

Division 2 champions Nantwich sign off in incredible fashion ... Mason smashes Division 1 season aggregate record ... Leigh finish bottom of Division 1 despite last day win over Chester

CESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One – September 12:

Porthill Park 180-7 (40; Lauren Kenvyn 75, Matilda Gater 51, Lucy Shenton 29*, Emma Royle 3-21, Eleanor Brennan 2-22) (7pts)
Stockport Trinity 183-3 (31.4; Ellie Mason 122*) (25pts)

- Ellie Mason signed off with her second century of the year in a season when she smashed the previous league record for aggregate runs. Her final tally this year was 752, easily beating Ali Cutler's previous mark of 583. She made two centuries and six half-centuries – Leigh were the only team to dismiss her for less than 64. Today, Mason was quickly into her stride, scoring 45 from an opening stand of 55 and remaining at the crease to finish this potentially challenging run chase with a raft of boundaries. Her near faultless innings here ended with her unbeaten on 122 from 118 deliveries, with 16 fours and two sixes. The number of sixes being hit in League competitions has risen dramatically this year, with Mason herself having cleared the ropes 15 times in nine league matches for Trinity. Emma Royle also starred for Trinity with the ball here, to take her season tally to 20 in league matches. Porthill were ultimately well beaten here but did secure the necessary points to ensure they stay in division one for another year. They recovered well after being reduced to 3-2, via a stand of 133 between Lauren Kenvyn and Matilda Gater.

Didsbury 183 (38; Roshini Prince-Navaratnam 95, Stacey Miles 25, Sophie Heaton 6-41) (25pts)
Leigh 84-5 (31; Heaton 33, Emma Capper 20, Hannah Marshall 2-0, Yukshee Tariq 2-6) (8pts)
(Didsbury won on faster scoring rate)

- Leigh's defeat here ensured that they finish bottom of the division and will be relegated to Division 2 for 2022 unless a league re-structure is agreed. Roshini Prince-Navaratnam narrowly missed out on a third century of the season – her final tally of 573 is more than respectable by any measure, even if it falls well short of Mason's total, indeed it would have been enough to top the list in almost any other season. The Didsbury captain finishes with two centuries and four half centuries on her 2021 record.

Oakmere 6-1 (3) (10pts)
Appleton dnb (9pts)

September 19:

Chester Boughton Hall 68 (26.2; Gemma Rose 12, Tilly Buss 12, Hope Longworth 3-12, Gaby Crabb 2-6, Emma Capper 2-12) (2pts)
Leigh 69-2 (18; Sophie Heaton 40*) (25pts)

- Champions Chester fell to defeat in their final match as Leigh claimed a notable scalp, following what for them has been a difficult season. Gemma Rose took one wicket to take her to 20 for the season, but the star performers here were Leigh's Hope Longworth and Sophie Heaton - the latter very much continuing her strong end to the season. Unless a regulation change is passed to expand the first division, Leigh will unfortunately be heading back to division two next year, after they finished bottom of the table by two points. Leigh ended up in seventh place despite having two wins to Porthill's one, and also experiencing just three 'no result' matches to Porthill's four. What swung things in favour of the Potteries club was that their average bonus points from their defeats was more than six, being especially good at picking up batting points. Meanwhile, Leigh averaged just four points from their seven losses.

Division Two – September 12:

Porthill Park 2nd XI 15 (16.5; Beth Hughes 5-1, Izzi Pearson 2-1) (0pts)
Nantwich 16-0 (3.2) (25pts)

- New Division 2 champions Nantwich signed off in incredible fashion, as Porthill seconds lost all of their first seven wickets with the score on four. Beth Hughes was the chief architect of this emphatic win. The highest score made against Nantwich in a league match this year was the 95 posted by Stockport Georgians – none of their opponents made it to three figures. Indeed, the individual score of 51 made by Gaby McKeever was higher than four of the team scores made against Nantwich this year.

Upton 92-8 (35; Lily Scudder 19, Liv Bell 3-19, Holly Batey 2-3) (5pts)
Stockport Georgians 96-4 (28.5; Bell 51*, Hannah McGowan 2-14, Sophie Morris 2-17) (25pts)

- Liv Bell anchored this successful run chase, having earlier taken three wickets to take her final tally of victims to 21 for the season.

Oxton (25pts) w/o Ashton-on-Mersey (minus 10pts)

September 19:

Upton 71 (18.2; Charlie Scudder 39, Luana Sims 3-2, Lauren Kenvyn 2-7) (25pts)
Porthill Park 2nd XI 52 (23.2; Sophie Morris 6-3, Hannah McGowan 2-14) (6pts)

- After back-to-back defeats, Upton finished with a win in this low scoring contest, where Charlie Scudder was the only player on either side to reach double figures. Even then, she was upstaged by a superb spell from Sophie Morris, whose six very cheap victims here took her season's tally to 23 wickets. Despite it not being a vintage summer, this result meant that none of the division two matches in 2021 fell victim to the weather - the same can also be said of division four, although here clubs were able to re-arrange fixtures. However, with almost one-quarter of their fixtures ending as 'no result', the first division clubs were not so fortunate.

Nantwich v Ashton-on-Mersey – not played on original date of August 8 due to Covid self-isolation issues and never re-arranged. Teams awarded their average points from completed matches for this fixture: Nantwich 22.89, Ashton-on-Mersey 4.89

Division Three West – September 12:

Wistaston Village 32 (19.5; Ffion Jones 4-2) (1pt)
Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI 33-2 (6.2; Emy Hewett 2-13) (25pts)

Chester Boughton Hall 2nd XI 85-6 (20; Eliza Harris 26, K Conroy 2-6) (15pts)
Nantwich 2nd XI 12-3 (8; Daisy Cooke 2-2) (11pts)

- Chester easily won the first of their double-header and were on the brink of winning the second when rain intervened – just two more overs would have been sufficient for a result. Chester seconds do, however, finish second in the division.

Division Four – September 12:

Lindow 2nd XI 92-6 (20; Rachel Hoyle 30, Rebecca Edmundson 2-17) (5pts)
Hawk Green 93-0 (18.4; Elspeth Headridge 32*, Jo Stephenson 25*) (25pts)

- Hawk Green signed off with a comfortable victory to ensure third place in the final standings.

Heaton Mersey & Cheadle v Lymm Oughtrington Park – Lymm unable to fulfil fixture on original date of June 20 and never re-arranged, awarded to HM & Cheadle (25/minus 10pts)

Although there will be no League Presentation Dinner this year, there will still be individual awards for the leading batsman, bowler, fielder and wicketkeeper in each division. A wicketkeeping award will only be presented where one or more 'keepers from a given division achieve at least three dismissals (catches & stumpings) during the course of the season. Clubs are urged to ensure that their Play Cricket scorecards are fully updated by September 28 to facilitate this awards process.

A message has been circulated to all club main representatives to canvas opinion as to how many league matches players would like to play in future seasons. This season there were 12 matches per club in Division 1, 10 in Division 2 and Division 3 East, nine in Division 3 West and eight in Division 4. Please send responses to me by the end of September.

As we start, as a league, to plan for 2022 and beyond, please be aware of the following dates for your diary:

- October 15 – deadline for any proposals for regulation changes which might have a fundamental impact on the number of teams competing in our league divisions next year. An example would be any proposal related to player eligibility for 2nd XIs
- Wednesday November 10 at 1930 – the Annual General Meeting. Likely to be held online, the business of this meeting will include:
 - Reports from League Officers
 - Applications from clubs wishing to join the League in divisions 1-4 (this includes any club currently playing softball cricket in Division 5 West or East that wishes to play in the hardball divisions for the first time)
 - Applications from existing league member clubs wishing to field a 2nd XI for the first time at any level between Division 1 and Division 4
 - Applications from existing league member clubs wishing to be promoted to a higher division for 2022 (at present only the Division 2 champions for 2021 will have an automatic right to be promoted)
 - Notification of clubs wishing to be voluntarily relegated (at present there is only automatic relegation from Division 1, and even that could be reversed if either the Division 2 champions decline the opportunity to be promoted, or the League agrees a suitable re-structure that would expand Division 1)
 - Election of League Officers. Nominations are welcome for any of the League Officer positions, but of particular interest here is that a new League Chair will definitely be required, with Sarah McCann intending to stand down from this role after more than a decade of sterling service to the League
- November 30 - deadline for any additional proposals for regulation changes
- Wednesday January 5 at 1930 – the Rules Meeting, where proposals for changes to league competition regulations will be debated and voted on. It is hoped to hold this meeting face-to-face at a League member club's ground

Division Five West (Pairs scoring):

Alvanley 355, Leigh 2nd XI 320

Division Five East (Pairs scoring):

Toft w/o Broadbottom
Toft 396, Broadbottom 322
Macclesfield 369, Stockport Georgians 3rd XI 365
Langley 2nd XI 356, Toft 284
Toft 387, North East Cheshire 369
North East Cheshire 336, Stockport Georgians 3rd XI 333
North East Cheshire 343, Toft 326
Toft w/o Stockport Georgians 3rd XI

- This all gives Langley the title, one point ahead of North East Cheshire

Player loans:

Nicola Deane – Hawarden Park to Leigh

Claire Anderton – Ashton-on-Mersey to Leigh

Freya Davies - Oxtou to Chester Boughton Hall

LEAGUE TABLES

| | Division 1 (FINAL) | P | w | l | a | c | BatP | BowIP | NRR | Pts |
|---|-----------------------------------|----|---|---|---|---|------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1 | <u>Chester Boughton Hall</u> (CH) | 12 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0.78 | 237 |
| 2 | <u>Didsbury</u> | 12 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 0.55 | 212 |
| 3 | <u>Oakmere</u> | 12 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 0.39 | 184 |
| 4 | <u>Stockport Trinity</u> | 12 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 24 | 18 | 0.29 | 158 |
| 5 | <u>Appleton</u> | 12 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 12 | -0.08 | 155 |
| 6 | <u>Porthill Park</u> | 12 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 30 | 17 | -0.62 | 104 |
| 7 | <u>Leigh</u> (REL) | 12 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 14 | -1.76 | 102 |

| Division 2 (FINAL) | | P | w | wcn | l | lcn | c | BatP | BowlP | NRR | Pts |
|--------------------|---|----|---|-----|---|-----|----|------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1 | <u>Nantwich</u> (CH) | 10 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1* | 1 | 5 | 2.25 | 228.89 |
| 2 | <u>Stockport Georgians</u> | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 9 | 0.75 | 171 |
| 3 | <u>Upton</u> | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 0.58 | 170 |
| 4 | <u>Oxton</u> | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 14 | -0.5 | 146 |
| 5 | <u>Porthill Park</u> 2 nd XI | 10 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 12 | -1.28 | 90 |
| 6 | <u>Ashton-on-Mersey</u> | 10 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 1* | 10 | 19 | -2.43 | 48.89 |

*- Nantwich v Ashton-on-Mersey – not played on original date of August 8 due to Covid self-isolation issues and never re-arranged. Teams awarded their average points from completed matches for this fixture: Nantwich 22.89, Ashton-on-Mersey 4.89

| Division 3 West | | P | w | wcn | l | lcn | a | c | BatP | BowlP | NRR | Pts |
|-----------------|---|---|---|-----|---|-----|---|---|------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1 | <u>Hawarden Park</u> (CH) | 9 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 3 | 1.63 | 179 |
| 2 | <u>Chester Boughton Hall</u> 2 nd XI | 8 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 1.57 | 131 |
| 3 | <u>Nantwich</u> 2 nd XI | 9 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 10 | -0.64 | 126 |
| 4 | <u>Wistaston Village</u> | 8 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 8 | -2.81 | 16 |

| | Division 3 East | P | w | wcn | l | lcn | a | c | BatP | BowIP | NRR | Pts |
|---|------------------------------------|----|---|-----|---|-----|---|---|------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1 | <u>Woodley</u> (CH) | 10 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1.02 | 213 |
| 2 | <u>Lindow</u> | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 10 | 0.37 | 167 |
| 3 | <u>Hayfield</u> | 9 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 19 | -0.01 | 135 |
| 4 | <u>Didsbury</u> 2 nd XI | 9 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 20 | -0.19 | 97 |
| 5 | <u>Langley</u> | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | -4.17 | -3 |

(Langley will not be fulfilling any more fixtures)

| | Division 4 (FINAL) | P | w | wcn | l | lcn | t | BatP | BowIP | NRR | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|-----|---|-----|---|------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1 | <u>Stockport Georgians</u> 2 nd XI | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.12 | 190 |
| 2 | Heaton Mersey & <u>Cheadle</u> | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 9 | 0.12 | 126 |
| 3 | <u>Hawk Green</u> | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 8 | -0.44 | 124 |
| 4 | <u>Lindow</u> 2 nd XI | 8 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 3 | -0.5 | 88 |
| 5 | <u>Lymm Oughtrington Park</u> | 8 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 12 | -0.27 | 64 |

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy - Selected Results – September 10:

Thunder 110 (32.5; Kate Cross 57, Tara Norris 4-14, Paige Scholfield 3-16, Lauren Bell 2-33)
Southern Vipers 112-7 (33.5; Ella McCaughan 41, Emily Windsor 26*, Hannah Jones 2-9, Alex Hartley 2-28, Cross 2-34)

- The fancy dress wearing members of the Barmy Army who made the short trip to Sale from Old Trafford following the cancellation of the Test Match were not rewarded by seeing a Thunder victory, although the local team's bowling attack once again made a valiant effort to defend the low total.
- Oxton's Allyson Byrne provided the expert summaries on the Lancashire Cricket YouTube coverage and the BBC online audio. This follows Sarah McCann's appearance in the same role at a Thunder match earlier in the season. Read more [here](#) about Michael Perkins' initiative to increase the number of women commentators across the sport.

Sunrisers 204-7 (42; Cordelia Griffith 69, Lissy MacLeod 46, Grace Scrivens 26, Ria Fackrell 3-30, Evelyn Jones 2-31)
Central Sparks 208-4 (37.2; Marie Kelly 58, Gwenan Davies 50, Jones 31, Thea Brookes 22*, Davina Perrin 20)

- What looked like a stiff target in this rain reduced match actually proved to be well within the reach of the Midlands team.

September 12:

Northern Diamonds 294-6 (50; Bess Heath 78*, Beth Langston 58*, Steere Kallis 57, Ami Campbell 48, Rachel Hopkins 20, Alex Hartley 2-57)
Thunder 189-8 (50; Georgie Boyce 67, Laura Marshall 42, Laura Jackson 22, Katie Levick 4-34, Hollie Armitage 2-32)

- Beth Langston's unbeaten 58 from 30 deliveries provided the final flourish and took Diamonds to a total that proved well beyond reach.

Central Sparks 229 (49.1; Davina Perrin 43, Evelyn Jones 39, Thea Brookes 33, Marie Kelly 24, Emily Arlott 20*, Ryana MacDonald-Gay 2-31, Alice Davidson-Richards 2-40, Bryony Smith 2-40)
South East Stars 114 (31.3; Alice Capsey 26, Gwenan Davies 4-26, Ria Fackrell 3-20)

- Stars completely collapsed from 87-3 to hand Central Sparks an important win.

September 18:

Lightning 320-6 (50; Kathryn Bryce 162, Sarah Bryce 90, Issy Wong 3-61)
Central Sparks 296-9 (50; Marie Kelly 62, Evelyn Jones 60, Gwenan Davies 41, Chloe Hill 34*, Davina Perrin 28, Thea Brookes 24, Sonia Odedra 2-56, Kirstie Gordon 2-57, Grace Ballinger 2-60)

- Despite falling short in this run spree, Sparks finished third in the table and secured a place in Wednesday's eliminator. The Bryce sisters added more than 200 runs for the Lightning's second wicket, overshadowing a century opening stand for Sparks in reply.

Thunder 185 (47; Ellie Threlkeld 70*, Georgie Boyce 20, Dani Gregory 2-23, Alice Capsey 2-32)
South East Stars 130 (35; Kalea Moore 35, Hannah Jones 5-33, Alex Hartley 2-17)

- A winning end for Thunder, with a spectacular spell from Hannah Jones ensuring she finishes as equal second top wicket taker in the group stage.