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**CHESHIRE COUNTY
CRICKET LEAGUE**



2012 season: August 18 Newsletter

Hyde, Oxton, CBH lose as Macc go 27 points clear with 4 games left

MACCLESFIELD have not won the **ECB Premier League** title since 1999, but they are beginning to think this could be their season again after Saturday's turn of events.

While Macclesfield were bowling Alderley Edge out for 79 to chalk up their ninth victory, three leading challengers, Oxton (at Neston), Hyde (at home to Nantwich) and Chester Boughton Hall (at Marple) all lost.

Skipper Barney Cutbill was delighted with his team's third win in a row which gives them a 27 points advantage at the top of the table. After slumping to 43-3, Rob Porter's fine 87, plus 46 from Khalid Sawas and a bright 30 from Macclesfield King's School batsman Andy Hodgson, helped them post 225-9.

Alderley Edge had no answer to the superb line and length of left arm seamer Craig Melrose, who took 7-19 off 14.2 overs to help bowl the visitors out for 79. And that after running up 303-5 against Hyde seven days earlier.

An unfortunate feature of this game was bad finger injuries to both wicket-keepers, Jim Melrose and Adam Worrall. Skipper Cutbill learned over the week-end that Melrose needs an operation and is out for the season.

Unbeaten since June 2, Nantwich remain well in the hunt for their third successive title following a 19 runs win at Hyde after posting 214-7, Jonny Kettle 78. Hyde's county duo Danny Berry, 59 and James Duffy, 55 both did their stuff, but the remaining batsmen crumbled against fine bowling from Ollie Griffiths, who took 4-47 off 21 tight overs to dismiss the Werneth Low men for 195.

Oxton lost their Wirral derby match at Neston by the even tighter margin of nine runs chasing 211-8, David Hurst 86, and John Creek, 52 enjoying a third wicket partnership of 127 before Ross Dixon claimed 5-29. With Lou Vincent blazing away, Oxton were on course, but when he was out for a fine 83 off 78 balls, the innings collapsed to 202 all out against the spin of Paul Stimson, 3-29 and the nagging seam of Chris Finegan, 3-42.

On the season's driest day at Bowden Lane, Marple scored a tight, two wickets win against Chester Boughton Hall after restricting their visitors to 174-9, Kumar Sarna 39, Mark Rowland 30. The damage was done by Jimmy Ormond and Joe Cash, both 3-36 and Andy Greasley, 3-63. The Marple batsmen also struggled, but a sound 40 from Andy McGuinness, the highest individual score of the match, aided by James Crisall, 34 and Mark Bennett, 32, saw them home. That was despite fine spin bowling from teenagers Jack Williams, 6-82 and the promising Harry Killoran, celebrating his 15th birthday with 2-39.

4 wickets in 4 balls for Syddall

The remaining two games were between the four teams involved in the relegation issue and while Urmston and Didsbury emerged triumphant, nothing is yet settled.

Urmston kept Toft in bottom place with a 33 runs home victory highlighted by their Cheshire left arm paceman Adam Syddall taking 6-43, including four wickets in four balls, the first time the feat has been achieved in the Premier League. He and Matt Parkinson, 4-56 bowled Toft out for 155 (Andy Bones 51, Toby Drummond 41). This was in reply to Urmston's 187-9, Lewis Jackson 55, Callum Parkinson 50, Matt Parkinson 30, while England Under 15 leg spinner Robin Jones claimed 6-69 off 16 overs.

Didsbury won by four runs at Widnes to pick up 25 crucial points and stay outside the bottom two, despite a superb all-round individual performance from Widnes' Aussie Michael Nalesnyik. Didsbury were bowled out for 154, Phil Critchley 58, Nalesnyik taking 8-57 with 24 overs of accurate off-spin. Widnes were then dismissed for 151 after being 101-3 and 147-6. Nalesnyik did more than his bit with a fine innings of 80, but a 6-44 return by R. Nawaz proved the ultimate match-winner.

Games to watch next Saturday: Nantwich v Macclesfield; Oxton v Hyde; Didsbury v Urmston

Veteran Dooler is Player of Month

A VETERAN of more than 20 seasons at Cheadle, seam bowler Dave Dooler has won the League's **Performance of the Month award for July**.

His superb return of 9-44 in Cheadle's 2nd XI Premier Division game against Nantwich at Kingsway on July 28 was rated by the League Cricket Committee as the best individual performance during the month.

He will be presented with a framed certificate provided by League sponsors Chapel Press and a £50 Canterbury sports voucher later in the season.

All over in Division 1 ?

WITH Oulton Park losing their first game since July 7 - by 58 runs at Bramhall - while Bowdon and Grappenhall registered decisive victories, the promotion issue could be all over bar the shouting in **Division One**

Bowdon 12th win was by 125 runs at the expense of Brooklands, whom they comprehensively outplayed at Georges Road. Bowdon declared after 48 overs on 232-3, Simon Marshall 79, Glen Parker 61, then dismissed Brooklands for 107, Marshall completing another good match with 4-31 and skipper Gareth Edwards 3-29.

Grappenhall returned to form after five blank games. They recorded a three wickets win against Cheadle Hulme at Broad lane, bowling well to restrict their visitors to 159-9, Jordan Potts 37, Gaz Burns 4-42, Steve Titchard 3-24. Then Jason Smith, 54 and James McCoy, 47 top-scored in Grappenhall's reply of 160-7, despite Ewan McCray bowling typically well for his 4-47.

Bramhall revival goes on

Oulton fell foul of the Big Bramhall Revival which has earned Nick Cantello's team 125 points from their last five outings. Bramhall totalled 222-9, Simon Wilkinson 64, then bowled Oulton out for 164, Nick James 64, while Simon Wilkinson rounded off a good day with 5-69. A word of praise for Park left arm quick Guy Emmett, whose 7-73 return in the Bramhall innings brought his tally of victims from the last three outings to 20. The mid-Cheshire club now lie 63 points behind second placed Grappenhall, with four games remaining.

Sale showed signs of a tardy recovery with a 47 runs win at Christleton after posting 205-7, Willem Lubbe 47, Dan Halkon 45, Matt Parkinson 4-34. Apart from Jamie Creek, 40 and number nine batsman Harry Peel, 40 not out, Christleton's usually strong line up collapsed to 158 all out, Rick Halkon 5-29.

Irby lost by seven wickets at Bredbury St. Mark's and may have a problem retaining their status in the final weeks. Greg Shillinglaw, 54 was the only batsman to shine in Irby's all out 124, Chris Wood 3-26, Graham Barlow 3-30. Bredbury replied with a solid 128 -3, Darren Carr 47, Paul Wood 41.

The fixture between the bottom two clubs Heaton Mersey and Bollington was postponed by mutual agreement and with the league's approval and will be played at a later date.

Cheadle lead Division 2

WITH Middlewich losing their first game of the season at home to Warrington, Cheadle leap-frogged into top place in **Division 2** with a seven wickets win at Timperley.

With four games remaining, Cheadle have established a 12 points lead from which it will be difficult to dislodge them, although they have to visit Middlewich on the last day of the campaign.

Cheadle dismissed Timperley for 105, Mike Ness 33, with Chris Brady taking 4-7 and Matt Gross 3-28. Cheadle's Dan Brown, 37 and Nick Reid, 34 not out then knocked off the runs inside 30 overs.

Middlewich's maiden defeat was at the hands of challengers Warrington and the promotion issue is now very much a three-club affair. Middlewich mustered only 138, Ron Cook-Siewwright 31, Kyle Adams 5-63. To which Warrington responded with a tight 139-8, Richard Heaney playing a skipper's innings of 43, aided by Mal Agar, 37. For Middlewich, Gavin Tomlinson, 4-39 and Stuart Price, 3-34 both bowled well.

The day's only drawn game saw Poynton finish 10 - 7 points ahead of Stockport, who decided against chasing the home side's 185-9, Tom Berzins 81, Mark Green claiming a splendid 6-25. An unbroken fifth wicket partnership between Tom Facer, 48 and Sam Edwards 31, took the Cale Green men as far as 141-5.

Key win for Georgians

Stockport Georgians did their chances of survival a power of good with a four wickets home win against Tattenhall, who had one of their off-days, being bowled out for 127, Tom Hyslop 33, Simon Normanton 6-40, Chris Dodd 3-27. Handy all-rounder Normanton top scored with an unbeaten 29 as Georgians replied with 128-6.

Likewise there was a useful 25 pointer for Upton who beat Alvanley by six wickets at Old Greasby road. Their visitors could muster only 125-8 from 50 overs, Andy Bennion 35, Graeme Keenan 3-28, a tally which Upton easily overhauled at 126-4, Graeme McGowan top scoring with 37 before retiring hurt. All four wickets were taken by former Lancashire player Andy Hayhurst for the personal concession of 28 runs.

Malpas suffered their 13th defeat, by eight wickets at home to Congleton after mustering 145, Tom Crabb 38, and Colin Tinsley, 26 enjoying a decent stand worth 52 for the seventh wicket, while Jack Higginbotham took 3-32. An opening partnership of 131 between Adrian Dale, 71 and Marcus Baxendale, 56 not out, virtually saw Congleton home.

All Saturday's scorelines

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE

HYDE (toss) v NANTWICH

Nantwich 214-7 (55 overs: J. Kettle 78, J. Dawber 3-74, C Tipper 3-78);

Hyde 195 (53 overs: D. Berry 59, J. Duffy 55, O. Griffiths 4-47).

Nantwich (25 pts.) beat Hyde (5 pts.) by 19 runs

MACCLESFIELD v ALDERLEY EDGE (toss)

Macclesfield 225-9 (55 overs: R Porter 87, K Sawas 46, A. Hodgson 30);

Alderley Edge 79 (30 overs: C Rowe 18, C. Melrose 7-19).

Macclesfield (25 pts.) beat Alderley Edge (4 pts.) by 146 runs

MARPLE v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (toss)

Chester 174-9 (55 overs: K. Sarna 39, M. Rowland 30, J. Cash 3-36, J. Ormond 30, A. Greasley 3-36);

Marple 176-8 (51 overs: A. McGuinness 40, J. Crisall 34, M Bennett 32, J. Williams 6-82).

Marple (25 pts.) beat Chester Boughton Hall (5 pts.) by 2 wickets

NESTON v OXTON (toss)

Neston 211-8 (55 overs: D Hurst 86, J. Crick 52 = 127 for third wicket, R. Dixon 5-29).

Oxton 202 (47 overs: L. Vincent 83, A Gibson 31, P. Stimson 3-29, C Finegan 3-41).

Neston (25 pts.) beat Oxton (6 pts.) by 9 runs

URMSTON v TOFT (toss)

Urmston 187-9 (55 overs: L. Jackson 55, L. Parkinson 50, R. Jones 6-69);

Toft 155 (50 overs: A. Bones 51, T Drummond 50, A. Syddall 6-43 inc. 4 wickets in 4 balls, M. Parkinson 4-56).

Urmston (25pts.) beat Toft (4 pts.) by 32 runs

WIDNES v DIDSBURY (toss)

Didsbury 154 (54 overs: P. Critchley 58, M. Nalesnyik 8-57);

Widnes 151 (36 overs: M. Nalesnyik 80, D. Naughton 42, R. Nawaz 6-44).

Didsbury (25 pts.) beat Widnes (4 pts.) by 3 runs

FIRST DIVISION

BRAMHALL v OULTON PARK (won toss)

Bramhall 222-9 (50 overs: S. Wilkinson 64, L. Smith 49, M. Jamieson 41, G. Emmett 7-73);

Oulton Park 164 (48 overs: N James 64, R. Moore 30, S. Wilkinson 5-64, A. Syddall 3-30).

Bramhall (25 pts.) beat Oulton Park (6 pts.) by 58 runs

BREDBURY ST.MARK'S (toss) v IRBY

Irby 124 (36 overs: G. Shillinglaw 54, C. Wood 3-26, G. Barlow 3-30);

Bredbury 128-3 (31 overs: D Carr 47. P Wood 41, P. Zybrands 30no).

Bredbury St. Mark's (25 pts.) beat Irby (1 pt.) by 7 wickets.

BROOKLANDS (toss v BOWDON

Bowdon 232-3 dec. (49 overs: S Marshall 79, G. Parker 61, M. Chilton 37, S. Ball 34);

Brooklands 107 (50 overs: A Platt 33, C. Potter 30, S. Marshall 4-31, G. Edwards 3-29).

Bowdon (25 pts.) beat Brooklands (1 pt.) by 125 runs

CHRISTLETON (toss) v SALE

Sale 205-7 (50 overs: W. Lubbe 47, D. Halkon 45, I. Dixon 39, M. Parkinson 4-34).

Christleton 158 (45 overs: H.Peel 40no, J. Creek 40, R. Halkon 5-24, T. Tharsan 3-37).

Sale (25 pts.) beat Christleton (4 pts.) by 47 runs

GRAPPENHALL (toss) v CHEADLE HULME

Cheadle Hulme 159-9 (50 overs: J Potts 37, G Burns 4-42, S Titchard 3-24);

Grappenhall 160-7 (42 overs: J Smith 54, J. McCoy 47, E. McCray 4-47, T. Briscoe 3-66).

Grappenhall (25 pts.) beat Cheadle Hulme (5 pts.) by 3 wickets.

HEATON MERSEY v BOLLINGTON: postponed until later date.

SECOND DIVISION

MALPAS v CONGLETON (toss)

Malpas 145 (38 overs: T Crabb 38, C. Tinsley 26, J. Higginbotham 3-33);
Congleton 147-2 (43 overs: A. Dale 71, M. Baxendale 56no = 131 for first wicket.)

Congleton (25 pts.) beat Malpas (2 pts.) by 8 wickets

MIDDLEWICH v WARRINGTON (toss)

Middlewich 138 (48 overs: R. Cook-Sievwright 31, S. Price 30, K Adams 5-63);
Warrington 139-8 (49.4 overs: R. Heaney 43, M. Agar 37, G. Tomlinson 4-35, S. Price 3-34).

Warrington (25 pts.) beat Middlewich (3 pts.) by 2 wickets

POYNTON v STOCKPORT (toss)

Poynton 185-9 (50 overs: T. Berzins 81, R. Clark 36, P. Gould 30, M. Green 6-25);
Stockport 141-5 (50 overs: T. Facer 48no, S. Edwards 31no).

Match drawn: Poynton 10 pts. Stockport 7 pts.

STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (toss) v TATTENHALL

Tattenhall 127 (40 overs: T. Hyslop 33, R. Mulvihill 26, S. Normanton 6-40, C. Dodd 3-27);
Stockport Georgians 128-6 (44 overs: S. Normanton 29no).

Stockport Georgians (25 pts.) beat Tattenhall (2 pts.) by 4 wickets.

TIMPERLEY (toss) v CHEADLE

Timperley 105 (39 overs: M. Ness 33, C. Brady 4-7, M. Gross 3-28);
Cheadle 109-3 (29 overs: D. Brown 37, N Reid 34no).

Cheadle (25 pts.) beat Timperley (1 pt.) by 7 wickets

UPTON (toss) v ALVANLEY:

Alvanley 125-8 (50 overs: A. Bennion 35, G Keenan 3-28);
Upton 126-4 (44 overs: G. McGowan retired hurt 37, A.Hayhurst 4-28).

Upton (25 pts.) beat Alvanley (1 pt.) by 6 wickets.

PICK OF WEEK

Premier Division. Batting: David Hurst (Neston) 86 v Oxton. Bowling: oMichael Nalesnyik (Widnes) 8-57 v Didsbury. All-rounder: oNalesnyik (Widnes) 80 and 8-51 v Didsbury

First Division. Batting: Simon Marshall (Bowdon) 79 v Brooklands. Bowling: Guy Emmett (Oulton Park) 7-79 v Bramhall. All-rounder: Marshall (Bowdon) 79 and 4-31 v Brooklands.

Second Division. Batting: Tom Berzins (Poynton) 81 v Stockport. Bowling: Mark Green (Stockport) 6-25 v Poynton.. All-rounder: Stuart Price (Middlewich) 30 and 3-34 v Warrington.

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Leading stats to August 11 (o = overseas player)

PREMIER LEAGUE (top five batsmen): K..Sawas (Macclesfield) 823 runs; oA. McGuinness (Marple) 596; D. Berry (Hyde) 596; oJ. Hancock (Toft) 574; L. Dixon (CBH) 570.

Top five bowlers: A. Birley (Oxton) and J. Whittaker (Alderley Edge) both 42 wickets; J. Warrington (Nantwich) 41; N. Anderson (Didsbury) 38; R. Porter (Macclesfield) 36.

Wicket-keeper: C. Melrose (Macclesfield) 21c & 2 st = 23.

FIRST DIVISION batting: R. Moore (Oulton Park) 832; oW. Lubbe (Sale) 608; I. De Silva (Christleton) 525; C. Wood (Bredbury) 481; R. Green (Grappenhall) 478.

Bowling: oV. Sood (Christleton) 41 wickets; R. Halkon (Sale) 38; R. Houghton (Irby) 36; A.J. Hart (Brooklands) 35; S. Wilkinson (Bramhall) 34.

Wicket-keeper: R. Wood (Brooklands) 13 c & 6 st = 19.

SECOND DIVISION batting: oJ. Bailey (Congleton) 471; oM. Macquet (Timperley) 471; J. Cornford (Middlewich) 456; P. Farrar (Warrington) 435; oT. Hyslop (Tattenhall) 429.

Bowling: oK. Adams (Warrington) 71 wickets; P Sperring (Cheadle) 46; T Facer (Stockport) 35; G Tomlinson (Middlewich) 34. .

Wicket-keeper: C. Fletcher (Alvanley) 13c & 4 st = 17 victims. .

Tables after 18 games

<u>ECB Premier</u>	P	W (25)	D (2)	A/C (7)	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
MACCLESFIELD	18	9	1	3	5	16	14	278
OXTON	18	7	2	4	5	27	17	251
HYDE	18	6	3	4	5	43	18	245
NANTWICH	18	7	3	4	4	17	18	244
CHESTER BO. HALL	18	7	4	0	7	20	24	227
NESTON	18	6	3	3	6	22	20	219
MARPLE	18	5	6	5	2	30	17	219
ALDERLEY EDGE	18	5	5	3	5	32	29	217
DIDSBURY	18	5	2	4	7	25	23	205
URMSTON	18	4	3	3	8	44	21	192
WIDNES	18	5	0	5	8	10	14	184
TOFT	18	4	5	1	8	18	35	170

<u>Division 1</u>	P	W (25)	T (18)	D (7)	C	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
BOWDON	18	12	0	0	3	3	10	3	334
GRAPPENHALL	18	10	0	1	3	4	22	12	307
OULTON PARK	18	6	0	5	2	5	45	25	244
SALE	18	7	0	3	5	3	13	13	242
BRAMHALL	18	7	1	2	3	5	8	13	239
CHRISTLETON	18	5	0	4	3	6	35	28	217
CHEADLE HULME	18	5	0	3	3	7	22	28	202
BREDBURY ST. MK.	18	3	0	6	3	6	62	31	201
BROOKLANDS	18	5	0	6	1	6	14	25	183
IRBY	18	2	0	3	3	10	46	31	154
*BOLLINGTON	17	2	0	5	5	5	28	19	142
*HEATON MERSEY	17	3	0	4	3	7	15	21	140

* The Heaton Mersey v Bollington fixture on August 18 was postponed by mutual agreement and will be played on either Sunday, August 26, Sunday, September 2 or Sunday, September 9.

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

<u>Division 2</u>	P	W (25)	D (2)	C (7)	L	BAT	BOWL	TOTAL
CHEADLE	18	11	2	4	1	4	8	319
MIDDLEWICH	18	10	6	1	1	13	25	307
WARRINGTON	18	10	2	3	3	14	14	303
POYNTON	18	7	4	4	3	24	20	255
CONGLETON	18	6	3	4	5	26	18	228
STOCKPORT	18	5	8	1	4	35	31	214
STOCKPORT GEO.	18	4	5	4	5	16	26	180
TATTENHALL	18	5	3	3	7	10	16	178
TIMPERLEY	18	4	2	3	9	25	26	176
UPTON	18	4	3	3	8	18	26	171
ALVANLEY	18	3	3	1	11	23	36	147
MALPAS	18	1	3	1	13	31	24	93

Third XI Sunday discipline must improve

SERIOUS concern was expressed by members at the August meeting of the League Cricket Committee about poor standards of behaviour in Sunday Third XI cricket.

Chairman David Humpage and Third XI Sunday results secretary Peter Lawson stressed that it was the responsibility of the captains to control the behaviour of their players at all times, especially in games umpired by players. Senior players should also actively help their captains in games where a majority of juniors were involved.

It was emphasised that sledging and abuse of the opposition is not an acceptable part of the game.

Clubs were reminded that in the event of a game being umpired by one non-player, that umpire should, if willing, umpire at both ends and he should not be replaced by players at the tea interval.

Discipline chairman Ian Greensmith was perturbed that there had been too many cases of team and individual indiscipline during the past month and called for an immediate improvement. He reported the following judgements: Mo Ali (Bollington 1st) suspended for three weeks for abuse of an umpire in a game against Bredbury St. Mark's on July 21. The suspension commenced on July 31.

C Hyde (Cheadle 3rd) suspended for three weeks for abuse of an opponent against Alderley Edge 3rd on July 22. Commenced on July 24.

L. Little (Cheadle 3rd) suspended for six weeks for threatening behaviour in the same match v Alderley Edge on July 22. Commenced August 10.

M. Rehman (Alderley Edge 3rd) suspended for six weeks for threatening behaviour in the above match v Cheadle 3rd on July 22. Commenced August 10.

Alderley had 10 points deducted for failing to complete the game against Cheadle 3rd and a further 10 points for their players entering the field of play.

S. Sadler (Tattenhall 3rd) suspended for three weeks for playing under a false name against Urmston 3rd on July 22.

S. Worley (Tattenhall) suspended for three weeks for signing the team sheet and submitting a false name in the same fixture.

The last two suspensions are subject to appeal and are deferred until the outcome of the appeal, as is a fine of £50 and a 10 points deduction for Tattenhall's involvement in those cases.

League format in 2013

ALL full member clubs are to be circulated asking for their views on the points format which has been in operation this season. They will be asked:

1. What would be their preferred format for league games in 2013 and given a number of options to tick;
2. If the decision is to stay with the 2012 format, which of a number of listed changes would they support;
3. If the decision is made to revert to the 2011 format, which of a number of listed modifications would the club support.

The replies will be collated and considered at the September meeting of the Cricket Committee with a detailed recommendation then framed to put before the November Management Committee.

Ground inspection delayed

THE League's planned visit to inspect the ground of promotion aspirants Davenham last Wednesday was postponed because of heavy rain. It will now take place on Wednesday this week.

Never before full members of the CCL, Davenham currently lie a clear second in the First Division of the Meller Braggins Cheshire League, not far behind leaders Weaverham, who were last members of the CCL in 1994. The Weaverham ground is also to be checked.

The Davenham ground was rejected last season because it was considered the square was below standard.

O MATCH REGULATION 28 has come 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, including an Over 40s fixture (parent club only). Players need special permission to do this. The Cricket Committee have ruled that no transfers will be permitted between clubs in the league unless it is in order to play 3rd XI cricket.

The last five Saturdays are August 18, 25 and September 1, 8 and 15.

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 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>

Rain hits Cheshire v Hereford

PLAY on the first day was restricted to 35 overs when Cheshire met Herefordshire in their final **Minor Counties championship** match at Chester Boughton Hall on Sunday.

Cheshire won the toss and had scored 116-1 when play ended. Warren Goodwin was out for 27, but Jonny Kettle, 43 and Rick Moore, 34, both batted well and were together at the close.

In the first hour of play on Monday, Cheshire advanced their score to 199-2 off 50 overs. Moore was out for 35, but Kettle advanced to 70 not out and Khalid Sawas was 33 not out.

The remainder of the batting order is: James Duffy (captain), Lee Dixon, Danny Berry, Ross Dixon, Adam Syddall, Danny Woods, Ian Tate.

The match continues at Chester on Tuesday (11 a.m.). Spectators are welcome and admission is free.

DEVELOPMENT XI

CHESHIRE Development XI led by Ross Dixon enjoyed a first innings advantage in their two-day game against their Staffordshire counterparts at New Brighton on Monday and Tuesday last week.

Cheshire batted well to total 346 in their first innings, Calum Rowe 77, Chris Davies 73, Tom Marsland 67, Ollie Law 41, Luke McCoy 34. Staffs. replied with 218-9 declared, Ben Davis 3-25, Ross Dixon 2-39, Jay Riley 2-47.

Batting again, Cheshire declared at 143-3, Chris Davies 64 not out, Calum Rowe 50. Left with 276 to win off 55 overs, Staffs were not up to the task and closed on 163-6, Jack Williams 4-66.

Umpire Geoff Wellsted commented: "Two good days' cricket with New Brighton putting on an excellent show".

O THE Development XI conclude their fixtures against Leicestershire 2nd at Toft on Friday, August 23 (11 a.m.).

Now Cheadle win 2nd XI Cup

CHEADLE emulated their 3rd XI the previous week when they won the **RedInsure 2nd XI Cup** final at Timperley on Sunday for the first time.

In a close game, Grappenhall totalled 66 and Cheadle replied with 67-9.

The competition was organised by 2nd XI Results secretary Ian Sharrock.

Christleton have top pitch

THE **1st XI Pitch Table** up to and including games played on August 11 shows Christleton leading the way with an average mark of 18.67 out of a possible 20, according to stats provided by Ground chairman John Bygate.

Second are Grappenhall, 18.40, followed by Middlewich, 17.67 and Tattenhall, 17.11. At the foot of the table are Poynton, 13.60; Brooklands, 14.43 and Toft, 14.71.

The **Outfield table** shows Neston leading with a maximum mark of 20, followed by Christleton, 19.86, Irby, 19.57 and Middlewich and Urmston, both 19.33. At the bottom are Bollington, 15.61 and Bowdon, 15.81.

August 11 pitch & outfield marks

Premier League

Alderley Edge v Hyde: 5-4-5-4 = 18; 4-5-5-5 = 19.

Didsbury v Macclesfield: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 3-5-5-5 = 18.

Nantwich v Neston: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 4-5-4-4 = 17.

Oxton v Chester: no result sheet received

Toft v Widnes: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Urmston v Marple: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

First Division

Bollington v Grappenhall: 3-4-4-4 = 15; 4-4-5-5 = 18.

Bowdon v Bredbury: 5-4-5-4 = 18; 5-5-5-4 = 19.

Cheadle Hulme v Christleton: 4-4-4-3 = 15; 4-4-4-5 = 17.

Heaton Mersey v Bramhall: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Irby v Oulton Park: 5-4-5-5 = 19; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Sale v Brooklands: 4-4-4-4 = 16; 4-4-5-5 = 18.

Second Division

Alvankey v Stockport Georgians: 5-5-5-4 = 19; 3-4-5-5 = 17.

Cheadle v Congleton: 4-5-4-5 = 18; 4-4-4-5 = 17.

Middlewich v Malpas: 4-5-5-4 = 18; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Stockport v Upton: 5-4-5-4 = 18; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Tattenhall v Timperley: 5-4-5-4 = 18; 5-5-5-5 = 20.

Warrington v Congleton: 5-4-5-4 = 18; 4-4-5-5 = 18.

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

Neston exit ECB National t20

NESTON met their match in the Regional final of the **ECB National t20 competition** after a long rain delay at Parkgate on Sunday

The game against Liverpool Competition visitors Northern began 30 minutes late due to rain at 2.30 p.m., and was halted by a further downpour after three overs. The match resumed at 4.30 p.m. in broad sunlight, when Northern batted well to total 145-7, their top scorer being Old Merchant Taylor's pupil Stephen Lucas with a fine 57. Neston were bowled out in the 19th over for 97, losing by 48 runs.

Congratulations are due to Neston on their fine form in cup competitions this season, which also included reaching the last 16 in the Kingfisher Beers National Club knock out.

The draw for the ECB National t20 Finals Day at Edgbaston on Thursday, September 6 is: Northern v Chester le Street (North-East Premier League); Wimbledon (Surrey championship) v Cuckney (Notts Premier League).

RedInsure changes

A SERIES of proposals for changes to the **RedInsure T20** next season have been tabled.

Most involve the formation of qualifying groups which would entail four or more matches for all 36 clubs being played between mid-May and early July, resulting in scrapping the Plate

RedInsure Finals Day, possibly involving only the four semi-finalists, is likely to be played one or two weeks later, in early August, 2013.

Sixties' big date

CHESHIRE Sixties beat England Deaf XI by 55 runs in a recent friendly at Cholmondeley and are to visit Sefton Park on Tuesday this week as they continue to gear up for the first play-off round in the **National Over 60s championship**.

This match will be at Grappenhall on Tuesday, August 28 against opponents yet to be named.

Cheshire Cup finals

HYDE host Elworth in a replayed **Cheshire Cup** semi-final on Sunday, August 26 (12.30 p.m.).

The winners will be at home to Chester Boughton Hall in the final a week later, Sunday, September 2 (12.30 p.m.).
O FINAL of the **Cheshire Shield** is between Oulton Park and Stockport at Little Budworth on Sunday, August 26 (12.30 p.m.).

Meller Braggins Cheshire League latest

RESULTS of First Division games in the **Meller Braggins Cheshire Cricket League** on Saturday, August 18 mean that Weaverham and Davenham must finish in the top two places, rendering them both eligible for promotion. The two clubs meet at Davenham on September 1 in a fixture which could decide the title.

Ashley 182-5 dec.; Mobberley 173-8

Ashton on Mersey 111-8 dec.; Weaverham 116-2

Davenham 244-6 dec.; Hale Barns 134.

Lindow 159-5; Runcorn 158

Oakmere 172; Winnington Park 133;

Prestbury 157; Northwich 163-7.

PLACINGS after 18 games: 1. Weaverham 232; 2. Davenham 351; 3. Hale Barns 232; 4. Prestbury 232; 5. Ashton on Mersey 218; 6. Oakmere 206; 7. Northwich 201; 8. Runcorn 195; 9. Winnington Park 195; 10. Mobberley 194; 11. Ashley 183; 12. Lindow 162. Division 2 top three: 1. Chester County Officers 363; 2. Kingsley 321 3. Romiley 287.

FIXTURES in the First Division on Saturday, August 25 (1.30 p.m.):

Hale Barns v Oakmere;

Mobberley v Ashton on Mersey;

Northwich v Davenham;

Runcorn v Ashley;

Weaverham v Prestbury;

Winnington Park v Lindow.

Information kindly supplied by Graham Coull (still working in Paris)

Over 40s play-offs draw

GRAPPENHALL host Alsager Dabbers on Tuesday this week (6 p.m.) to complete the line-up for the **Over 40s Finals Day play-offs** at Urmston on Bank Holiday Monday, August 27

Grappenhall won by eight wickets at Toft on Monday last week (65-8; 67-2) to draw level with Alsager at the top of the Central Group, both teams having won and lost the same number of games.

Draw for semi-finals (12 noon)

North-East group winners URMSTON TIGERS v West group winners NESTON (on main ground);
South-East group winners BOLLINGTON VETERANS v Central group winners GRAPPENHALL or ALSAGER DABBERS (on second ground).

Tea will follow for teams, officials, umpires and scorers from 2.45 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. The final will take place on the main ground at 3.30 p.m. The losing semi-finalists have the option to play-off for third place on the second ground.

TaylorMade Group Pensions are to sponsor the cost of staging Finals Day and their representative Peter Barrett will present the new Chapel Press Trophy.

O A mandatory special meeting of Over 40s reps. is be held at Warrington Sports Club on Thursday. October 11 (7.15 p.m.). Applications and resignations should be directed to organiser Mike Talbot-Butler before then if possible, with three vacancies to be filled. Among new proposals is a play-off between the winners and runners-up in each group on the ground of the top-placed club, with the aim of retaining competitive interest until the final week.

GROUP PLACINGS

<u>West Group</u>	P	W	T	C	L	PTS.
1. NESTON	12	8	0	4	0	40 <i>champions</i>
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

Games played 42; won / lost 29; tied 1; cancelled 12. Conceded (2): Oxton at Neston; Tattenhall at Oxton.

<u>Central Group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
*ALSAGER DABBERS	14	10	3	1	46
*GRAPPENHALL	14	10	3	1	46
TOFT	14	7	3	4	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

*Playing off for championship

Games played 56; won/ lost 42; cancelled 14. Conceded games (3): Moberley home to Ashley; Moberley at Alsager; Davenham at Alsager.

<u>North-East group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
URMSTON TIGERS	12	9	3	0	42 <i>champions</i>
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

Timperley resigned in May. Games played 42; won / lost 29; cancelled 13. No games conceded.

<u>South-East group</u>	P	W	C	L	PTS.
BOLLINGTON VETERANS	12	9	3	0	42 <i>champions</i>
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

Games played 42; won / lost 32; cancelled 10. Games conceded (2): Marple at Bollington; Marple home to Woodley.

Saturday, August 25: fixtures and umpires

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE (12.30 p.m.)

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

Alistair Davies & Ged Kinsey
Trevor Burnett & Phil Prince
Barrie Burns & Graham Harris
Neville Kent & Steve Walton
Jon Hacking & Chris Smith
Dave Goulding & Ian Greensmith

DIVISION 1 (1 p.m.)

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

Ron Bedson & Dion Kelly
Howard Briggs & Ian Drury
John Lowe & Jim Whitehead
Ankit Jain & Brian Jones
Neville Abberley & Glyn Roberts
Paul Herring & John Lofthouse

DIVISION 2 (1 p.m.)

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

Stuart Anderson & Allan Lewis
Ken Rothwell & Gary Zimmer
Garry Hambleton & Ken Simpson
Chris Moore & Clive Rice
Bob Cunningham & Ray Prescott
Tony Morris & David Williams

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

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

Two club umpires
No panel umpires available
Not available & Club umpire
Club umpire & Not available
Club umpire & Not available
No club umpires available

NOTE: Earlier starting times begin on Saturday, September 1.

Last word

TATTENHALL's cheerful scorer Geoff Beddow always has a little anecdote up his sleeve and Saturday's disappointing demise in a Second Division game at Stockport Georgians was no exception. He reports: "For the THIRD TIME this season, would you believe, we conceded five penalty runs when the ball struck a helmet placed behind our wicket-keeper. Could this mean we are bowling too straight?"

