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**CHESHIRE COUNTY
CRICKET LEAGUE**



2012 season: August 11 Newsletter

SIX TONS SCORED AS SUN COMES OUT

Macc rise to top

A SPOT of sunshine worked wonders for **ECB Premier League** batsmen on Saturday, six centuries being recorded as the runs flowed, especially at Alderley Edge v Hyde where 627 were recorded for the loss of nine wickets.

There were no tons at Didsbury where Macclesfield won by two wickets to go top of the table for the first time with five matches to go. Didsbury opted to bat and totalled 186-6, Johan van Schalkwyck 64, Pat Moors 52 not out, Rob Porter 3-71, and Ian Tait deserving better figures than 2-62. After a struggle and needing 70 off the last eight overs, Macclesfield reached their target at 188-8 with three balls remaining. James Crosthwaite top-scoring with 46, aided by Khalid Sawas, 35 and Leon Markie, who played a key role a key 34 not out at the death.

Macclesfield have now scored eight wins, one more than deposed second-placed Oxton, who lie five points behind after a frustrating drawn game at home to Chester Boughton Hall. New Zealand batsman LOU VINCENT scored a superb unbeaten 155 in Oxton's massive 288-6, enjoying a seventh wicket stand worth 128 with Gayan Fernando, 43 not out, while Alex Kegg did his best to stem the tide with 3-59. Chester fell well short at 181-8, Lee Dixon and Kumar Sarna joint top-scoring with 35 while Jack Williams scored unbeaten on 24 as the tension rose. Vincent chipped in with 2-36 to show his all-round ability.

The Big Scoring Match at Alderley Edge saw Hyde put in and amass 324-4, the season's highest partnership of 224 for the second wicket being between skipper DANNY BERRY, 160 (19 fours and six sixes) and JAMES DUFFY, 122 (17 fours and two sixes). All this time Jason Whittaker wheeled away accurately for a respectable return of 3-83.

It was the turn of Alderley's batsmen to make hay after tea. MARK CURRI E scored 129 (24 fours) and with Calum Rowe, 90 not out, added 131 for the second wicket as a final score of 303-5 was reached. It was just not the bowlers' day – ask Scott Kirwin, who took 1-117 off 26 overs. The upshot of all this was that Hyde took 12 points to their hosts' seven.

Bentley's third unbeaten century

Watch out for champions Nantwich who are coming up on the rails. They beat Neston by nine wickets at Whitehouse Lane to rise to fifth place, just 26 points behind the leaders. Neston were bowled out for 143, Andy Murphy 50, Luke Camden 31, Ollie Griffiths 3-32, Jimmy Warrington 3-41. Then followed a typically fluent innings from LOUIS BENTLEY, who scored an unbeaten 110 out of 144 for the second wicket with Jonny Kettle, 34 not out, in 26 overs. His innings – the third successive week the Lancashire batsman has reached 100 without being dismissed - contained 11 fours and six sixes.

Toft lost heavily at home to Widnes and have dropped to the foot of the table for the first time. Toft mustered a below par 168-8 which would have been considerably fewer but for a patient unbeaten 80 from skipper Toby Drummond. His colleague had difficulty with the canny off spin of Mike Nalesnyik, who took 4-45 bowling on the cracked dustbowl into which the Toft square has developed. The Widnes batsmen had no such difficulties, however, and replied with 169-3, Sam Agarwal contributing a quality 74 and Andy Ford 47, to clinch a win which lifts them out of the bottom three.

Marple had the better of a high-scoring draw at Urmston, piling up 297-5, with 117 from Aussie big hitter ANDY McGUINNESS and 68 from Mark Bennett. Urmston's reply reached a respectable 249-7, led by skipper Samit Panda, 76 not out, Lewis Jackson 63, Andy Wylie 3-42. Marple emerged with 13 points, with Urmston's eight keeping them in the danger zone.

NESTON in ECB NATIONAL t20 LAST 8

NESTON made progress to the **ECB National t20 Regional Finals** when they beat Birmingham League club Tamworth at Mochdre on Sunday. They now host old Liverpool Competition rivals Northern at Parkgate on Sunday August 18.

Cheshire Cup final: Hyde or Elworth v Chester Boughton Hall (Sunday, September 2). **Cheshire Shield final:** Oulton Park v Stockport (Sunday, August 26).

For further details see page 8.

DIV. 1: Bowdon lead by 27 points

BOWDON recovered from their defeat at Oulton Park to hammer Bredbury St. Mark's by eight wickets at South Downs Road and go 27 points clear at the top of **Division One** with their 11th victory.

Bredbury put up their usual stout batting display to close on 197-5, Paul Wood 97, Peter Zybrands 52, Simon Marshall 4-42. But Bowdon were up for it and coasted home at 200-2 in 36 overs thanks to valuable all-rounder Marshall, 85, Stephen Ball, 51 and former Lancashire skipper Mark Chilton, 35 not out.

Grappenhall's fall from grace continued at Bollington where they lost their third successive game – by four wickets – against the wooden spoonists. Richard Green, 113 batted superbly to prompt Grappenhall to make a bold declaration after 47 overs at 205-7. . With only one previous victory all season, Bollington threw off their batting woes and with 59 from Alex Sykes and a key late 38 not out by Jahangir Mohammed, they closed on 208-6 in the 52nd over.

Oulton Park increased the pressure on the top two with another impressive performance at Irby, where they won by three wickets chasing 223-7, Josh Mallichan 74, Greg Shillinglaw 56, Guy Emmett 5-87. With a magnificent unbeaten 127 from the league's leading run-scorer Rick Moore (he now has 832) and 58 by Ben Tomlinson, Oulton collected full points at 224-7 to close up to within 44 points of second place. Too big a gap with only five games left?

Team of Moment

Heaton Mersey slipped back to the foot of the table after losing by nine wickets to the Team of the Moment Bramhall who clocked up their fourth successive win. 'Mersey were ousted for 140, Peter August 35, Rupe Kitzinger and Simon Wilkinson bowling unchanged to return 4-55 and 4-62 respectively. Then Matt Hughes clipped an unbeaten 66 and Mark Jamieson 54 as Bramhall replied with 142-1 in 38 overs.

Brooklands won their derby match at Sale by four runs in a thrilling finish. John Birchall top-scored with 73 in Brooklands' 205-8 and victory seemed a formality for Sale after tea until they lost their last five wickets for 13 runs and were all out for 201, rough justice for Willem Lubbe who scored 93. Birchall earned man of the match honours with 4-48.

Chairman David Humpage presented Rick Halkon of Sale with the League's Performance of the Month (9-42 v Bollington) prize before the start of this match. Rick has an even bigger award to celebrate, having recently named Sky Sports' Coach of the Year for Cheshire| The ECB recognised his efforts by inviting the outstanding clubman as their guest to the recent South Africa Test match at Leeds.

Christleton emerged with a 14-6 points draw from their visit to Cheadle Hulme. Varun Sood top-scored with 80, Iro De Silva 62 and Ben Patterson 54 in Christleton's impressive tally of 241-5, Ewan McCray 3-87. With Jordan Potts, 63 and Adam Wilde, 36 batting well Cheadle Hulme's reply was good before a collapse saw their last pair hold out at 176-9. Ifti Naseer took 6-51, the day's best divisional bowling return.

DIV. 2: Tight at the top

MIDDLEWICH retained the league's only unbeaten record to stay top of **Division Two**, but there remains little space in front of hard-chasing Cheadle and Warrington

Middlewich outplayed Malpas at Haddon Field, winning by 152 runs after racking up 259-6, Stephen Parry 51, Andy Cole 45. Malpas were ousted for 107, Rob Ward 38, left arm paceman Gavin Tomlinson returning the fine figures of 6-31.

Cheadle remain six points behind thanks to a comfortable victory over fading Congleton at Kingsway. Greg Dixon, 85 and Dan Brown, 76 helped Cheadle close on 226-4, Jack Higginbotham 3-61. Congleton then fell 98 runs short at 128, Higginbotham 34, Matt Gross 3-64.

There's no shaking off Warrington, who beat Poynton by four wickets at Walton Lea, their Aussie paceman Kyle Adams taking 5-61 to lift his tally to 65 wickets. Poynton mustered just 157-8, Jake Turner 69 and Warrington went on to win by four wickets at 153-6, Paul Farrar 40, Mike Rudd 44 not out.

Battle against drop

Nearer the foot of the table, Stockport Georgians, Upton and Alvanley are all battling hard to avoid the second relegation slot. Upton forced a winning draw (although only by nine points to six) at Stockport, scoring 175-7, Mike Ingram 46, Tom Facer 3-39, before restricting their hosts to 152-8, Facer 58 not out, Simon McGowan 5-47.

The key Alvanley v Stockport Georgians clash at Frodsham Road ended in stalemate (eight points to five) after the home batsmen had closed on 142-8. Georgians got to 98-9

Tattenhall had a good day at The Flacca winning by four wickets after Timperley had posted 186, Craig Grindley 88, Tom Hyslop 4-35. Tattenhall replied with 188-6 with five balls remaining, John Gibbon carrying his bat for a stubborn 59 while Hyslop scored a rather more rapid 45. Matt Macquet took 3-58.

All Saturday's scorelines

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE

ALDERLEY EDGE (won toss) v HYDE

Hyde 324-4 (55 overs: D Berry 162, J Duffy 122 = 224 for 2nd wicket, J. Whittaker 3-63).

Alderley Edge 303-5 (55 overs: M Currie 129, C. Rowe 90no, A. Day 32).

Match drawn: Hyde 12 pts., Alderley Edge 7 pts.

DIDSBURY (toss) v MACCLESFIELD:

Didsbury 186-6 (55 overs: J. van Schalkwyck 64, P. Moors 51no, R Porter 3-71);

Macclesfield 188-8 (54.3 overs: J. Crosthwaite 46, K Sawas 35, L. Markie 34no).

Macclesfield (25 pts.) beat Didsbury (7 pts.) by 2 wickets.

NANTWICH (toss) v NESTON

Neston 143 (51 overs: A Murphy 56, L. Camden 51, O. Griffiths 3-32, J Warrington 3-41).

Nantwich 149-1 (26 overs: L Bentley 110no, J. Kettle 34no).

Nantwich (25 pts.) beat Neston (0 pts.) by 9 wickets.

OXTON v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (toss)

Oxton 288-6 (55 overs: L Vincent 155no, G Fernando 43no = 126 for 7th wicket, A. Kegg 3-59);

Chester 181-8 (55 overs: L Dixon 35, K. Sarna 35).

Match drawn: Oxton 13 pts., Chester Boughton Hall 6 pts.

TOFT (toss) v WIDNES

Toft 168-8 (55 overs: T Drummond 80no, M. Nalesnyk 4-45);

Widnes 169-3 (38 overs: S. Agarwal 74, A. Ford 47).

Widnes (25 pts.) beat Toft (3 pts.) by 7 wickets.

URMSTON v MARPLE (toss)

Marple 297-5 (55 overs: A. McGuinness 117, M. Bennett 68);

Urmston 249-7 (55 overs: S Panda 76no, L. Jackson 63, J. Wylie 3-42).

Match drawn: Marple 11 pts., Urmston 8 pts.

FIRST DIVISION

BOLLINGTON (toss) v GRAPPENHALL

Grappenhall 205-7 dec. (47 overs: R. Green 113, T. Horsfield 3-64);

Bollington 208-6 (51.4 overs: A. Sykes 59, M. Jahangir 34no, T. Barrass 30).

Bollington (25 pts.) beat Grappenhall (10 pts.) by 4 wickets.

BOWDON (toss) v BREDBURY ST. MARK'S

Bredbury 197-8 (50 overs: P. Wood 97, P. Zybrands 52, S Marshall 4-42);

Bowdon 200-2 (36 overs: S. Marshall 85, S Ball 51, M. Chilton 35no).

Bowdon (25 pts) beat Bredbury St. Mark's (6 pts.) by 8 wickets

CHEADLE HULME (toss) v CHRISTLETON

Christleton 241-5 (50 overs: V. Sood 80, I. De Silva 61, B. Patterson 54, E. McCray 3-87);

Cheadle Hulme 176-9 (50 overs: J Potts 63, A. Wilde 36, I. Naseer 6-51).

Match drawn: Christleton 14 pts., Cheadle Hulme 6 pts.

HEATON MERSEY (toss) v BRAMHJALL

Heaton Mersey 140 (47 overs: P. August 35, R. Kitzinger 4-55, S. Wilkinson 4-62);

Bramhall 143-1 (38 overs: M Hughes 66no, M. Jamieson 54).

Bramhall (25 pts.) beat Heaton Mersev (2 pts.) by 9 wickets.

IRBY v OULTON PARK (toss)

Irby 223-7 (50 overs: J. Mallichan 74no, G. Shillinglaw 56, G Emmett 5-57);

Oulton Park 224-7 (- overs: R Moore 127no, B. Tomlinson 58, M. Mallichan 3-52).

Oulton Park (25 pts.) beat Irby (11 pts.) by 3 wickets.

SALE (toss) v BROOKLANDS

Brooklands 205-8 (50 overs: J. Birchall 73, W. Lubbe 3-63);

Sale 201 (49.3 overs: W Lubbe 93, J. Birchall 4-48).

Brooklands (25 pts.) beat Sale (7 pts.) by 4 runs

SECOND DIVISION

ALVANLEY v STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (won toss)

Alvanley 142-8 (50 overs);

Stockport Georgians 98-9 (50 overs). *This result was not telephoned.*

Match drawn: Alvanley 8 pts., Stockport Georgians 5 pts.

CHEADLE v CONGLETON (toss)

Cheadle 226-4 (50 overs: G Dixon 85, D. Brown 56, J. Higginbotham 3-61);

Congleton 128 (42 overs: J Higginbotham 35, J. Bailey 33, M. Gross 3-64).

Cheadle (25 pts.) beat Congleton (1 pt.) by 98 runs

MIDDLEWICH v MALPAS (toss)

Middlewich 259-6 (50 overs: S. Parry 51, A Cole 45);

Malpas 107 (31 overs: R. Ward 38, G. Tomlinson 6-31).

Middlewich (25 pts.) beat Malpas (2 pts.) by 152 runs

STOCKPORT (toss) v UPTON

Upton 175-7 (50 covers: M. Ingram 46, M. Smith 45, T Facer 3-39);

Stockport 152-8 (50 overs: T Facer 58no, S. McGowan 5-47).

Match drawn: Upton 9 pts., Stockport 6 pts..

TATTENHALL (toss) v TIMPERLEY

Timperley 186 (49 overs: C Grindley 88, T Hyslop 4-55, R. Mulvihill 3-38);

Tattenhall 188-6 (50.1 overs: J Gibbon 59no carried bat, T. Hyslop 45, M. Macquet 3-58).

Tattenhall (25 pts.) beat Timperley (8 pts.) by 4 wickets.

WARRINGTON (toss) v POYNTON

Poynton 157-8 (50 overs: J Turner 69, K Adams 5-61);

Warrington 158-6 (46 overs: P Farrar 50, M. Rudd 44no, J. Turner 3-24).

Warrington (25 pts.) beat Poynton (5 pts.) by 4 wickets.

PICK OF WEEK

ECB Premiership. Batting: Danny Berry (Hyde) 162 v Alderley Edge. Bowling: Mike Nalesnyik (Widnes) 4-45 v Toft.

First Division. Batting: Rick Moore (Oulton Park) 127no v Irby. Bowling: Ifti Naseer (Christleton) 6-51 v Cheadle Hulme.

Second Division. Batting: Craig Grindley (Timperley) 88 v Tattenhall. Bowling: Gavin Tomlinson (Middlewich) 6-31 v Malpas.

Leading individual stats to August 4 (o = overseas player)

PREMIER LEAGUE (top five batsmen): K..Sawas (Macclesfield) 788 runs; oJ. Hancock (Toft) 567; L. Dixon (CBH) 535; A. Day (Alderley Edge) 534; T. Twiney (Hyde) 518.

Top five bowlers: A. Birley (Oxton) 42 wickets; J. Whittaker (Alderley Edge) 39; J. Warrington (Nantwich) 38; N. Anderson (Didsbury) 35; oG. Fernando (Oxton) 34.

Wicket-keeper: P Ashling (Toft) 12 c & 10 st ; A. Worrall (Alderley Edge) 16c & 6 st = both 22 victims.

FIRST DIVISION batting: R. Moore (Oulton Park) 705; I. De Silva (Christleton) 575; oW. Lubbe (Sale) 515; C. Wood (Bredbury) 473; oP. Vermeulen (Heaton Mersey) 450.

Bowling: oV. Sood (Christleton) 39 wickets; R. Halkon (Sale) 38; R. Houghton (Irby) 34; A.J. Hart (Brooklands) 33; S. Wilkinson (Bramhall) 30..

Wicket-keeper: oP. Vermeulen (Heaton Mersey) 14c & 4 st = 18 victims.

SECOND DIVISION batting: oM. Macquet (Timperley) 441 runs; J. Cornford (Middlewich) 439; oJ. Bailey (Congleton) 438; G. Barber (Stockport) 392; M. Farrar (Warrington) 385.

Bowling: oK. Adams (Warrington) 60 wickets; I. Grindley (Timperley), P Sperring (Cheadle) both 36; T Facer (Stockport) and R. Fisher (Alvanley) both 32.

Wicket-keeper: C. Fletcher (Alvanley) 14c & 3 st = 17 victims. .

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Tables after 17 games

<u>ECB Premier</u>	P	W (25)	D (2)	A/C (7)	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
MACCLESFIELD	17	8	1	3	5	16	14	253
OXTON	17	7	2	4	4	24	14	245
HYDE	17	6	3	4	4	41	15	240
CHESTER BO. HALL	17	7	4	0	6	18	21	222
NANTWICH	17	6	3	4	4	17	18	219
ALDERLEY EDGE	17	5	5	3	4	32	25	213
NESTON	17	5	3	3	6	22	20	194
MARPLE	17	4	6	5	2	30	17	194
WIDNES	17	5	0	5	7	10	10	180
DIDSBURY	17	4	2	4	7	25	23	180
URMSTON	17	3	3	3	8	44	21	167
TOFT	17	4	5	1	7	18	31	166

<u>Division 1</u>	P	W (25)	T (18)	D (7)	C	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
BOWDON	17	11	0	0	3	3	10	3	309
GRAPPENHALL	17	9	0	1	3	4	22	12	282
OULTON PARK	17	6	0	5	2	4	43	21	238
SALE	17	6	0	3	5	3	13	13	217
BRAMHALL	17	6	1	2	3	5	8	13	214
CHRISTLETON	17	5	0	4	3	5	34	25	213
CHEADLE HULME	17	5	0	3	3	6	20	25	197
BROOKLANDS	17	5	0	6	1	5	14	24	182
BREDBURY ST. MK.	17	2	0	6	3	6	62	31	176
IRBY	17	2	0	3	3	9	46	30	153
BOLLINGTON	17	2	0	5	5	5	28	19	142
HEATON MERSEY	17	3	0	4	3	7	15	21	140

*Bredbury St. Mark's v Bramhall on June 16 resulted in a level scores draw:
Bredbury St. Mark's 11 pts. Bramhall 18 tie pts.*

<u>Division 2</u>	P	W (25)	D (2)	C (7)	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
MIDDLEWICH	17	10	6	1	0	13	22	304
CHEADLE	17	10	2	4	1	4	8	294
WARRINGTON	17	9	2	3	3	14	14	278
POYNTON	17	7	3	4	3	18	18	245
STOCKPORT	17	5	7	1	4	34	27	207
CONGLETON	17	5	3	4	5	26	18	203
TATTENHALL	17	5	3	3	6	10	14	176
TIMPERLEY	17	4	2	3	8	25	25	175
STOCKPORT GEO.	17	3	5	4	5	16	26	155
UPTON	17	3	3	3	8	18	26	146
ALVANLEY	17	3	3	1	10	23	35	146
MALPAS	17	1	3	1	12	29	24	91

Irby 3rd walk-off punished

AN Appeal has been heard against a decision of the League to deduct 10 points from Irby following a Saturday 3rd XI game at home to Urmston on Saturday, July 14. The match was abandoned after Irby walked off the field following disputes involving two Urmston players.

The commission was chaired by League deputy chairman John Bygate and also comprised Duncan Anderson, Andy Newton and John O'Donnell. Written evidence was considered from Irby following an original decision of the Disciplinary committee.

The ruling is as follows:

O The panel rejected the appeal by Irby against the deduction of points and confirmed that Irby will be deducted 10 points for leaving the field of play and failing to complete the game.

O The suspension imposed by Urmston on Sam Brocklehurst and Sheetal Sethi to be increased from three weeks to four weeks as it was considered the minimum suspensions imposed by the club was insufficient.

O Both captains, David Burrows and Andy Skelley were cautioned and reminded of their responsibilities in respect to the future conduct of their players.

O The panel considered that in all forms of cricket the responsibility for onfield behaviour lies primarily with the captains. When there are no independent umpires it is incumbent on the captains and senior players to ensure that the Spirit of Cricket in maintained.

If unsavoury incidents occur, the captains and senior players have to act responsibly and stop them escalating. They have to set an example and, if necessary, call their players together and issue instructions as to how the remainder of the match should be played

The option of walking off and effectively abandoning the match can never be an option as it effectively leads to anarchy. The behaviour in this the game was totally unacceptable and one of the worst to be reported to the Disciplinary committee.

The foundation of the sport was under threat in this game. All teams, particularly those playing without umpires, have to understand that they are ultimately responsible for the management and control of each match.

O EXTENDED. THE Sunday Third XI season has been extended by seven days to September 23 because so many matches have been postponed due to rain and re-arranged.

Eligibility will be based on 1st and 2nd XIs as at September 15 to avoid 3rd and 4th XI fixtures being overloaded in the extended week-end. Result sheets must be submitted to Peter Lawson ASAP after the games.

O MATCH REGULATION 28 now comes into effect. This states that no player may make his maiden 1st and 2nd XI appearance of the season for his club during the last five Saturdays unless he has already played in a game under the auspices of the League for that club, including an Over 40s fixture (parent club only). Players need special permission to do this. The last five Saturdays are August 18, 25 and September 1, 8 and 15.

Nantwich have been granted permission for wicket-keeper Mike Bentham to play for the 2nd XI on Saturday, not having previously played for the club in 2012.

O LAST TRANSFER: Syed Nadeem Abbas from Heaton Mersey to Sale, August 6.

O POYNTON archivist Martin Saxon points out that DAVID WATKINS took 4 wickets in 4 balls in a First Division game against Bowdon in 1985.

Four wickets in four balls has also been achieved by GARY SAUNDERS (Sale 1st) v Marple in 1996; STEVE PICKLES (Cheadle Hulme 2nd) v Alsager in 2001; and in 3rd XI cricket by STEVE SMITH (Marple/Mellor) v Warrington in 2009 and MARK ELEY (Stockport) v Bowdon in 2011

O CLUBS who need further supplies of cricket balls should contact League Treasurer Andy Woods. Tel. 01244 400 219 (work mobile) or by e-mail on andrew@hargreaveswoods.co.uk

O ANYONE wishing to contact Bollington's League rep. should note that the correct e-mail address of John Lomas is: john.lomas24@virginmedia.com

O LATE Division 2 result sheet now received for Cheadle v Alvanley on Saturday, July 21. Pitch markings: 3-4-3-3 = 13; Outfield 4-4-4-5 = 17.

O ANY club having difficulty leaving their Saturday evening results on the dedicated phonenumber 01606 888 745 are urged to ring 01606 88 3715 as an alternative. There have been transmission problems .

O CHESHIRE Cricket Board are asking as many senior players as possible to complete a survey on cricket in the county. They can do so by tabbing into: <http://www.cheshirecricketboard.co.uk/survey.htm>

O FORMER Chester Boughton Hall captain Jim Gillson has returned to the UK from New Zealand and will play for the club for remainder of the season.

Woods out-bowls Udall

SIGNIFICANT feature of Cheshire's first **Minor Counties championship** victory of the season, against Berkshire at Nantwich, was the superb bowling of former Hyde spinner Danny Woods compared to that of the southern county's one-time England bowler Shaun Udall.

Cheshire achieved a 20-run first innings lead after scoring 264, with Khalid Sawas, 63 and James Duffy, 54, enjoying a fourth wicket stand of 106. Berkshire were bowled out for 244, Macclesfield paceman Ian Tait claiming a splendid 5-107 and Woods 4-53.

Macclesfield's bang in-form Sawas cracked a fine 116 in a second innings tally of 321, after another century stand with skipper Duffy, 67, Lee Dixon chipping in with 55. Berkshire were then bowled out on the last afternoon for 158 after being 107-2, Woods taking 7-27 and Ross Dixon 2-27.

Woods, who will captain Yorkshire League club York in the semi-final of the Kingfisher Beers (formerly National Club ko) against Bamford Fieldhouse on August 26, claimed 11 wickets for 80 runs in the match, while Berks' professional Udall, who played for England against India at Mumbai as recently as 2006, had a disappointing outing with two wickets for 105 runs.

Nantwich drew praise from all corners for their excellent pitch and all-round playing conditions in a match sponsored by Nantwich Cheese.

Unfortunately, the attendance was affected by Staffordshire having a simultaneous home match against Suffolk at nearby Knypersley, something the fixture planners clearly missed. It remains something of an absurdity that Cheshire and Staffs continue play in separate divisions of the championship in times when cash is short and they have just had to undertake a £3,000 trip to Cornwall.

Cheshire play their final championship match at home to Herefordshire at Chester Boughton Hall on Sunday – Tuesday, August 19 – 21 (11 a.m. daily). Rick Moore (Oulton Park) comes in to replace Tom Twiney.

DEVELOPMENT XI

CHESHIRE Development XI led by Ross Dixon are to meet their Staffordshire counterparts at New Brighton on Monday – Tuesday, August 13 – 14 (11 a.m. daily).

ON an extended trial with Kent, Oulton Park batsman Rick Moore made a successful debut against Middlesex in the 2nd XI championship at Canterbury, scoring 89 not out. He also played against Somerset at Taunton Vale last week.

August 4 pitch & outfield marks

Premier League

Chester v Nantwich. Pitch: 4-4-4-4 = 16; Outfield: 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Hyde v Didsbury abandoned at tea, no marks.

Macclesfield v Toft: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 4-4-4-3 = 15.

Neston v Alderley Edge: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Widnes v Urmston: 4-4-3-4 = 15; 4-5-4-5 = 18.

First Division

Bramhall v Irby: 5-4-4-4 = 17; 5-5-5-5 = 20. Irby had no scorer.

Bredbury v Sale: abandoned at tea, not marked.

Christleton v Bollington: 5-5-5-5 = 20; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Grappenhall v Heaton Mersey: 3-4-5-5 = 17; 5-4-5-5 = 19.

Oulton Park v Bowdon: 4-4-5-4 = 17; 4-4-5-5 = 18.

Second Division

Conleton v Tattenhall: 4-4-3-4 = 15; 3-4-4-5 = 16. Result sheet received late.

Malpas v Cheadle: 4-4-5-4 = 17; 5-5-5-4 = 19.

Poynton v Middlewich: 4-4-4-3 = 15; 4-4-5-5 = 18.

Stockport Georgians v Stockport: 5-4-4-4 = 17; 5-4-5-5 = 19.

Timperley v Alvanley: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 4-4-5-5 = 18. Result sheet received late.

Upton v Warrington : ground wet, not marked

All captains' reports from 1st and 2nd XI games were submitted to co ordinator Ken Spilsbury

Meller Braggins Cheshire League up-date

RESULTS of Division 1 games played on Saturday, August 11:

Northwich 168-6 Ashton on Mersey 164-6 dec.; Oakmere 214-4 dec. Lindow 147; Weaverham 190-9 dec. Ashley 91; Winnington Park 164-7 dec. Davenham 165-8. Late: Hale Barns v Prestbury; Mobberley v Runcorn.

PLACINGS: 1. Weaverham 338 pts.; 2. Davenham 326; 3. Hale Barns 223 (result missing); 4. Ashton on Mersey; 5. Prestbury 200 (result missing); 6. Winnington Park 188; 7. Oakmere 181; 8. Rucorn 180 (result missing); 9. Northwich 176; 10. Ashley 167; 11. Mobberley 160 (result missing); 12. Lindow 137.

AUGUST 18 fixtures (1.30 p.m.): Ashley v Mobberley; Ashton on Mersey v Weaverham; Davenham v Hale Barns; Lindow v Runcorn; Oakmere v Winnington Park; Prestbury v Northwich.

Hackett wins Neston honours

ALL-ROUNDER Chris Hackett was Neston's star turn when they beat Birmingham League Division 3 team Tamworth at Mochdre on Sunday to win the **ECB National t20 Area final**.

After disposing of North Staffs champions Longton the previous week before rain stopped play, Neston had to return to Mochdre on Sunday, first to watch Tamworth – who had eliminated four Premier League sides to get this far – beat Mochdre by 120-8 runs to 73.

Tamworth batted first and ran up 122-6, Chris Stimson 2-10, Ashley Davis 2-18, then replied with 125-4 in the 18th over, their star turn being Chris Hackett with a lusty 58, aided by skipper David Hurst, 25.

Hackett was named man of the match and also picked up a bottle of champagne for a huge six which hit the roof of the scoreboard.

As West Midlands champions, Neston now host North-West Area counterparts Northern at Parkgate next Sunday (1.30 p.m.). Victory would enable them to emulate the feat of Hyde last season in reaching National Finals Day, an all-expenses paid trip at Edgbaston on Thursday, September 6.

Full Regional Finals draw: Bristol v Wimbledon; Brentwood v Cuckney; Treeton v Chester le Street; Neston v Northern.

Cheshire Cup semi-finals

CHESTER Boughton Hall became the first club to reach the final of the **Cheshire Cup** on Sunday, beating Toft by four wickets at Filkins Lane.

Aussie batsman Jake Hancock contributed 108 not out and Shaun Madalige 40 to Toft's tally of 211. Chester replied with 212-6 after being 41-4, Kumar Sarna 93 not out, Matt Griffiths 33.

In the semi-final at Werneth Low, Hyde had scored 233-6 off 42 overs against Elworth when rain ended play. Scott Kirwin scored 59, James Duffy 44 and Chris Tipper 39 while John Ashley slammed 22 off the 41st over.

The match will be replayed at Werneth Low on Sunday, August 26, the winners hosting the final a week later on Sunday, September 2 (12.30 p.m.).

- AND IN SHIELD

FINAL of the **Cheshire Shield** will be between Oulton Park and Stockport at Little Budworth on Sunday, August 26 (12.30 p.m.).

In their semi-final at Cale Green on Sunday, Stockport totalled 227-8 (R. Barber 98, G. Barber 84, S. Wilks 4-33, G. Edwards 4-52) and Bowdon scored 161, losing by 66 runs: M. Bryan-Jones 56, J. McDougall 45, R. Barber 4-26.

At Little Budworth, Upton totalled 140 and Oulton Park replied to win by eight wickets with 145-2 (M East 45, D. Leech 44no, A. Mills 32).

Information kindly supplied by Cup & Shield organiser Rick Davis

Toft, Tattenhall share Fair Play lead

THE LEAGUE **Fair Play** table compiled by co ordinator John Lofthouse from umpires' reports on 1st XI championship matches up to and including Saturday, August 4 shows Toft and Tattenhall sharing top spot with an average mark of 4 (maximum 5). Detailed placings:

- 1= Toft, Tattenhall, **average 4**
- 3= Bowdon, Macclesfield, **3.93**
5. Hyde, **3.92**
- 6= Marple, Middlewich, **3.91**
8. Stockport, 3.90
- 9 = Christlerton, Grappenhall, Irby, Oulton Park, **3.89**
- 13 = Bollington, Bredbury St. Mark's, Sale, **3.88**
16. Malpas, **3.87**
- 17= Nanrtwich, Oxton, **3.83**
19. Stockport Georgians, **3.81**
- 20 = Heaton Mersey, Urmston, Widnes, **3.79**
23. Bramhall, **3.77**
24. Cheadle Hulme **3.73**
25. Upton, **3.71**
- 26.** Brooklands, **3.70**
27. Neston, **3.65**
- 28.** Alderley Edge, **3.62**
29. Warrington, **3.60**
- 30 = Alvanley, Congleton, **3.57**
- 32= Cheadle, Didsbury, **3.46**
34. Chester Boughton Hall, **3.38**
35. Timperley, **3.35**
36. Poynton, **3.33**

Key Over 40s game on Monday

THREE of the four group winners in the **Over 40s section** – sponsored by **TailorMade Group Pensions** – are Neston, Urmston Tigers and Bollington Veterans, who will appear in the play-offs at Urmston on August Bank Holiday, August 27

The Central group could be resolved on Monday this week when Toft host Grappenhall in an outstanding fixture. Should Toft win, Alsager Dabbers will go through, but if Grappenhall win they will finish level on will take on Alsager in a play-off on Wednesday next week at Broad Lane.

The West group had already been decided in Neston's favour before the final fixtures played in warm sunshine on Wednesday last week. Chester Boughton Hall clinched runners-up place with the season's first tied game at Tattenhall Wreckers. Warrington won their first game, by 46 runs at Oxton.

In the Central group, Alsager Dabbers were handed four points when Davenham conceded their first game since entering the competition, due to seven of their players being involved in a Meller Braggins Cheshire League 2nd XI cup-tie against Cholmondeley. Grappenhall beat Mobberley to set up the situation above.

Urmston Tigers ensured top place in the North-East group with a nine wickets victory over Alderley Edge Wizards, Overall champions in 2011, Sale Silverbacks won at Brooklands, Graham Bolton scoring 28 and taking 3-6.

In the South-East group champions Bollington beat 10-men Bramhall by 44 runs, while Bredbury Saints finished second despite losing by three runs to Poynton Legends, who finished level on points. Marple could not raise a team for their home game against Woodley.

A meeting of Over 40s club reps will be held at Warrington on an October date yet to be arranged. Resignations and/or applications for admission would be welcomed before then. Caldry and possibly Offerton wish to enter in 2013.

West group:

OXTON v WARRINGTON: Warrington 116-3 (Talbot 30, Daley 23, T Rothwell 22); Oxton 70-8 (Hurst 18, Talbot 2-21, Jones 2-3, Jardine 2-8).

Warrington (4 pts.) won by 46 runs

TATTENHALL WRECKERS v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL: Tattenhall 147-5 (Salt 31, Kettle 28, Hill 28); CBH 147-6.

Match tied: 3 pts. each

UPTON v IRBY: Irby 111-7 (D Newman 30, Owen 2-24); Upton 101-5 (I. Sharrock 31, N. Shrock 30, D. Newman 3-12).

Irby (4 pts.) won by 12 runs.

Central group:

ALSAGER DABBERS v DAVENHAM: Davenham could not raise a team

Alsager Dabbers (4 pts.) won by default.

ASHLEY v TOFT: Toft 118-3 (Drummond 33, Lomax 30, Alves 2-26); Ashley 94 (Brewster 24, Sohail 20, Kenyon 5-29).

Toft (4 pts.) won by 24 runs

BOWDON VALE VIKINGS v BOWDON: Bowdon 108-3 (Sinclair 31, Shenkman 26); Bowdon Vale Vikings 107-4 (Dean 31, Nicholas 30, Burgess 2-26).

Bowdon (4 pts.) beat Bowdon Vale Vikings by 1run.

GRAPPENHALL v MOBBERLEY: Mobberley 77-4 (Leech 30, Wernham 2-15); Grappenhall 81-3 (N. Sharp 30, Taylor 2-10).

Grappenhall (4 pts.) won by 7 wickets. :

North-East group:

BROOKLANDS v SALE SILVERBACKS: Sale 154-4 (Battersby 33, Harrop 30, Gleghorn 28, Belwood 3-33); Brooklands 130-6 (Mitchell 30, Bolton 3-6).

Sale Silverbacks (4 pts.) won by 24 runs

CHEADLE HULME v CHEADLE: Cheadle Hulme 105-9; Cheadle 97-8.

Cheadle Hulme (4 pts.) won by 8 runs

URMSTON TIGERS v ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS: Alderley Edge 106-5 (Usher 31, Cashfield 25, Wilson 2-22); Urmston 108-1 (Dartnell 30, Radican 27, Marshall 26).

Urmston Tigers (4 pts.) won by 9 wickets

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South-East group

BOLLINGTON VETERANS v BRAMHALL: Bollington 129-6 (Paterson 32, Burns 30); Bramhall 85-7 (Stendall 32, Aldridge 3-12). Bramhall had 10 men and one batsman retired hurt.

Bollington (4 pts.) won by 44 runs

MARPLE v WOODLEY: Marple could not raise a team

Woodley (4 pts.) won by default

POYNTON LEGENDS v BREDBURY SAINTS: Poynton 99-6 (Stringer 35, Martin 21, Martin 2-8, Usher 2-13); Bredbury 96-4 (C. Wood 31).

Poynton Legends (4 pts.) won by 3 runs

GROUP PLACINGS

<u>West Group</u>	P	W	T	C	L	PTS.
1. NESTON	12	8	0	4	0	40 champions
2. CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	12	7	1	3	1	37
3. IRBY	12	6	0	4	2	32
4. TATTENHALL WRECKERS	12	3	1	2	6	19
5. OXTON	12	2	0	3	7	14
6. UPTON	12	2	0	3	7	14
7. WARRINGTON	12	1	0	5	6	14

<u>Central Group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
ALSAGER DABBERS	14	10	3	1	46
*GRAPPENHALL	13	9	3	1	42
*TOFT	13	7	3	3	34
BOWDON	14	5	4	5	28
BOWDON VALE VIKINGS	14	5	3	6	26
DAVENHAM	14	2	6	6	20
ASHLEY	14	3	3	8	18
MOBBERLEY	14	0	3	11	6
*See fixtures					

<u>North-East group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
URMSTON TIGERS	12	9	3	0	42 champions
CHEADLE HULME	12	6	4	2	32
CHEADLE	12	4	4	4	24
CHEADLE HULME LADY.	12	4	5	3	26
SALE SILVERBACKS	12	4	4	4	24
BROOKLANDS	12	2	2	8	12
ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS	12	0	4	8	8

<u>South-East group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
BOLLINGTON VETERANS	12	9	3	0	42 champions
BREDBURY SAINTS	12	8	1	3	34
POYNTON LEGENDS	12	7	3	2	34
MARPLE	12	3	4	5	20
MACCLESFIELD	12	3	3	6	18
WOODLEY	12	2	4	6	16
BRAMHALL	12	0	2	10	4

FIXTURES

Central Group: Monday, August 13: Toft v Grappenhall (6 p.m.).

Provisional Central Group play-off: Grappenhall v Alsager Dabbers on Wednesday, August 22 (6 p.m.).

Muslim cricketers: League statement

THE League on Monday issued the following statement:

“Due to the large number of players of Muslim faith in their senior teams, Heaton Mersey requested that the League consider allowing them to postpone their two fixtures against Bollington, scheduled for Saturday, August 18, a date which coincides with the Festival of Eid, which marks the end of Ramadan. Heaton Mersey considered they would be unable to field teams on the scheduled date.

Bollington have sportingly agreed to postpone the Division One 1st XI and Division Two 2nd XI fixtures on that day, which will now be re-scheduled on one of the remaining Sundays of the season.

The League wish to thank Bollington for their co operation, flexibility and understanding in these most unusual circumstances”.

DAVID HUMPAGE, Chairman

Cheadle win Jack Gardner 3rd XI Trophy

CHEADLE beat Bredbury St. Mark's by seven wickets to win the **Third XI T20 Finals Day** and with it the Jack Gardner Trophy for the first time, at Warrington on Sunday.

Semi-final scores: Bredbury 102-8 Widnes 98 (Khojani 55); Didsbury 126-5 (Shafiq 59); Cheadle 127-5.

Final: Bredbury 94-7 (Carswell 3-23); Cheadle 98-3 (Kapoor 41).

Third XI Results secretary Brian Boys did fine work organising the event, aided by groundsman Paul Agar.

The trophy was presented to Cheadle's captain by League chairman David Humpage.

2nd XI FINALS

THE first **2nd XI Finals Day** sponsored by RedInsure is to be staged on Timperley's two fine grounds at Stockport road on Sunday, August 19.

Didsbury, Cheadle, Grappenhall and Chester Boughton Hall will play off in two semi-finals at 12 noon, followed by the final at 3.30 p.m. Didsbury won an appeal after being ruled out of the competition for fielding an allegedly ineligible player.

The winners will receive the RedInsure Trophy currently held by Neston.

Conferences meet at Nantwich

THERE are nine players from the Cheshire County League in the **League Cricket Conference** team selected to meet the Club Cricket Conference at Nantwich on Wednesday this week (11. a.m.). The fixture has been arranged to mark the 50th anniversary of the LCC foundation in 1952. The team is:

Danny Berry captain, James Duffy, Kuma Sarna, Lee Dixon, Jack Williams, Alex Matthews, Scott Kirwin, Nick James, Calum Rowe (all CCL), Neil Pullen wicket-keeper, (Derbyshire & Cheshire League), Danny Woods (Yorkshire League).

The team has been selected, and is to be managed by, John Richards of the Derbyshire & Cheshire League

Nantwich third in U13 National finals

NANTWICH's Under 13 team did well to reach **National Under 13 Finals Day** at Oakham School, finishing third in a competition which attracted an original entry of more than 1,000 clubs.

Each team played five games over two days against other regional winners.

Nantwich beat Cardiff in their first game, then lost to St. Cross Symondians of Hampshire by one run. They went on to beat Wanstead and Snaresbrook (Essex) and Horwich RMI (Bolton) to take joint second place before losing to Craythorpe (Notts) and finishing in third place.

Says chairman Rob Sproston: “I was proud to be at Oakham, where they have magnificent cricket conditions, to see these boys who have done their club, county and league proud by coming so close to being national champions. They have been well coached and show signs of becoming very good cricketers. We shall be monitoring their progress and wish them all well for the future”.

Saturday, August 18: fixtures and umpires

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE (12.30 p.m.)

HYDE v NANTWICH
MACCLESFIELD v ALDERLEY EDGE
MARPLE v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL
NESTON v OXTON
URMSTON v TOFT
WIDNES v DIDSBURY

David Moss & Jim Whitehead
Ian Greensmith & Dion Kelly
Ian Drury & John Lofthouse
Don Flanagan & Steve Walton
Stan Davies & Glyn Roberts
Paul Herring & Tom Park

DIVISION 1 (1 p.m.)

BRAMHALL v OULTON PARK
BREDBURY ST. MARK'S v IRBY
BROOKLANDS v BOWDON
CHRISTLETON v SALE
GRAPENHALL v CHEADLE HULME
HEATON MERSEY v BOLLINGTON

** Duane Jones tel.07910 394 894 (mobile)*

Ken Rothwell & Chris Smith
Dave Goulding & Gary Zimmer
Allan Lewis & Phil Prince
Ankit Jain & Ged Kinsey
Barrie Burns & *Duane Jones
Postponed

DIVISION 2 (1 p.m.)

MALPAS v CONGLETON
MIDDLEWICH v WARRINGTON
POYNTON v STOCKPORT
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS v TATTENHALL
TIMPERLEY v CHEADLE
UPTON v ALVANLEY

Steve Duckers & Peter Hanaby
Bob Cunningham & John Lowe
Ron Bedson & Ray Prescott
Howard Briggs & Chris Moore
Stuart Anderson & Jon Hacking
Tony Morris & Ken Simpson

2nd XI PREMIER DIVISION (1 p.m.)

ALDERLEY EDGE v MACCLESFIELD
CHEADLE v NESTON
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL v BRAMHALL
DIDSBURY v GRAPPENHALL
NANTWICH v HYDE
TOFT v URMSTON

No panel ump available & Club umpire
Two Club umpires
Brian Jones & Club umpire
No panel ump available
No panel ump available
Club umpire & no panel ump available

NOTE: Earlier starting times begin on September 1.

Last word

THE oldest player ever to have appeared in the League, Brooklands' Over Forties wicket-keeper Bill Brown - who claims to have been born 81 years and six months ago – is threatening to retire.

He reports that he played in the last two Vets' games and claimed two catches and a stumping.

Says Bill: "I'm pleased to say there's a Dog in the old Life yet. But all good things have to come to an end and I shall probably put my boots in the bin", adding. "2013? ...you never know, they may be one short"

