

Cureton hits 119 as Chester smash record for a successful chase ... Oakmere go top after an impressive show against Chester and Appleton ... Nantiwch now the last unbeaten team in division 2, while Matthews hat-trick keeps AOM in contention ... Didsbury into northern T20 final again ... League Committee meeting now on June 26

CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Division One - May 26:

Oakmere 144 (35; Hayley Coutts 61, Molly Price 3-14, Ali Cutler 2-19, Gemma Rose 2-37) (25pts)
Chester Boughton Hall 83 (38; Megan Cureton 36, Dawn Prestidge 2-10, Jane Tarpey 2-11, Leah Holland 2-16) (7pts)

After their opening day defeat to Porthill Park, Oakmere recorded victory here in another match that demonstrated
their enviable range of high-quality bowling options, which is one of the main reasons that the Northwich club
landed the Championship crown in each of the last two seasons. Jane Tarpey in particular is one Oakmere bowler
who has made a fine start to the season. A career best knock from Hayley Coutts also played a part in this win
which continued Chester's difficult start to the season.

June 2:

Stockport Trinity 214-5 (40; Carys White 70, Charlotte Peacock 43, Sarah McCann 35, Gaby McKeever 20, Gemma Rose 2-37) (6pts)

Chester Boughton Hall 215-2 (40; Megan Cureton 119, Nicole Fisher 47*) (25pts)

• This was the first win of 2019 in any competition for Chester's first team (other than a win by forfeit in the Cheshire & Lancashire T20) and what a way to do it! After the highest of Megan Cureton's two career centuries to date, Nicole Fisher was at the crease to finish the job off the final ball. The second innings total of 215 smashes the previous record for a successful run chase in any division of the league, which was held by Stockport Trinity themselves at 190. After this incredible match, it's also probably no consolation for Trinity that they have now posted the two highest losing scores in league history, as they also scored 214 when losing to Oakmere by nine runs in 2012.

Appleton 103-8 (40; Eloise Jackson 32, Sami Fowler 21*, Lucy Neil 2-8, Vicky Heaton 2-16) (5pts) Oakmere 104-3 (20.2; Dawn Prestidge 63, Kate Skelhorn 29*, Becca Othick 2-24) (25pts)

 After an opening day defeat, Oakmere have certainly been in the sort of form that suggests a third successive league title could be on the cards. Here they moved into pole position – even if unbeaten Porthill Park still have a game in hand – by reaching their target in little more than half the available overs.

Division Two - May 26:

Leigh 122-9 (35; Daisy Mullan 32, Madi Arthur 3-16, Gemma Black 2-21, Ellen McGowan 2-26) (25pts) Upton 58 (26.2; Charlie Scudder 19, Gaby Crabb 4-12, Isabelle Blamires 2-6, Louisa Reffell 2-8) (6pts)

 Leigh were runners up in division two last year, but once again illustrated that they are likely to be strong contenders to go one better this year.

Ashton-on-Mersey v Stockport Georgians - Cancelled due to rain, 8pts each

June 2:

Leigh 115 (33; Ellie Davey 42, Millie Welch 22, Samiya Rahman 21, Jordi Matthews 5-22, Sarah Sutcliffe 2-10, Rachel Mann 2-21) (7pts)

Ashton-on-Mersey 116-6 (31; Becky Baldock 37*, Rahman 2-20) (25pts)

• Jordi Matthews has been a more than useful addition to the AOM team this year, and here she not only took five wickets but also claimed a hat-trick of Leigh's late middle order as they looked to post a competitive target. The victors were grateful to Becky Baldock for making the only significant score of the reply to lead her side to a win that ends Leigh's unbeaten start in this division.

Nantwich 143-5 (35; Madi Hudson 52, Morganne Prince 31) (25pts)
Stockport Georgians 47 (24.5; Amelia Brereton 14*, Kelsey Barker 4-11, Caitlin Davis 2-1, Carolyn MacLeod 2-6) (3pts)

 Nantwich are now the last unbeaten team in division two, and here they maintained that status with another impressive showing Upton 157-6 (35; Madi Arthur 58*, Charlie Scudder 51, Jen Regan 2-16, Anna Bourne 2-19, Christine Lawson 2-32) (25pts) Wistaston Village 132-7 (35; Regan 56, Toyin Higgins 24, Lawson 21, Lily Scudder 3-16, Gemma Black 2-18) (8pts)

After two individual half centuries in the first innings, Upton completed this win by bowling tightly, so that Wistaston
were just faced with too stiff a run rate, and indeed the Crewe-based club suffered something of a collapse in the
final stages of their chase.

(Corrected information from May 19):

Nantwich 151-6 (35; Bethan Robinson 36, Morganne Prince 30, Sophie Winward 20*, Olivia Teasdale 2-24) (25pts) Ashton-on-Mersey 117-9 (35; Amanda Gettins 30, Charlotte Williams 24, Prince 3-12, Caitlin Davis 2-30) (7pts)

Division Three - May 26:

Hawarden Park 176-4 (30; Rachel Warrenger 60 ret out, Nicola Deane 55 ret out) (25pts)
Didsbury 2nd XI 104-6 (30; Rosie Wilson 34*) (4pts)
(Two Hawarden wickets were Retired Out so Didsbury do not receive bowling points for these wickets)

 By the evidence of their opening matches, Hawarden could be strong contenders for division three, as here Rachel Warrenger and Nicky Deane made it back-to-back half centuries

June 2:

Didsbury 2nd XI (25pts) w/o Hawarden Park (minus 10pts)

Player loans:

Sally Steele – Nantwich to Chester Boughton Hall Tessie Nickson – Oxton to Chester Boughton Hall

The next meeting of the League Committee will now take place on Wednesday June 26 at 1930 with the venue to be confirmed. Due to a variety of reasons it will now no longer be possible to hold this meeting on June 5. The League's ECB grant has been reduced this year, but it will still be possible to consider Small Grants applications from clubs at this meeting. £200 will be available to clubs with one team and £300 to those with two senior women's teams to assist with the costs of running the women's team, subject to:

- A representative of the club having attended all of the previous three meetings, and the meeting in June, and
- The club having a full scorecard on Play Cricket for all of its 2018 women's home matches

NATIONAL KNOCKOUT

Northern Region Semi-Final - June 2:

Doncaster Town 84-6 (20; Lesley Tew 43*) Didsbury 61-0 (6; Roshini Prince-Navaratnam 35*, Leesa Mellon 14*) (Didsbury's revised Duckworth-Lewis-Stern target was 60 in 13 overs)

• For the second year in succession, Didsbury are through to the northern regional final (the last eight nationally) of the National T20, and just like last year's regional final, they face a trip to Yorkshire club Sessay, with the match scheduled for June 16. The winners progress to the national Finals' Day on June 30 when the semi-finals and final will be played. Sessay won last year's match by just three runs, so is more drama in store in a fortnight? In this semi-final, Didsbury raced to their revised target in hugely impressive fashion.

T20 DIVISIONAL COMPETITION

Western Division - May 20:

Nantwich Vipers 93-6 (20; Emily Clamp 26ret, Sophie Winward 25ret, Abbey Gore 4-20, Jess Lewis 2-24) Appleton Tigers 94-5 (20; Holly McCurrie 25ret, Eloise Jackson 25ret)

Possibly the match of the season so far – in T20 at least - as Nantwich were denied by Appleton off the final ball, but the fact that they pushed the holders so close is more evidence of the rapid strides being made by the Vipers. Although Abbey Gore and Jess Lewis took a number of cheap wickets, Nantwich's number one, number three and number six all reached the retirement score to ensure a testing total was posted. Appleton got off to a good start with unbeaten 25s from two of their top three, but wickets began falling and they only just sneaked over the line.

Chester Boughton Hall Deemons 83-8 (20; Seren Smale 18, Jane Tarpey 2-6, Kate Skelhorn 2-14) Oakmere Kats 85-1 (13; Rachel Warrenger 28ret, Hayley Coutts 23)

 None of Chester's line up reached the retirement score, which hampered their efforts to post a competitive total, however with Oakmere chasing down the Chester score with seven overs to go, they suggested that they could have scored more had they needed to.

Eastern Division - May 20:

Didsbury Swordettes 145-3 (20; Nalisha Patel 28ret, Laura Griffiths 26ret, Hannah Jones 25ret, Georgie Morton 2-35) Woodley 27 (12.4; Jones 5-3)

A resounding win for Didsbury as they kicked off their campaign, seeking to top their regional division and reach the
final of this competition for the first time. Hannah Jones followed her unbeaten 25 with a fantastic bowling spell, and
was undoubtedly the star of the show, and the top scorer in the first innings was Nalisha Patel, a talented player
making a return to the league after previously catching the eye in the former Astley Bridge/Bolton Indians team.

May 22:

Stockport Georgians 68 (19.3; Becky Scholes 18, Kat Axon 4-14, Freya Jones 3-5) Marple 53 (14.3; Axon 28, Beth Garnett 5-14, Amelia Brereton 3-12)

Georgians had to dig deep to pull this one out of the bag, especially after Kat Axon ripped through their top order at
the start of the match. Axon then went on to score more than 50% of Marple's runs, but Georgians' main
matchwinner was Beth Garnett, who went one better than Axon to become the second bowler to take a five-wicket
haul in this competition this year. Marple were well ahead of the required rate but crucially failed to use the last five
and a half overs.

May 28:

Stockport Trinity Fire 121-4 (20; Sarah McCann 25ret, Emma Royle 25ret, Gaby McKeever 22, Gillian Spragg 20*, Vicki Dean 2-16)

Ashton-on-Mersey 56-8 (Claire Anderton 16, Royle 2-6, Spragg 2-10)

• Last year's Eastern division champions, and overall runners-up, were also in fine form here at the start of their T20 campaign

Matches in this competition and the knockout cups involve each side bowling 10 overs from one end followed by 10 from the other. The League's Umpires & Scorers representative John Bone recommends that, in order to further reduce the length of matches, an umpire should stay put at the bowler's end for 10 overs and only swap with their colleague when the bowling end changes.

LEAGUE TABLES

	Points	Matches To Play		Points	Matches To Play
Division 1			Division 2		
Oakmere Porthill Park Appleton Chester BH Didsbury Stockport Trinity	58 50 38 33 25 14	7 8 7 7 9 8	Ashton-on-Mersey Nantwich Leigh Upton Stockport Georgians Oxton Appleton 2 nd XI Wistaston Village	90 83 82 67 40 37 25 20	9 10 10 9 10 11 10
Division 3			Division 4		
Hawarden Park Marple Didsbury 2 nd XI Woodley Lymm OP	40 30 29 25 1	9 10 10 11 10	Chester BH 2 nd XI Marple 2 nd XI Heaton Mersey & Cheadle Lindow	25 25 10 0	8 8 7 9

T20 Western Division			T20 Eastern Division		
	Poin	ts Matches To Play		Points	Matches To Play
Oakmere Kats	3	4	Didsbury Swordettes	3	5
Appleton Tigers	3	4	Stockport Trinity Fire	3	5
Nantwich Vipers	0	4	Stockport Georgians	3	5
Chester BH Deemons	0	4	Marple .	0	5
Wistaston Swans	0	5	Ashton-on-Mersey	0	5
			Woodley	0	5