

Cheshire County Cricket League

2016 NEWSLETTER : WEEK 12 - JULY 9 - 10

BRAMHALL TRIUMPH IN T20 FINAL

BRAMHALL pulled off their greatest cup triumph since winning the National Club knock out at Lord's in 2001 when they beat Nantwich in a thrilling Joseph Holt Brewery T20 final at Toft on Sunday.

Before an enthralled 500-strong crowd, Premier League strugglers Bramhall held off a Nantwich challenge to their modest total of 140-5 by restricting them to 135-5 to win the coveted Fred Graham Trophy by five runs.

They now go forward to represent the League in the ECBt20 Area Finals Day in North Wales on Sunday, August 7.

In their semi-final earlier in the day, Bramhall knocked out favourites Hyde after a dramatic golden over in which Ifi Naseer hit a towering six.

Nantwich had beaten an Alderley Edge team minus Andy Flintoff - but including Lancashire's Jordan Clark – by three wickets. All four finalists received cash awards from money donated by sponsors Joseph Holt Brewery.

Bramhall's Danny Lamb was voted Man of the Match for his 40 runs and tight 1-19 bowling.

Alderley Edge wicket-keeper Andy Worrall won the Champagne Moment award for an acrobatic run out.

Ron Graham, son of trophy donor the late Fred Graham, presented the trophy to Bramhall skipper Nick Cantello.

Chairman Nigel Muirhead and his Toft club earned rich praise from Competition secretary Geoff Wellsted for their excellent organisation.

FINAL SCORECARD

BRAMHALL		NANTWICH	
D Lamb c & b Doyle	40	R Brown b Lamb	5
D McKay b Warrington	12	R. Doyle c Hughes b Naseer	39
M Hughes b Warrington	9	R C-Siewwright lbw Naseer	21
I. Naseer c Brown b Warrington	0	O. Griffiths b Naseer	0
N Cantello c Pearson b Griffiths	33	G. Rimmer b Sanders	9
S Johnson not out	14	J. Cornford not out	17
C Sanders not out	26	D. Johnson not out	24
Extras	6	Extras	10
Total (for 5 wickets, 20 overs)	140	Total (for 5 wickets)	135
Did not bat: L. Littlewood, J. Crisall, T. Wood, A Reynolds,		Did not bat: S. Patel, J Pearson, S. Rimmer, J Warrington.	
Nantwich bowling: Warrington 4-1-19-3; Cameron 4-0-33-0; Griffiths 4-0-22-1; Patel 4-0-27-0; Doyle 4-0-33-1.		Bramhall bowling: Lamb 4-0-19-1; Littlewood 3-0-37-0; Sanders 3-1-12-1; Wilkinson 4-0-30-0; Naseer 4-0-17-3; McKay 2-0-10-0.	
Umpires: David Tate and David Gane.			

Semi-final results

HYDE tied with **BRAMHALL**: Hyde 167-7 (D.Berry 80); Bramhall 167-8. In super over Bramhall beat Hyde by six runs to five.
NANTWICH beat **ALDERLEY EDGE** by 3 wickets: Alderley Edge 140-8 (K Sawas 43, O Griffiths 3-18, L Cameron 3-27); Nantwich 141-7 (O Griffiths 39).

Quarter-finals: June 30 – July 7

ALDERLEY EDGE beat **WIDNES** by 8 wickets: Widnes 83-9; Alderley Edge 86-2 (M. Currie 49no).

BRAMHALL beat **TOFT** by 1 run: Bramhall 117-7; Toft 116-6.

NANTWICH beat **WEAVERHAM** by 10 wickets: Weaverham 54 (L Cameron 4-10, J. Warrington 3-22); Nantwich 57-0 (R Doyle 38no).

NESTON lost to **HYDE** by 4 wickets: Neston 158-5 (J. O'Neill 39, S Stokes 38); Hyde 160-6 (D Berry 63, D Fitzsimmons 36).

Ten League matches off on another rainy Saturday

YET another wet Saturday saw only six clubs in the three divisions gain maximum points, while no fewer than 10 matches were cancelled or abandoned.

The upshot in the **ECB Premier League** is that Alderley Edge – the only winners – have increased their lead to 44 points as they aim for their first title since 2008.

Edge were put in to bat at home to Macclesfield in a 70 overs match and totalled a healthy 178-7, Richard Wilkinson 50 not out. Macc were bowled out for 119, James Cross top-scoring with 31, while in-form Aussie paceman Aaron Smillie took 4-32 and spinner Charlie Reid 3-22.

Second-placed Bowdon were rained off at Bramhall and other games which failed to start were Cheadle v Neston and Timperley v Urmston.

The match of the day between Chester Boughton Hall and Hyde was reduced to 78 overs and a good fist of it both sides made. Reigning champions Hyde, who had beaten Chester by one wicket on the season's opening day, were put in and posted 185-8 after being 25-3, James Duffy continuing his fine form with 71 aided by Ryan Waterhouse, 51. Ash Davis took 3-24 and Will Owen 3-24.

Chester collapsed to 25-4 before former Glamorgan all-rounder Owen got them out of a hole with a quality knock of 67. With Ross Dixon scoring a bright 30, Chester closed just 18 runs short at 167-8, lively Aussie left arm paceman William Walker taking 3-32, This left Hyde with 14 points to their hosts' eight.

Nantwich had the better of their home game against Toft, totalling 238-7 in another 78 overs game, Ollie Griffiths 48. Toft were restricted to 188-6 in reply, highlighted by a fine 93 by skipper Toby Drummond and 45 from Henry Hughes. The Dabbers' attack was sharpened up by the return from a broken ankle injury of paceman Jimmy Warrington.

Another low score for Tattenhall

DIDSBURY were one of three winners in **Division One**, extending their lead to 43 points over second-placed Grappenhall. Didsbury struggled to reach 130-8 at Tattenhall, Owen Williamson 3-27. But the men from Flacca Field were sent back for 54, by Matt Gregson 5-23 and Nick Anderson 3-3 from six overs. Tatters' last five innings have brought them scores of 98, 89, 98, 99 and now 56 which is why they prop up the league table.

Third-placed Oulton Park lost a high scoring game at home to Sale after totalling 235-8, Martyn East 68 and Danny Leech 66, putting on 116 for the first wicket. Sale replied with 237-6, led by skipper Chris Canning with the day's only century (to be exact: 121 not out from 76 balls including 11 fours and eight sixes).

The other winners were Davenham, by seven wickets at Bollington where Danny Hancock took 4-11 and South African Gavon Christian scored 49 not out.

Matches off were Cheadle Hulme v Oxtou; the derby clash between Warrington and Grappenhall and luckless Marple v Weaverham. That's six cancelled or abandoned for the Bowden Lane club in the first 12 weeks of the season.

'Lightning' strikes at Middlewich

ALVANLEY and Northwich were the two winners in **Division Two**, the latter's demolition of bottom club Middlewich at Haddon Field being spectacular. Middlewich were dismissed for 64, to which Phil Parry contributed 33, while Andy Dufty took 4-11 and James Plant 4-22. Northwich replied with 68-1 in just 4.4 overs led by Sam Stoneley who smashed 47 not out from 17 balls which included two fours and six sixes. This was the shortest winning innings on record in any division of the League.

Alvanley recorded full points at the expense of Congleton who opted to bat first at Frodsham Road. They were bowled out for 98, James Ecclestone 6-54. Alvanley responded with 99-5, Mike Rowlands 35.

Upton reached 45-1 at home to Barrow from eight overs when the elements intervened.

Not a single ball was delivered in Mobberley v Lindow; Stockport v Christleton and Widnes v Brooklands, leaving Widnes still top by 29 points.

Saturday, July 9 scores in detail

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE

At Moss Lane:

ALDERLEY EDGE (25 pts.) beat MACCLESFIELD (won toss, 7 pts.) by 59 runs:

Alderley Edge 178-7 (35 overs: R. Wilkinson 50no, A Day 37);

Macclesfield 119 (35 overs: J Cross 31, A Smillie 4-32, C. Reid 3-22).

This was a 70 overs game.

At Church Lane:

BRAMHALL v BOWDON: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Kingsway:

CHEADLE v NESTON: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Boughton Hall Avenue:

CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL (won toss, 8 pts.) drew with HYDE (14 pts.)

Hyde 185-8 (39 overs: J Duffy 71, R Waterhouse 51, A. Davis 3-24, W. Owen 3-34).

Chester 167-8 (39 overs: W. Owen 67, R. Dixon 30, W. Walker 3-32).

This was a 98 overs game.

At Whitehouse Lane:

NANTWICH (13 pts.) drew with TOFT (won toss, 8 pts.):

Nantwich 238-7 (39 overs: O Griffiths 48, B Johnston 32, R Doyle 31);

Toft 188-6 (39 overs: T Drummond 93, H Hughes 45, O Griffiths 3-27).

This was a 78 overs game.

At Stockport Road:

TIMPERLEY v URMSTON: cancelled 7 pts. each

DIVISION 1

At Recreation Ground:

BOLLINGTON (7 pts.) lost to DAVENHAM (won toss, 25 pts.) by 7 wickets:

Bollington 86 (38 overs: R. Hough 25, D Hancock 4-11);

Davenham 88-3 (23 overs: G Christian 49no).

This was a 78 overs game.

At Grove Park:

CHEADLE HULME v OXTON: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Bowden Lane:

MARPLE v WEAVERHAM: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Pinfold Lane:

OULTON PARK (10 pts.) lost to SALE (won toss, 25 pts.) by 4 wickets:

Oulton Park 235-8 (46 overs: M. East 68, D. Leech 66, P Roberts 40, T Lawrence 3-53);

Sale 237-6 (40 overs: C. Canning 121no, J Guest 43, T. Hyslop 3-68).

This was a 92 overs game.

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Division 1 results contd ...

At Flacca Field:

TATTENHALL (won toss, 7 pts.) lost to DIDSBURY (25 pts.) by 96 runs:

Didsbury 130-8 (39 overs: T Hughes 26, O. Williamson 3-27);

Tattenhall 54 (27 overs: D Reeves 29, M Gregson 5-23, N Anderson 3-3).

This was a 78 overs game

At Warrington Sports Club:

WARRINGTON v GRAPPENHALL: cancelled 7 pts. each

DIVISION 2

At Frodsham Road

ALVANLEY (25 pts.) beat CONGLETON (won toss, 7 pts.) by 5 wickets:

Congleton 98 (25 overs: T Blease 25, J Ecclestone 6-54);

Alvanley 99-5 (28 overs: M Rowlands 35, J. Higginbottom 3-19).

This was a game of less than 80 overs.

At Haddon Field

MIDDLEWICH (7 pts.) lost to NORTHWICH (won toss, 25 pts.) by 9 wickets.

Middlewich 64 (22 overs: P Parry 33, A. Dufty 4-11, J Plant 4-22);

Northwich 68-1 (4.4 overs: S Stoneley 47 not out)

This was a 60 overs game.

At Church Lane:

MOBBERLEY v LINDOW: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Cale Green:

STOCKPORT v CHRISTLETON: cancelled 7 pts. each

At Old Greasby Road

UPTON (won toss, 7 pts.) v BARROW (7 pts.): abandoned.

Upton 45-1 (8 overs).

Barrow did not bat.

At Beaconsfield Road

WIDNES v BROOKLANDS: cancelled 7pts. each

PICK OF WEEK

Premiership batting: Toby Drummond (Toft) 93 v Nantwich

Bowling: oAaron Smillie (Alderley Edge) 4-32 v Macclesfield

Division 1 batting: Chris Canning (Sale) 121no v Oulton Park

Bowling: Matt Gregson (Didsbury) 5-23 v Tattenhall

Division 2 batting: Sam Stoneley (Northwich) 47no v Middlewich.

Bowling : James Ecclestone (Alvanley) 6-54 v Congleton

Tables at Week 12

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE	P	W (25)	T (16)	WD (3)	RD (2)	LD (1)	C/AB (7)	L	BAT	BOWL	PTS.
ALDERLEY EDGE	12	8	0	0	1	0	2	1	9	5	230
BOWDON	12	6	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	6	186
HYDE	12	5	0	2	1	0	2	2	20	18	185
CHESTER BO. HALL	12	5	0	0	2	2	1	2	27	14	179
TOFT	12	4	0	1	1	1	2	3	23	17	160
*TIMPERLEY	12	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	18	7	160
*MACCLESFIELD	12	2	1	0	1	1	4	3	20	10	134
CHEADLE	12	3	0	1	0	0	4	4	15	11	132
NANTWICH	12	2	0	2	1	0	1	6	41	17	123
BRAMHALL	12	2	0	0	1	2	3	4	27	15	121
URMSTON	12	2	0	0	0	0	3	7	18	19	108
NESTON	12	1	0	1	0	1	3	6	31	22	103

* Macclesfield and Timperley records includes 7 points gained from defeats in games of under 80 overs (reg. 7f)

DIVISION 1	P	W	WD	RD	LD	C/AB	L	BAT	BOWL	POINTS
DIDSBURY	12	8	0	1	0	1	2	15	8	232
GRAPPENHALL	12	6	0	0	0	3	3	11	7	189
OULTON PARK	12	5	1	1	1	0	4	33	18	182
SALE	12	5	1	0	0	3	3	22	6	177
WEAVERHAM	12	5	0	0	0	3	4	20	9	175
*DAVENHAM	12	5	0	1	0	2	4	13	9	170
*BOLLINGTON	12	3	0	1	2	3	3	23	14	144
OXTON	12	3	2	0	1	3	3	17	16	136
*WARRINGTON	12	3	0	1	1	3	4	16	14	136
MARPLE	12	2	0	0	0	6	4	14	7	113
CHEADLE HULME	12	1	2	0	1	4	4	24	13	97
*TATTENHALL	12	1	0	0	0	2	9	8	17	71

*Bollington, Davenham, Tattenhall & Warrington records include 7 points gained from defeats in games of under 80 overs (reg. 7f).

DIVISION 2	P	W	WD	RD	LD	C/AB	L	BAT	BOWL	POINTS
WIDNES	12	7	1	1	0	2	1	18	5	217
UPTON	12	6	1	0	0	1	4	15	13	188
BROOKLANDS	12	6	0	0	1	3	2	3	7	182
ALVANLEY	12	5	1	0	1	2	3	22	14	179
*STOCKPORT	12	4	1	0	0	3	4	12	7	150
*LINDOW	12	4	1	0	0	2	5	11	8	143
NORTHWICH	12	3	2	0	3	2	2	22	16	136
CONGLETON	12	3	0	0	1	4	4	9	8	128
*CHRISTLETON	12	3	0	0	1	2	6	9	17	123
BARROW	12	2	1	0	0	3	6	24	19	117
MOBBERLEY (6)	12	1	2	1	0	4	4	37	18	110
*MIDDLEWICH	12	1	0	0	3	4	4	12	10	85

Mobberley 6 points deducted for slow over rate

*Christleton, Lindow, Middlewich & Stockport records include 7 points gained from defeats in games of under 80 overs (reg. 7f).

LEAGUE FIXTURES & UMPIRES: SATURDAY, JULY 16

ECB Premier League (12.30 p.m.)

BOWDON V CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL
HYDE V CHEADLE
MACCLESFIELD V BRAMHALL
NESTON V TIMPERLEY
TOFT V ALDERLEY EDGE
URMSTON V NANTWICH

Alistair Davies & David Gane
Steve Duckers & Gary Zimmer
Barrie Burns & David Tate
Ged Kinsey & Geoff Wellsted
Dion Kelly & Mark Turner
Darrin Clark & Ian Greensmith

Division One (1 p.m.)

DAVENHAM V TATTENHALL
DIDSBURY V OULTON PARK
GRAPPENHALL V CHEADLE HULME
OXTON V MARPLE
SALE V WARRINGTON
WEAVERHAM V BOLLINGTON

Phil Prince & Ian Wilson
Brian Boys & John Lofthouse
Peter Davies & Simon Smith
Ankit Jain & Steve Kirkbright
Jason Pawluk & Chris Rigg
James Emmerson & Ray Prescott

Division Two (1 p.m.)

BARROW V ALVANLEY
BROOKLANDS V STOCKPORT
CHRISTLETON V MOBBERLEY
CONGLETON V MIDDLEWICH
LINDOW V UPTON
NORTHWICH V WIDNES

Graham Cookson & John Williams
Martin Roberts & Ken Rothwell
John Lowe & Steve Wilkinson
Martin Howe & Geoff Young
John Potts & Graham Pugh
Garry Hambleton & Paul Herring

All umpiring appointments notified by Geoff Young

Brooklands top Fair Play table at half-way

BROOKLANDS topped the League **Fair Play table** - devised by coordinator John Lofthouse from umpires' reports - at the season's halfway mark with an average score of 4.08 (maximum 5). Bramhall, Alvanley, Congleton and Mobberley also exceeded four-points while four of the bottom six places are occupied by Premier League clubs.

1. mark of	4.08	Brooklands
2.	4.05	Bramhall
3=-	4.03	Alvanley, Congleton, Mobberley
6=	3.98	Barrow, Lindow, Upton
9.	3.97	Chester Boughton Hall
10=	3.96	Marple, Widnes
12=	3.95	Middlewich, Nantwich, Oxtun
15=	3.94	Davenham, Neston, Sale, Warrington
19.	3.90	Stockport
20=	3.92	Cheadle, Cheadle Hulme, Grappenhall
23=	3.90	Oulton Park, Tattenhall
25.	3.89	Alderley Edge
26=	3.85	Bowdon, Northwich
28=	3.83	Christleton, Macclesfield
30.	3.8 2	Bollington
31=	3.78	Didsbury, Timperley
33.	3.75	Toft
34.	3.73	Weaverham

35.	3.69	Hyde
36	3.65	Urmston

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Forties - the final strait

WITH four games remaining, the placings in the four **Over Forties** divisions are taking shape.

Toft and Grappenhall share top spot in the Central Division although Timperley and Davenham remain closely interested.

The North-East division is dominated by unbeaten Cheadle Hulme, with either Sale Silverbacks or Urmston Tigers likely to finish second.

Bollington Veterans inflicted the first defeat on Alderley Edge Wizards to go top of the South-East division, although from a game more played

Reigning champions and still unbeaten, Neston are running away with the West tile, with Chester Blazers best-placed to finish second. It was very concerning to see that Tattenhall Wreckers and Caldy conceded games in this division .

After the final league fixtures on August 3, the quarter-finals will take place on Wednesday, August 10 or by Sunday, August 14 at the latest. The draw is: West winners v Central runners-up; Central winners v West runners-up; North East winners v South East runners-up; South East winners v North East runners-up. Finals Day is at Warrington on Bank Holiday Monday, August 29 .

REMINDER: Clubs e-mailing results please use mike.t-b@talktalk.net NOT mike.t-b@virgin.net. The League website remains the preferred method for reporting results.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 RESULTS

Central Division

ASHTON ON MERSEY lost to MOBBERLEY (4 pts.) by 7 wickets:

Ashton on Mersey 103-5 (Savage 33, Tuff 22; Mobberley 107-3 (Freebrey 31, Mode 30)

DAVENHAM (4 pts.) beat ASHLEY by 82 runs:

Davenham 181-2; Ashley 99-8.

TIMPERLEY lost to GRAPPENHALL (4 pts.) by 4 wickets:

Timperley 69-9 (Byrne 29, Cagna 2-3, W. Sharp 2-14, Hayes 2-24); Grappenhall 71-6 (Anderson 23, Prickett 2-6, Spencer 2-12).

WARRINGTON lost to TOFT (4 pts.) by 41 runs:

Toft 117-2 (S. Hardstaff 30, S. Locke 27); Warrington 76-7 (Dempster 23, S. Locke 2-14).

North-East Division

BOWDON VALE VIKINGS (4 pts.) beat BROOKLANDS by 9 wickets:

Brooklands 125-8 (White 30, Higson 3-28, Hutton 2-28); Bowdon Vale 128-1 (Bottomley 31, Dean 30, Jessop 30).

CHEADLE HULME (4 pts.) beat BOWDON by 9 wickets:

Bowdon 51 (Elvin 3-8, Potts 2-19); Cheadle Hulme 52-1 (MacFarlane 30).

SALE SILVERBACKS (4 pts.) beat CHEADLE by 37 runs:

Sale 125-4 (Rowe 35, Harrop 34, Watkin 4-32); Cheadle 88-8 (Stevens 21, Rizvi 2-8, Hanrahan 2-17).

URMSTON TIGERS (4 pts.) beat BRAMHALL by 10 wickets:

Bramhall 103-4 (McLennon 30, Tittensor 21); Urmston 105-0 (Higginbottom 33, Espley 30, Cartwright 28).

South-East Division

ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS lost to BOLLINGTON VETERANS (4 pts.) by 5 wickets:

Alderley Edge 101-3; Bollington 103-5.

OFFERTON (4 pts.) beat WOODLEY by 8 wickets

Woodley 65-9 (Middleton 33, Kirkham 3-7, Thomas 2-8); Offerton 66-2 (Kirkham 31).

POYNTON LEGENDS (4 pts.) beat MACCLESFIELD by 10 wickets:

Macclesfield 60-9 (Baggs 17, Towle 17, Bowler 3-1, Owens 2-10, Kulkani 2-17); Poynton 62-0 (Martin 33, Berzins 19).

OPEN: BREDBURY

West Divison

IRBY (4 pts.) beat OXTON by 28 runs:

Irby 110-7 (Lea 30); Oxtton 82-8 (De Silva 39).

NESTON (4 pts.) v TATTENHALL WRECKERS conceded

UPTON lost to CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL BLAZERS (4 pts.) by 5 runs:

Chester 106-6 (Bennett 33, Owen 2-27); Upton 101-7 (Warburton 34, I. Sharrock 24, Hughes 21, Atkin 3-24, Barr 2-17).

WEAVERHAM (4 pts.) v CALDY conceded.

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Over 40s contd ...

LATEST TABLES

<u>Central Division</u>		P	W	C/A	L	Pts.
TOFT		10	7	2	1	32
GRAPPENHALL	10	6	4	0	32	
TIMPERLEY		10	6	1	3	26
DAVENHAM		10	5	3	2	26
MOBBERLEY		10	3	2	5	16
ASHTON on MERSEY		10	2	2	6	12
ASHLEY		10	1	3	6	10
WARRINGTON		10	0	3	7	6

NE Division

CHEADLE HULME		10	8	2	0	36
SALE SILVERBACKS		10	7	1	2	30
URMSTON TIGERS		10	6	3	1	30
BOWDON VALE VIKINGS		10	5	1	4	22
CHEADLE		10	2	3	5	14
BROOKLANDS		10	2	2	6	12
BOWDON		10	1	3	6	10
BRAMHALL		10	1	1	8	6

SE Division

BOLLINGTON VETERANS		9	6	2	1	28
ALDERLEY EDGE WIZARDS		8	5	2	1	24
BREDBURY SAINTS		8	4	2	2	20
MACCLESFIELD		9	3	2	4	16
OFFERTON		9	2	2	5	12
POYNTON LEGENDS		9	2	2	5	12
WOODLEY		8	1	2	5	8

West Division

NESTON		10	9	1	0	38
CHESTER B. HALL BLAZERS		10	5	3	2	26
OXTON		10	4	2	4	20
UPTON		10	3	3	4	18
CALDY		10	3	2	5	16
WEAVERHAM		10	3	2	5	16
TATTENHALL WRECKERS		10	2	3	5	14
IRBY		10	2	2	6	12

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 FIXTURES (6.15 p.m.)

CENTRAL DIVISION: Ashley v Timperley; Grappenhall v Ashton on Mersey; Mobberley v Warrington; Toft v Davenham

NORTH-EAST DIVISION: Bowdon v Bowdon Vale Vikings; Bramhall v Cheadle; Brooklands v Sale Silverbacks; Cheadle Hulme v Urmston Tigers (switched);

SOUTH-EAST DIVISION: Macclesfield v Alderley Edge Wizards; Poynton Legends v Offerton; Woodley v Bredbury Saints. Open: Bollington Veterans,

WEST DIVISION: Caldy v Upton; Chester Boughton Hall v Neston; Tattenhall Wreckers v Irby; Oxton v Weaverham.

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Cheshire lose at Newbury

CHESHIRE collapsed on the third afternoon of their **Unicorns County championship** game against Berkshire at Newbury and lost by 211 runs.

Things were relatively even at the halfway stage, Berkshire having totalled 349 in their first innings (Ross Dixon 3-40, Dan Woods 3-93) after which Cheshire replied spiritedly with 295 (Harry Dearden 86, Ryan Brown 49, David Hurst 40, Lee Dixon 38, Will Owen 30) to trail by 54.

Berkshire recovered from 111-6 to declare at 296-8 in their second dig, Will Owen 3-69, Dan Woods 2-63, Jack Williams 2-86.

Set 350 to win, Cheshire never looked like doing so and only a fighting knock of 63 from skipper Lee Dixon (13 fours) earned his side some respectability at 139 all out, off 61 overs.

WEST DIVISION TABLE AT HALF-WAY

	P	W	T	D	L	Pts.
Shropshire	3	3	0	0	0	64
Berkshire	3	2	0	1	0	53
Cornwall	3	2	0	0	1	53
Dorset	3	2	0	0	1	48
Wales	3	1	0	2	0	44
Devon	3	1	1	0	1	40
CHESHIRE	3	1	0	0	2	40
Herefordshire	3	0	1	0	2	24
Oxfordshire	3	0	0	1	2	19
Wiltshire	3	0	0	0	3	18

DEVON AT ALDERLEY: Cheshire 's next game is against Devon at Alderley Edge from Sunday, July 17 to Tuesday, July 19 (11 a.m. daily; free admission; refreshments available).

Chester triumph at Cuckney

A BRILLIANT opening partnership of 130 between Rick Moore (84) and Warren Goodwin (65) helped Chester Boughton Hall pull off a fine nine wickets victory at Cuckney (Notts Premier League) in the fifth round of the **National Club championship** on Sunday.

Cuckney totalled 163-8 in their 45 overs, Will Owen claiming 3-20 and Jack Williams 3-29.

CBH made short work of chasing that total with a reply of 166-1 in 26 overs.

They have now secured £250 in prize money and enter the last eight for the first time.

UKFAST CHESHIRE LEAGUE WASHOUT

ALL six games in the First Division of the **UKFast Cheshire League** were cancelled due to rain on Saturday, with seven points allotted all round. All fixtures were based in east-Cheshire which was worst-hit by the weather.

'RESULTS' ON SATURDAY

Ashton on Mersey v Barnton: cancelled

Disley v Irby: cancelled

Hale Barns v Heaton Mersey: cancelled

Poynton v Lymm OP cancelled

Romiley v Bredbury St. Mark's cancelled

Stockport Georgians v Runcorn cancelled

LATEST PLACINGS

1. Ashton on Mersey 189 points; 2. Bredbury 170; 3. Barnton 164; 4. Lymm 162; 6. Runcorn 156; 7. Stockport Georgians 155; 8. Hale Barns 155; 9. Disley 139; 90. Heaton Mersey 105; 11. Poynton 80; 12. Irby 68.

DIVISION 1 FIXTURES ON SATURDAY, JULY 16 (1.30 p.m.)

Barnton v Romiley; Bredbury St. Mark's v Disley; Heaton Mersey v Poynton; Irby v Stockport Georgians; Lymm OP v Ashton on Mersey; Runcorn v Hale Barns.

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Cheshire Shield quarter-finals

RESULTS of quarter-final games in the **Cheshire Shield**:

Northwich 240 lost at home to Maritime 255 (Wathukarage 111);

Wilmslow Wayfarers v Prestbury on Sunday, July 24;

Stockport Georgians v Lindow, Sunday, July 17.

Hawk Green beat Hale Barns now host Barrow

O Newsletter last week incorrectly reported that Widnes had beaten Barrow.

CHESHIRE CUP LATEST

REMAINING second round games in the **Cheshire Cup**:

Warrington v Alderley Edge (Sunday, July 24: umpires Ged Kinsey & Graham Pugh);

Hyde v Chester Boughton Hall (also Sunday, July 24)

Quarter-final draw (Sunday, July 24 or TBA):

Sale v Hyde or Chester Boughton Hall;

Grappenhall v Toft;

Elworth v Warrington or Alderley Edge;

Bowdon v Urmston.

Information provided by Competition organiser Peter Hayes (hayespeter3@sky.com; tels. 01625 537 439; 07506 901 134). All results should go to him.

Fractured skull batsman flies home

MIDDLEWICH's 26 year-old Australian all-rounder Chris Webber, diagnosed with a fractured skull after being hit on the forehead while batting without a helmet against Brooklands at Haddon Field on Saturday, July 2, has flown home.

Chris was taken by ambulance from the ground to the A&E department at Leighton Hospital and kept in after tests revealed the extent of his injury. He was released from hospital the following Monday and given permission to fly back to his home in Australia, where he will face further tests.

A popular player in his first season with the Second Division club, Webber had scored 149 runs in 10 innings at an average of 16.36 and taken six wickets for 258, averaging 43. The club have been given special League permission to register a substitute overseas player.

Cheshire Fifties at Chorley

NORTHUMBERLAND conceded their **National Over 60s championship** match against Cheshire at Grappenhall on Wednesday last week.

Cheshire in action against old rivals Lancashire at Chorley CC on Wednesday this week (1.30 p.m.) with the following team:

Phil Catterall captain, Tim Wearden (Widnes), Dave Smith (Birkenhead Park), Gary Cash (Marple), Mike Cook (Oulton Park), Ian Sleigh (Warrington), Tim Jackson (Alderley Edge) wicket-keeper, Chris Moore (Brooklands), Dave Saddington (Hale Barns), Bhartik Shulka (New Brighton), Richard Scott (Toft).

SIXTIES' HOME DOUBLE

CHESHIRE Over 60s 1st and 2nd XIs both have home games at Cheadle Hulme this week, on Tuesday and Thursday respectively (both 1 p.m.).

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HYDE'S BIG DATE WITH PCA

HYDE have issued a reminder via *Newsletter* about their exhibition match against a PCA Masters XI at Werneth Low on Friday, August 19, starting at 5.30 p.m.

Former England Test players booked to appear are Steve Harmison, Simon Jones, Matthew Hoggard, Paul Nixon, Neil Fairbrother, Darren Maddy, Alex Tudor and Dominic Cork.

Admission is £12 (adults), £7 (under 16s) and free for under fives.

Sophie speaks up for Alvanley

ALVANLEY and Cheshire women's cricketer Sophie Ecclestone was interviewed lived on Sky television on Thursday last week by Rob Keys during England's T20I against Pakistan at Chelmsford, where she was acting as 12th 'man'.

A Chester Ladies player, Sophie spoke highly of Alvanley and her brother James and the way she was being nursed through the ranks in the England set-up. She had played for England in an earlier game in the series.

Featured in a *Cricket Paper* article last Thursday was new Lancashire leg spinner Matt Parkinson, who took six wickets on his first-class debut against Warwickshire recently. Unfortunately, in a lengthy interview about his experiences in the game, 19 year-old Matt did not mention Urmston, the club who have reared him from an early age.

MORE TOURING MEMORIES: Antigua, 1998

OUR 90-minutes flight from Barbados to Antigua in the Leeward Islands was a quick one and we were expertly shepherded from St. John's Airport to our hotel in the north of the island at Dickenson Bay.

Antigua was the last match in a series extended to six games by the abandonment of the First Test in Jamaica, for reasons already reported. Michael Atherton's men were 2-1 down, but had a chance to draw level if they played well.

History records that they did not play well, losing by an innings and 58 runs with scores of 506-7 declared (Carl Hooper 169) for the Windies to a miserable 127 and 321 (Nasser Hussain 106, Courtney Walsh 5-80). So that was another tour when England cricketers failed their many supporters.

There was a poignant moment at lunch on the last day while we were munching sandwiches in the stand. Skipper Atherton sat on the outfield a few yards in front of us earnestly engaged in a mobile telephone conversation. Within minutes we learned that he had tendered his resignation to England manager David Graveney – and we had seen him doing so in front of our eyes.

One of the umpires, South African Clive Mitchley (he of the unusual boundary four signals: remember?) was staying at our hotel. (colleague Steve Bucknor was elsewhere with friends in St. John's). A lovely man, Clive used to come into the lounge in the evenings to watch the cricket tv highlights and chat to the England fans there, while only ever drinking lemonade. He sheepishly admitted making one or two errors – after all, these were days before DRS.

'Chickie' stand off limits

The Antigua Recreation Ground - not where Tests are played to-day - was a genuine piece of island history. The 'Chickie' stand where the locals gathered to watch the famous dancer Gravy going through his motions, used to literally rock with Carib music during the intervals. We didn't dare venture in.

The historic capital town of St. John's was overshadowed by enormous ocean-going liners and we went down to the harbour to chat to some Americans stretching their land legs. We mischievously asked whether they had watched the film Titanic while aboard and were told it was on the banned list!

Ships Tours involved up to 100 taxis whizzing round the island inside two hours, each with a number and a guide. ("It's Thursday, honey, it must be Antigua"). They would never have made it back to their ship in time if they had visited all the beaches as there are reckoned to be 365 dotted round the superb coastline, one for each day of the year.

We went on our own tour and after being taken round the colourful homes of local heroes Andy Roberts and Curtley Ambrose, spent time at English Harbour where Lord Nelson had a hideaway during the Napoleonic Wars. A wonderful place to explore.

So our Caribbean adventure came to an end and once more we had failed to see England win a tour abroad - yet loved the off-field experiences.

Gluttons for punishment - and savings permitting - we next planned to return to Australia in the winter of '98-99. Would England do any better? Not so sure.

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League websites

THE website cheshirecountycl.play-cricket.com monitored by Darren Sutcliffe accepts all 1st XI results with brief match details which should be posted by 10 p.m.

Full scoreboards MUST be posted by 12 noon the following day; some clubs are not abiding by this regulation which results in shortage of information provided for all viewers and the *Newsletter*

THE League's Pitchero website administered by Richard Fennah, contains documents such as all issues of the *Newsletter*; is:

www.cheshirecountycl.org.uk

THE weekly *Newsletter* will normally be available on Monday mornings to the Press, League Officers, members of the Cricket Committee and individual subscribers by special request.

Ooooooooooooo

mike.t-b@talktalk.net.....Monday, July 11 (note new e-mail address)