

Sale 2nd XI stole a march on the other sides in division one of the Cheshire County league on Saturday as they were the only team to complete their game as rain once again curtailed the action. A 115 run win at wooden spoonists Davenham saw Sale move back into the promotion places. With so many games cancelled IS Recruitment sponsored Sale were pleasantly surprised to start only an hour late at Davenham, but had to win the hard way batting first after losing the toss. Openers Rob Grant and Ben Watkin got Sale off to a flying start, Watkin adding 30 off 38 balls before he was first man out with the score on 62. Mike Bishop then joined Grant as they maintained the scoring rate in a stand of 143 for the second wicket. Grant was next to go, 6 runs short of a deserved century. His 94 coming off 91 balls as he put Sale in the driving seat. Bishop was left not out on 62 at Sale declared on 206-2 off 29.5 overs. With only one win this season Davenham were soon under pressure as Saad Khan and Rich Adams took early wickets. Watkin and Grant then got into the action with the ball as they ran through the Davenham batting order with their twin spin attack, Grant with 3-28 and Watkin 3-25 as the home side were bowled out for 91 in the 25th over. The reverse fixture for the 1st XI's at Dane Road was cancelled without a ball being bowled. On Sunday Sale 3rd XI achieved an equally significant win as they moved into top spot in the Sunday Premier division, albeit having played one more game than second placed Didsbury. After winning the toss they asked Heaton Mersey to bat first at Dane Road and found themselves chasing a challenging total of 184-7 off 45 overs. Leg spinner Joe Cannon was top wicket taker with 4-52 as Gautam Narayanan hit 95 for the visitors. In replay Sale timed their reply perfectly. Dattu Vadakutte (22) and Jamie Coombes (19) built a platform as Sale reached 50-2. Despite losing a couple of partners cheaply experienced Asad Khan kept his head as he added 85 for the 5th wicket. When he was out for 58 Sale still needed 31 runs to win, enter son Saad to see Sale home with 17 not out off 18 balls. Cannon finishing 36 not out as Sale secured 25 points. On Saturday Sale 1st XI visit Congleton and the 2nd XI host Upton, on Sunday Sale 3rd XI visit Toft.