



## **Rivals meet with nine points between them**

IF ever there has been a title defining fixture in the **ECB Premier League** in recent seasons it is the return meeting of two current pacemakers Chester Boughton Hall and Neston at Parkgate next Saturday.

Both clubs won again – both for the 13<sup>th</sup> time - to retain the nine points status quo and current form probably favours Chester, their last six results reading WDWWWW while Neston's run is WDDWWW. The clubs' two September fixtures show that Chester host Grappenhall and wind-up at Oxton, while Neston go to Bowdon and finish at home to Grappenhall.

On a day of soft wickets after overnight rain, there were fewer runs scored than usual with no centuries and all six games were resolved as tension mounts at both ends of the table.

Boughton Hall won by nine wickets at Didsbury after dismissing the bottom club for 135, Nick Anderson 37, Jordan Clark 4-22, Alex Kegg 3-29. Warren Goodwin finished unbeaten with 56 in Chester's response of 137-1 inside 20 overs, becoming the first Premiership batsman to top 1,000 runs (1,045 to be exact). This is the fourth time Goodwin has topped four figures in the past five seasons, the exception being in 2012 when he managed only 506 due to injury.

Neston found it harder work to pocket full points on the ground of retiring champions Nantwich, who opted to bat first and posted 165-7, Ray Doyle 44, Chris Finegan 3-41. Neston responded with 166-8, inside the last over, Jack Smith scoring 38 and Luke Camden 33, while Ollie Griffiths took 3-40 and Jimmy Warrington 3-74.

### ***Macc stir it up***

Down at the foot of the table Macclesfield have stirred up a hornet's nest with their third win in five outings, by five wickets at home to Grappenhall, who were dismissed for 119, Jack Ward 4-55, Chris Moores 3-2. Rob Keen then top-scored with 35 in Macc's response of 122-5.

Meanwhile, Bowdon and Marple lost and both are now within catching distance for Macclesfield in what should be a lively run-in. At South Downs Road, Bowdon were bowled out by Hyde for 78, Simon Marshall 37, Dan Cranmer 6-42. Chris Ashling's pace (5-23) later had the Hyde batsmen on the hop and they struggled to reach 79-7, Tom Twiney's 17 being the best individual contribution.

Marple lost by four wickets at home to Alderley Edge after being bowled out for 135, James Crisall 58, Mark Warnes 3-4, Jason Whittaker 3-61. With a polished innings of 69, Calum Rowe led Alderley's winning response of 138-6, Andy Wylie taking 4-44.

Bowdon v Marple on the season's final day could be worth watching

Oxton's upsurge continued at Toft, inspired by Worcestershire all-rounder Shaiq Choudhry . He scored an unbeaten 61 and, along with skipper Simon Stokes, 70 and Alex Hughes, 51, Oxton mustered a best-of-the-day 233-6, Jimmy Lomas 3-61, Jake Dickinson 3-66. Toft were bowled out for 156, Jake Hancock 55, Henry Hughes 41, their last seven batsmen scoring only 12 runs. Choudhry claimed 6-63 off 18 over of left arm spin.

### **HYDE PIPPED AT ORMSKIRK**

**HYDE had the heart-breaking experience of losing by one run at Ormskirk in the ECB t20 North-West Regional final on Sunday. The Liverpool Competition club now go through to the National Finals Day at the Brit Oval on Friday, September 13.**

**Fuller story on page 6 together with news of a Cheshire Cup semi-final thriller and the Cheshire Shield final.**

## **Bramhall almost there**

THEIR 13th victory of the season – by 185 runs against lowly Heaton Mersey at Church Lane – takes Bramhall to within one further 25 pointer of promotion from the **First Division**.

They overwhelmed Mersey after being put in to rattle up 240-7 in 46 overs before an early declaration, Matt Jamieson 75, skipper Nick Cantello 49. Mersey were dismissed for 55, the second lowest divisional tally of the season, by Simon Wilkinson and Rupes Kitzinger, bowling unchanged to return 7-27 and 3-25 respectively.

Urmston remain a hot tip for the second promotion spot after they equalled Bramhall's wins tally with a seven wickets demolition of Bredbury at the UCG. St. Mark's, whose hopes of avoiding relegation are slim, were bowled out for 95, Darren Carr 39, Sumit Panda 5-22, Matt Parkinson 3-17. Urmston knocked the runs off at 98-3 in 29 overs, Lewis Jackson 28 not out.

### ***Winning run ends***

The top two are now sitting pretty because Cheadle Hulme's winning run came to an end at Sale where they suffered their first defeat in 11 games since June 15. The Grove Park batsmen mustered only 156-9, Phil Balderson 47 not out, and Sale replied with 160-7 Chris Canning 47, Kris Nissen 5-57.

Brooklands' decline after a bold first half to the season, continued when they lost by 88 runs at home to Oulton Park, who scored 200-9 batting first, Martyn East 68. Brooklands were bowled out for 112, Craig Douglas 3-15, Tom Bannister-Wright 3-33.

Christleton continued their late sprint with a 22 runs win at Cheadle after posting just 159, Matt Astbury 59, Paul Sperring 3-20, Dan Brown 3-29. Only Andy Wilson, 40, cut the mustard after tea as Cheadle were bowled out for 137 by Ifti Naseer, who had the superb figures of 6-41 off 16 overs.

Widnes also ensured safety with a 46 runs win against fading Middlewich at Beaconsfield Road after posting a useful 215-8, Phil Catterall 45, Tom Shepherd 3-29, Stephen Parry 3-59. Middlewich were all out for 169, a total which would have been considerably less without a fine contribution from number 11 batsman Nigel Stubbs, whose unbeaten 42 was the top innings of the game. Alex Graham took 4-79.

**KEY GAME NEXT SATURDAY: Cheadle Hulme (last six results LWWWWW) versus Urmston (WWWLW)**

## **Record 10-40 for Bolly's Syed Khan**

WITH only one previous **Second Division** win all season, Bollington beat high-flying Warrington by 46 runs at the Recreation Ground thanks to a League record bowling return of 10-40 by Syed Khan.

Khan's performance topped the previous best league bowling performance of 10-41 by Brooklands' John Birchall against Urmston in 2004. It is the first 10 wickets haul in 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket since Bapa Mukherjee's 10-59 for Widnes against Chester in the Premier League the following year.

Warrington were bowled out for 70 (Chris Kirby 27) after Bolly had mustered just 116, of which Aussie Travis Salisbury scored 33. Warrington's Aussie paceman Kyle Adams claimed 7-57 to take his tally for the season to 77 wickets. This would normally have been a match-winner, but not on Saturday.

The match result sheet indicates that Khan bowled two of his victims, had two lbw and the six others were caught. And all this while his colleague Mo Ali at the other end wound up with figures of 16-6-30-0!

Bolly remain bottom of the table, five points below Stockport Georgians, although they do remain within shouting distance of Alvanley who lost by eight wickets at Weaverham. Antiguan all-rounder Wilden Cornwall was again the Weaverham match-winner, his 6-70 return restricting Alvanley to 170-8 (Andy Bennion 49). Cornwall, 60 and Ian Eaton, 53, both not out, then batted their side to an eight wickets victory. The Alvanley skipper will have noted that his side's last two crucial games are at Bollington and at home to Irby.

### ***Timperley beaten again***

There was a shock at the top where Timperley lost their second game in three weeks at the hands of another mid-Cheshire club, Davenham. Timperley were bowled out for 79, Dean Jackson taking 6-29 from 21 lethal overs and Davenham scraped home at 81-9, Ben Gallagher's unbeaten 17 being just enough to see his side through against Craig Grindley, 3-15 and Chris Page, 3-30.

Stockport beat neighbouring Georgians by two wickets in a tight game at Cale Green and although they still lie 47 points behind the leaders, they are well placed to take the second promotion slot. Georgians were dismissed for 121, Rob Barber 4-26, Tom Facer 4-57, then replied with 122-8, Jeremy Devlin taking 5-54.

Congleton's hopes were finally dashed at Poynton where they lost by 28 runs after bowling out the home side for 142, Jerrym Lamb 4-25. Congleton mustered only 114, Ryan Brewer 54, Chris Oake 4-12.

Tattenhall retained a glimmer of hope with a massive win over Irby at the Flacca. Tatters piled up 258-5 in 45 overs led by 92 from Ollie Thompson, 58 to Dan Power and 52 from Steve Sadler. Irby reached 177 in reply, skipper Martyn Smith scoring 54 batting at eight and Dave Newman 34. Power took 4-61 and Tom Hyslop 4-35.

**KEY GAME NEXT SATURDAY: Timperley (last six results: LWLDWW) versus Stockport (WWAWTWW).**

**ECB PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS**

**BOWDON (won toss, 3 pts.) lost to HYDE (25 pts.) by 3 wickets:**

Bowdon 78 ( overs: S Marshall 37, D. Cranmer 6-42);

Hyde 79-7 (18.3 overs: T Twiney 17, C Ashling 5-23).

**DIDSBURY (2 pts.) lost to CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (25 pts.) by 9 wickets:**

Didsbury 135 (48 overs: N. Anderson 37, P.Moors 33, J Clark 4-22, A Kegg 3-29);

Chester 137-1 (20 overs: W Goodwin 56no, L Dixon 31no).

**MACCLESFIELD (25 pts.) beat GRAPPENHALL (toss, 2 pts.) by 5 wickets:**

Grappenhall 119 (48 overs: L Parkinson 29, J Ward 4-55, C. Moores 3-2);

Macclesfield 122-5 (30 overs: R Keen 35, R Porter 26).

**MARPLE (4 pts.) lost to ALDERLEY EDGE (toss, 25 pts.) by 4 wickets:**

Marple 135 (48 overs: J Crisall 58, M Warnes 3-4, J Whittaker 3-61);

Alderley Edge 138-6 (38 overs: C Rowe 69, A Wylie 4-44).

**NANTWICH (toss, 7 pts.) lost to NESTON (25 pts.) by 2 wickets:**

Nantwich 165-7 (55 overs: R Doyle 44, O Law 31, C Finegan 3-41);

Neston 166-8 ( overs: J Smith 38, L Camden 33, O Griffiths 3-40, J Warrington 3-74).

**TOFT (3 pts.) lost to OXTON (toss, 25 pts.) by 77 runs:**

Oxton 233-6 (55 overs: S Stokes 70, S Choudhry 61no, A Hughes 51);

Toft 156 (46 overs: J Hancock 54, H. Hughes 41, S Choudhry 6-63. G Fernando 4-34).

**DIVISION ONE**

**BRAMHALL (25 pts.) beat HEATON MERSEY (won toss, 3 pts.) by 185 runs:**

Bramhall 240-7 dec. (46 overs: M Jamieson 75, N.Cantello 49, C. Heppell 33);

Heaton Mersey 55 (26 overs: S. Wilkinson 6-27, R Kitzinger 3-25.).

**BROOKLANDS (toss, 5 pts.) lost to OULTON PARK (25 pts.) by 88 runs**

Oulton Park 200-9 (50 overs: M East 68, C/Douglas 34, M Singh 3-41);

Brooklands 112 (32) overs: C. Douglas 3-15, T Bannister-Wright 3-33). *Brooklands no scorer.*

**CHEADLE (toss, 5 pts.) lost to CHRISTLETON (25 pts.) by 22 runs:**

Christleton 159 (46 overs: M Astbury 59, P Sperring 3-20, D Brown 3-29);

Cheadle 137 (51 overs: A Wilson 40, I. Naseer 6-41).

**SALE (toss, 25 pts.) beat CHEADLE HULME (7 pts.) by 3 wickets:**

Cheadle Hulme 156-9 (50 overs: P Balderson 47no, R Halkon 3-33, T Tharsen 3-57);

Sale 160-7 (47 overs: C Canning 47, G Whittaker 34, K Nissen 5-57).

**URMSTON (toss, 25 pts.) beat BREDBURY ST. MARK'S (1 pt.) by 7 wickets.**

Bredbury 95 (30 overs: D Carr 30, S. Panda 5-22, M Parkinson 3-17);

Urmston 98-3 (29 overs: L. Jackson 28no).

**WIDNES (25 pts.) beat MIDDLEWICH (toss, 5 pts.) by 46 runs:**

Widnes 215-8 (50 overs: P Catterall 45, A. Graham 33, T. Shepherd 3-29, S Parry 3-59);

Middlewich 169 (46 overs: N Stubbs 42no, A. Graham 4-79).

***DIVISION 2 DETAILS***

**BOLLINGTON (25 pts.) beat WARRINGTON (won toss, 4 pts.) by 46 runs:**

Bollington 116 (35 overs: T Salisbury 33, K. Adams 7-57);  
Warrington 70 (32 overs: C Kirby 27, Syed Khan 10-41 – Division 2 record);

**DAVENHAM (25 pts.) beat TIMPERLEY (toss, 4 pts.) by 1 wicket:**

Timperley 79 (41 overs: D Jackson 6-29);  
Davenham 81-9 (29 overs: B Gallagher 17no, C. Grindley 3-15, C Page 3-30).

**POYNTON (25 pts.) beat CONGLETON (toss, 5 pts.) by 28 runs:**

Poynton 142 (49 overs: J. Lamb 4-25);  
Congleton 114 (43 overs: R. Brewer 54, C. Oake 4-12).

**STOCKPORT (toss, 25 pts.) beat STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (5 pts.) by 2 wickets:**

Stockport Georgians 121 (37 overs: R Barber 4-26, T Facer 4-57);  
Stockport 122-8 (46 overs: J Devlin 5-54).

**TATTENHALL (toss, 25 pts.) beat IRBY (5 pts.) by 81 runs:**

Tattenhall 258-5 dec. (45 overs: O Thompson 92, D Power 58, S Sadler 52, T Hyslop 34, C Gibson 3-68);  
Irby 177 (54.3 overs: M Smith 57, D Newman 34, T Hyslop 4-35, D. Shrewring 4-61).

**WEAVERHAM (25 pts.) beat ALVANLEY (toss, 6 pts.) by 8 wickets:**

Alvanley 170-8 (50 overs: A Bennion 49, W. Speakman 40, W. Cornwall 6-70);  
Weaverham 172-2 (31 overs: W Cornwall 60no, I Eaton 53no, S. Woods 32).

***PICK OF WEEK***

**ECB Premier League**

Batting: Simon Stokes (Oxton) 70 v Toft  
Bowling: Dan Cranmer (Hyde) 6-42 v Bowdon

**First Division**

Batting: Matt Jamieson (Bramhall) 75 v Heaton Mersey  
Bowling: Simon Wilkinson (Bramhall) 7-27 v Heaton Mersey

**Second Division**

Batting: Ollie Thompson (Tattenhall) 92 v Irby  
Bowling: .Syed Khan (Bollington) 10-41 v Warrington.

**Death of Chris Johns**

WINNINGTON Park cricketer Chris Johns died suddenly while on a business trip to London on August 15, aged 32.

Chris was the son of Alec Johns, a member of a well-known Mid-Cheshire sporting family which includes his uncle, Ian Johns, once Winnington captain and chairman.

His funeral at St. Josephs' RC Church, Winsford on Friday was attended by a packed congregation.

## How they stand after 19 games

<b>ECB PREMIER</b>	<b>WIN (25)</b>	<b>TIE (16)</b>	<b>WD (3)</b>	<b>RD (2)</b>	<b>LD (1)</b>	<b>C/AB (7)</b>	<b>LOST</b>	<b>Bat</b>	<b>Bowl</b>	<b>Total pts.</b>
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	13	0	2	1	0	0	3	31	18	382
NESTON (8)	13	0	2	1	1	0	2	26	21	373
HYDE	9	0	1	2	4	0	3	46	26	308
GRAPPENHALL	8	0	2	2	0	0	7	65	20	295
OXTON	9	0	0	1	1	0	8	31	24	283
TOFT	8	0	1	0	0	2	8	45	20	282
ALDERLEY EDGE	8	0	1	0	2	1	7	31	23	266
NANTWICH	7	0	1	0	1	1	9	42	23	251
BOWDON	5	0	1	2	0	0	11	56	35	223
MARPLE	5	0	2	1	1	0	10	58	29	221
MACCLESFIELD	4	0	1	0	3	1	10	61	24	198
DIDSBURY	3	0	0	1	1	0	14	63	34	175

Neston 8 points deducted for slow over rate.

### DIVISION 1

BRAMHALL	13	1	1	1	1	0	2	32	16	395
URMSTON	13	1	0	0	1	0	4	23	7	372
CHEADLE HULME	11	0	2	0	2	0	4	34	26	343
SALE	7	2	2	1	0	0	7	55	16	286
BROOKLANDS	9	0	1	0	1	0	8	29	22	280
OULTON PARK	7	0	2	2	2	0	6	52	35	274
WIDNES	7	0	2	0	0	0	10	47	24	252
CHRISTLETON	5	0	4	0	2	0	8	76	32	247
CHEADLE	6	0	2	1	2	0	8	44	38	242
MIDDLEWICH	5	0	1	0	5	0	8	35	36	204
HEATON MERSEY	3	0	3	0	1	0	12	52	44	181
BREDBURY ST. MARK'S	3	0	0	0	3	1	12	57	27	169

### DIVISION 2

TIMPERLEY	15	0	1	0	1	0	2	10	15	404
STOCKPORT	12	1	1	0	0	1	4	20	11	357
DAVENHAM	10	0	3	0	1	0	5	43	28	331
TATTENHALL	11	0	1	0	1	0	6	24	21	324
WARRINGTON	11	0	1	0	2	0	5	19	22	321
CONGLETON	10	0	2	0	0	0	7	29	21	306
POYNTON	8	1	1	1	1	0	7	39	29	290
WEAVERHAM	8	0	2	0	3	0	6	50	29	288
IRBY	4	0	0	1	2	0	12	48	29	181
ALVANLEY	3	0	0	1	1	0	14	48	28	154
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	1	1	2	0	1	0	14	52	38	138
BOLLINGTON	2	0	2	0	2	0	13	44	32	134

## **HYDE AGONY AT ORMSKIRK**

HYDE went out of the **ECB National t20 knock-out** in a tense quarter-final before a huge crowd at Ormskirk on Sunday – by the agonising margin of one run.

The Liverpool Competition side raced ahead after winning the toss, scoring 60 in the first five overs and 80 after eight. Tidier bowling and fine catching and fielding then regained the initiative for Hyde with Tom Young taking a creditable 3-12 off his four overs and Dan Cranmer 2-15 as the Liverpool Competition side closed on a below par 141-7.

Hyde lost senior batsmen Chris Tipper and skipper Danny Berry for ducks at 5-2, before a magnificent stand of 105 between James Duffy (74 off 52 balls, three fours, six sixes) and Tom Twiney (45) put them in control. Both were then disastrously run out and Hyde never regained the initiative and eventually needed eight off the last over. They managed only six although there was a glitch between the umpires and scorers who posted the total one run short before the final delivery, from which Hyde scrambled a single to close on 140-6.

Ormskirk go through to the ECB's big Finals Day at the Brit Oval on Friday, September 13.

Hyde team: Danny Berry (captain), Tom Twiney, Chris Tipper, James Duffy, Scott Kirwin, Dave Fitzsimmons, Dan Cranmer, Mark Makin (wicket-keeper), Tom Young, Greg Lomax, Rob Brierley.

Scores in the other regional finals on Sunday were : Wimbledon 176-8 beat Frocester 134-8; Peterborough Town 107-7 lost to Banbury 108-6; Chester le Street 185-7 beat Pudsey Congs 112. Oval draw: Chester-le-Street v Ormskirk; Wimbledon v Banbury.

Hyde chairman Paul Chorlton writes to *Newsletter* : “I would like to thank everyone in the League for their kind messages of support before and during the game at Ormskirk and for their generous words afterwards. It has been great to see so many players and officials from different leagues coming along to our games and we have been very proud to represent the Cheshire County League. Sadly we fell just short yesterday”.

## **It's New Brighton v CBH in Cheshire final**

NEW BRIGHTON won by one wicket off the penultimate delivery of their **Cheshire Cup** semi-final at Macclesfield on Sunday and will host Chester Boughton Hall in the final at Rakes Lane next Sunday (12.30 p m.).

Without the injured Khalid Sawas, Macclesfield did well to total 268-9 off their 45 overs, Nick Ross 98, Rob Porter 67, Rob Keen 32, Aftab Nawab 3-53. New Brighton replied with 268-9 off 44.5 balls, Louis Botes 79, Barney Cutbill 3-41.

One of the umpires, Chris Smith commented: “This was a really magnificent game played in a true sporting spirit. Congratulations should go to both sides and to the Macclesfield club for staging the event so well”.

## **BRAMHALL WIN SHIELD**

BRAMHALL won by six wickets at Romiley in the final of the **Cheshire Shield** on Sunday. Scores:

Romiley 171-8 (45 overs: T. Roberts 32, A. West 3-39); Bramhall 174-4 (33 overs: M. Begbie 42, M Hughes 37, L. Smith 33, J. Harris 33 not out).

Bramhall bowler Simon Wilkinson was named Man of the Match for his remarkable analysis of 9 overs 4 maidens 7 runs 2 wickets.

*Information supplied by Cheshire Cups organiser Rick Davis.*

## **Cheshire 60s in semi finals**

HOLDERS of the **Spitfire 60 Plus county championship** title, Cheshire reached the semi-finals again last Tuesday when they beat Derbyshire by six wickets at West Hallam. They now meet Wales at Grappenhall on Tuesday, September 3 (1 pm).

Cheshire were panicking when two players got lost en route to the ground and Twelthers Ian Brown was one of 10 men taking the field still finishing his pre-match lunch when the stragglers finally appeared. Cheshire need not have worried, because they completely controlled the game, restricting Derbyshire to a modest 145-8 off their 45 overs, Howard Morris 3-7, Ted Williams 1-5, Alan Hitchmough 1-16, Dick Powell 1-18.

Cheshire replied with 146-4 inside the 39<sup>th</sup> over, Nick Sharp 49, Ted Williams 33 not out, Colin Norbury 25.

Meanwhile, **Cheshire Over 60s 2nd XI** have progressed to the Plate semi-finals and meet Worcestershire at Cheadle Hulme on Thursday, September 5 (1 p.m.). The team have enjoyed a successful first season of competitive cricket under skipper Jim Wilde of Poynton.

## **URMSTON WIN 40s' PLAY-OFFS**

URMSTON Tigers won the **Over 40s section play-off** trophy for the first time when they beat Neston by three runs in a tense, low-scoring final at Upton on Bank Holiday Monday.

After disposing of joint holders Alsager Dabbers in the semi-final, Neston were favourites to lift the Chapel Press Trophy, but found run-scoring difficult in the final against tight bowling on a slow and unresponsive pitch

Urmston, who had earlier disposed of Bredbury Saints by seven wickets, mustered a below par 107-7 in the final, Colin Ridler 31 and Stuart Higginbottom 30, both retiring as Chris Hackett, 2-16 and Mark Strong, 2-22 kept it tight.

Neston's reply began well with Hackett racing to 32 before the statutory retirement. Tigers' bowling then imposed such as headlock (Kurt Edginton and Ramesh Shetty both taking two wickets) that Neston needed seven runs off the last over bowled by Greg Wilson. He conceded only three singles, the closing tally of 104-5 leaving the Parkgate batsmen distraught.

The trophy was presented to winning captain Steve Cartwright by Peter Barrett, representing TailorMade Group pensions, who generously sponsored Finals Day. He was thanked by League chairman David Humpage who congratulated the Upton club for putting on a fine show.

Competition secretary Mike Talbot-Butler praised Urmston on two fine seasons and for winning their first title after sharing it in 2012. He also said how consistently well Neston, Alsager Dabbers and Bredbury Saints had played to win their groups.

Neston didn't go away empty-handed as all-rounder Chris Hackett was presented with a bottle of champagne as Man of the Match.

### **Final scorecard**

#### **URMSTON TIGERS**

S. Dartnell	lbw b Yardley	5
C Ridler	retired	31
S Cartwright	run out	1
S Higginbottom	retired	30
S. Sethi	c Beaver b Hackett	0
S Espley	b Hackett	0
K Edginton	b Brown	23
R Shetty	not out	9
J Marshall	b Strong	1
G. Wilson	st Beaver b Strong	1
Extras		6
<b>Total (for 7 wickets, 20 overs)</b>		<b>107</b>

#### **NESTON**

C Hackett	retired	32
S Egerton	b Shetty	2
G Lea-Swain	b Shetty	0
M Gibbons	b Edginton	15
J Brown	lbw Edginton	9
C Camden	run out	16
B Beaver	not out	11
D Hurst	not out	8
Extras		11
<b>Total (for 5 wickets, 20 overs)</b>		<b>104</b>
Did not bat: R Yardley, P Stimson, M Strong.		

Neston bowling: P Stimson 4-0-18-0; Hackett 4-0-16-2; Strong 4-0-22-3; Brown 4-0-28-2; Yardley 4-0-17-1.

Urmston bowling: Shetty 4-1-24-2; Cartwright 4-0-24-0; A Marshall 1-0-7-0; Egerton 4-0-25-2; Wilson 3-0-13-0.

Umpires: Barrie Burns and Dion Kelly. Ged Kinsey and Jon Hacking also umpired in the semi-finals.

### **SEMI-FINAL RESULTS:**

Alsager Dabbers 101 (20 overs: S. Prince 31, T Dutton 25no, C Hackett 3-25); Neston 102-5 (17 overs: S Egerton 29, M Gibbons 21, S Groom 3-15). Neston won by 5 wickets.

Bredbury Saints 78 (19 overs: S Clarke 32, K Edginton 3-1, A Marshall 2-13); Urmston Tigers 80-3 (17 overs: C Ridler 32). Urmston won by 7 wickets.

### **END OF SEASON MEETING**

Over 40 clubs are reminded of the end of season Special Meeting at Warrington Sports Club on Wednesday, October 16 (7 pm). Alsager have indicated they will be playing home matches on Wednesdays in 2014, while interest in joining has been shown by Ashton on Mersey and Compstall.

### **TONY ELWOOD WRITES ...**

REGULAR Toft Forty-something Tony Elwood informs *Newsletter* that he took a wicket with the last ball of his club's final game of the season and thought it would be a fitting time, aged 61, to retire. Until next season, of course, he jokes.

Tony is also Chairman of Southport & Birkdale Cricket Club and draws attention to Lancashire' important four-day county match against Hampshire at Trafalgar road starting on Wednesday this week (11 a.m.). He looks forward to welcoming any old friends at the match.

## **August 17 ... pitch & ground marks**

UMPIRES' ground marks from games played on Saturday, August 17 were as follows:

**ECB Premier League:** Alderley Edge v Bowdon 16 – 19; Chester v Macclesfield 18 – 20; Grappenhall v Toft 18 – 18; Hyde v Nantwich 17 – 128; Neston v Didsbury 19 – 18; Oxton v Marple 18 – 20.

**First Division:** Bredbury v Sale not yet in; Cheadle Hulme v Brooklands 14 – 15; Christleton v Widnes 20 – 20 (full house); Heaton Mersey v Cheadle 19 – 20; Middlewich v Urmston 19 – 20; Oulton Park v Bramhall 18 – 19. Sunday: Oulton Park v Cheadle 19 – 18.

**Second Division:** Alvanley v Poynton 16 – 20; Congleton v Tattenhall 14 – 15; Irby v Stockport 18 – 19; Stockport Georgians v Davenham 16 – 16; Timperley v Bollington 14 – 19; Warrington v Weaverham 14 – 18.

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

### **IN RETROSPECT ...**

O There was a stand of 110 for the fourth wicket for Hyde v Nantwich between Dave Fitzsimmons (97 not out) and James Duffy (65)

O When Cheadle Hulme bowled Brooklands out for 84 in a Division One game, nine batsmen scored single figures and wicket-keeper S. Leech took three catches.

O When Heaton Mersey's Aussie Ayre became the first league batsman to top 1,000 runs this season against Cheadle, he scored 71 out of 99 runs added while at the crease.

O Bramhall took 11 points from their winning draw at Oulton Park, not 12 as reported.

O The Cheadle v Bramhall result sheet from August 10 has still not been received . Likewise the Hyde v Neston sheet the same day. It is essential these result sheets are submitted otherwise the home clubs will miss out on marks for their pitches and outfield.

O Cheadle had no scorer for their Sunday match at Oulton Park. Umpire Jon Hacking praised Oulton's teenage scorer George Brooks who kept an immaculate scoreboard working on his own all afternoon. .

O Sale's tally of 331-8 in a draw at Bredbury St. Mark's was the a record Division One tally, beating Congleton's 324-5 dec. v Toft in 2002.

O There was a stand of 143 for the fourth Poynton wicket against Alvanley between Paul Gould (96) and Damien Stringer (57 not out). Alvanley skipper Andy Bennion should note that because play was in progress at the close of play his club receive 2 bat 2 bowl and 2 draw points, not 7 points for an abandoned match.

O Umpire Davie Gane stood alone in the Congleton v Tattenhall game. Ken Simpson was the only panel umpire in the Warrington of Weaverham game, although non panellist Ian Buttress stood in to help him out

O The last over in Irby v Stockport was not bowled due to rain therefore Stockport take 7 points for an abandoned match not six draw points as reported.

Many results telephoned on Saturday evening August 17 contained inaccurate or missing points details following rain stoppages. All points discrepancies, are corrected in the current table.

## **VITAL WIN FOR UPTON IN CHESHIRE LEAGUE**

UPTON moved above Northwich into second place in the **TACS-sponsored Cheshire Cricket League** with a 60 runs victory at Old Greasby Road. Meanwhile, Mobberley beat Romiiley by 116 runs and remain top by 28 points.

**RESULTS:** Ashton on Mersey 70 Hale Barns 71-2; Malpas 114-3 Winnington Park 109; Mobberley 196-4 dec. Romiley 80; Prestbury 65 Chester County Officers 68-1; Runcorn 181-8 Oakmere 207-4 dec.; Upton 148 Northwich 88.

**LATEST PLACINGS:** 1. Mobberley 391; 2. Upton 363; 3. Northwich 349; 4. Malpas 306; 5. Ashton on Mersey 305; 6. Romiley 299; 7. Hale Barns 268; 8. Oakmere 240; 9. CCO 237; 10. Runcorn 223; 11. Prestbury 168; 12. Winnington Park 160. Division 2 leaders: 1. Mere 398; 2. Lindow 361. Mere cannot be promoted as they do not possess Clubmark. Division 3 leaders: 1. Over Peover 376; 2. Disley 370.

**FIXTURES** in Division 1 on Saturday, August 31 (1 pm) are: Chester County Officers v Hale Barns; Northwich v Runcorn; Oakmere v Mobberley; Prestbury v Upton; Romiley v Malpas; Winnington Park v Ashton on Mersey. Sunday at Barrow: Upton v Mere in T20 final.

*Information supplied by Graham Coull, Cheshire Cricket League vice chairman.*



## Cheshire title ... now for Cambs

CHESHIRE clinched the **Minor Counties Western division** title with a high-scoring draw in their final match against rivals Shropshire at Nantwich from Sunday to Tuesday last week.

They will now meet Eastern division champions Cambridgeshire at Wisbech in a four-day play-off from Sunday to Wednesday, September 8 to 11. They are likely to be without James Duffy, unavailable due to starting work at Wilmslow High School and the injured Rick Moore

When word came through on Monday evening that Wales had won by 10 wickets against Dorset, Cheshire knew that a draw with a majority of bonus points would be sufficient to pip Shropshire on the last day

In the first innings, they had totalled a massive 455-8 highlighted by a personal best 203 from Hyde's Duffy. Shropshire replied with 391-8, trailing by 64 runs with Shrewsbury opening left hander Steve Leach unbeaten on 157.

Overnight on Monday, Cheshire were 137-5 still with work to do and they duly achieved that on the last day, reaching 329, thanks largely to Oulton Park's Rick Moore who scored 116, a maiden county century, despite needing a runner due to an apparent side strain. This left Shropshire needing an impossible 393 to win and they meandered to 116-5, Leach again remaining unbeaten with 40 meaning he was on the field throughout the match.

Both sides took 11 points rendering Cheshire champions by three points from Wales. with identical records.

Cheshire skipper Danny Woods (York) finished with 52 wickets in the six games, five of which were won. He said afterwards: "We have come a long way since under-performing in the one day games. Everyone has played his part and team spirit has been incredible".

### WEST DIVISION FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Batting	Bowling	Total pts.
CHESHIRE	6	5	1	0	21	18	123
WALES MC	6	5	1	0	14	22	120
SHROPSHIRE	6	4	1	1	15	23	106
* DEVON	6	3	1	2	12	23	85
BERKSHIRE	6	3	2	2	12	19	83
HEREFORDSHIRE	6	2	2	2	18	23	81
A CORNWALL	6	2	1	3	15	20	57
OXFORDSHIRE	6	1	1	4	9	24	53
WILTSHIRE	6	0	1	5	18	24	44
*a DORSET	6	0	0	6	18	17	29

\* = Devon and Dorset each 2 pts. deducted for slow over rates.

a = Cornwall 12 pts. for winning one innings game; a = Dorset 4 pts. for losing one innings game.

Cambridge topped the Eastern Division with 116 points from six games and an identical playing record to Cheshire. Suffolk were runners-up with 105 pts.

**DEVELOPMENT XI.** Cheshire's return match against Staffs was played at Knypersley on Thursday, August 22 The Developers were due to host Shropshire at Barnton in their final match on Tuesday this week. Match information has been hard to obtain.

**SCOTLAND VISIT.** Alderley Edge stage an attractive three-day friendly between Lancashire 2nd and Scotland A from Tuesday – Thursday this week (11 a.m. daily).

### Alistair Davies's Umpires Quiz: Week 19

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:** A player has bowled the last over but one before the drinks interval. During that interval, he practices bowling on an adjoining pitch with another player fielding the ball. On the restart, he prepares himself to bowl the next over. Should the umpire take any action – if so, what?

**ANSWER:** Such practice is not allowed. He will not be able to bowl until 30 minutes of playing time has elapsed.

**Laws 17.2; 17.5**

**THIS WEEK:** A right-handed batsman plays a ball pitched outside his leg stump. He employs a reverse sweep, but misses the ball which hits him on the pad. There is an appeal .....is it possible for the batsman to be given out lbw?

# FIXTURES & UMPIRES FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

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

ALDERLEY EDGE v TOFT	Chris Smith & Gary Zimmer
GRAPPENHALL v DIDSBURY	Don Flanagan & Geoff Wellsted
HYDE v MARPLE	Ged Kinsey & Phil Prince
NANTWICH v BOWDON	Ian Greensmith & Dion Kelly
NESTON v CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	Trevor Burnett & David Moss
OXTON v MACCLESFIELD	Alistair Davies & Jon Hacking

## First Division (1 p.m.)

BREDBURY ST. MARK'S v WIDNES	David Gane & Wyn Harris
BROOKLANDS v SALE	Garry Hambleton & David Tate
CHEADLE HULME v URMSTON	Ron Bedson & Jim Whitehead
CHRISTLETON v BRAMHALL	Barrie Burns & David Goulding
MIDDLEWICH v CHEADLE	Allan Lewis & Clive Rice
OULTON PARK v HEATON MERSEY	Tony Morris & Glyn Roberts

## Second Division (1 p.m.)

ALVANLEY v CONGLETON	Paul Herring & Neville Kent
IRBY v POYNTON	Ankit Jain & Ray Prescott
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS v TATTENHALL:	Howard Briggs & Simon Smith
TIMPERLEY v STOCKPORT	Steve Kirkbright & David Stoter
WARRINGTON v DAVENHAM	Bob Cunningham & Martin Roberts
WEAVERJHAM v BOLLINGTON	Ken Rothwell & Ken Simpson

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

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

**NOTE: Starting times move forward 30 minutes from Saturday, September 7**

## *Last Word ...*

Natalie Hibbert, popular marketing executive of Hyde-based sports firm Canterbury of New Zealand, reports that she has returned to work after the Bank Holiday as Mrs. Bobby Brierley.

She and long-serving Hyde utility-man Bobby enjoyed a 'Cricket Themed' wedding and drinks reception at Werneth Low (with pictures sent to prove it) when they hosted an Afternoon Cricket Tea provided by the now famous caterers Nick & Jo. They then retired to the Village Hotel in the town for the wedding breakfast and evening reception when 'Soul Limbo' was the signature tune.

That was on Friday, August 16. Needless to say Rob was playing for Hyde next day against Nantwich.

All *Newsletter* readers will wish the Happy Couple well.