



2013 SEASON NEWSLETTER NO. 16: AUGUST 3

A two-horse race?

THE battle for the **ECB Premier League** title looks to have become a two horse race after the surprise defeat of outsiders Hyde at Alderley Edge.

Neston and Chester Boughton Hall, neither of whom has previously won the honour, both scored comfortable victories over Macclesfield and Marple respectively to retain the nine points gap between one and two, now with just six games remaining.

Neston threw off the disappointment of their RedInsure T20 Final defeat by Hyde in mid-week with a storming 10 wickets victory over bottom club Macclesfield in a game which featured three fine centuries. On a near-perfect Parkgate pitch and outfield, Macclesfield did well to rack up a tally of 276, Melbourne batsman Nick Ross following up his maiden ton against Toft the previous week with a magnificent 145 not out off 116 balls with 15 fours and four sixes. He and Khalid Sawas, 65, enjoyed a 141 third-wicket stand as Andy Clarke (3-101) and his colleagues struggled. .

Neston set about their task with relish and 38.4 overs later they had reached their target at 280 without loss. Will Evans scored 160 not out (21 fours and six sixes) and his skipper David Hurst 114 not out (25 fours and three sixes). The season's highest premiership partnership thus earned Neston all 25 points and kept them in top spot, while Macclesfield's miserly eight points return means they stay well and truly bottom.

Meanwhile, Chester beat Marple by six wickets at Filkins Lane in a less spectacular but efficient manner after restricting their visitors to 150 - after reaching 78-0, Jon Marshall 40. Alex Kegg made a fine comeback after threatening to retire earlier in the season with a 6-36 return which contained hardly a bad ball. Chester's reply of 151-4 in just 22 overs was highlighted by an unbeaten 69 from Lee Dixon and 42 by Jordan Clark.

Hyde were dismissed for 133, their lowest score of the season at Alderley Edge, thus ending to a rousing run of five wins in six games. Jason Whittaker destroyed their strong batting line-up with 6-49 return off 16 lethal overs, only Chris Tipper, 62, showing any defiance. Alderley had totted up an impressive 239-7, Charlie Reid 85, Adam Worrall 53, Scott Kirwin 4-39.

Eighth win for Toft

Toft edged up into third place with their eighth victory, achieved by two wickets in a close game at Didsbury. The home team closed on 205-9, an innings dominated by skipper Nick Anderson with a magnificent 105 not out from just 65 balls, including six fours and eight sixes. Jimmy Lomas did his usual tight stuff from one end with 4-93 off 27 overs and Jake Dickenson 3-55. Toft's reply of 206-8 in 53.1 overs was highlighted by a quality knock of 96 not out from only 79 balls (eight fours and four sixes) from teenager Henry Hughes, while Jonny Fawcett took 4-79

Oxton roused themselves after four defeats in five games when they outplayed retiring champions Nantwich, who were dismissed for 103 after slumping from 79-4. The damage was done by Worcestershire spinner Shaaiq Choudhry (5-32) making a rare appearance, aided by Martyn Evans, 4-28 only Rob Cook-Sievwright, 44, offering a defiant bat. Oxton replied with 104-3 in 27 overs, Martyn Evans completing a good day's work with 66.

Bowdon won by eight wickets at Grappenhall and although remaining in 10th place now lie an apparently safe distance of 50 points above relegation-placed Didsbury. Grappenhall were bowled out for 190, Josh McClelland 57, Chris Ashling 4-48. Bowdon replied with an impressive 193-2, Aussie Trent McCormick 89 not out, Simon Marshall 51 and former Lancashire opener Mark Chilton marking his first league appearance of the season with a solid 30.

POSITIVE CRICKET This was the third week running with no drawn games in the Premiership. Saturday's positive cricket yielded 2,232 runs for the loss of 83 wickets, average score 186-7.

The last drawn game was on Saturday, July 13: Marple v Toft.

No stopping Bramhall ?

BRAMHALL's splendid form continued at the top of **Division One** with a nine wickets home defeat of Widnes and they now lead closest rivals Urmston by 37 points.

Widnes were ousted for 101 by Rupes Kitzinger, 4-46 and Ashley West, 3-28, Bramhall responding comfortably with 103-1, Matt Jamieson 53, Matt Hughes 35 not out.

Urmston recovered after their heavy defeat (by Bramhall) seven days earlier to win by nine wickets at Heaton Mersey, whom they dismissed for 126, Matt Parkinson 4-35. With an unbeaten 52, Matt Downes, top-scored as the UCG men cruised home by nine wickets.

Cheadle Hulme continue to enjoy their best season for a long time, Aussie all-rounder Kris Nissen leading the way again with a spectacular double performance against Bredbury St. Mark's. The Brisbane man contributed 104 as 'Hulme piled up 265-4 after being put in by Bredbury, Jordan Potts assisting with 55 and Adam Wilde 50. As usual, the St. Mark's batsmen made a good fist of it and reached 222, Chris Wood 54, Paul Wood 49. It was Nissen again, with 4-68, who proved their undoing with Ollie Potts enjoying even better figures of 4-42. Bredbury stay bottom.

There was a tense finish at Middlewich where the home side won by three runs against Brooklands. K.Clowes 47 and Stuart Price 46 not out helped 'Wich reach 214-9, Chris Potter 5-55. Brooklands went flat out for victory before closing on 211, AC. Hart 50.

There were runs galore at Christleton where the Little Heath men ended up with the wrong type of draw against Sale who did well to post 278-4, Jamal Benzafar 68 not out, Tyrone Lawrence 62, Keith Wellings 54, Calvin Flowers 60. Iro De Silva produced another of his classy innings after tea with 75, aided by Ben Patterson 42, but Christleton closed 10 runs short on 268-7, Lawrence taking 3-88.

The Oulton Park v Cheadle match was postponed until Sunday, August 18 by agreement because of a major car event at the nearby race track.

FIRST TIE IN DIVISION 2

THE season's first tie in **Division Two** featured Poynton versus second-placed Stockport.

The Cale Green men batted first to post 152, Danny Williams 3-35. To which Poynton responded with 152, Williams 40. Mike Green took a key 6-64 to earn his side 16 points and the right to continue as promotion favourites in second place.

Leaders Timperley failed to win for the second week running when they were held at home by Warrington, but still top the table by a mere 71 points. Timperley posted 274-7, Matt Macquet 85, Pat Ashling 80 and Warrington did well to reply with 207-8, Chris Kirby 46, although the points share of 14-8 in their disfavour would not suggest as much.

Congleton stay in the race with a 15 points return from a home draw with Davenham, a match interrupted for 23 minutes by rain. The Bears totalled 207, Jerrym Lamb 61, Danny Hancock taking an impressive 6-78. Davenham came up with 170-9, John Copeland 6-48.

At the foot of the table, things are looking bleak for Bollington and Stockport Georgians, both of whom were again beaten. Bolly lost by two wickets at home to Irby in a tight game after totalling 139, A. Cummings 7-38. Possibly securing their league status for 2014, Irby scraped home at 140-8 with one ball remaining, A. Williams 37, S. Khan 6-58.

Georgians were obliged to admire the all-round ability of Weaverham's Antiguan Wilden Cornwall in their heavy home defeat by the League newcomers. Cornwall scored 107 off 88 deliveries and put on 163 for the fourth wicket with James Lewis, 91 in a team tally of 236-8, Jeremy Devlin 5-58. Georgians' reply of 179 might have been more but for Cornwall's astute use of the ball, his return of 8-63 completing the best individual performance of the season in any division. . Adam Gaskarth, 52 and debutant Mike Kilbride, 43, did their best in Georgians' batting line-up.

Tattenhall won their south-Cheshire derby at Alvanley by eight wickets, spinner Dave Shewring taking 3-35 to help restrict his former team mates to a modest 153-9. Tatters replied with 154-2, the excellent Kiwi Dan Power scoring 66 and Ollie Thompson 59 not out.

Toft win 2nd XI ko for fifth time

PREMIER Division Toft won the **2nd XI Knock-out** – now the RedInsure T20 Trophy – for the fifth time when they beat Division Two newcomers Davenham by 30 runs in the final at Chester Boughton Hall on Sunday. Scores: Toft 169-5 (J.Needham 93) Davenham 139

Semi-final details: Toft 187 (E Williams 90); Alderley Edge 109 (J. Leonard 42).
Hyde 132-9 (L. Reeves 34); Davenham 133-3 (R. Blackie 53no).

SATURDAY'S ECB PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

ALDERLEY EDGE (25 pts.) beat HYDE (won toss, 4 pts.) by 106 runs:

Alderley Edge 239-7 (55 overs: C. Reid 85, A. Worrall 53, M Currie 38, S Kirwin 4-39);

Hyde 133 (35 overs: C Tipper 62, J Whittaker 6-49).

CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (toss, 25 pts.) beat MARPLE (3 pts.) by 6 wickets:

Marple 150 (41 overs: J. Marshall 40, J Crisall 35, A. Kegg 6-36);

Chester 154-4 (22 overs: L Dixon 69no, J Clark 42).

DIDSBURY (9 pts.) lost to TOFT (toss, 25 pts.) by 2 wickets:

Didsbury 205-9 (55 overs: N Anderson 105no, S. Normanton 33, J Lomas 4-93, J. Dickenson 3-55);

Toft 206-8 (53.1 overs: H Hughes 96no, J. Drummond 38, J. Fawcett 4-79, J. Khan 3-30).

GRAPPENHALL (toss, 6 pts.) lost to BOWDON (25 pts.) by 8 wickets:

Grappenhall 190 (53 overs: J. McClelland 57, J McCoy 48, C. Ashling 4-48);

Bowdon 193-2 (44 overs: T. McCormick 89no, S. Marshall 51, M Chilton 30).

NESTON (25 pts.) beat MACCLESFIELD (toss, 8 pts.) by 10 wickets:

Macclesfield 276 (55 overs: N. Ross 145no, K. Sawas 65, A. Clarke 3-101);

Neston 280-0 (39 overs: W. Evans 160no, D. Hurst 114no).

OXTON (25 pts.) beat NANTWICH (toss, 1 pt.) by 7 wickets:

Nantwich 103 (34 overs: R Cook-Sievwright 44, S. Choudhry 5-32, M Evans 4-28);

Oxton 104-3 (27 overs: M Evans 66).

.....DIVISION ONE

BRAMHALL (toss, 25 pts.) beat WIDNES (0 pts.) by 9 wickets:

Widnes 101 (overs: R Kitzinger 4-46, A West 3-26);

Bramhall 103-1 (21 overs: M Jamieson 53, M. Hughes 35no).

BREDBURY ST. MARK'S (toss, 5 pts.) lost to CHEADLE HULME (25 pts.) by 43 runs:

Cheadle Hulme 265-4 (50 overs: K. Nissen 104no, J Potts 55, A Wilde 50);

Bredbury 222 (49 overs: C. Wood 54, P. Wood 49, P Zybrands 39, O Potts 4-41, K. Nissen 4-68).

CHRISTLETON (toss, 6 pts.) drew with SALE (14 pts.)

Sale 278-4 (50 overs: J Benzafar 68no, T Lawrence 62, C. Flowers 60, K Wellings 54, N Moors 41);

Christleton 268-7 (50 overs: I. De Silva 74, B. Paterson 42, M Coulson 41, I. Naseer 33, T Lawrence 3-88).

HEATON MERSEY (2 pts.) lost to URMSTON (toss, 25 pts.) by 9 wickets:

Heaton Mersey 126 (47 overs: J Ainscough 27, M Parkinson 4-35, A. Syddall 3-29);

Urmston 127-1 (31 overs: M Downes 52no, C Turner 38).

MIDDLEWICH (25 pts.) beat BROOKLANDS (toss, 8 pts.) by 3 runs:

Middlewich 214-9 (50 overs: K Clowes 47, S Price 46no, C. Potter 5-55);

Brooklands 211 (overs: A Hart 50, J Birchall 39, P Hurley 3-32).

*** Oulton Park v Cheadle is on Sunday, August 18**

..... AND DIVISION TWO

ALVANLEY (4 pts.) lost to TATTENHALL (won toss, 25 pts.) by 8 wickets:

Alvanley 153-9 (50 overs: A Donoghue 35, M. Szymura 31, D. Shewring 3-34);
Tattenhall 154-2 (35 overs: D Power 66, O Thompson 59no).

CONGLETON (toss, 15 pts.) drew with DAVENHAM (8 pts.)

Congleton 207 (50 overs: J. Lamb 61, T Blease 32, D Hancock 6-78);
Davenham 170-9 (50 overs: J Copeland 6-48).

IRBY (toss, 25 pts.) beat BOLLINGTON (5 pts.) by 2 wickets:

Bollington 139 (49 overs: C McGuinness 33, A. Cummings 7-38, J. Hurworth 3-48);
Irby 140-8 (50.5 overs: A Williams 47, S. Renshaw 31no, S Khan 6-58). *Bollington had no scorer.*

POYNTON (toss, 16 pts.) tied with STOCKPORT (16 pts.):

Stockport 152 (49.5 overs: D. Williams 3-35);
Poynton 152 (overs: D. Williams 40, M. Green 6-64).

STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (6 pts.) lost to WEAVERHAM (toss, 25 pts.) by 57 runs

Weaverham 236-8 dec. (46 overs: W Cornwall 107, J Lewis 91, J. Devlin 5-58);
Stockport Georgians 179 (43 overs: A Gaskarth 52, M. Kilbride 43, W. Cornwall 8-63).

TIMPERLEY (14 pts.) drew with WARRINGTON (toss, 8 pts.)

Timperley 274-7 (50 overs: M. Macquet 88, P Ashling 80, M Ness 43);
Warrington 207-8 (50 overs: C Kirby 46, J Hughes 38, C. Grindley 3-17).

PICK OF WEEK (o = overseas player)

ECB Premier League

Batting: Will Evans (Neston) 160no v Macclesfield
Bowling: Alex Kegg (Chester Boughton Hall) 6-36 v Marple

First Division

Batting: I De Silva (Christleton) 74 v Sale;
Bowling: Chris Potter (Brooklands) 5-55 v Middlewich

Second Division

Batting: oWilden Cornwall (Weaverham) 107 v Stockport Georgians
Bowling: oWilden Cornwall (Weaverham) 8-63 v Stockport Georgians

Best all-round performance oWilden Cornwall (see above).

Transfers deadline looms

THE last date on which players can appear in 1st and 2nd XI matches for their club for the first time this season is next Saturday, August 10. Any further transfer requests have to be in the hands of Registration secretary Tony Morris by 1300 hours on Friday this week.. For full wording see Match regulation 28 on page 237 of handbook.

Latest transfers:

ANDREW JAMES from Alderley Edge to Toft, confirmed July 31;
TERENCE BALMER from Sheffield Hallam to Warrington, confirmed July 31.

How they stand after 16 games

ECB PREMIER	W	T	WD	RD	LD	C	L	Bat	Bowl	Pts.
	(25)	(16)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(7)				
NESTON (8)	12	0	1	0	1	0	2	17	13	326
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	11	0	1	1	0	0	3	23	14	317
TOFT	8	0	1	0	0	1	6	43	15	268
HYDE	8	0	1	1	3	0	3	34	22	264
GRAPPENHALL	7	0	2	1	0	0	6	57	18	258
NANTWICH	7	0	1	0	1	0	7	34	18	231
OXTON	7	0	0	0	1	0	8	23	21	220
ALDERLEY EDGE	6	0	1	0	2	0	7	31	23	209
MARPLE	5	0	2	0	1	0	8	50	23	205
BOWDON	5	0	1	1	0	0	9	48	28	206
DIDSBURY	3	0	0	0	1	0	12	49	25	150
MACCLESFIELD	2	0	1	0	2	1	10	57	24	143

Neston 8 points deducted for slow over rate. This is subject to appeal.

DIVISION 1

BRAMHALL	11	1	1	0	1	0	2	26	13	334
URMSTON	10	1	0	0	1	0	4	23	7	297
CHEADLE HULME	9	0	2	0	2	0	3	30	23	286
BROOKLANDS	8	0	1	0	1	0	6	28	18	250
*OULTON PARK	6	0	2	1	2	0	4	42	24	226
SALE	5	2	2	0	0	0	7	47	16	226
WIDNES	5	0	2	0	0	0	9	41	23	195
MIDDLEWICH	5	0	1	0	5	0	5	31	27	191
CHRISTLETON	3	0	4	0	2	0	7	70	30	189
*CHEADLE	4	0	2	1	2	0	6	41	32	183
HEATON MERSEY	3	0	3	0	1	0	9	45	34	164
BREDBURY ST. MARK'S	3	0	0	0	3	0	10	57	22	157

*Played 15 games

DIVISION 2

TIMPERLEY	14	0	1	0	1	0	0	10	7	371
STOCKPORT	10	1	1	0	0	0	4	20	11	300
CONGLETON	9	0	2	0	0	0	5	25	14	270
TATTENHALL	9	0	1	0	1	0	5	22	18	269
WARRINGTON	9	0	1	0	2	0	4	19	18	267
DAVENHAM	7	0	3	0	1	0	5	43	28	256
POYNTON	7	1	1	0	1	0	6	25	23	243
WEAVERHAM	6	0	2	0	3	0	5	46	26	231
IRBY	4	0	0	0	2	0	10	35	20	157
ALVANLEY	3	0	0	0	1	0	12	34	26	136
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	1	0	2	0	1	0	12	50	31	113
BOLLINGTON	1	0	1	0	2	0	12	36	29	95

RedInsure T20 revenge for Hyde

HYDE reached the ECB t20 Area Finals when they scored a thrilling, five wickets, last over victory over Neston before a large crowd at Timperley on Tuesday, July 31.

Winning the League's **RedInsure T20** for the second time in three seasons – and a record third overall - Hyde turned the tables on Neston who had beaten them in a last ball thriller at Parkgate 12 months earlier

Neston clocked up an impressive 171-8 thanks to clean hitting by Luke Camden (34), Dave Manchett (31) and Chris Hackett (29). Hyde bowlers took a hammering, with Dan Cranmer's three wickets costing 43 runs.

Hyde's experienced batsmen always give the impression that they can achieve any target and they set off at full steam with Tom Twiney, 27, Scott Kirwin, 27 and especially James Duffy, all going well. With the light fading, 31 runs were needed off the last three overs, 19 off the last two and 12 off the 20th. In fact, they needed only three balls as Cranmer hammered two sixes on either side of a wide to clinch victory and finish with 25 runs with Duffy by now out for a superb 61 which deservedly won him the Man of the Match award.. Paul Stimson, 2-9 and the pacy Ashley Davis, 2-33 were the best Neston bowlers.

The trophy was presented to Hyde skipper Danny Berry by Ron Graham. The other awards were handed out by Val Warburton representing sponsors RedInsure and League chairman David Humpage. These included cheques for all four finalists: Hyde £250; Neston £100; Oxtun and Timperley both £50, while Neston's Dave Manchett won the champagne award for his brilliant outfield catch to dismiss Chris Tipper.

The Finals Days were managed by League secretary Geoff Wellsted who thanked both teams for a fine performance, the scorers and umpires, the sponsors, Timperley for their excellent organisation and Competition secretary Mike Talbot-Butler and Wyn TB for administering the competition during the previous three months.

Hyde now go through to represent the League in the **ECB t20 Area Finals** at Werneth Low on Sunday, August 11. They will play North Staffs & South Cheshire League T20 winners Stone at 10.30 a.m. followed by Shrewsbury (Birmingham League) v the North Wales winners at 1p.m. The two winning leagues then meet at 4 p.m. for the right to progress to the Regional Final on Sunday, August 25.

All-England Finals Day is at the Brit Oval on Friday, September 13.

FULL FINAL SCORECARD

NESTON			HYDE		
W. Evans	c Duffy b Ebbrell	9	T. Twiney	lbw Clarke	27
D Hurst	lbw Cranmer	23	D Berry	st Evans b Stimson	4
J. Smith	c Duffy b Kirwin	5	C. Tipper	C Manchett b Stimson	15
L Camden	c Brierley b Morris	34	J Duffy	b Davis	61
A Clarke	c Morris b Fitzsimmons	19	S Kirwin	b Davis	27
C Hackett	b Cranmer	28	D. Fitzsimmons	not out	4
D Manchett	c Tipper b Cranmer	31	D Cranmer	not out	25
J Crick	run out	2	Extras		9
A Davis	not out	5	Total (for 5 wickets, 19.2 overs)		172
M Stewart	not out	0	Did not bat: R Brierley, J Ashley, M Morris, J. Ebbrell		
Extras		15			
Total (for 8 wickets, 20 overs)		171			

Did not bat: P Stimson.

BOWLING

Hyde: Kirwin 4-0-20-1; Ebbrell 2-0-27-1; Tipper 4-0-27-0; Cranmer 4-0-43-3; Fitzsimmons 3-0-19-1; Morris 3-0-28-1.

Neston: Davis 4-0-33-2; Stimson 2-0-9-2; Hackett 3.2-0-43-0; Hurst 4-0-32-0; Stewart 1-0-16-1; Clarke 4-0-24-1; Crick 1-0-9-0.

Umpires: Ged Kinsey and Chris Smith.

SEMI-FINALS (played on Sunday, July 28)

HYDE beat TIMPERLEY by 5 wickets:

Timperley 154-6 (20 overs: M. Stevens 38, M. Ness 33, D. Howarth 24no, T. Young 3-41);

Hyde 157-5 (18.2 overs: D Fitzsimmons 52, J. Duffy 44, D. Berry 29no, C. Grindley 2-21, M. Macquet 2-31).

NESTON beat OXTON by 8 wickets:

Oxtun 109 (18 overs: G Fernando 38, M. Stewart 3-15, D. Hurst 2-11);

Neston 112-2 (15.2 overs: D Hurst 35no, W. Evans 34)

Umpires: Ankit Jain, Neville Kent, Phil Prince, Jon Hacking.

Wet night for Forties

ONLY one game was played in the **Over 40s section** on Wednesday last week due to rain.

This means that 2012 joint champions Alsager Dabbers become the third team to clinch a group title as they cannot be caught at the top of the Central section with only the final round of fixtures remaining.

Also in the Central group, Bowdon Vale Vikings and Bowdon whose fixture was a casualty of the weather, have re-arranged their derby clash for Wednesday, August 14.

In the West zone, the top spot will go to Irby or Neston who meet at Mill Hill Road in the final week. No action is being taken against Irby fielding an overseas player in several recent games as precedent has been struck in Forties cricket on previous occasions (e.g. Wasim Akram for Grappenhall).

Chester Boughton Hall brought forward their final game at home to Oxton to last Thursday and won by five runs. The previous evening, their match at Tattenhall was the only one played, Wreckers winning by 37 runs to go joint top from their final fixture.

Likewise Cheadle brought forward their last North East group fixture at home to Urmston Tigers to avoid clashing with their Cricket Week and inflicted the first defeat in two years on 2012 and 2013 group champions Urmston.

The Final play-offs will be held at Upton on August Bank Holiday Monday starting at 12 noon, sponsored by TailorMade Group pensions. The draw will be published next week.

THE SOGGY STORY ...

West Group

CALDY v IRBY: cancelled due to rain – 2 pts. each

TATTENHALL WRECKERS (4 pts.) beat CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL by 37 runs:

Tattenhall 127-6; Chester 90-8 *No information from Tattenhall: £15 fine.*

UPTON v NESTON: cancelled due to rain – 2 pts. each

Played Thursday: CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (4 pts.) beat OXTON by 5 runs:

Chester 137-5 (Fleet 33, Legry 25, Thomas 21); Oxton 132-6 (Benson 32, Jordan 3-25).

Central Group

ALSAGER DABBERS v TOFT (Wednesday): cancelled - 2 pts. each

ASHLEY v GRAPPENHALL: cancelled – 2 pts. each

BOWDON VALE VIKINGS v BOWDON: postponed to Wednesday, August 14.

MOBBERLEY v DAVENHAM: cancelled – 2 pts. each

North-East Group

Played on Tuesday: CHEADLE (4pts.) beat URMSTON TIGERS by 6 wickets:

Urmston 132-5 (Cartwright 30, Turner 28, Ridler 28, Orton 3-32); Cheadle 133-4 (Blood 31, Charlton 30, Oakes 25).

ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS v BROOKLANDS: cancelled – 2 pts. each

CHEADLE HULME LADYBRIDGE v CHEADLE: cancelled – 2 pts. each

CHEADLE HULME v WARRINGTON: no information from Cheadle Hulme, assume cancelled. *Cheadle Hulme £15 fine.*

URMSTON TIGERS v SALE SILVERBACKS: cancelled – 2 pts. each

South-East Group

MACCLESFIELD v BREDBURY SAINTS: cancelled – 2 pts. each

POYNTON LEGENDS v MARPLE: cancelled – 2 pts. each

OFFERTON v BRAMHALL: cancelled – 2 pts. each

WOODLEY v BOLLINGTON VETERANS: cancelled – 2 pts. each

AUGUST 3 NEWSLETTER: 8

Latest Over 40s tables

<u>West group</u>	P	W (4)	T (3)	C (2)	L	Points
IRBY	11	7	0	2	2	32
TATTENHALL WRECKERS	12	7	0	2	3	32
NESTON	11	6	0	3	2	30
CALDY	11	5	0	2	4	24
OXTON	11	4	0	0	7	16
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	12	4	0	0	8	16
UPTON	12	2	0	1	9	10

Conceded games: Upton (2) and Chester (1).

Central group

<u>ALSAGER DABBERS</u>	13	9	1	3	0	45 champions
GRAPPENHALL	13	7	1	3	2	37
TOFT	13	7	2	3	1	40
BOWDON VALE VIKINGS	12	5	0	2	5	24
BOWDON	12	5	0	2	5	24
ASHLEY	13	2	0	3	8	14
DAVENHAM	13	2	0	3	8	14
MOBBERLEY	13	1	0	3	9	10

Conceded games: Davenham (2), Mobberley (2), Ashley and Bowdon Vale Vikings. .

North-East group

<u>URMSTON</u>	14	10	0	3	1	46 champions
*CHEADLE HULME	12	6	1	2	3	31
SALE SILVERBACKS	13	6	0	2	5	28
CHEADLE	14	4	1	3	6	25
CHEADLE HULME LADYBRIDGE	13	5	0	2	6	24
ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS	13	4	0	3	6	22
BROOKLANDS	13	4	0	2	7	20
*WARRINGTON	12	3	0	1	8	14

Conceded games: Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge (4), Sale (2), Warrington (1).

South-East group

<u>BREDBURY SAINTS</u>	13	11	0	2	0	48 champions
BRAMHALL	13	6	0	3	4	30
POYNTON LEGENDS	13	6	0	3	4	30
BOLLINGTON VETERANS	13	5	0	3	5	26
WOODLEY	13	5	0	1	7	22
MACCLESFIELD	13	3	1	3	6	21
OFFERTON	13	2	1	3	7	17
MARPLE	13	3	0	2	8	16

Conceded games: Marple (1), Poynton Legends (1).

FINAL FIXTURES ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7 (6 pm)

WEST: Neston v Irby; Oxtton v Caldly. Open Upton

CENTRAL: Davenham v Alsager Dabbers; Grappenhall v Bowdon Vale Vikings; Mobberley v Bowdon; Toft v Ashley.

Wednesday, August 14: Bowdon Vale Vikings v Bowdon.

NORTH-EAST: Brooklands v Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge (already conceded by CHL); Sale Silverbacks v Cheadle Hulme; Warrington v Alderley Edge Wizards.

SOUTH-EAST: Bollington Veterans v Macclesfield; Bramhall v Woodley; Bredbury Saints v Poynton Legends; Marple v Offerton.

July 27 ... pitch & ground marks

UMPIRES' League ground marks from games on Saturday, July 27 were as follows:

ECB Premier League: Alderley Edge v Neston: pitch 16 outfield 17; Bowdon v Chester 17 – 20; Hyde v Oxton 17 – 18; Marple v Didsbury 15 – 18; Nantwich v Grappenhall 18 – 19; Toft v Macclesfield 18 – 19.

First Division: Bredbury v Oulton Park 18 – 18; Brooklands v Christleton 14 – 15; Cheadle Hulme v Middlewich 15 – 18; Sale v Heaton Mersey 15 – 18; Urmston v Bramhall 18 – 20; Widnes v Cheadle 16 – 17.

Second Division: Bollington v Congleton 17 – 19; Davenham v Poynton 18 – 18; Stockport v Tattenhall 20 – 20 (*full house*); Timperley v Alvanley 14 – 19; Warrington v Stockport Georgians 17 – 15; Weaverham v Irby 18 – 17.

All captains' reports were received by co ordinator Ken Spilsbury.

UP-DATES ...

O Hyde's third wicket pair Chris Tipper and James Duffy put together a Premiership best of season stand of 184 v Oxton

O Toft second wicket pair Jake Hancock and Rob Jones put on 136.v Macclesfield.

O Oulton Park's Ric Moore and Lou Bentley added 158 for the second wicket v Bredbury

O In their 10 wickets home victory over Middlewich, five Cheadle Hulme players stood out: Rana Malook and Kris Nissen for taking five wickets each bowling unchanged, wicket-keeper Steve Leech for five catches; and opening batsmen Gautam Narayanan and Adam Wilde for knocking off 113 runs without being parted inside 15 overs.

O In Heaton Mersey's 42 runs win at Sale, four of the first five Sale batsmen were given out lbw. Umpires Allan Lewis and David Stoter had praise for Sale's 14 year-old scorer Josh Cannon commenting: "He did a brilliant job on his own and is to be commended. He was accurate and kept the scoreboard up to date throughout".

O In Bollington's home defeat by Congleton, wicket-keeper Tom Salisbury took two catches and a stumping, then top-scored with 46 runs

O Playing his first game after being transferred from Alvanley, left arm spinner David Shewring took all three Stockport wickets to fall in his new team's defeat.

O Batting at Weaverham. Irby slumped to 33-7 before recovering modestly to total 80

TACS CHESHIRE LEAGUE CHAIRMAN TO RETIRE

AFTER 18 years as chairman of what is now entitled the **TACS sponsored Cheshire Cricket League**, Peter Davies is to retire.

Mr. Davies says that as he is into his second term as chairman of the Cheshire Cricket Board and is also Under 17 manager of Cheshire Youth Cricket and serves on that body's management committee, he feels it is time to stand down as League chairman, which he will do in January, 2014 at the next AGM. The League executive have expressed their sincere thanks to Peter for 39 years' of unbroken service in various capacities,

On Saturday in the First Division, Mobberley and Upton beat Ashton on Mersey and Winnington Park respectively, but Northwich were held to a draw at lowly Oakmere.

RESULTS: Ashton on Mersey 158 Mobberley 169-8 dec.; Chester County Officers 171-7 dec. Malpas 175-7; Hale Barns 166-7 dec. Runcorn 115; Oakmere 123-7 Northwich 185-6 dec.; Romiley 165-2 Prestbury 164; Winnington Park 96 Upton 97-0.

LATEST PLACINGS: 1. Mobberley 321; 2. Northwich 312; 3. Upton 297; 4. Romiley 271; 5. Malpas 268; 6. Ashton on Mersey 263; 7. Hale Barns 227; 8. CCO 209; 9. Oakmere 191; 10. Runcorn 188; 11. Winnington Park 153; 12. Prestbury 133.

FIXTURES in Division 1 on Saturday, August 10 (1.30 pm.): Malpas v Ashton on Mersey; Mobberley v Hale Barns; Northwich v Chester County Officers; Prestbury v Oakmere; Runcorn v Winnington Park; Upton v Romiley.

Information supplied by Graham Coull, CL vice chairman.

Over Fifties' exit at Flitwick

CHESHIRE's interest in the **National 50 Plus county championship** ended in the Last 16 play-off at Flitwick last Wednesday when Bedfordshire beat them by 66 runs.

After a rain-delayed start reduced to 40 overs, acting skipper Gary Dixon put Beds in. Top batsman Jeremy Page was badly dropped and went on to score an unbeaten 91 in a tally of 184-6. Andy McIlroy bowled well to return 2-11 and Mike Cushion 0-17, both off eight overs, but Dixon's eight overs brought him 2-50.

Cheshire reached 46-1 off 10 overs, Phil Catterall 20, but the Widnes' batsman's contribution proved to be the highest as his colleagues failed, added to a disastrous run out for a duck of Colin Ridler. Beds' slow bowler Phil Mustoe collected 4-15 off eight accurate overs and the innings subsided to a disappointing 118 all out.

Cheshire's **Spitfire 60 Plus county championship** last 16 play-off was on Tuesday this week against Leicestershire at Bardon Hill CC (1 p.m.).

Rain halts Cheshire

CHESHIRE'S key three-day **Minor Counties championship** game against Devon at Bowdon starting on Sunday was curtailed by rain with the forecast of further bad weather on Monday. The match concludes on Tuesday (11 a.m. daily).

After early setbacks to 23-3, Cheshire recovered to reach 254-7 off 69.1 overs when bad light, then rain, halted play. Khalid Sawas was again in good form, top-scoring with 80, aided by 53 from James Duffy, with Jack Williams unbeaten on 30.

Cheshire entered the game leading the West Division table by one point from Shropshire, who are currently playing Berkshire at Whitchurch. The two top teams are due to clash in their final fixture at Nantwich from August 18 – 20. But they need to keep an eye on the results from Wales, who could pip both for the title.

WEST DIVISION LEADERS BEFORE SUNDAY

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
CHESHIRE	4	4	0	0	92
SHROPSHIRE	4	4	0	0	91
WALES MC	4	4	0	0	90
DEVON	4	2	1	1	61

DEVELOPMENT XI: Cheshire's game against Warwickshire Under 19s at King Edward's School, Birmingham on Tuesday last week was abandoned due to rain. Score: Cheshire 183-5 (Ross Dixon 77 no).

Cheshire played Worcestershire Under 19s at Bramhall on Friday, losing by 9 wickets. Scores: Cheshire 169-9; Worcs 170-1. Next outing is against their Staffordshire counterparts at Macclesfield on Thursday, August 15 (11 a.m.).

Cheshire Cup and Shield

THE outstanding quarter-final in the **Cheshire Cup** between Wallasey v Birkenhead Park on Sunday was again abandoned and Birkenhead go through by dint of the fact that they alone were able to fulfil the fixture on the original date.

Draw for semi-finals: Birkenhead Park v Chester Boughton Hall (holders) on Sunday, August 11; Macclesfield v New Brighton on Sunday, August 18.

Semi-finals in the **Cheshire Shield** are: Bramhall v Cheadle Hulme (Sunday, August 11); Romiley v Port Sunlight (Sunday, August 18).

o Information provided by Cheshire Cups organiser Rick Davis.

Alistair Davies's Umpires Quiz: Week 16

LAST WEEK: The batsmen complete three runs scored off a No Ball. When the ball is dead each umpire calls 'one short' off the same batsman. How many runs are recorded?

ANSWER: One run is awarded for the No ball, plus one completed run. Two runs in total. **Laws 24.12; 18.3; 18.4 (d).**

THIS WEEK'S POSER: There is a fielder 10 yards behind the batsman on the leg side. As the bowler starts his run up this fielder retreats about 30 yards towards the boundary. What action – if any – should the Umpire take?

IN BRIEF ...

O THE League have two clubs in the semi-finals of the *Liverpool Echo Cup*, the draw having resulted: Neston v Bootle (Thursday, August 8); Chester Boughton Hall v New Brighton (Friday, August 9, both 6 p.m.). Semi-final result: Ainsdale 131; CBH 132-1 (Warren Goodwin 71, Ross Dixon 45).

O TATTENHALL enjoyed a brief and successful tour to West Wales. They defeated Aberystwyth in good weather, then Landysal by Duckworth / Lewis after rain – or so claims scorer Geoff Beddow.

O TRANSFER of Chris Barlow reported in last week's *Newsletter* was from Stretford to Sale, not to Urmston.

O LEAGUE Third XI Jack Gardner Finals Day is at Irby on Sunday, August 11 (12.15 pm.). Draw: Cheadle (holders) v Didsbury; Oxton v Urmston. The final is at 3.40 p.m.

Grappenhall pack in 2,500 to see RL stars and Test Legends

A CROWD estimated at about 2,500 watched Grappenhall's big double header T20 extravaganza on Tuesday last week, when the Broad Lane ground was graced by top Rugby League stars and some of cricket's most famous names.

At the invitation of *Newsletter*. Grappenhall secretary Paul Tyerman offers the following report of proceedings:

"The ground was packed to the rafters with more than 2,500 men, women, boys and girls to see a truly memorable charity event in glorious sunshine.

First up, spectators watched the Warrington Wolves Super League players turn over a mixed Grappenhall XI captained by myself. Some friendly bowling saw Bennie Westwood, whose testimonial charity will benefit from funds raised, and Wolves coach Tony Smith set off with a flurry of boundaries. Stefan Ratchford, Joel Monaghan and Lee Briers also showed they can strike a ball with real power to set a big total with 187.

Grappenhall kept up with the run rate for most of their innings but only Mark Tyerman scored well enough to retire at 50. The closing overs saw Grappers needing 37 runs of three overs which proved five runs too many. Some good spin bowling from Trent Waterhouse and faster stuff from Lee Briers who sledged the Grappenhall lads unmercifully.

The crowd got what they wanted with a win for Wolves - great favourites in this part of the world - with some big sixes leading to a thrilling finish.

500 feast in marquee

Then followed a hospitality event for 500 people in the marquee and a Q&A session hosted by former England bowler Ed Giddins with Andy Flintoff and Jeff Thomson.

The main event saw England Legends take on their Aussie counterparts, the home line up including local boy Neil Fairbrother, Andy Flintoff, Andy Caddick, Mark Ramprakash, Dominic Cork, John Embury, Chris Schofield and Devon Malcolm. Aussies on view were Ian Harvey, Damien Martyn, Jeff Thomson, Greg Matthews, David Hussey, Dirk Nannes, Lancashire's Simon Katich and special guest 'our own' Wasim Akram, while Grappers' Overseas player Josh McClelland also played and took a stunning one handed catch to get rid of – would you believe – Fairbrother himself.

England posted 164 in their 20 overs with Flintoff falling early, Ramps made 42 and Schofield had some big hits in his 62. The Aussies chased down that score with Katich and Martyn retiring on 50 and Harvey 31 to see their side home with one ball to spare. During the innings, Flintoff retired to the clubhouse to do a BBC Radio 5 live radio slot with Mark Chapman. Highlights and interviews were later shown on Sky television.

The crowd certainly got their money's worth (ground admission was £27 and £20) with both games going to the wire. The excellent weather helped make the day a perfect one and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves.

There have been numerous messages of congratulation in the past 48 hours to chairman Dave Nicholson and his team of helpers after a day that will long live in the memory, perhaps even surpassing the show the club put on in 2012.

With exact figures yet to be finalised, the event raised serious money for Grappenhall's pavilion Restoration Fund as well as the AF Foundation and the Bennie Westwood testimonial charity".

CRICKET WEEK MARKS CHEADLE'S 150

THE highlight of Cheadle's 150th anniversary season is a Cricket Week due to start to-day (Monday). Fixtures are as follows:

Monday: Cheadle v Cheadle Hulme (T20, 6 p.m.)

Tuesday: Cheadle 2004 v Cheadle 2013 (T20, 6 p.m.)

Wednesday: Cheadle Under 15 v District Under 15 (35 overs each, 12 noon) followed by Cheadle Over 40s v Chairman's Over 40s (T20, 6 p.m.)

Thursday: Cheadle v MCC (12.30). Followed in the evening from 7.30 pm Charity Ladies Night for St. Ann's Hospice.

Saturday : League fixture 1st XI v Bramhall at 11.30 .am.. Followed by the 150th Anniversary Ball from 7.30 p.m. at which former Australian cricketer Rodney Hogg will be guest speaker.

Macc raise £3,000 for Mayor's charities

AN estimated £3,000 was raised for the Town Mayor's Charities when Macclesfield President's XI comprising current players lost by one wicket to the Mayor's XI of former players, in an exhibition match at Victoria Road on Sunday.

Chairman Simon Griffiths reported: "We had a great day – and it didn't rain. The money will go to JJ Sensory Play, a multi-sensory play centre for babies and young children and the Just Drop In Centre, which supports young people".

FIXTURES & UMPIRES FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

ECB Premier League (12.30 p.m.)

BOWDON v OXTON
HYDE v NESTON
MACCLESFIELD v DIDSBURY
MARPLE v GRAPPENHALL
NANTWICH v ALDERLEY EDGE
TOFT v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL

Trevor Burnett & Alistair Davies
Don Flanagan & Phil Prince
Dion Kelly & Chris Smith
Jon Hacking & Ian Greensmith
Ged Kinsey & Glyn Roberts
Barrie Burns & Geoff Wellsted

First Division (1 p.m.)

BROOKLANDS v BREDBURY ST. MARK'S
CHEADLE v BRAMHALL (11.30 a.m.)
CHEADLE HULME v OULTON PARK
SALE v MIDDLEWICH
URMSTON v CHRISTLETON
WIDNES v HEATON MERSEY

Ray Prescott & Clive Rice
David Gane & *Simon Smith
*Ronnie Locke & Tom Spencer
Brian Jones & Ken Rothwell
Howard Briggs & Paul Herring
Ankit Jain & Steve Kirkbright

* *Simon Smith tel. 07920 849 774 (m).*

* *Ronnie Locke tels. 01565 621 556 (h) & 07747 754 313 (Om).*

Second Division (1 p.m.)

BOLLINGTON v STOCKPORT GEORGIANS
DAVENHAM v IRBY
STOCKPORT v CONGLETON
TATTENHALL v POYNTON
WARRINGTON v ALVANLEY
WEAVERHAM v TIMPERLEY

Martin Roberts & *Ian Wilkinson
John Lowe & Tony Morris
Garry Hambleton & David Stoter
Ken Simpson & David Williams
Steve Duckers & Allan Lewis
Neville Abberley & Bob Cunningham

* *Ian Wilkinson tels. 0161 962 5910 (h) & 07773 179 209 (m).*

2nd XI Premier Division (1 p.m.)

No panel umpires available this week

ALDERLEY EDGE v NANTWICH
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL v TOFT
DIDSBURY v MACCLESFIELD
GRAPPENHALL v URMSTON
MIDDLEWICH v SALE
NESTON v HYDE

Last word

THE ebb and flow of the Old Trafford Ashes Test Match has been the talk of the week, as have the hefty admission prices.

Two young men who got in to watch all five days free, gratis and for nothing were Premier League spin bowlers Jimmy Lomas (Toft) and Simon Normanton (Didsbury) who were rewarded for hours of net bowling to the England and Australia batsmen with free admission to all five days' play. On course to deliver a record 500 overs in the Premiership this season, Jimmy must wonder when his left arm will fall off.