

COUNTY LEAGUE NEWS



on behalf of **Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee (4 Cs)**

IMAGE: GEORGE FRANKS

MAY 31ST - JUNE 14TH
Things hotting up!

All divisions wide open as
favourites stutter

Cheshire Cup & Shield news

T20 competition latest



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Well that's been much more like it - bright blue skies, heat, warmth and a general lifting of spirits as cricket has made up for lost time with some fabulous games. The crowds being allowed to return to professional cricket have all helped to bring a welcome feel of 'normality' back to life although of course, the challenge of remaining Covid-aware and our grounds being as Covid-secure as possible is imperative. Covid is not going away and despite the encouragements for all clubs of seeing bars and hospitality areas, and more latterly changing rooms, in use, we are never far away from much of this being reversed - so please, do your

bit, especially with sanitising hands. A couple of other things have caught my attention recently. Firstly, fines. So far this season there has been over £400 levied for infringements of clearly laid-down procedures. One club has been fined 5 times for failing to return umpires marks, and there are numerous other repeat 'offenders' that seem to have a somewhat cavalier attitude to the subs they collect (either that or the captains don't mind picking up the tab). The failure to return umpire marks is the main reason clubs get fined, along with incomplete or late submissions of match details on Play Cricket. It's my belief that the majority of 1st XI matches are being scored electronically by at least one scorer so it's a mystery why results and details are sometimes delayed. And for those clubs who still feel wary of using technology to score games, please get in touch - there really is no need to be concerned. One of my more worthwhile contributions to the game has involved being part of a group of scorers who

helped to get both PCSP and PCS developed and refined and it really is amazing how far both of these programmes have come, and that they have always been free to use! Secondly, I have had sight of the Fair Play table and it makes for encouraging reading, with Cheadle, Toft, Bollington, Marple, Alvanley and Hale Barns all with a good '4' rating (4 being the standard aimed for) and another 13 clubs at 3.9 or higher. There will be more on this in future editions of the newsletter. For now, I hope you enjoy reading about what's been happening in the last fortnight - it's been busy, with so many cup games being fitted in around league schedules, representative cricket, junior matches etc. Enjoy your involvement and make a difference at your club just as you are able.

James

PLAY CRICKET REGISTRATIONS

All clubs are advised to read and heed the following message received from the League Play Cricket administrator, Darren Sutcliffe:

Please can all clubs note: being so far into the season, it is no longer acceptable to be putting in registration requests on a Friday.

With immediate effect the cut off for registrations is

Thursday at 6.00pm

and therefore any registration requests sent after will not be processed until the following week. This in turn means any player who registers after 6.00pm on a Thursday to play on the Saturday or Sunday will remain unregistered, and thus deemed ineligible if he or she plays - meaning the game could be awarded to the opposition.

All clubs should make captains and potential new players aware.

Heat and glorious blue skies returned on **5th June** as a number of coupon-busting results gave the Prem a wide-open feel. Didsbury went top for the first time in their history after a startling 86 run demolition of Alderley Edge. Just as in their T20 defeat two days earlier, the Dids batting again promised more than it delivered, but their 177 proved to be more than adequate as **Liam Booth's** 6 wkt haul saw AE slump from 33-2 to 43-7, and finally folding for just 91. Equally startling on the day was Nantwich's huge 129 run loss at home to Oxtun, whose 198-8 was respectable without being formidable, but **Chris Stenhouse** (6-28) and **Jack Corran** swept Oxtun to an astonishing win, only skipper **Ray Doyle** making double figures as the hosts couldn't recover from being 10-4. OP's confidence wasn't affected by losing to the bottom club the week before, as they made it successive defeats for Chester BH. OP got to 179 after being 136-7 before the 4 man OP attack then shared the heavy lifting, dismissing a dogged CBH for 159 after they were 55-5. Cheadle shrugged off their 66 all out the previous week to beat Timperley by a handsome 70 runs. With his second 85 in two inns, **Subhaan Mahmood** put on 143 for the 1st wkt with **Elliott Bullock** (54) as Cheadle

totalled 217 for the second time this season. **Chris McCarthy's** 63 helped rescue Timpers from 14-3 but they went bottom as a consequence of losing and of the other results. Taking 64 off their last 5 overs, Widnes powered to 285-8 at home to Toft (**Ali Chughtai** 75) Toft replying with 269-8, **Andrew Jackson** continuing his great form with 86* off 60 balls. Another high scoring game had an even closer finish, as Hyde were given 60 overs to chase Neston's 275-4 dec. Captain **Simon Stokes'** second ton of the season saw him add 159 for the 3rd wkt with **Will Evans** (92) and 99 for the 4th with **Dane Williams** (50*). Hyde gave it a real go and needed 12 off the last over which proved just out of reach in a fantastic finale. On **12 June** an amazing match at Booths Park saw hosts Toft beat CBH by 1 run. The last 4 Toft wkts added 84 and used their overs as they totalled 236-9, before a dramatic start to the CBH reply saw them 10-3. **Alex Money** (80) and **Harry Killoran** (75) then added a brilliant 159 for the 4th, before CBH lost 4 wkts for 1 run in 16 balls. **Tom Wyatt** (39*) led another revival, with CBH requiring 3 off the last over with 1 wkt left. After An-

drew Jackson bowled 5 dots, last man **George McCormick** was run out going for 2 off the last for the tie, in a pulsating climax. Most of the other games lacked this drama, especially the battle of the early top two at Whitehouse Lane which went emphatically Nantwich's way as **Aneesh Kapil** (124*) and **Chris Simpson** (56*) took them to 195-0 in 36 overs and a 10 wkt hammering of Didsbury. **James Duffy's** 52* was the feature of another one-sided game as Hyde bowled Cheadle out for 88 and won by 8 wkts. Oxtun's last 4 wkts added 95 but **Simon Stokes** (93*) and **Dane Williams** (45*) added an unbeaten 121 to give Neston a 6 wkt win. OP went third with a 6 wkt win over AE, **Ben Gibbon** taking 5-31 and **Michael Robinson** hitting 67*. After an opening psp of 168 (**Furqan Shafiq** 94, **Abishek Kulkarni** 75), Widnes did well to restrict Timperley to 263 in the clash of the bottom two. 82 from **Luke McCoy** helped get Widnes to 222-4 after 44 but Timpers fought back to bowl Widnes out for 248, Shafiq's 5-52 rounding off a M-o-M display to give Timpers a much needed 25 pts.

PREMIER LGE TABLE AND STATS TO DATE

TEAM	PTS	PLAYER	RUNS	PLAYER	WICKETS
NANTWICH	149	SAM PERRY	415	CHRIS STENHOUSE	25
DIDSBURY	145	ANEESH KAPIL	373	HARRY KILLORAN	21
OULTON PARK	128	SIMON STOKES	372	ASH DAVIS	20
NESTON	128	TIM HUGHES	349	ANDREW JACKSON	19
TOFT	116	HARRY KILLORAN	341	FURQAN SHAFIQ	18
CHESTER BH	114	ANDREW JACKSON	295	DAMARIO GOODMAN	18
ALDERLEY EDGE	107	LUKE CAMDEN	285	STEVE GREEN	17
HYDE	107				
CHEADLE	106				
OXTON	101				
TIMPERLEY	90				
WIDNES	77				

JUNE PERFORMANCES OF NOTE

Aneesh Kapil 124*, Nant v Dids, 12.6
 Furqan Shafiq 94, Timp v Wid, 12.6
 Will Evans 92, Nest v Hyde, 5.6
 Liam Booth 6-35, Dids v AE, 5.6

Simon Stokes 116, Nest v Hyde, 5.6
 Simon Stokes 93*, Nest v Oxt, 12.6
 Chris Stenhouse 6-28, Oxt v Nant, 5.6
 Ben Gibbon 5-31, OP v AE, 12.6

Brooklands were able to enjoy an extended sunbathing session on **5th June** after their thrashing of Warrington took 33 overs to complete. **AJ Hart's** 6-31 and 3 more for **Rob Leach** saw Warrington dismissed for a measly 54, the unsurprising 10 wkt win sending Brooklands top of the division. Bollington were detained slightly longer but not really extended in their 6 wkt win over Congleton, who lost 9-43 to tumble to 107 all out. **Harri Dickinson** top scored with 41 as Bolly stayed second. The other shorter fixture was perhaps the least surprising as Davenham's woes showed no signs of easing, **James Dodds'** 5-19 the big factor in their dismissal for 106. The in-form **Tyrone Lawrence** hit 56* to complete a comfortable Sale win. In contrast, there was a fabulous 100 overs of cricket at a glorious Broad Lane as visitors Bowdon racked up 289-7, **Ross Zelem's** brilliant run-a-ball 103 (his second ton of 2021) and 92 from **Pat Ashling** the main contributors as they added 140 for the 2nd wkt. Grappers' pair **Peter Barnes** (62) and **Grant Hodnett** (agonisingly run out for 99) added 111 for the 3rd wkt as the hosts gave the massive run chase a real go, ending on 258-8. Urmston's quiet but encouraging progress continued as they made it three wins out of their last four

with a 6 wkt victory over Macclesfield, young Arav Shetty the star turn with 72 and 2-36 as **Jack Mattson's** 69 was top score in Macc's modest 168-7. Another young Urmston talent **Harry Singh** joined Shetty in a 2nd wkt stand of 70 as the hosts won with 8 overs unused. The sun finally shone both literally and figuratively at Bowden Lane as Marple recorded a first league win of 2021, a hugely relieving 5 wkt triumph over struggling Bramhall. From 69-6 the visitors did relatively well to total 136, with 4 wkts each for **Jack Grundy** and **Joe Cash**. **Mark Bennett** then hit 57 as the hosts only needed 32 overs to knock off the runs. **June 12th** saw first play third in a thrilling match as leaders Brooklands won at Bowdon by 1 run. **Chris Hart** (41) and **Joe Gill** (24*) added 61 for the 9th to take Brooklands to 151, but **Pat Ashling's** 50 steered Bowdon to 94-4 and with 7 extra overs to bat, all seemed set fair for the hosts, but they stumbled to 129-8 before **James Bottomley** and **Chris Ashling** added 20 amidst growing tension, Chris falling in the 51st over, bowled by Gill in an unforgettable finish. In complete contrast Warrington had another entirely forget-

table Saturday, this time dispatched for just 48 at high flying Urmston and losing by an eye-watering 178 runs after **Lewis Jackson's** superb 106* had powered the home side to 226-5. **Calum Rowe** hit 88 in Bollington's 215-7 as they had Grappenhall by the short and curlies at Broad Lane, the hosts 96-7 at one stage and grateful for lower order *forza* to see them to safety at 179-8. Macclesfield and Marple also drew at Victoria Rd, the hosts needing their last pair to survive 10 balls for sanctuary on 188-9. Earlier **Mark Makin** (67) and **Max Fitzgerald** (64) had taken Marple to 212. Sale's good batting form continued as they racked up 248-5 at home to Congleton, **Dan Newton** 61* and then 3-30 as the visitors replied with 209-8, **Tom Leese** with 61 for them. Bramhall recorded their first win since April 24 when they hosted Davenham, whose 184 was far and away their best batting effort of the season. Bramhall had to work into the 49th over to reach their target 6 wkts down, the 30 extras conceded by the visitors costing them dearly.

DIVISION ONE TABLE AND STATS TO DATE

TEAM	PTS	PLAYER	RUNS	PLAYER	WICKETS
BROOKLANDS	179	ROSS ZELEM	415	AJ HART	24
BOLLINGTON	162	CALUM ROWE	408	ROB LEACH	23
BOWDON	139	TYRONE LAWRENCE	387	MATTHEW TULLY	19
URMSTON	137	PAT ASHLING	374	CHRIS ASHLING	17
SALE	129	GRANT HODNETT	322	RYAN MACCIOCCHI	17
GRAPPENHALL	126	ADAM ROYLANCE	302	HARRY SINGH	17
BRAMHALL	106	PETER BARNES	246	STUART PLANT	16
CONGLETON	93	JUNE PERFORMANCES OF NOTE Lewis Jackson 106*, Urm v Warr, 12.6 Ross Zelem 103, Bowd v Grapp, 5.6 Grant Hodnett 99, Grapp v Bowd, 5.6 Pat Ashling 92, Bowd v Grapp, 5.6 AJ Hart, 6-31, Brook v Warr, 5.6 James Dodds 5-19, Sale v Dav, 5.6 Miles Bradshaw 5-56, Macc v Marp, 12.6			
MARPLE	87				
MACCLESFIELD	72				
WARRINGTON	65				
DAVENHAM	33				

There was joy and jubilation for Barrow on **June 5th** as they finally recorded a league victory, and it was a surprisingly comfortable win too, beating Hale Barns by 6 wks. HB collapsed from 95-4 to 114 all out as **Sultan Raja**, **Ryan Holloway** and **Iroshan de Silva** all took 3 wks, Iroshan also with a run out before **Macca Hooton's** 45 provided the base for 25 pts. Their good news meant more gloom for Stockport, who lost at Ashton OM despite posting a spirited 199-9, captain **Zafar Jatoi** just falling short of three figures while **Zaheer Khan** took 5-61. **Ed Faulkner** then starred again with the bat, his 98 coming out of 143 whilst batting, before **Akash Patel** and **James Marshall** put on an unbroken 62 to secure the win. The top two sides before play started met at Upcast Lane, hosts Lindow indebted to **Robin Broom**, whose magnificent 108* off 103 bs, and unbroken psp of 123 with **Daniel Osborne** for the 6th wkt, helped them to overtake Christleton's 205-9, for whom **Max Dunvaband** top scored with 61, the 32 extras Lindow conceded not proving as costly as they might. The tightest finish of the day came at Clay Lane, where hosts Haslington needed a last wkt psp of 9 to help them scramble past Mobbberley's 164. Despite a determined 78 from **Osman Butt**, Mobb's total didn't look especially imposing at halfway but

when Haslington slumped to 92-6 it seemed more than enough. However, **Tom Gledhill** (who earlier took 4-45) scored 21 at no.8 and as no.7 **Tom Hackett** dug in, the hosts just did enough. Alvanley's **Michael Rowlands**' 86 was over half their total when they entertained Romiley, who left with 25 points after **James Badrock** (44*) made the highest of a number of handy contributions. Upton aren't often involved in the highest scoring match of the day, but it was to be an unforgettable trip to Flowery Field for them as they chased down a daunting 221-7 set by Stockport Georgians and in particular **Francis Yates**, the youngster in fine form with a brilliant 112 off 122 bs. However, after an opening stand of 85, five 6s from **Matthew Smith** in his 71 helped propel the visitors to 225-5 with 8 balls remaining. **June 12th** saw Lindow power to the top of the table after 6-46 from skipper **Alex Matthews** and a rasping 107* out of 152-2 from opener **Rob Herriott** helped them overcome basement club Stockport. Alvanley made equally (and surprisingly) short work of Christleton in a top of the table encounter at Little Heath, winning by 7 wkts after bowling the hosts

out for just 84, **Chris & Steve Charles** taking 7-48 between them. A fascinating encounter at Brooks Drive saw Ashton OM make it three wins out of their last four with a 5 wkt win over Hale Barns. A psp of 106 for the 4th wkt between **Christian Dodson** and **James Guest** lifted the hosts after an uncertain start, and when AOM slumped to 23-4, the target of 196 looked a long way off. However, a brilliant stand of 162 for the 5th wkt between **Miraj Patel** (78) and **Mike Roberts** (78*) decided the outcome. Amidst growing tension, an unbroken last wkt stand of 28 gave Georgians a precious win at Barrow in a low scoring imbroglio after 5-33 from **Simon Normanton** had seen the hosts bowled out for 106. Mobberley came good again with a 7 wkt win over Upton but the final word must go to Romiley, in touch at the top after their 115 run win over Haslington, and in particular **Ans Rashid Muhammad**, whose spectacular 175 (incl. 122 in boundaries) was the finest innings all those present could recall seeing.

DIVISION TWO TABLE AND STATS TO DATE

TEAM	PTS	PLAYER	RUNS	PLAYER	WICKETS
LINDOW	153	AAMIR AFZAAL	321	ED FAULKNER	26
ALVANLEY	148	ED FAULKNER	316	ALEX MATTHEWS	25
CHRISTLETON	133	ROB HERRIOTT	311	ABDUL AQEEL	20
ASHTON ON MERSEY	133	MICHAEL ROWLANDS	279	BEN HICKS	19
HASLINGTON	132	OSMAN BUTT	259	TOM GELDHILL	19
ROMILEY	130	ROBIN BROOM	257	CHRIS CHARLES	18
STOCKPORT GEORGIANS	113	JUNE PERFORMANCES OF NOTE Ans Rashid Muhammad 175, Rom v Hasl, 12.6 Francis Yates 112, SG v Upt, 5.6 Robin Broom 108*, Lind v Chris, 5.6 Rob Herriott 107*, Lind v Stock, 12.6 Ed Faulkner 98, AOM v Stock, 5.6 Zatar Jatoi 95, Stock v AOM, 5.6 Alex Matthews 6-46, Lind v Stock, 12.6 Zaheer Khan 5-61, AOM v Stock, 5.6 Simon Normanton 5-33, SG v Bar, 12.6			
MOBBERLEY	111				
HALE BARNs	110				
UPTON	110				
BARROW	88				
STOCKPORT	67				

2ND XI RED INSURE T20 TROPHY RESULTS

ROUND ONE:

June 1st

Moorside Rd: (20 os) SALE (134-9) beat Urmston (115-5) by 19 runs

Gareth Watterson's 39, and a 15 ball 26 from Mike Bishop were the key contributions for the visitors, as was a 9 ball last over of their inns which yielded 12 runs. Urmston were 60-1 but only found the boundary twice in the last 11 overs of their reply.

June 2nd

Wilmslow Rd: (20 os) DIDSBURY (224-2) beat Hale Barns (112) by 112 runs

Premier League vs Div 2 went decisively with the form book. 95* from 42 balls by Jack Hastings was the stand-out as he and Jason Jeffrey put on 126 in 9 overs. Tom Bidwell later took a hat-trick for the hosts.

June 3rd:

South Downs Rd: (20 os) BOWDON (192-6) beat Brooklands (125-5) by 67 runs

Hal Dwobeng (69 off 40) and James McDougall (66 off 41) put on 109 for the second Bowdon wkt as the hosts posted a total which proved well out of reach of Brooklands, although the 25 extras conceded by Bowdon (making it 46 in the match) narrowed the margin of victory.

ROUND TWO (all games 20 overs)

June 1st

Parkgate: NESTON (133-9) tied with Chester Boughton Hall (133-9)

NESTON WON ON SUPER OVER

Matthew Griffiths' 64* rescued holders CBH from a desperate start to what turned out to be a challenging total. Ian Gill's 39* kept Neston in touch, but with two needed off the last ball Paul Stimson was run out leaving the scores tied. Neston took 7 off their super over, and amidst terrific tension, Chris Hackett kept CBH in check, both clubs enthusing online after the match about the wonderful spectacle it had turned out to be.

Heatons Sports Club: STOCKPORT GEORGIANS (138-7) beat Heaton Mersey (137-8) by 3 wkts

After Mersey had taken 12 off their final over, Fahad Bashir hit 53 off 34 for Georgians, who scrambled a bye off the last ball to get the 8 required off the 20th over for victory.

Bowden Lane: ROMILEY (123-5) beat Marple (120-8) by 5 wkts

The visitors kept the required rate under control throughout their reply to ease into the quarter finals.

June 8th: Dane Rd: SALE (160-5) beat Timperley (131-9) by 29 runs

64 from Robert Grant and 33 from Mike Bishop set Sale up for a strong total. Timperley's Matt Fletcher top scored with 32 off 19, having earlier taken three wkts, but the visitors were never really within range.

Upcast Lane: TOFT (181-8) beat Lindow (139-7) by 42 runs

52 off 34 from Phil Raikes, on top of a rapid Drummond/Stubbs opening psp, set Toft well on their way, with Lindow struggling for impetus throughout their reply. Toft sportingly made a game of it by donating 37 extras.

3RD XI T20 JACK GARDNER TROPHY

Grappenhall and Macclesfield will join re-instated Bramhall at Finals Day after both clubs won nail-biting quarter finals against Elworth and Timperley respectively. **Macc** beat **Elworth** off the penultimate ball of their match on **June 8th**. The extras column (55 in total) proved decisive, the 36 Macc conceded in the Elworth total of 125-7 almost proving terminal. As it was, **Macc** just managed to keep the run rate manageable, holding off a fine effort by Elworth in the field. On **June 10th**, despite 53 from Richard Holden, **Grappenhall** were 106-7 after 12.3 chasing **Timpers'** 151-5 and looking out for the count, but no.9 Stanley Pennington hit 34 off 24 in a feisty riposte, helping **Grappers** to squeeze through nine down with 2 balls remaining in a breathless finish. **Hyde** host **Didsbury** at Wer-neth Low on **Tuesday 15th** in a meeting of the current holders and 2019 runners-up to determine the final qualifier.

Nestons's long and presumably hot and sweaty trip across to Hyde on **June 6th** was well worth it as they went top of the **2nd XI Premier Division** with a convincing 7 wkt win. **Harry Donelan** took 5-29 as Hyde's lower order battled to get them from 66-6 to 141, Neston easing to victory thanks to **Cameron Lea-Swain's** fantastic 92* (91 bs). They followed this up with an emphatic 10 wkt win at Bowdon on **June 13th**. Likewise, second place Didsbury 2s enjoyed comfortable back-to-back wins, at Alderley Edge and then swamping a weakened Nantwich by 173 runs. 83 from **Scott Craig** and 50* from **David Blackburn** saw Toft hammer Marple by 9 wkts with 20 overs in hand on Jun 6, and **Pete Talbot's** 5-39 meant they followed this up with an impressive 8 wkt win over CBH who the week before had clung on at 197-9 to draw with OP. CBH reached 91-1 chasing 239 before the OP spinners got to work as the match reached a tense finale. The shortest game on the 6th occurred at Victoria Rd, where Macc's paltry 43 was only achieved by the last pair almost trebling their total, **Alex Read** (4-8) and **Mark Hampson** (3-10) the main reason Macc were, quite incredibly, 15-9. Cheadle were on their way home with 25 points after just 44.1 overs of cricket. However, they were left frustrated despite **Ben Samuels'** 89 on Saturday as lowly Hyde got a first win of the season at Kingsway, knocking off

186 to win by 3 wkts.

In **2nd XI Div 1**, Oxton are already 54 pts clear. They were held in a high scoring game by Grappenhall (259-6 vs 200-8) on **June 6**, but came out on top in another run spree at Brooklands. A week after hitting 107 in their win over Warrington, **Ben Cunliffe** hit 103* as the hosts declared at 251-4, but **Jack Breheny** hit 124 as Oxton won with 10 overs in hand. Meantime Grappers stayed second after a 7 wkt win at Georgians on the **13th**. **Ben Landels** finished 98* in Lindow's 238-8 on the **13th** but Warrington's dreary negation in crawling to 134-6 kept them locked with the other strugglers, they being Davenham and Upton, both of whom have been well beaten by upwardly mobile Sale in the last fortnight. Heaton Mersey are another team also looking upwards with successive wins by 61 runs at Romiley on the 6th and by a whacking 110 runs on Sat at home to Timperley, who the week before were involved in an extraordinary match with Lindow, for whom **Jamie Peel** scored 95 as they totalled 237-7 at Timpers. The hosts raced past the post in under 35 overs thanks to an incredible innings of 165* from 96 balls, including 29(!) fours and 3 sixes, by **Shahnawaz Khan** which was almost 70% of his side's 240-3. Khan was called into the 1st XI T20 side as a result.

On **June 6th** Jonathan Cowan took 6-32 as Widnes won at Bramhall and stayed top of **2nd XI Div 2**, after the 2nd v 3rd clash ended in a tense draw, Urmston's lower order taking their side from 32-6 to 157-9 and safety against Didsbury 2A. **Mike Hunter** (101*) and **Sanjeev Bhatia** (84) added 129 for the second Hale Barns wkt as they beat Upton. Ashton OM are the other side past 100 pts as they won at Tattenhall (**Ryan Carey** 5-23). Two **Camerons**, **Mackinnon** (75) and **Smail** (68) added 144 for the 4th wkt for Bollington at Congleton (the latter also taking 5-58) as the visitors won a thriller by 1 wkt. On **June 13th**, despite 109 from **Shashwat Rusia** and a large 2nd wkt psp, Widnes only totalled 200-9 against Didsbury 2A, who knocked the runs off in under 43 overs and went to the top of the table, holding a slender 4 pt lead over Urmston, who returned from their long trip out to Tattenhall with a 2 wkt win, despite **Sean Reeves** carrying his bat for 102 for the hosts. **Alex Read** scored 94 out of 162 for C.Hulme's and then took 5-26 as they bowled Bramhall out for 92 and **Ryan Carey** was at it again for AOM, a splendid 7-40 helping them to a 7 wkt win over HB. Upton conceded their game at Bollington and are thus last.

CCCL 3RD XI

Newcomers **Romiley** are leading the way in the **Sunday Prem** with four wins from six in an impressive start. Toft and Sale have also enjoyed early season success and are in touch at the top. By contrast, champions Didsbury have won just once while Alderley Edge and Grappenhall have yet to claim 25 pts, although the latter two will be buoyed by making it through

to T20 finals day. **North East Cheshire** lead **Div 1** with Marple & Compstall close behind. Ollie James (100) & Ben Hamilton-Ryan (106*) put on 208 for Lindow's 1st wkt in their 200 run hammering of Bowdon in **Div 2**, but they are some way adrift of leaders **Stockport Trinity** who remain unbeaten. More 3rd XI news will follow in the next edition.

ROMILEY 3s BEAT DIDSBURY ON JUNE 6TH





1ST XI T20

FRED GRAHAM TROPHY



1 Group winners: **BROOKLANDS**

DNQ: Timperley, Ashton OM, H.Barns

A 6th wkt stand of 66* took Brooklands to a 6 wkt win over HB on June 1st, and top spot in the group. That same night Timperley put aside their poor league form to beat AOM by 7 wkts in a high scoring match, setting up the decider at Brooklands on June 9th. On the night it was the home team who had all the answers, as an out-of-sorts Timpers could only manage 121. An unbeaten 40 from skipper Jack Bagshaw - along with 27 extras (incl. 24 wides) - saw Brooklands to victory inside 15 overs.

3 Group winners: **ALDERLEY EDGE**

DNQ: Bollington, Bramhall, Lindow

After weather & fixture complications, an outbreak of cricket in gp 3 saw A.Edge go through easily on NRR after a final round when any of the teams could have qualified. AE beat Lindow by 109 runs on Jun 3 (Will Valentine 5-7) the same night that Bollington won a dramatic tie with Bramhall, having lost fewer wkts. In the final matches Bramhall were undone by former player Chris Sanders whose 5-17 helped AE to a 26 run win. Lindow conceded a ballooning 40 extras which cost them dearly as, despite taking 52 off the first 4 chasing 158, Bollington won by 10 runs.

4 Group winners: **CHESTER BH**

DNQ: Alvanley, Barrow, Davenham

Davenham's concession of their final game with Chester ensured CBH's passage to the q-fs despite their only actually playing one match. Alvanley beat Barrow in an academic final game on June 10th.

6 Group winners: **HYDE**

DNQ: Marple, Stockport Georgians, Stockport

Hyde's short hop to Marple on Jun 3rd saw them emphatically progress to the q-f's after a 10 wkt demolition job. Marple were taking a standing count after 6 overs at 15-6, finally all out 57, Hyde needing under 9 overs to complete the formalities.

9 Group winners: **NANTWICH**

DNQ: Congleton, Haslington, Macclesfield

Like Chester BH, Nantwich qualified despite only playing one match, beating Macc by 60 runs on 3rd June, Macc the only side to fulfill all their fixtures after both Congleton & Haslington conceded their games with the Dabbers.

2 Group winners: **DIDSBURY**

DNQ: Cheadle, Romiley, Urmston

Three of four clubs could have topped gp 2 but as Romiley lost to Urmston it was between Didsbury or Cheadle - and Didsbury squeaked through despite their 7 wkt defeat on June 3rd. Dids raced to 103-2 off 11 but Cheadle came back strongly, restricting Dids to 159-8. Subhaan Mahmood and capt Dan Brown then hammered 55 off the first 4.1 overs, Josh Dooler helping Mahmood (85* off 62) add 92 off 77 balls as Cheadle reached 160-3 in 18 overs. However, it was an over too many as Didsbury's NRR (+0.24) was just superior to Cheadle (+0.17).

5 Group winners: **GRAPPENHALL**

DNQ: Widnes, Warrington

Ali Chughtai's 72 (52) and 3-13 helped Widnes to an easy win over Warrington, leaving the Premier Lge side's trip to Grappers deciding the group. Losing Adam Roylance to the first ball of the game, Grappers 133-4 didn't seem especially challenging but it proved more than enough as a great bowling performance, led by Lewis Porter's 4-32, saw Widnes bowled out in the 19th over for 114.

7 Group winners: **OXTON**

DNQ: Neston, Upton

Oxton took 11 runs off the last over of their innings which was to prove crucial as a thriller played out with Neston on June 3rd. Simon Stokes' 54 (50) set Neston up well, but Oxton restricted Neston to just 5 boundaries in the last 10. Needing 9 off the last, Chris Stenhouse held his nerve and conceded just six to send Oxton through as a large crowd were kept on the edge of their seats.

8 Group winners: **TOFT**

DNQ: Oulton Park, Bowdon

Andrew Jackson (*right*) hit an exhilarating 100 off 47 balls (9x6, 7x4), as Toft reached 200-8 in their deciding clash with OP. Jackson then took 2-24 opening the bowling as current T20 holders Toft won by 63 runs, thus qualifying after two impressive displays in the group stages. I wonder who was the MoM?

IMAGE: TOFT CC WEBSITE



1ST XI T20

FRED GRAHAM TROPHY



KNOCKOUT STAGES

The mini-groups are now complete, after some dramatic games and impressive performances. Group 2 turned out to be the tightest of all with the most noteworthy result being achieved by Division 2 Romiley, who won by a comfortable margin at Premier Division Cheadle. This result was to have ramifications for the latter, as the damage done to their NRR prospects in that loss finally prevented them from pipping Didsbury to top spot despite an outstanding win at Wilmslow Rd in the last match. As the maths was worked out, it transpired that Cheadle needed to have won within 17 overs to have picked up the necessary NRR advantage. However, as the competition rules made clear, the winners of groups 1 and 2 have to play each other to determine who progresses to

the quarter finals - despite geographical considerations affecting which clubs were in which group, the group numbers were drawn at random - so Didsbury have a further hurdle to clear to get through to the knockout stage, and some hurdle it is too. Brooklands, in great form heading Division 1, will host high flying Didsbury on an evening between June 17-20 in what promises to be an intriguing clash. Grappenhall are the only club from outside the Premier Division to definitely progress, but their assignment to reach finals day could hardly be tougher, a trip to Chester Boughton Hall ahead of them. Current holders Toft will need to overcome Nantwich while Oxton have a double-whammy - the logistical headache of an evening match at Werneth Low to deal with, as well as being up against a cup-savvy Hyde team.

JUNE 17th* : QUARTER-FINAL QUALIFICATION DECIDER

(winners of group 1 v winners of group 2) Brooklands v Didsbury

**match may be rearranged by mutual agreement but must be completed by June 20th.*

JUNE 24th* : QUARTER-FINALS

1. Brooklands *or* Didsbury v Alderley Edge
2. Chester Boughton Hall v Grappenhall
3. Hyde v Oxton
4. Toft v Nantwich

**The quarter final matches may be rearranged by mutual agreement so long as the match is completed by June 27th.*



JULY 11th: FINALS DAY

SEMI-FINALS:

WINNERS OF Q/F 1 v WINNERS OF Q/F 2

WINNERS OF Q/F 3 v WINNERS OF Q/F 4

As in previous years, the venue for finals day will be confirmed once the four qualifying teams are known, with match officials being appointed in due course through the usual means. The winners on finals day will go onto the first stage of the national competition, with Toft (pictured above) making it all the way through to national

finals at Derby's County Ground, beating Sheffield Collegiate in a truncated semi final before losing out to Swardeston in the floodlit final. Chester Boughton Hall are the only Cheshire side who have won the competition, their 2014 triumph taking place at Northampton's County Ground when they beat Ashted.



CHESHIRE CUP

ROUND 1 RESULT (SUN 13TH JUNE)

Wallasey CC: WALLASEY (86-0) beat Neston (85) by 10 wkts

ROUND 2 RESULTS (SUN 6TH JUNE)

Moss Lane:

OULTON PARK (215-8) beat Alderley Edge (212-7) by 2 wkts

Recreation Ground:

BOLLINGTON (224-7) beat Grappenhall (163) by 61 runs

Upcast Lane:

NEW BRIGHTON (238-9) beat Lindow (171) by 67 runs

South Downs Rd: BOWDON (123-5) beat Oxton (122) by 5 wkts

Werneth Low: HYDE (258-3) beat Cheadle (223) by 35 runs

SUNDAY 13TH JUNE

Moorside Rd: URMSTON (194-5) beat Nantwich (191-5) by 5 wkts

Filkins Lane: CHESTER BH (318-5) beat Brooklands (211) by 107 runs

The delayed replay of the originally abandoned **Wallasey v Neston** first round match finally took place on 13 June after both clubs had fulfilled other cup fixtures. It resulted in a comprehensive defeat for **Neston**, who made 268 in the originally abandoned game and will no doubt be rueing their luck with the weather even more after a rare off-day for the whole side, 85 all out (**Harry Meehan**, 2-95 in the washout, returned 4-33 here) with Wallasey needing less than 17 overs to knock off the runs. In the June 6 second round fixtures, the most eye catching performance occurred at Werneth Low, where **Hyde's James Duffy** (103* off 92) and **Cole Turner** (100* off 74) added an unbroken 182 in a quite magnificent 4th wkt stand. The pair hit 14 fours and 12 sixes between them as **Cheadle** used 7 bowlers to try and halt the onslaught. **Turner** then claimed 4-46 as the visitors, without captain **Dan Brown**, were grateful for a creditable effort from the middle order but were all out in the 38th over, still 35 runs adrift. **Oulton Park** came out on top - just - in the other all Premier Division clash, winning at **Alderley Edge** by 2 wkts with one ball remaining. 59* from **Richard Wilkinson** and 54 from **Tom Foreman**, plus a late cameo from **Chris Sanders** took the hosts to 212-7, **James Plant** finishing with impressive figures of 6-1-8-1. OP seemed to have it in the bag after an opening stand of 132, **Michael Robinson** making a superb 84-ball 102, but his dismissal saw OP lose 4-10 in 4 overs, captain **Charlie Reid** (3-21) in on the act as his team sensed an opportunity. OP's good start was suddenly a distant memory but thankfully for them **Jimmy O'Sullivan** held firm as others came and went. The final over came, with OP at 201-7, 12 needed. **Plant** was out second ball but crucially left **O'Sullivan** facing, who took 7 off 3, before getting back on strike and



CHESHIRE SHIELD LATEST

In the remaining R1 fixtures on May 16th, **Caldy** beat **Wirral**, **Alvanley** conceded their game to **Parkfield Lis-card**, and there were wins for **Georgians** over **Appleton**, **Cheadle Hulme** over **Ashton OM**, and **Kingsley** over **Bunbury**.

R2 RESULTS (Sun 6th June)

BARROW (190-8) beat **Kingsley** (188) by 2 runs

HALE BARNES (206-7) beat **Hawk Green** (204) by 2 runs

MARITIME (192-8) beat

Stockport Georgians (188) by 2 wkts

Sun 13th June

UPTON (170-3) beat **Broadbottom** (168-8) by 7 wkts

CHEADLE HULME won after **Stockport Trinity** conceded.

hitting a no-ball for 4 to seal a nerve-shredding win. AE were left to reflect on the 15 wides they bowled as they exited the competition after a fabulous game of cricket. In complete contrast, **Bowdon** were barely extended in disposing of Premier Division opponents **Oxton**, **James Bottomley's** 5-11 the biggest factor in Oxton lasting only 32 overs as the hosts won with more than 10 overs remaining. 70 from captain **Calum Rowe** and 63* from **Jerome Jones** were the main contributions in **Bollington's** 61 run win over **Grappenhall**, as were 4 wkts for **Stuart Plant**, one of which was Grappers' top scorer **Grant Hodnett** (76). A jaunty last wkt stand of 48 helped **New Brighton** to 238-9 at **Lindow** who had a decent 10th wkt psp of their own, but the 38 **Matt Barnes** and **Will Espley** added only delayed the inevitable as the visitors won by 67 runs. A surprise result on the 13th at Moorside Rd saw **Urmston** defeat a strong **Nantwich** team fresh from their 10 wkt win in the league the day before. A watchful 66 from **Ray Doyle** and 50 from **Spencer Byatt** were the only scores of substance for the visitors as Urmston, led by 66 from the highly-rated **Arav Shetty**, batted solidly to win in the final over, Nantwich using 8 bowlers to try and turn the tide. **Chester BH** took out their league frustrations on visitors **Brooklands**, racking up a monster 318-5 in a 107 run win, **Warren Goodwin** (66) a relative bit-part player as **Alex Money** (113*) and **Jack Williams** (97) played the Div 1 leaders. CBH will be one team all the others hope to avoid in the quarter finals.