

CHESHIRE WOMEN'S LEAGUE (SENIOR)**Appleton 111, Cheshire Women's League XII 112-2.
League XII won by eight wickets**

For the first time in the three years of this pre-season challenge, the League's representative team triumphed over the champion club.

The League XII's decision to open the bowling with spinners Gillian Spragg and Amanda Gettins paid instant dividends, with both taking wickets in the first three overs. Appleton put together a third-wicket stand of 51 between Raffaella Rodighiero (27) and Emma Barlow (22), but this would be their only significant partnership.

Thereafter, save for some late impetus from Chloe Page and Jen Regan, Appleton struggled in the difficult batting conditions. Gettins finished with 3-17 from eight overs, and her Trafford club colleague Rachel Glover impressed with 1-11 in seven. Spragg and Charlotte Thompson each claimed two scalps.

Captain Helen Smith and Sarah Sutcliffe quickly took the game away from the hosts by powering to 52 in 12 overs. Appleton battled hard though once Sutcliffe had fallen to Natalie Lyons for 25, and the next ten overs yielded only 16 runs.

Smith's fluent innings ended six short of a half century, but her knock is still the record score in the short history of the League's representative team. Sal Cowap (21*) and Shami Ahmed (15*) completed a comfortable victory.

Although they bowled a little too short early on, there was much for Appleton to be proud of against a very strong League team. They restricted the wides count to three and fielded excellently, until an aberration near the end, when a boundary overthrow resulted in the rarity of a batsman scoring seven from one delivery.

Cheshire League XII: Helen Smith (Oakmere, captain), Amanda Gettins (Trafford MV, vice-captain), Sarah McCann (Trinity, wicketkeeper), Leesa Mellon (Hyde), Shami Ahmed (Oakmere), Georgie Bingham, Charlotte Thompson, Sal Cowap (all Chester BH), Hannah Marsden, Sarah Sutcliffe (both Romiley & Dinting), Gillian Spragg (Trinity), Rachel Glover (Trafford MV).

Scorecard: <http://cheshirewomenscl.play-cricket.com/scoreboard/scorecard.asp?id=11421122>

Appleton's title defence began with a match against Romiley & Dinting that was cancelled due to an unfit ground. Both sides receive 8 points. This was the only scheduled match on Sunday April 22, as the key clash between Chester Boughton Hall and Oakmere was re-arranged prior to the commencement of the season and will now be played on Jubilee Bank Holiday Tuesday, June 5.

Chris Moore has now distributed results sheets to all main club representatives. Please ensure that the guidelines on his email and in the last Dazzler are followed. Note the bonus points system described on the League results sheet is for division 1 & 2, for division 3 please refer to league regulations document.

Neston have unfortunately been forced to withdraw from Division 2, although they remain in the cup competitions. With the season under way it is too late to re-organise the league as a result. In view of this news, clubs are reminded of this regulation in the 'Player Eligibility' section, it may be of particular interest to any club intending to use a Neston player in division 1, 2 or 3:

"A player wishing to represent a different club in the CWCL's cup competitions from that which they represent in the league must register their intentions with the League Committee prior to playing their first match of the season for the second club they wish to represent."

For clarification, the league referred to as the 'Northern League' in the division 1 & 2 regulations (see the section entitled Player Eligibility) is now also known as the 'Yorkshire League' or the 'White Rose League', even though there is one club in that league from outside Yorkshire.

Club representatives are urged to return the Clubs Questionnaire to me. The responses will allow the League's Development sub-committee to focus its attentions on the key issues currently affecting league member clubs.

KNOCKOUT CUP

As a result of the competition withdrawals, we can confirm one quarter-final as Trinity Fire v Romiley & Dinting (provisionally Wednesday May 23). Three remaining Round One fixtures to be played are listed below.

CHESHIRE SENIORS

Chris Moore has been appointed as the new manager of Cheshire Women's CCC. The full list of club officers for the 2012 season is:

Management Committee:

Chair – Helen Smith

Secretary/Treasurer – Jennie Kitzinger

Press Officer/Fixture Secretary – Martin Saxon

Welfare Officer – Hayley Agnew

Consultants to the Committee – Sarah McCann & Tony Hutter

Playing Committee:

Manager – Chris Moore

Coach – Alex Blake

Captain – Jenny Halstead

Assistant Coach/Vice-Captain- Dawn Prestidge

CHESHIRE SENIORS continued

Cheshire's 2012 fixtures, with the Worcestershire venue updated are:

May	6	Warwickshire	Warrington Barnards Green
June	27	Worcestershire	
	3	Staffordshire	Warrington
	4	Devon	Warrington
July	14	Lancashire	Blackpool
	15	Netherlands	Warrington
	22	Durham	Warrington
August	5	Wales	Lisvane

First round of play-offs is Sunday August 26. This will involve the division winners playing the runners-up, and the second bottom-placed team playing the bottom team. The county that finishes higher in the regular season shall have home advantage, unless the Netherlands finish higher.

The second round of play-offs is Sunday September 2, with the loser of each of the play-off matches between the bottom two playing the winner of the match between the top two from the division below. These matches will be played at venues to be chosen by the ECB.

The Twenty20 Championship, with Cheshire now in North & Midlands Division Three, will be played on Monday & Tuesday July 30 & 31 at Stocksfield in Northumberland. Cumbria, Durham and Netherlands will provide the opposition. Owing to the distance to travel, Cheshire anticipate travelling on the Sunday – this information may be of particular interest to any club seeking to re-arrange a league fixture for that date.

Cheshire's big kick off is a week Sunday, May 6, against Warwickshire, which marks Jenny Halstead's first match as Cheshire captain and is likely to represent one of the toughest tests of the season. All support is very welcome at all Cheshire fixtures, but the Committee extends a particular invitation to attend this match to all CWCL club players and representatives. Five different league clubs are likely to be represented in the Cheshire team. Bar open all day and food will be served.

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OTHER NEWS

A new Google+ page dedicated to Women's cricket – your chance to upload pictures / images / match results / general posts about Women's cricket

<https://plus.google.com/112524550135618389413>

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Sunday April 29

Cheshire Women's League Division One (1330):
Oakmere v Appleton, Trafford MV v Chester Boughton Hall
Division Two (1330): Hyde v Trinity

Monday April 30

Knockout Cup Round One: Trafford MV v Bolton Indians,
Hawarden Park v Neston Lions

Sunday May 6

LV ECB Women's County Championship Division Two (1100): Cheshire v Warwickshire (at Warrington)

T20 Divisional Competition Western Division: Neston Lions v Oakmere Kats

Knockout Cup Round One: Hyde v Chester Boughton Hall Deemons

Monday May 7

T20 Divisional Competition Western Division: Appleton Tigers v Hawarden Park, Oxton v Hope Hawks
Eastern Division: Trafford MV v Romiley & Dinting