by Qamar Hafiz (Widnes).

AUGUST IN CCCL DIVISION 2

Quite a month in Div 2 with a number of noteworthy matches and performances. Brooklands' perfect month means that 10 more points will see them promoted, with Romiley in prime position to join them after squeaking home on Sat at Hale Barns. Brooklands go to Romiley on Sept 1st. Still in range of second spot, Lindow enjoyed some fortune with the August weather, as their match at Hale Barns on the 11th was abandoned with HB just 3 runs from victory, with 3 overs remaining, especially hard to take for HB's Joe Cooper, who hit 90 off 134 after taking a 'michelle' earlier on. HB at least had the solace of the Cheshire Shield the week before. Equally admirable was the effort of Amir Afzal on the same day for Tattenhall, his 5-for being followed up with 73 out of 127 in a losing cause, 58% of his team's runs. Alvanley lost three times, including being bowled out for 54 v Brooklands, having at one

stage been 0-3 and then 4-4, but nonetheless have had another solid season. Warrington had a good month, including a narrow 7 run win over Romiley, but promotion - for now - seems just out of reach. Christleton had a great August, three wins and two centurions helping them to mid-table security. Northwich had a poor month but their earlier decent form means that they should be ok, 50 wickets for the second season in a row from Andrew Dufty a big reason why. At the foot of the table, with Runcorn needing snookers, Tattenhall, Mobberley and Weaverham (who play Brooklands and Romiley in Sept) will contest the final drop spot. Three wins in August put Tattenhall's destiny in their own hands - they have Runcorn and Brooklands to play. Mobberley's indifferent month (a draw, beating Lindow but then losing two) left them ruing all the more the early season points deduction for the mix-up with registering their overseas player in time.

A quick word with **KEVIN CARROLL**



It's been a great team effort that's helped Brooklands lead the way in Division 2 - three bowlers with over 30 wickets apiece, David Cunliffe and Mark Bloomfield with 1000+ runs between them...but it's been Kevin's batting that has caught the eye as he's followed up last season's 916 runs with 1234 so far this year, with 3 more games to play. It was his run of form in June that left Cheshire cricket all but speechless. Namely:

9th: 170 from 82 balls v Warrington (14 x 4, 15 x 6)

23rd: 188 from 77 balls v Weaverham (10 x 4, 20 x 6)

30th: 152 from 61 balls v Tattenhall (15 x 4, 11 x 6)

Also in June there was 32 off 18 balls (and 3-21) in a T20 win against Sale; and in the rest of 2018, two other tons, a 91 off 54, a 73* in a total of 89-2 (with 62 of those in boundaries), 32* off 10 - and when he has missed out with the bat, there's wickets or catches to put into the pot. Kevin's view?

"Well, the dry weather and firmer pitches have definitely given me more confidence to hit straight more, as the bowlers have had much less help than last year. So I can play 'see ball hit ball' because it has been coming on so well like it does in South Africa. And also if a team put five men out to me as soon as I come in, getting off zero is a little easier too!"

DIV 2 LEAGUE TABLE, THE AUGUST FORM GUIDE & HONOURS BOARD

TABLE AT END OF AUGUST	PTS	AUGUST FORM GUIDE	PTS	AUGUST HONOURS
BROOKLANDS	396	BROOKLANDS	100	Atif Bajwa 118 off 89, Chris v Tatt
ROMILEY	376	CHRISTLETON	89	Joshua Joseph 112*, Chris v Weav
LINDOW	330	TATTENHALL	79	Rob Herriott 104*, Lindow v HB
WARRINGTON	313	WARRINGTON	77	Tim Young 6-22, Lindow v North
ALVANLEY	287	ROMILEY	56	Adam Gittins 6-35, Chris v Weaver
CHRISTLETON	277	LINDOW	47	Kevin Douglas, 6-46, Weaver v North
HALE BARNs	261	ALVANLEY	46	Alex Barber 6-48, Rom v Mobb
NORTHWICH	254	MOBBERLEY	45	Caleb Jones 5-27, Brook v Alv
TATTENHALL	220	HALE BARNs	43	Alex Hooton 5-40, Rom v Warr
MOBBERLEY	190	NORTHWICH	39	Javed Iqbal 5-46 Chris v Tatt
WEAVERHAM	187	WEAVERHAM	39	Mike Roberts 5-51, Alv v Brook
RUNCORN	123	RUNCORN	26	Chris Charles 5-56 Alv v Warr
				Michael Rowlands 5-59, Alv v Weav
				Joe Cooper 5-70, HB v Lindow
				Amir Afzal 5-80, Tatt v Chris



CCCL 2ND & 3RD XI

2ND XI CRICKET



Owen Williamson of OP in great August form.

Nantwich 2s are keeping pace with the 1st XI, top of their Premier League, with Neston and Toft now the only sides with a chance of overhauling them. It's been a good August for Oulton Park's Owen Williamson, who hit two consecutive scores of 103*, and his team-mate Ben Tomlinson recorded 7-54, the best figures of the month, against Didsbury. There have also been 2nd XI hundreds for

Marple's James Massey, Rick Paterson of Bollington, Adam Woodall of Congleton, Dilruk Yathugoda of Chester BH and Alderley Edge's D.White. In Division 1, Cheadle and Upton are first and second in the table, and look favourites to replace Timpers and Macc, the current bottom two in the Prem. Going out of Div 1 the other way look to be Widnes and Tattenhall. Atop Division

2, Romiley, Davenham and Heaton Mersey are having a tight tussle with Cheadle Hulme and Northwich contesting the wooden spoon. A word also about a Div 2 game on the 18th, when off the last ball of the match Lindow overhauled Ashton-on-Mersey's hefty 284-8. A-o-M declared after 47 overs and those extra 3 for Lindow led to a thrilling game which included 82 extras!

3RD XI CRICKET

The Sunday Prem, always a tightly contested division, was spoiled by the withdrawal of Stockport 3s, who had already conceded 4 games before pulling out altogether.



Their remaining opponents all get 25 points. Didsbury 3s continue to lead the way, needing eight more points for a third title in four years to go with their triumph in the 3rd XI T20 competition, while the other relegation spot seems to be between Sale and Oxtown, although a clutch of clubs will want to make sure and finish strongly. It's been a

good month for batsmen with five Sunday centuries recorded, one of which was by Timperley's Jamie Matthews against Didsbury 4s, his 128* a big part of an unbroken stand of 200 for the 3rd wicket with Aadam Hasan who finished on 87*. On a bleaker note, there were 15 3rd XI matches conceded in August, in addition to those by Stockport 3s, which continues to be a big cause for concern for Sunday cricket.

Haslington CC - 4th XI

It could happen to anyone....

Batting

Name	How Out	Bowler	Runs
1 Jordan Sealey		b Thomas Rae	3
2 Nathaniel Baker		b Paul Wilson	0
3 Will Dale		b Thomas Rae	1
4 Elliot Lane†	ct Pete Hodge	b Paul Wilson	4
5 Daniel Goodier		b Paul Wilson	0
6 Adam White		ct & b Paul Wilson	0
7 William Barnes*		b Thomas Rae	0
8 Callum Istead		b Thomas Rae	0
9 Steven Bickerton	lbw	b Paul Wilson	0
10 Jack Nicholl	ct Charlie Hodge	b Thomas Rae	2
11 Oliver Horsfield	not out		0
Extras b (1), lb (1)			2
Total			12
Wickets			all out
Overs			10.5

* = Captain, † = Wicket Keeper

.....and on Sunday August 12 it was the turn of the unfortunate Haslington 4th XI who were bundled out by Lindow 4s, or to be more precise, Paul Wilson (5-2-6-5) and his accurate colleague Thomas Rae (5.5-3-4-5). Some of you may recall it wasn't so very long ago that Haslington 1sts bowled out Wirral for 3. So they are a club who have now experienced both sides of that coin! Perhaps you have been part of a team that were all out for next-to-nothing, or bowled another team out - care to share your memories? I once got a first baller as my side were all out 28, but that's definitely not going to get any further publicity....

AROUND THE COUNTY.....



UKFAST
CHESHIRE CRICKET LEAGUE

With three games still to play, Stockport Georgians have gained promotion to the County League. They secured their CCCL return with a draw on Saturday and will now look to finish as champions, with only Congleton - themselves set fair to go up - able to deny them that honour. At the other end, with Haslington more or less ok, and Prestbury needing a miracle, three clubs are fighting to avoid the other drop spot. Bredbury St.Marks are in real danger

of successive relegations, Barnton have lost 6 of their last 7, and Lymm OP are in a similarly lean run of form. In other Division 1 news, on Aug 4th Disley's Luke Scully hit 195* at Bredbury SM in a total of 294-1, the highest ever innings by a Disley player. The following week Disley were bundled out for 48...it's a strange game sometimes! It's also worth mentioning that Cheadle Hulme's record includes a 52 point deduction as a result of issues at the end of the previous season.

TABLE AT END OF AUGUST

	PTS
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	426
CONGLETON	372
PORT SUNLIGHT	340
ASHTON-ON-MERSEY	313
KINGSLEY	293
DISLEY	283
CHEADLE HULME	274
HASLINGTON	242
LYMM OUGHTRINGTON PK	219
BARNTON	217
BREDBURY ST.MARKS	200
PRESTBURY	150

All UK Fast league info is at ukfastccl.co.uk

OVER 40s NEWS

Mike Talbot-Butler has still been busy providing regular coverage of the over 40s competition, and most recently reports that over 40s Finals day is Sunday, September 2, at Walton Lea, aka Warrington Sports Club, where Alderley Edge Wizards will play Chester Blazers on the main ground, with

Urmston Tigers taking on Neston on the top pitch. Both semi-finals start at the later time of 1 p.m. due to an archery tournament at the venue, with the final planned for as close to 4pm as proves possible. It will be a pink ball occasion, with the League supplying these and covering the expens-

es of the all the panel umpires appointed for the occasion. For more detail on all the action in the over 40s competition, check out Mike's newsletter which is available direct.

Mike has also passed on news of the recent death of former Bramhall cricketer John Burbidge in South Africa. Aged 68, John kept in regular touch with Cheshire cricket, and Mike reports that he made frequent and valuable contributions to the newsletter.

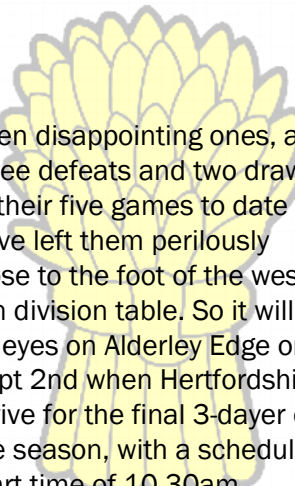
MINOR COUNTIES NEWS FROM CHESHIRE

Cheshire Unicorns wonderful run in the T20 competition came unstuck at the last at glorious Wormsley, where the not-so-glorious rain on Sunday 26th forced the four sides to wait 24 hours. Cheshire started at 10am on the Monday and saw off Norfolk in the

semi, racking up 202-2 and winning by 46 runs, but the final was a different story, being restricted to 130-6 by a strong Berkshire attack. Cheshire pushed Berks all the way but went down by 6 wickets. Cheshire are back at Wormsley on Wednesday 29th to play Devon in the

final of the 50 over competition. Cheshire's website (cheshireccc.org.uk) carries all you need to know about the club, including Jim Law's excellent reports and scorecards. Frustratingly for Jim, the write-ups on Cheshire's MCCA championship matches have

been disappointing ones, as three defeats and two draws in their five games to date have left them perilously close to the foot of the western division table. So it will be all eyes on Alderley Edge on Sept 2nd when Hertfordshire arrive for the final 3-dayer of the season, with a scheduled start time of 10.30am.





CCCL CUP COMPETITONS

NANTWICH THROUGH TO NATIONAL T20 FINALS DAY



Nantwich became the latest CCCL club to make it to National T20 finals day, following on from Chester BH and Hyde in recent years. The Dabbers got through thanks to a victory over Ormskirk which had many members and players absolutely thrilled. Liam Livingstone and Niall O'Brien were amongst those tweeting congratulations after the 7 wicket win on August 12th, with Ormskirk restricted to just 102 in their 20 overs, Nantwich taking care of the necessary with almost 5 overs in hand. It seems the fielding in particular was something special!

Nantwich play Swardeston (East Anglia's leading club, according to their publicity) at the County Ground, Derby, on Sunday Sept 16th with an 11.15 start time. The final is scheduled to start at 18.30 pm (n.b. pack warm clothes!) and will be against either Hanging Heaton of Bradford (with my mate John Virr in the scorer's chair) or Roffey CC of Horsham, Sussex. Very best wishes to all at Nantwich CC for a very successful and weather-blessed day.

Nantwich CC Retweeted



Maurice Mogg @MauriceMogg · 23h

@NantwichCC Have been involved with the Club in many guises for over 60 years and I can honestly say that in today's 20/20 National Quarter Final defeat of Ormskirk I witnessed the best all round fielding display by a Nantwich team in all those years. Well done Lads. #highstandard



2nd XI T20 Finals day

at Alderley Edge CC, Sun 12th
for the Joseph Holt Trophy

Neston 2s triumphant

Neston 2s took the honours on finals day. Having walloped Toft for 205 in their semi, they took on Didsbury 2s in the final - Didsbury having beaten the hosts in the earlier game, and having beaten Neston in the league the day before! Neston bowled Didsbury out for just 69, and reached the target 6 down but with 8 overs in hand. Congratulations all!

Chuck
@damanholland4

In May last year I cycled past a beautiful cricket ground and decided to join it. Yesterday I picked up my 4th trophy in 2 years since joining @Neston_CC by winning the 2nd XI T20 Cheshire finals day. Still have 2 more to play for! What a club!



3rd XI T20 Finals day

at Neston CC, Sun 19th
for the Jack Gardner Trophy

Victory for Didsbury 3s



The main drama at 3rd XI finals day was the expulsion of Neston on the eve of the tournament for having used players in a previous match who proved to be ineligible. All three games on the day saw comfortable wins, Alderley Edge beating Oxtun (Neston's replacements) and Didsbury easing past Heaton Mersey in the two semis. Didsbury clinched the trophy with a 48 run final win.



Joseph Holt brewers sponsor the CCCL T20 competition



CHESHIRE CUP AND CHESHIRE SHIELD

The Cheshire Cup has yet to be decided, with the final scheduled for Sunday September 9th. Two contrasting semi-finals were played some time apart, Neston sweeping aside New Brighton on the glorious 12th, with Matt Stewart claiming 5-34 as the hosts managed only 95. Neston reached 100-2 with few alarms. The other semi between Chester BH and Nantwich was delayed by the latter's T20 commitments and was eventually played at Chester on Bank Holiday Monday. Despite Cheshire calls affecting both clubs, two strong sides played out a low-scoring but extremely tense affair. Nantwich put CBH into bat and bowled them out for 121, Jimmy Warrington 4-28 from 9 overs. Nantwich were undone by the ageless Alex Kegg, who ran through the top order with 9-3-13-4. Alex had earlier helped add 12 for the last Chester wicket, which proved critical as CBH just held off a valiant lower-order Nantwich rally to win by.....11 runs.

Cheshire Cup

CHESHIRE CUP FINAL

NESTON v CHESTER B.H.
(venue tbc)

Sunday September 9th
1.00pm start

Reserve date Sun Sept 16th

Cheshire Shield



Hale Barns won the 2018 Cheshire Shield with a nerve-shredding one wicket win over Stockport Georgians at Brooks Drive on August 5th. Having been 2-3, Georgians recovered impressively to post a healthy 218 from 44.5, helped by 25 wides in a total of 30 extras. In reply, HB chipped away steadily at the target, but a brilliant caught and bowled by Adam Keene saw the back of top scorer Campbell Vadjla, leaving HB 40 adrift with only 3 wickets left. Joe Fretwell-Walsh then marshalled the tail and, helped by 29 extras (incl. 23 wides) led his side to victory with 9 deliveries remaining. An absolutely thrilling match - congratulations to Hale Barns, who have had a good first season in the CCCL Division 2. Commiserations to Georgians who came so very close and who will be locking horns with HB in the 2019 County League after their promotion.

PHOTO GALLERY from around the county



Left: excellent boundary rope at Runcorn CC

Above: Rick Halkon hits the winning runs for Sale against Oxtou (photo: George Franks)

Top right: Hyde CC in June in that long hot, dry spell

Right: Oxtou CC, pictured in July



IT'S OFFICIAL(S) UMPIRES AND SCORERS

Our umpires and scorers play a vital role in helping cricket to take place, and this page will hopefully a place where issues can be aired and recognition given too. In future editions of this newsletter, issues like DLS being introduced, facilities (especially for scorers), as well as news of Cheshire officials on regional and national stages will all get attention. But for now, it seemed most appropriate to look at one issue that had implications for all officials in 2018.....

The new disciplinary measures in law 42 caused a lot of discussion over the winter, but how have they worked out in practice? I asked the Disciplinary Committee Secretary, Chris Rigg, to reflect on 2018 so far.

"Overall the reporting of disciplinary issues has been both reasonable and objective. Reports have by and large been accurate, brief and most importantly, to the point! In terms of an overall picture, there have been a total of:

- 17 players reported for L1 offences
- 2 players reported for L2
- 1 player reported for a L3

Clubs have been almost universally supportive and issued their own sanctions, there has been only been one instance which has required a disciplinary panel to sit. There has been only one instance which required a player to leave the field (L3 as above), and 5 run penalties been issued on three occasions.



August has been very quiet with just one player reported for abuse of equipment for which he was cautioned. Our overall total of 17

weeks in immediate bans plus a further 10 in suspended bans compares favourably with neighbouring leagues. For example ,GMCL have issued a total of 141 weeks of bans to date (*mixture of immediate and suspended*). One player has been banned from the league for 7 years!

Although I don't believe indiscipline is a major issue in our

league, it is apparent to me that, for whatever reason, not all disciplinary matters are being reported. I would encourage all umpires to report incidents in order to help achieve a level of consistency. I will ask a question - how many times have we heard "we got reported for that last week, ump!"

**ECBACO NATIONAL CONFERENCE , LORDS CRICKET GROUND
SATURDAY OCTOBER 27TH. BOOK ONLINE VIA THE ECBACO WEBSITE.**



QUESTION ONE

WHAT'S THE RIGHT DECISION?

QUESTION TWO

The striker plays a no-ball down into the ground and it bounces up into the hands of short leg, who immediately shies at the non-striker's stumps, but misses. The batsmen then complete a single before the ball trickles over the boundary. How many runs are scored, and why?



The bowler bowls a no-ball which the striker plays no shot at. The ball hits the striker's pad and deflects away to fine leg. As the batsmen then complete a run, the throw from the fielder lands on a helmet on the ground belonging to the fielding side, and deflects away over the boundary. How many runs are scored, and why?

NEWS

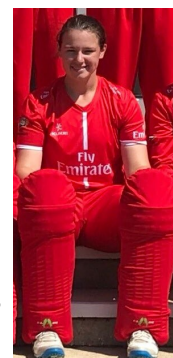
BRAMHALL CC BLIGHTED BY TRAVELLERS

A heartbreaking month for the Church Lane club, who were badly affected by a group of travellers occupying their ground. Having been moved on from Stockport CC and Cheadle Hulme CC earlier in the week, the travellers' presence meant that children's summer cricket camps had to be cancelled, as did all net practice. Fixtures also suffered, with the 1st XI

match against Alderley Edge having to be rearranged - rain then washed out the game on the new date. On the 21st the club tweeted that the travellers had left the ground, and expressed their thanks for the support they received from the cricket community, stating that an external security presence had been brought in - and it can be presumed that club will

have to foot the bill for this, as well as any repair work necessary. On a brighter note for Bramhall they were rightly proud to report firstly on the elevation of their former junior, the phenomenally talented batsman Prithvi Shaw, to the India Test squad, and also on the progress of their own Ellie Mason, who scored 162* for the Lancashire Thunder

regional development centre side in mid August. No further details were available but it sounds like a tremendous effort of batting skill and physical fitness by young Ellie! Cheshire cricket hopes to hear plenty more of her.



FAIR PLAY table

JOHN LOFTHOUSE

The Eddie Howard Memorial Trophy is awarded to the club finishing top of the Fair Play table, a prestigious award that can help with attracting players of all ages, and sponsorship. The table is based upon umpires' marks.

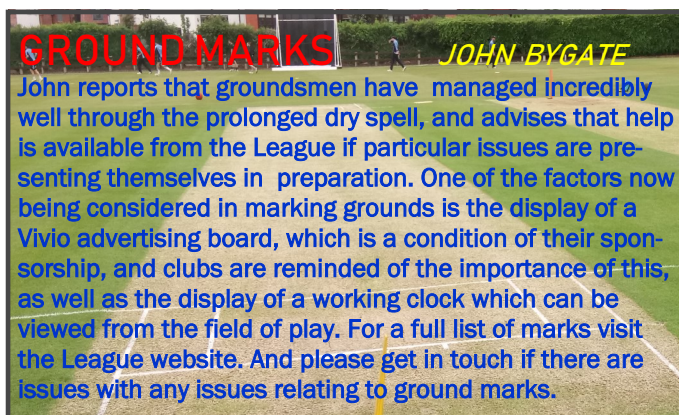
The current standings are as follows:

- 1 = Bramhall and Chester Boughton Hall.
- 3 = Alvanley and Widnes.
- 5 = Bollington and Upton.
- 7 = Nantwich.

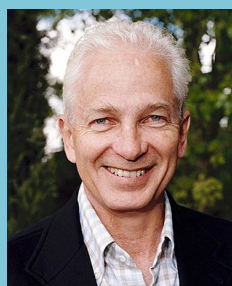
GROUND MARKS

JOHN BYGATE

John reports that groundsmen have managed incredibly well through the prolonged dry spell, and advises that help is available from the League if particular issues are presenting themselves in preparation. One of the factors now being considered in marking grounds is the display of a Vivio advertising board, which is a condition of their sponsorship, and clubs are reminded of the importance of this, as well as the display of a working clock which can be viewed from the field of play. For a full list of marks visit the League website. And please get in touch if there are issues with any issues relating to ground marks.



THE ANNUAL CCCL END-OF-SEASON DINNER FRIDAY OCTOBER 5TH, TOFT C.C, 6.30pm



Guest Speaker:

DAVID GOWER

Following feedback from previous events, Toft have agreed to host the 2018 dinner in a specially erected marquee at their picturesque ground.

- Tickets: £25 per head (book through your club)
- £10 to enter into prize draw and raffle on the night
- Separate bars available, open until 12.30am (with club prices rather than Mere golf club prices!)

DRESS CODE : SMART/CASUAL (jeans permitted!)



FROM THE EDITOR



'Editor' is a grand-sounding title, but it's the best word I can use to describe what I envisage this role to be all about - sifting through the mass of information and news that our wonderful

game generates, and trying to reflect it all fairly in this sort of format. It's been clear from the feedback that the previous newsletter provided a connection with Cheshire cricket that was hugely valued, and the sheer amount of work put into it by Mike Talbot-Butler over very many years cannot be over-estimated. I will certainly not come halfway close to matching his efforts in that regard. What I am trying to do is provide something worthwhile within the time constraints I have - hence this will be a monthly offering rather than weekly. It won't

be full of detail and score-cards - you know where to find those by now, and thanks to the many great, dedicated scorers Cheshire has, the live scores facility has never been more popular or useful! In addition, a number of clubs provide great insight into their games on their webpages, so do have a look around. What I am trying to do is fly the flag for Cheshire cricket, bring to life some of the action and exploits, the drama and (hopefully) the humour of the past month which all go to make recreational cricket such a vitally

important form of the game. The 4Cs committee have shown a remarkable faith in me to try this out, and I am thankful to all who have responded positively to my pestering for information. So let's see how we go. I will await feedback on this issue and then make some decisions as to what might be possible for the future, but for now, thanks for reading, feel free to pass this newsletter on, and most important of all, stay in the game!

James

2018 SO FAR IN NUMBERS....

342 1st XI league matches

cancelled matches **6**

55 draws (incl 6 rain-affected)

RECOMMENDED

The Dazzler - Martin's Saxon's regular round-up of Cheshire Women's Cricket: www.cheshirewomenscl.co.uk

Cheshire Cricket Board: www.cheshirecricketboard.co.uk

Cheshire Association of Groundsmen: www.cag.org.uk

Cheshire County League: www.cheshirecountycl.org.uk

NV Live Scores page (follow any game scored on Play Cricket Scorer Pro): live.nvplay.com/ecb

Play Cricket Live - free app, to follow all games on play cricket, and ball-by-ball of games scored on Play Cricket Scorer

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

VIVIO PROUDLY SPONSORS THE CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE



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