



## **Chester take one point lead with 5 games to go**

CHESTER Boughton Hall have overtaken Neston by one point at the top of the **ECB Premier League** table with just five games to go. They did so with a convincing 103 runs victory at Toft while Neston could muster only 15 draw points from a tough assignment at Hyde. Chester enjoyed a highly successful week-end, also reaching the finals of the *Liverpool Echo* knock-out and the Cheshire Cup.

Chester dominated the game at Toft with an impressive all-round display which indicated the all-round talent skipper Steve Ogilby has at his command. Put in, they totalled 242-8 before declaring after 54 overs, Ross Dixon's unbeaten 65 raising the run rate in the closing stages after Jordan Clark, 43 and Warren Goodwin, 39 had done the groundwork.. As usual Toft relied on spinners Rob Jones, with 3-66 off 13 overs and Jimmy Lomas, 3-87 off another marathon 27.

Toft, who have done so well this season, went well for a while, but their young batsmen lacked the experience to supplement talented Aussie Jake Hancock especially after he was dismissed for a top-scoring 52. Only Ed Stubbs, 32 of the later batsmen looked comfortable against Cheshire leg-spinner Jack Williams, who cleaned up with 4-29 from 13 overs and Toft declined to 139 all out.

Meanwhile, Neston batted well after being inserted at Hyde and 264-9 was an excellent return, led by Andy Murphy, 71, Andy Clarke, 58 not out and Will Evans, 44. Chris Tipper claimed 3-61 and Dan Cranmer 3-69.

Hyde were always just behind the clock despite good knocks from Tom Twiney, 62 and Dan Cranmer, 58 and with Clarke claiming three useful wickets at a cost of 69 runs they struggled to close on 252-9 with their last pair together. Neston took 15 points to Hyde's nine and while this ends Hyde's hopes of their first title, it leaves the Parkgate men marginally behind CBH, yet with a tough fixture out of the way. And they have yet to host their rivals on August 31.

### **Wooden spoon for Didsbury**

At the other end of the table, Macclesfield handed the wooden spoon to Didsbury when they beat their rivals by three wickets at Victoria Road. Phil Moors; 53 not out helped Didsbury reach 200-9, Craig Melrose 3-49. Macclesfield passed that score at 204.7 with two overs to spare, Andy Hodgson 73, Rob Porter 41, Simon Normanton 3-67.

Whether this third win for Macc in five games will be of any lasting use is debatable, although Bowdon are not yet safe after being soundly beaten by Oxton at South Downs road. Worcestershire all-rounder Sheik Choudhry was the Oxton match-winner, his innings of 43 helping Martyn Evans, 62 take the Wirralians' tally to 195, Gareth Edwards 4-61. Left arm spinner Choudhry then bowled Bowdon out for 95 with a fine return of 6-40 from 15 overs.

Marple must also be looking over their shoulders after losing by three wickets at home to Grappenhall. Marple posted a decent 216-6, Beau Webster 52, Mark Bennett 48. Grappers were in trouble at 138-7 before an unbroken eighth wicket stand worth 81 between James McCoy, 67 and Luke Williams, 27, saw them home at 218-7 and move up into a meritorious third place. Marple's Andy Greasley bowled well, but his five wickets cost 103 runs. Umpires Ian Greensmith and Neville Kent admired a sporting incident when Grappenhall skipper Richard Green hit the ball back to bowler Greasley, who claimed a low catch. Green asked the bowler if it was clean, was assured it was and off he walked. "Not like in the Tests" commented the umps.

Alderley Edge hit the top score of the day with 299-5 in a 50 runs victory at Nantwich. Calum Rowe, 89 and Adam Worrall, 71 put on 132 for the third wicket and with 66 from Mark Currie, Alderley put up their best tally of the summer. Nantwich's reply came in fits and starts, the best part being when Rob Cook-Sievwright scored a fine 119 off 92 balls, putting on 126 with Jonny Kettle, 55. The Dabbers then lost their way and were all out for 249. Jason Whittaker's steady 3-76 being an important factor

**HYDE T20 PROGRESS** Hyde, the League's top T20 team who recently won the RedInsure final for the second time in three seasons, on Sunday beat Stone and Shrewsbury in the **ECB t20 Area Finals** at Werneth Low. They now go on to play Liverpool Competition club Ormskirk at Northern in the Regional Final on Sunday, August 25, the last step before another possible appearance in National Finals at the Brit Oval on Friday, September 13. *Full details on page 6*

## **Six winners in Division 1**

ALL games in **Division One** were resolved with Bramhall winning by five wickets at Cheadle to maintain their virtually unassailable 37 points lead with Urmston and Cheadle Hulme continuing their quest for second place

Cheadle's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cricket Week ended with defeat after they were bowled out for 139 at home to neighbours Bramhall, who went on to win by five wickets, their 12<sup>th</sup> win in 17 games.

Urmston overcame Christleton also by five wickets at the UCG after dismissing their visitors for 178, Ifti Naseer 76, Matt Parkinson 5-57. Chris Turner, 64 not out and skipper Sumit Panda, 44, led the charge after tea which saw Urmies close on 181-5, Christleton's own Matt Parkinson claiming 3-55.

### ***Oulton Park all out for 57***

Cheadle Hulme were involved in a startlingly low-scoring game against Oulton Park at Grove Park which they could not have fancied winning at tea when they had been dismissed for 133, principally by Guy Emmett's fine 4-21 off 19 overs. Oulton, however, had another of their major off days with the bat, only recent centurion Rick Moore, 21, making any mark as they were mowed down for 57 in 22 overs. The damage was inflicted by the deadly pair of Brisbane's Kris Nissan, 6-27 and Rana Maslook, 4-29.

Brooklands beat Bredbury by 67 runs and St. Mark's look to be heading back to Division Two. A.J. Hart's fine 6-55 off 15 overs bowled them out for 98 after Brooklands had posted 165, Alex Edwards 64,.

Sale moved up a slot with a 102 runs win over Middlewich at Dane road. Nick Moores 61 and Calvin Flowers, 54 helping Sale close on 195-9, N. Stubbs 4-63. Middlewich replied with a feeble 93, James Cornford 30, J. Hall 4-3.

Canberra batting star Aaron Ayre scored 98 at a run a ball to reach 937 runs for the season, but it wasn't quite enough to help Heaton Mersey win at Widnes. Mersey totalled 177, Alex Graham 4-75. This was in reply to Widnes 184-9, new Cheshire Over 50s star Phil Catterall top-scoring with 53.

## ***FIRST DEFEAT FOR TIMPERLEY***

TIMPERLEY'S remarkable undefeated run in **Division Two** since August last season came to an abrupt end at Weaverham when the league new boys beat them by 20 runs in a bowler-dominated game

Weaverham were all out for 125, Steve Woods 46 not out, Craig Grindley 5-26 from 13 tight overs. Timperley, who might normally have expected to win comfortably, had an off day with the bat against Weaverham's in form seamer Wilden Cornwall, who claimed 6-51 in combination with spinner Rob McMillan, 3-23 and were all out for 105. Matt Macquet was their highest scorer with just 22. It was drinks on the Weaverham chairman afterwards as both sides piled in.

Timperley's last league defeat was against Cheadle on August 18 last year, their record since then being: played 20 won 18 drawn 2. A major consolation could come next Saturday when they will clinch promotion if results go their way.

Their lead was cut to a mere 50 points by Stockport beating Congleton in a key promotion game at Cale Green by nine runs. David Barber top-scored with 31 in Stockport's tally of 181-7, Congleton responding with a fighting 172, R Barber 4-30.

### ***Tattenhall third***

Tattenhall go third after beating Poynton by three wickets at the Flacca, holding their visitors to 180-7 before tea, Tom Berzins 55, Dave Shewring 3-54. Tom Hyslop (68 not out) and Ollie Thompson (51) then led Tatters' charge to 183-7

Warrington beat Alvanley by eight wickets at Walton Lea to keep alive their slim promotion hopes after holding their visitors to 182-6, Andy Hayhurst 34, Karl Adams 4-60. Chris Kirby, 75 not out and James Hughes, 59 led the Warrington's post tea charge to 187-2.

Davenham edged past Irby by one wicket at Butcher's Stile after dismissing their hosts for 121, Ben Gough 4-44. Davenham struggled to 122-9 with Chris Hornby's vital innings of 29 proving the top innings of the day. Mark Newman did his best to salvage something for Irby with 3-15.

In the clash of the two bottom clubs there was a sensational finish, the result being a level-scores draw which earned Georgians 16 points to their hosts' 12. Bolly batted well to post 197-7, Rick Hough 66, Jeremy Devlin 4-61. Georgians replied solidly with 65 to Adam Gaskarth, 43 to Ifti Hussain and 38 from Mark Vincent, but their eighth wicket fell at 183 and tail enders C Dodd, and J Leggett, 16 and three not out respectively, hauled them to parity for a tie points return which could yet give them hope of survival. Bolly's take was 12 points.

**SATURDAY'S ECB PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS**

**BOWDON (4 pts.) lost to OXTON (won toss, 25 pts.) by 100 runs**

Oxton 195 (55 overs: M Evans 62, S. Choudhry 43, G Edwards 4-61);  
Bowdon 95 (40 overs: S Marshall 28, S. Choudhry 6-42)

**HYDE (toss 9 pts.) drew with NESTON (15 pts.)**

Neston 264-9 (55 overs: A. Murphy 71, A Clarke 58no, W.Evans 44, C Tipper 3-61, D Cranmer 3-69);  
Hyde 252-9 (55 overs: T Twiney 62, D Cranmer 58, A Clarke 3-89).

**MACCLESFIELD (25 pts.) beat DIDSBURY (9 pts.) by 3 wickets**

Didsbury 200-9 (55 overs: P Moors 53no, A Qasim 40, C Melrose 3-49);  
Macclesfield 204-7 (48 overs: A Hodgson 73, R Porter 71, S. Normanton 3-67).

**MARPLE (toss, 9 pts.) lost to GRAPPENHALL (25 pts.) by 3 wickets:**

Marple 216-6 (55 overs: B Webster 52, M Bennett 48, J Ormond 41, J Marshall 30);  
Grappenhall 219-7 (51 overs: J McCoy 75no, L Williams 27no, A. Greasley 5-103).

**NANTWICH (6 pts.) lost to ALDERLEY EDGE (toss, 25 pts.) by 50 runs**

Alderley Edge 299-5 (55 overs: C Rowe 89, A. Worrall 71, M Currie 66);  
Nantwich 249 (46 overs: R Cooke-Sievwright 119, J Kettle 55, J Whittaker 3-76).

**TOFT (4 pts.) lost to CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (25 pts.) by 103 runs**

Chester 242-8 d.ec. (54 overs: R Dixon 64no, J. Clark 43, W. Goodwin 39, J. Williams 32, R. Jones 3-66, J Lomas 3-87);  
Toft 139 (50 overs: J Hancock 52, E. Stubbs 32, J. Williams 4-29).

**.....DIVISION ONE**

**BROOKLANDS (25 pts.) beat BREDBURY ST. MARK's (won toss, 4 pts.) by 67 runs**

Brooklands 165 (47 overs: A Edwards 64, A Platt 48, P Wood 3-3, G. Dixon 3-27, S Raja 3-37);  
Bredbury 98 (34 overs: AJ Hart 6-55).

**CHEADLE (4 pts.) lost to BRAMHALL (toss, 25 pts.) by 5 wickets:**

Cheadle 139 ( overs);  
Bramhall 140-5 ( overs). *No further information available.*

**CHEADLE HULME (25 pts.) beat OULTON PARK (toss, 4 pts.) by 76 runs:**

Cheadle Hulme 133 (50 overs: O. Potts 25, S. Leech 25, G Emmett 4-21);  
Oulton Park 57 (22 overs: R. Moore 21, K Nissan 6-27, R Malook 4-29).

**SALE (25 pts.) beat MIDDLEWICH (toss, 4 pts.) by 102 runs:**

Sale 195-9 (50 overs: N Moores 61, C. Flowers 54, N Stubbs 4-63, S Price 3-35);  
Middlewich 93 (41 overs: J Cornford 30, J. Hall 4-3, T. Tharsen 3-42).

**URMSTON (toss, 25 pts.) beat CHRISTLETON (8 pts.) by 5 wickets:**

Christleton 178 (45 overs: I Naseer 76, M. Parkinson 5-57, A. Syddall 3-64);  
Urmston 181-5 (40 overs: C Turner 64no, S. Panda 44, K Dickenson 30, M. Parkinson 3-55).

**WIDNES (25 pts.) beat HEATON MERSEY (toss, 7 pts.) by 7 runs**

Widnes 184-9 (50 overs: P Catterall 53, M Brick 42, S. Moore 39, L. Marshall 4-36, M Cole 3-43);  
Heaton Mersey 177 (49.1 overs: A. Ayre 98, A Graham 4-75, S Moore 3-29).

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### **..... AND DIVISION TWO**

#### **BOLLINGTON (12 pts.) level-scores draw with STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (toss, 16 tie pts.)**

Bollington 197-7 (50 overs: R. Hough 66, T Gower 41, J. Devlin 4-61);

Stockport Georgians 197-8 (50 overs: A Gaskarth 65, I Hussain 43, M Vincent 38, S. Khan 3-71).

#### **DAVENHAM (25 pts.) beat IRBY (toss, 6 pts.) by 1 wicket**

Irby 121 (46 overs: C Magin 22, B. Gough 4-44);

Davenham 122-9 (50 overs: C Hornby 29, Mark Newman 3-15).

#### **STOCKPORT (25 pts.) beat CONGLETON (toss, 6 pts.) by 9 runs:**

Stockport 181-7 (50 overs: D Barber 31, J Manning 30);

Congleton 172 (40 overs: R Barber 4-30).

#### **TATTENHALL (toss, 25 pts.) beat POYNTON (9 pts.) by 3 wickets**

Poynton 180-7 (50 overs: T. Berzins 55, D. Shewring 3-54);

Tattenhall 183-7(49 overs: T Hyslop 68no, O Thompson 51, D. Power 33, T Hamnett 3-57)

#### **WARRINGTON (toss, 25 pts.) beat ALVANLEY (6 pts.) by 8 wickets**

Alvanley 186-6 (50 overs: A Hayhurst 34, F Gee 33, C. Charles 32no, K Adams 4-60);

Warrington 187-2 (42 overs: C Kirby 75no, J Hughes 59, R Heaney 31),

#### **WEAVERHAM (toss, 25 pts.) beat TIMPERLEY (4 pts.) by 20 runs**

Weaverham 125 ( overs: S. Wood 46, I. Grindley 5-26);

Timperley 105 ( overs: M Macquet 22, W Cornwall 6-51, R McMillan 3-23).

### **PICK OF WEEK (*o* = overseas; *c* = contracted)**

#### **ECB Premier League**

Batting: Rob Cook-Sievewright (Nantwich) 119 v Alderley Edge

Bowling cSheik Choudhry (Oxton) 6-40 v Bowdon.

#### **First Division**

Batting: oAaron Ayre (Heaton Mersey) 98 v Widnes

Bowling: oKris Nissan (Cheadle Hulme) 6-27 v Oulton Park

#### **Second Division**

Batting: Chris Kirby (Warrington) 75no v Alvanley

Bowling: oWilden Cornwall (Weaverham) 6-51 v Timperley

### **Leading individual stats to August 3 (*o* = overseas player)**

**PREMIER LEAGUE BATTING:** Evans (Neston) 800 runs; Goodwin (CBH) 786; Tipper (Hyde) 776.

**BOWLING:** Lomas (Toft) 57 wickets; Clarke (Neston) 45; oFernando (Oxton) 39. **WICKET-KEEPING:** Makin (Hyde) 22c & 6 st =- 28.victims

**FIRST DIVISION BATTING:** oAyre (Heaton Mersey) 839 runs; De Silva (Christleton) 811; Moore (Oulton Park) 754.

**BOWLING:** oNissan (Cheadle Hulme) 50 wickets; Wilkinson (Bramhall) 44; Tharsen (Sale) 42. **WICKET-KEEPING:** Jackson (Urmston) 28 c & 2 st =- 30 victims. .

**SECOND DIVISION BATTING:** oCornwall (Weaverham) 667 runs; Manning (Stockport) 642; P. Ashling (Timperley) 636.

**BOWLING:** oAdams (Warrington) 60 wickets; Page (Timperley) 47; oCornwall (Weaverham) 45. **WICKET-KEEPING:** P Ashling (Timperley) 27c & 2 st =- 29 victims.

**How they stand after 17 games**

<b>ECB PREMIER</b>	<b>W</b> (25)	<b>T</b> (16)	<b>WD</b> (3)	<b>RD</b> (2)	<b>LD</b> (1)	<b>C</b> (7)	<b>L</b>	<b>Bat</b>	<b>Bowl</b>	<b>Pts.</b>
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	12	0	1	1	0	0	3	23	14	342
NESTON (8)	12	0	2	0	1	0	2	25	17	341
GRAPPENHALL	8	0	2	1	0	0	6	57	18	283
HYDE	8	0	1	1	4	0	3	38	26	273
TOFT	8	0	1	0	0	1	7	44	18	272
OXTON	8	0	0	0	1	0	8	23	21	245
NANTWICH	7	0	1	0	1	0	8	38	20	237
ALDERLEY EDGE	7	0	1	0	2	0	7	31	23	234
MARPLE	5	0	2	0	1	0	9	56	26	214
BOWDON	5	0	1	1	0	0	10	48	32	210
MACCLESFIELD	3	0	1	0	2	1	10	57	24	168
DIDSBURY	3	0	0	0	1	0	13	55	28	159

Neston 8 points deducted for slow over rate. This is subject to an appeal due to be heard on Tuesday, August 13.

**DIVISION 1**

BRAMHALL	12	1	1	0	1	0	2	26	13	359
URMSTON	11	1	0	0	1	0	4	23	7	322
CHEADLE HULME	10	0	2	0	2	0	3	30	23	311
BROOKLANDS	9	0	1	0	1	0	6	28	18	275
SALE	6	2	2	0	0	0	7	47	16	251
*OULTON PARK	6	0	2	1	2	0	5	42	28	230
WIDNES	6	0	2	0	0	0	9	41	23	220
CHRISTLETON	3	0	4	0	2	0	8	76	32	197
MIDDLEWICH	5	0	1	0	5	0	6	31	31	195
*CHEADLE	4	0	2	1	2	0	7	43	34	187
HEATON MERSEY	3	0	3	0	1	0	10	48	38	171
BREDBURY ST. MARK'S	3	0	0	0	3	0	11	57	26	161

\*Both played 16 games only

**DIVISION 2**

TIMPERLEY	14	0	1	0	1	0	1	10	11	375
STOCKPORT	11	1	1	0	0	0	4	20	11	325
TATTENHALL	10	0	1	0	1	0	5	22	18	294
WARRINGTON	10	0	1	0	2	0	4	19	18	292
DAVENHAM	8	0	3	0	1	0	5	43	28	281
CONGLETON	9	0	2	0	0	0	6	28	17	276
WEAVERHAM	7	0	2	0	3	0	5	46	26	256
POYNTON	7	1	1	0	1	0	7	31	26	252
IRBY	4	0	0	0	2	0	11	37	24	163
ALVANLEY	3	0	0	0	1	0	13	40	26	142
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	1	1	2	0	1	0	12	50	31	129
BOLLINGTON	1	0	2	0	2	0	12	42	32	107

## Hyde are T20 kings

HYDE gave a superlative display of limited overs cricket at Werneth Low on Sunday to beat Stone (North Staffs & South Cheshire ) and Shrewsbury (Birmingham League) to win the **ECB t20 West Midlands Area Final**.

They were inspired in their semi-final when skipper Danny Berry hit a breathtaking 143 not out off 71 balls containing eight huge sixes to help his side total 204-2. Stone were dismissed for 157, 47 runs short.

Shrewsbury then beat North Wales reps Mochdre by 208-5 to 125-9, a margin of 83 runs.

The final found Hyde dipping a little, although a lusty innings of 71 from Tom Twiney and a late unbeaten 38 by David Fitzsimmons lifted them to 188-4.

They need not have worried because teamwork which saw fielders throwing themselves about like well-trained gymnasts resulted in four Shrewsbury batsmen being run out and the visitors were dismissed for 121 by the 19<sup>th</sup> over, 67 runs short. Scott Kirwin, 2-28 and Chris Tipper, 2-16 were the most successful bowlers, but all did well and the inspiration of Mark Makin's wicket-keeping always kept the team on their toes.

In front of a fine crowd, it was good day for chairman Paul Chorlton's bar takings and the food was superb as usual. The youngsters may also have appreciated the 'music' during the final, although scorer John Lofthouse, whose perch was right up against a loudspeaker, clearly did not.

The event coordinator was County League secretary Geoff Wellsted and the umpires were Phil Prince and Trevor Burnett (County League), Steve Hall (Liverpool Competition) and Les Chadwick (Central Lancs League).

Hyde's reward is a place in the Regional final when they will meet Liverpool Competition club Ormskirk, the North-West area winners, on Sunday, August 25 at neutral Northern CC (Crosby). Then comes the National Finals at the Oval on September 13

### FINAL CARD

#### HYDE

T Twiney	b Griffiths	71
D. Berry	lbw Blofield	19
C. Tipper	c Breeze b Donaldson	22
J Duffy	not out	20
S Kirwin	c S. Barnard b Breeze	1
D Fitzsimmons	not out	38
Extras		17
<b>Total (for 4 wickets, 20 overs)</b>		<b>188</b>
Did not bat: D Cranmer, M Makin, R. Brierley, T Young, G Lomax		

#### SHREWSBURY

R. Foster	st Makin b Tipper	16
A. Parker	b Fitzsimmons	0
E. Foster	c Cranmer b Young	65
T Cox	lbw Tipper	1
S Leach	run out	3
S Barnard	run out	1
M. Barnard	run out	6
S Griffiths	c Young b Kirwin	4
H Blofield	c Young b Kirwin	0
S Breeze	not out	7
P Donaldson	run out	2
Extras		16
<b>Total (all out, 18.5 overs)</b>		<b>121</b>

Hyde bowling: Kirwin 3.5-0-28-2; Fitzsimmons 4-0-26-1; Cranmer 3-0-21-0; Young 4-0-26-1; Tipper 4-0-16-2.

SEMI-FINAL SCORES: Hyde 204-2 (D. Berry 143no); Stone 157. Shrewsbury 208-5; Mochdre 125-9.

## CBH v Bootle in *Echo* final

CHESTER Boughton Hall reached the final of the *Liverpool Echo knock out* when they beat former Competition rivals New Brighton by 53 runs at Filkins Lane on Friday evening.

Chester scored an impressive 190-3 from their 20 overs, Jordan Clark 51 not out, Ross Dixon 46, Warren Goodwin 35. New Brighton were restricted to 137-7, Louis Botes 42, Jordan Clark 2-14, Harry Killoran 2-31, Jack Williams 2-38.

The previous evening, Neston lost to Bootle by five runs in their semi-final at Parkgate. Bootle were held to 114-9 (Andy Clarke 3-25), but Neston could muster only 109-9, Luke Camden top scoring with 27.

The final will be a two innings affair of 20 overs each, the venue and date yet to be announced.

**LEAGUE DINNER DATE:** Clubs will this week be sent posters asking them to display details of the League Presentation Dinner at The Mere (Mere Golf & Country Club) on Friday, October 4 when former Surrey and England player Alec Stewart will be the speaker.

All clubs are now required to buy three tickets (at the unchanged price of £30) . The coordinator is again John Bygate.

## **Forties' play-off draw**

DRAW for the **Over 40s section** play-offs to be staged at Upton on Late Summer Holiday, August 26, sponsored by TailorMade Group Pensions has resulted:

**On main ground: ALSAGER DABBERS (Central group champions) v NESTON (West group champions)**

**On second ground: BREDBURY SAINTS (South-East group champions) v URMSTON TIGERS (North-East group champions).**

Both games start at 12 noon. Tea follows at 2.50 – 3.20 pm with the winners meeting on the main ground in the final for the Chapel Press Trophy at 3.30 pm.

The last group issue was settled in the final round of fixtures last Wednesday when Neston pipped joint runners-up Irby for the West title with a nine wickets win at Parkgate.

Alsager Dabbers 'lost' for the first time when they conceded their final fixture against Davenham at Butcher's Stile. Toft finish second after beating Ashley.

Cheadle Hulme take second spot in the North-East group with Sale Silverbacks conceding.

Bredbury Saints lost their first game when they were beaten at home by Poynton Legends, whose post-match fish and chip supperl was described as 'superb' by winning skipper Brian Kingham.

Marple beat Offerton to hand the South-East group wooden spoon to newcomers Offerton.

A record 20 fixtures were conceded because clubs were unable to raise teams.

The reasons for this and means of countering the problem will be among topics for discussion at the special meeting at Warrington on an October date yet to be fixed.

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7 RESULTS**

#### **West Group**

**NESTON (4 pts.) beat IRBY by 9 wickets:**

Irby 119-6 (Lea 30, James 3-20); Neston 123-1 (Egerton 35, Hackett 34, James 31).

**OXTON (4 pts.) beat CALDY by wickets:**

Caldy 83-8 (Laycock 26, Kumar 2-22, Hurst 2-6); Oxtton 84 - ? (Bland 4-22, Wright 2-12).

#### **Central Group**

**DAVENHAM (4 pts.) beat ALSAGER DABBERS by default: *Alsager conceded.***

**GRAPPENHALL (4 pts.) beat BOWDON VALE VIKINGS by 57 runs:**

Grappenhall 141-3 (Anderson 31, Green 31, Radage 30); Bowdon Vale 84-7 (Fairbrother 2-1).

**MOBBERLEY lost to BOWDON (4 pts.) by 50 runs:**

Bowdon 170-3 (Cranmer 31, Thompson 30, Walker 26); Mobberley 120-9 (Johnson 30, Leech 26, Burgess 3-12).

**TOFT (4 pts.) beat ASHLEY by 35 runs:**

Toft 128-2 (Ashley 32, Hope 30); Ashley 93-5 (Bolos 32, Hind 2-13).

#### **North-East Group**

**BROOKLANDS (4 pts.) beat CHEADLE HULME LADYBRIDGE by default. *CHL conceded***

**SALE SILVERBACKS lost to CHEADLE HULME (4 pts.) by default. *Sale conceded***

**WARRINGTON lost to ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS (4 pts.). No information: *Warrington £15 fine.***

#### **South-East Group**

**BOLLINGTON VETERANS (4 pts.) beat MACCLESFIELD by 9 wickets:**

Macclesfield 92-9 (Vare 17, Stott 3-25); Bollington 95-1 (Burns 31, Paterson 29).

**BRAMHALL lost to WOODLEY (4 pts.) by 6 runs:**

Woodley 113 (Oldland 23, Wilson 2-10, Goodwin 2-13, Milligan 2-16) ; Bramhall 107 (Merrygold 31, Addy 30)

**BREDBURY SAINTS lost to POYNTON LEGENDS (4 pts.) by 11 runs:**

Poynton 119-3 (Stringer 32, Turnbull 30); Bredbury 108-5 (C. Wood 25, Martin 23).

**MARPLE (4 pts.) beat OFFERTON by 10 wickets:**

Offerton 128-4 (Taylor 32, Bates 31, Major 2-30, Bell 0-5 off 4 overs); Marple 131-0 (Hayward 35, Littler 31, Stringer 31).

**Over 40s final tables**

<b><u>West group</u></b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W (4)</b>	<b>T (3)</b>	<b>C (2)</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Points</b>
1. NESTON	12	7	0	3	2	34 champions
2 = IRBY	12	7	0	2	3	32
2= TATTENHALL WRECKERS	12	7	0	2	3	32
4. CALDY	12	5	0	2	5	24
5. OXTON	12	5	0	0	7	20
6. CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	12	4	0	0	8	16
7. UPTON	12	2	0	1	9	10

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

**Central group**

1. ALSAGER DABBERS	14	9	1	3	1	45 champions
2. TOFT	14	8	2	3	1	44
3. GRAPPENHALL	14	8	1	3	2	41
4. *BOWDON	13	6	0	2	5	28
5. *BOWDON VALE VIKINGS	13	5	0	2	6	24
6. DAVENHAM	14	3	0	3	8	18
7. ASHLEY	14	2	0	3	9	14
8. MOBBERLEY	14	1	0	3	10	10

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

\* Outstanding fixture: Bowdon Vale Vikings v Bowdon (Wednesday, August 14, 6 p.m.).

**North-East group**

1. URMSTON TIGERS	14	10	0	3	1	46 champions
2. CHEADLE HULME	14	7	1	3	3	37
3. SALE SILVERBACKS	14	6	0	2	6	28
4. ALDERLEY EDGE VIKINGS	14	5	0	3	6	26
5. CHEADLE	14	4	1	3	6	25
6=CHEADLE HULME LADYBRIDGE	14	5	0	2	7	24
6= BROOKLANDS	14	5	0	2	7	24
8. WARRINGTON	14	3	0	2	9	16

Conceded games: Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge (5), Sale (3), Warrington (1).

**South-East group**

1. BREDBURY SAINTS	14	11	0	2	1	48 champions
2. P OYNTON LEGENDS	14	7	0	3	4	34
3=BOLLINGTON VETERANS	14	6	0	3	5	30
3= BRAMHALL	14	6	0	3	5	30
5. WOODLEY	14	6	0	1	7	26
6. MACCLESFIELD	14	3	1	3	7	21
7. MARPLE	14	4	0	2	8	20
8. OFFERTON	14	2	1	3	8	17

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



## **August 3 ... pitch & ground marks**

UMPIRES' ground marks from games played on Saturday, August 3 were as follows:

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

**First Division:** Bramhall v Widnes 16 – 20; Bredbury v Cheadle Hulme 18 – 18; Christleton v Sale 19 – 20; Heaton Mersey v Urmston 18 – 20; Middlewich v Brooklands 20 – 20 (**full house**). Five games only.

**Second Division:** Alvanley v Tattenhall 18 – 29; Congleton v Davenham 17 – 16; Irby v Bollington late sheet; Poynton v Stockport 17 – 19; Stockport Georgians v Weaverham 17 – 19; Timperley v Warrington 19 – 19.

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

### **LOOKING BACK ...**

○ Batting at Chester, Marple slumped from 76-1 to 89-7 after four wickets had fallen with the score at 81. Wicket-keeper Steve Ogilby claimed four catches and a stumping (and later a duck).

○ In Neston's remarkable 10 wickets win at home to Macclesfield, Will Evans' 160 not out contained 21 fours and six sixes and David Hurst's unbeaten 114 had 15 fours and three sixes – that's 198 in boundaries. Macclesfield had no scorer.

○ In Widnes' nine wickets defeat Bramhall, their top scorer was opener M. Burns with 19.

○ Sale's innings of 278-4 at Christleton contained four innings of between 52 and 68.

○ Bredbury St Mark's topped 200 runs for the fifth successive week without winning when they lost at home to Cheadle Hulme.

## **Didsbury win Jack Gardner 3rd XI Trophy**

DIDSBURY beat Oxton by 47 runs in the final to win the **Jack Gardner 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Trophy** for the third time in four seasons, at Irby on Sunday.

Didsbury scored 162-4, thanks mainly to Man of the Match Rick Daniel who hit 80 off 62 balls and Adam Pearce, 35. Oxton replied with 115-9, Chris Watson 32 not out, Pearce 4-19.

The trophy was handed to Didsbury captain David Boorman by League chairman David Humpage.

In the semi-finals, Didsbury beat holders Cheadle and Oxton eliminated Urmston.

The event was organised by 3<sup>rd</sup> XI secretary Ian Sharrock.

## **TACS CHESHIRE LEAGUE LEADERS WIN**

LEADERS Mobberley and Northwich both won their First Division games in the **TACS-sponsored Cheshire Cricket League** on Saturday.. But third placed Upton were held to a draw at home by Romiley and are losing ground in their bid for a first-time-return to the County League.

**RESULTS:** Malpas 251-8 drew with Ashton on Mersey 258-7 dec. ; Mobberley 171-1 beat Hale Barns 167-9 dec.; Northwich 136-4 beat Chester County Officers 135-9 inn. closed; Prestbury 186 lost to Oakmere 189-8 dec.; Runcorn 74-1 beat Winnington Park 72; Upton 191-5 dec. drew with Romiley 185-8.

**LATEST PLACINGS:** 1. Mobberley 341 pts.; 2. Northwich 337; 3. Upton 313; 4. Romiley 281; 5. Malpas 279; 6. Ashton on Mersey 279; 7. Hale Barns 236; 8. Oakmere 216; 9. CCO 215; 10. Runcorn 208; 11. Winnington Park 154; .12. Prestbury 142. Division 2 leaders: 1. Mere 365; 2. Lindow 329; 3. Woodford 299. Division 3 top and bottom: 1. Over Peover 344; 2. Disley 325; 11. Alderley Park 182; .12. The Groves 176.

**FIXTURES** in Division 1 on Saturday, August 17 (1.30 pm.): Chester County Officers v Heaton Mersey; Hale Barns v Malpas; Northwich v Prestbury; Oakmere v Upton; Romiley v Runcorn; Winnington Park v Mobberley.

*Information supplied by Graham Coull, CL vice chairman.*

## **Over Sixties play-off postponed**

CHESHIRE'S **Spitfire 60 Plus county championship** last 16 play-off last Tuesday against Leicestershire at Bardon Hill was postponed due to waterlogging and is to be played on Tuesday this week at Lutterworth CC (1 p.m.). .

## **Cheshire in driving seat**

CHESHIRE are within sight of the **Minor Counties Western division** title after the thrilling fifth successive victory they achieved over Devon in a rain-ravaged game at Bowdon last week.

With a 16 points lead over Wales, Cheshire go into their final match against third-placed Shropshire at Nantwich from Sunday – Tuesday, August 18 – 20 (11 a.m. daily) in the driving seat.

With Wales' game against Wiltshire at Trowbridge rained off after the first day and Shropshire losing their first game, against Berkshire at Whitchurch – former Cheshire professional Richard Logan destroying them with 7-101 - Cheshire surged ahead at the top with a cleverly manufactured 59 runs victory.

Cheshire scored 255-7 in a truncated first day (Khalid Sawas 80, James Duffy 53) and were frustrated on the Monday when no play was possible due to the rain which also ruined the last day of the Ashes Test match at nearby Old Trafford.

### ***Heads together***

On Tuesday the captains got their heads together to devise a result, the outcome being that Cheshire batted on to declare at 326-9 thanks to Jack Williams who was unbeaten on 72. Devon batted for 11 overs to declare on 49-0 and Cheshire forfeited their second innings.

This left Devon needing 278 to win in a minimum of 61 overs plus 17 in the last hour. They never looked like achieving this target against tight bowling and keen fielding and were dismissed for 218. Danny Woods continued his fine form with 5-66, aided by Jack Williams 2-42 and Ian Tait 2-60. Woods has now taken 47 wickets in five games

Skipper Woods highlighted how hard his team - all from the Cheshire County League except himself - had worked to achieve victory number 5: "Once again it was down to great team spirit. Batting wasn't easy on the first day and that was a real gutsy knock from Khalid Sawas. We still have work to do, but we would love to win at Nantwich and reach the play off", said the former Hyde spinner, now captain of York.

If Cheshire do finish top their likely play-off hosts from Sunday – Wednesday, September 8-11 will be Cambridgeshire who lead the Eastern group and wind up away to Northumberland.

### **WEST DIVISION TABLE TO DATE**

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
CHESHIRE	5	5	0	0	112
WALES MC	5	4	0	1	96
SHROPSHIRE	5	4	1	0	95
BERKSHIRE	5	3	2	0	73
DEVON	5	2	2	1	65
HEREFORDSHIRE	5	1	2	2	57
OXFORDSHIRE	5	1	3	1	49
CORNWALL	5	1	3	1	48
WILTSHIRE	5	0	4	1	39
DORSET	5	0	4	1	24

**DEVELOPMENT XI:** Cheshire's next game is against their Staffordshire counterparts at Macclesfield on Thursday, August 15 (11 am).

## **Chester in Cheshire Cup final**

THE first **Cheshire Cup** semi-final turned out to be one-way traffic on Sunday when holders Chester Boughton Hall won by 10 wickets at Birkenhead Park. Scores: Park 49; Chester 50-0 in six overs.

The second semi-final between Macclesfield and New Brighton is on Sunday, August 25, with the final pencilled in for Sunday, September 1, the clubs to toss for choice of grounds.

Bramhall beat Cheadle Hulme by four wickets in the first **Cheshire Shield** semi-final, also played on Sunday. Scores: Cheadle Hulme 201-7 (Adam Wilde 66, Jordan Potts 46, Ewan McCray 37, L.Littlewood 3-46); Bramhall 204-6 (Nick Cantello 58no, Matt Begbie 40, Andy Reynolds 39).

The second semi-final is Romiley v Port Sunlight on Sunday, August 18. The winners will host the final on Sunday, August 25.

*o Information provided by Cheshire Cups organiser Rick Davis.*

### ***Alistair Davies's Umpires Quiz: Week 17***

**LAST WEEK:** 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?

**ANSWER:** Either umpire should call and signal Dead ball. After the bowler commences his run up, fielders are not permitted to make any significant sideways or backward movements. *Law 41.7*

**THIS WEEK:** The umpires consider that the light is unreasonable and could be dangerous, so decide to suspend play. The batsmen at the crease, however, ask if play can continue. What should be the umpires' response?

## **Death of legend 'Snowy' Nuttall at 88**

ONCE described as a future Don Bradman who went on to become one of Mid-Cheshire's most remarkable all-round sportsman, Harold Nigel 'Snowy' Nuttall has died aged 88.

Born at Delamere in 1924, Harold first came to notice as a record breaking Sixth Form batsman at Sir John Deane's GS, scoring 956 runs in the 1942 season when was chased by a number of clubs.

He continued his education at Salford University, then joined ICI Alkali, later moving to the company's Welwyn Garden City HQ. His clubs were Hartford 1939-40, Northwich 1946-48, Knutsford 1949-50 and Winnington Park 1950-51 amassing 28 centuries by the age of 22.

He had a distinguished three year career with Cheshire, playing Minor Counties cricket from 1946-48 and in 16 matches scored 738 runs at 26, winning his county cap. He also had trials with Northants

Familiarly known as Snowy on account of his very fair hair, Harold eventually tired of cricket and took up a variety of other sports and activities. He became Mid-Cheshire singles tennis champion, ICI table-tennis champion, won a Salom medal skiing in Austria, obtained his private pilot's license and flew his own plane until his 70s; played to a handicap of 12 at golf, was a keen squash and badminton player; won medals for dancing and skating; was a long distance swimmer and water skier, surfer and dinghy sailor. He loved football and had extensive trials for Everton .

### **Coaching at Tattenhall**

Former Tattenhall chairman Mel Dobson, told *Newsletter*: "When he lived at Bunbury, Harold came to see me and asked to be allowed to coach in the nets, saying he had played for Oulton Park more than 40 years ago. I realised that he had probably played with my grandfather and felt he was too old to help our youngsters. . But his knowledge and enthusiasm were such that I invited him to do some coaching and he was excellent. We had some great conversations and I found him a highly intelligent and interesting man with many fine stories.

He moved to live in an alms house at Little Budworth in 2010 and he realised his dream to play cricket again, turning out several times for Oulton Park 3<sup>rd</sup> aged 85. Quite a man"

MTB writes: I had the pleasure of playing with Harold at Knutsford in 1948 when we opened the batting together in a midweek game at Stonyhurst College (Pat Kelly etc.). He scored a magnificent 100 which was greeted with huge applause by very well mannered students. I am sorry I lost contact with a man who became like a legendary Wilson of the Wizard.

## **IN BRIEF ...**

O LEAGUE secretary Geoff Wellsted has been appointed to umpire the prestigious *Cricketer* Cup final on Sunday, August 18. The match is between Old Tonbridgians and Old Cranleyans at Wimbledon Cricket Club.

O TOFT all-rounder Rob Jones was last week in the England – Bangladesh – Pakistan Under 19 international triangular competition squad.

O LATEST transfer: Alec Davies from Carmell (North Wales) to Chester Boughton Hall.

It is now too late to register transfers to play in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI cricket during the current season. Players wishing to make their first appearance of the season for their clubs need permission to do so from the Cricket Committee.

O FORMER Bramhall secretary Frank Norris has kept a family cricket team known as the Norrisonians going for 27 years and is to play his annual match on Sunday, September 15 at Offerton.

## **FIXTURES & UMPIRES FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 17**

### **ECB Premier League (12.30 p.m.)**

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

Barry Burns & Jim Whitehead  
Ankit Jain & Glyn Roberts  
Trevor Burnett & Paul Herring  
Chris Smith & to be appointed  
Jon Hacking & Ged Kinsey  
Dion Kelly & Geoff Wellstead

### **First Division (1 p.m.)**

BREDBURY ST MARK'S v SALE  
CHEADLE HULME v BROOKLANDS  
CHRISTLETON v WIDNES  
HEATON MERSEY v CHEADLE  
MIDDLEWICH v URMSTON  
OULTON PARK v BRAMHALL

Ron Bedson & Martin Roberts  
Simon Smith & David Stoter  
Neville Abberley & Allan Lewis  
Howard Briggs & Tom Spencer  
Tony Morris & Ken Rothwell  
Bob Cunningham & Ray Prescott

### **Sunday, August 18 (1 p.m.)**

OULTON PARK v CHEADLE

To be appointed

### **Second Division (1 p.m.)**

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

David Humpage & Gary Zimmer  
David Gane & John Lowe  
\*Don Flanagan & Peter Hanaby  
Wyn Harris & Phil Prince  
Brian Jones & Clive Rice  
Ken Simpson & to be appointed

\* Don Flanagan's new e-mail: don.flan@icloud.com; new mobile 079952 404 445

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

There are no panel umpires available to cover 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Premier Division matches

### *Last word .....*

THE league's oldest active player, Bill Brown, has finally hung up his kit at the end of Brooklands' last Over 40s match of the season on Wednesday, August 6 – a friendly specially arranged for him .

Says Bill, aged 83, an ex-wicket-keeper, still sometime 2<sup>nd</sup> XI umpire and regular contributor to *Newsletter*: "It's true. I've finished. To prove it, I have one hardly used bat for sale."

