



Cheshire County Cricket Club

Mid-season Review, July 2018

As ever, it's been an eventful first half of the season for Cheshire CCC.

With the increased amount of cricket scheduled for 2018 (the 1st XI could play 27 days across the summer), we had a rethink about how best to approach a busy year.

Recognising the amount of specialist one day cricket we'd be playing, we took the (for us) unusual step of appointing two captains – one for our three-day Unicorns Championship matches and for the one-day competitions.

The revamped one-day programme saw the reintroduction of the Unicorns T20 competition, something we won spectacularly in 2015, its inaugural year. The KO Trophy became a straight knock-out tournament.

We were delighted that the experienced Danny Leech agreed to take charge of the three-day team with Rick Moore at the helm for the one-day games.

And we've enjoyed a fair amount of success to date.

Rick has led us to both the KO Trophy Final and Finals Day in the T20 Cup. We look forward to two days at Wormsley in late August.

Danny has seen considerable progress in the Championship with the emergence of some excellent new talent and at the time of writing we sit halfway in the table.

Our Academy side meantime led admirably again by Stuart Macleod continues to give youngsters a taste of cricket at a higher level.

As ever, our hard-working committee continues to support us superbly. It can be a tough job arranging sponsorship, finance, communications and the like – never mind arranging grounds and players.

Thank you to all concerned, to the Cheshire Cricket Board too and to our sponsors and supporters. I look forward to the remainder of the season and two Wormsley finals where I hope we'll have as many supporters as possible.

David Bailey, Chairman Cheshire County Cricket Club

Mixed fortunes in the Championship...

Shropshire CCC v Cheshire CCC at Shifnal CC, 24,25,26 June 2018

Shropshire 276 and 325 beat Cheshire 346 and 89. Shropshire won by 166 runs.

In a great position to push for victory, Cheshire folded to a 166 run defeat in their opening game. With the hard work done, Cheshire were set 256 to win but surrendered to 89 all out.

Cheshire fielded five debutants (Furqan Shafiq, Sam Perry, Gaz Burns, Ben Aitchison, Chris Charles) and pegged Shropshire back to 276 (Wayne White 4-59). Cheshire grabbed a 70 run lead with Simon Normanton (91) and Perry (71) adding 149 for the seventh wicket. This after Shafiq had hit a maiden 50. But it all went wrong for Cheshire chasing 256.

Wales MC v Cheshire CCC at Abergavenny CC, 8,9,10 July 2018

Cheshire 415-7 & 243-6 dec, Wales MC 160 & 331-8. Match drawn

Cheshire ruled the roost needing eight wickets on the last day as the game went to the wire.

They piled on 415-7 with Furqan Shafiq scoring his maiden Cheshire 100, Danny Leech made 65 and Will Evans added a flamboyant 73. A wilting Welsh side fell to 24-6 scraping eventually to 160 (Ben Aitchison 4-34, Wayne White 3-40).

243-6 declared included 98 from Callum Rowe and set Wales MC an unlikely 499. But they dug deep against some excellent bowling from White who managed 53 overs in the game, and from Normanton (3-109). Cheshire couldn't force the win Wales MC ending eight down.

Cheshire CCC v Dorset CCC at Nantwich CC, 22,23,24 July 2018

Cheshire 375-7, Dorset 211 & 312-8. Match drawn

Recalled left armer Danny Woods had an instant impact grabbing match figures of 9-182.

Danny Leech's finely crafted 112 and Furqan Shafiq classy 63 set a platform for big hitting Will Evans to blast 71 and Simon Normanton (37*) to build a commanding 375-7.

Cheshire then reduced Dorset to 211 (Woods 4-66, Wayne White 3-47, Chris Charles 3-50).

Leech enforced the follow-on with Dorset 164 behind but were thwarted as the visitors saw through a rain affected last day, Woods taking 5-116.

Cheshire's Danny Leech, Danny Woods and Furqan Shafiq...



KO Final and T20 Finals Day at Wormsley...

Instant impact for Rick Moore in two one-day competitions



As well as being in great form with bat and ball, Rick Moore has led his Cheshire one-day side to a KO Trophy Final against Devon at Wormsley CC (Sunday 26 August) and T20 Finals Day at the same venue on Wednesday 29 August.

The season started with T20 double headers at Toft, where Cheshire easily disposed of Cumberland in both games and Knypersley where they lost and won one. In the runs were Will Evans (59), Ed Fluck (58*), Wayne White (53). Jack White, Simon Normanton and Nick Anderson shone with the ball.

A loss and defeat followed against in low scoring games with Northumberland at Marple. Martyn East hit 39, Ash Davis conceded just six runs from four overs and Mark Bennet grabbed 2-28.

Lincolnshire at Bourne also saw a win and defeat. Wayne White made 61, Anderson 44, Jack White and Luke Robinson got wickets. An agonising wait followed before Cheshire were confirmed group winners and play on Finals Day against Norfolk (winner plays Devon or Berkshire in the final).

Cheshire's Wayne White and Will Evans – inspirational throughout the one-day campaign



50 over game sees wins against Cumberland, Lincolnshire and Shropshire

A close call to start at Oxton where Cheshire got home by three runs against Cumberland. Rick Moore made 81, Wayne White 49 in 219-7. Ross Dixon (4-40) and Simon and Normanton (1-39) put the brakes on the visitor's charge.

A hugely entertaining quarter final at Chester Boughton Hall saw Will Evans smash Cheshire records with a stunning 183 (nine sixes and 14 fours) – an individual record and a team record with a 374-6 total. Luke Robinson took 3-41 as Cheshire romped home by 129 runs.

Semi final day at Bridgnorth was one-sided as Cheshire amassed 254-9 (Moore 69, Normanton 39) having been 81-5. Jack White (4-29), Jack Williams (3-40) and Normanton (2-41) swept up in a 123 run win.

Onwards to two finals – and a logistical nightmare of two games across a week..

Full match scorecards and reports for all games at cheshireccc.org



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Unicorns Counties T20 Trophy 2018 ('double headers' in group stages)				
6 May	Cumberland (H)	Toft CC	W/W	Cheshire 4 points, Cumberland 0 points
7 May	Staffordshire (A)	Knypersley CC	L/W	Staffs 2 points, Cheshire 2 points
3 June	Northumberland (H)	Marple CC	L/W	Cheshire 2 points, N'land 2 points
17 June	Lincolnshire (A)	Bourne CC	W/L	Cheshire 2 points, Lincs 2 points
26/27 Aug	Finals day	Wormsley CC		SF: Cheshire v Norfolk, Devon v Berks
Unicorns Counties KO Trophy 2018 (50 overs – 11.00am start)				
20 May	Cumberland (H)	Oxton CC	W	Cheshire won by 3 runs
10 June	Lincolnshire	Chester BH CC	W	Cheshire won by 129 runs
1 July	Shropshire (SF)	Bridgnorth CC	W	Cheshire won by 123 runs
29/30 Aug	Devon (F)	Wormsley CC		
Unicorns Counties Championship Western Division 2018 (11.00am start)				
24-26 June	Shropshire (A)	Shifnal CC	L	Shropshire won by 166 runs
8-10 July	Wales MC (A)	Abergavenny CC	D	Match drawn
22-24 July	Dorset (H)	Nantwich CC	D	Match drawn
5-7 Aug	Cornwall (A)	Truro CC		
19-21 Aug	Berkshire (H)	Chester BH CC		
2-4 Sep	Herefordshire (H)	Alderley Edge CC		
16-19 Sep	Finals Day	Wormsley CC		
Cheshire CCC Academy 2018, 11.00am (*11.30am)				
1 July	Shropshire Dev (A)	Wrekin College		
9 July	Yorkshire Acc (A)	Treeton CC		
10 July	MCC (H)*	Bowdon CC		
12 July	Warwicks Acc (A)	Kenilworth CC	L	Warwicks Acc won by 254 runs
19 July	D.Vengsarker Acc (H)	New Brighton CC		
31 July	Staffs Dev (A)	Knypersley CC		
14 Aug	Zimbabwe Stars (H)	Bramhall CC		
4 Sep	Lancashire Acc (H)	Urmston CC		

Western Division Table 24 July 2018					
	P	W	D/A	L	P
Berkshire	3	3	0	0	70
Shropshire	3	2	0	1	52
Oxfordshire	3	2	1	0	50
Herefordshire	3	2	0	1	48
Cornwall	3	1	1	1	35
Cheshire	3	0	2	1	32
Dorset	3	1	1	1	32
Devon	3	0	1	2	22
Wiltshire	3	0	1	2	20
Wales MC	3	0	1	2	19

Cheshire CCC Membership 2018
Life (u50) £150, (o50) £120
Full (u60) £15 Full (o60) £10, Juniors £4
John Petch 07580 964747

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