



THE CHESHIRE COUNTY KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS 2023



Competitions Secretary
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Dear Cheshire Clubs,

Entries are now being accepted for the Cheshire Cup and Cheshire Shield knockout competitions for 2023. In 2022, 30 clubs entered the Cup and 24 entered the Shield. The cup was won by Nantwich who beat Birkenhead Park in the Final. The Shield was won by Romiley who beat Mobberley in a close and exciting Final. Both Finals were well supported with large crowds enjoying the matches.

The closing date for entries for both competitions is **FRIDAY MARCH 3RD.**

The eligibility criteria as follows:

The **Cheshire Cup** is open to all clubs in Cheshire. The **Cheshire Shield** is not open to clubs in the Premier Division or First Divisions of the following Leagues:

- Cheshire County League
- Liverpool Competition
- North Staffs and South Cheshire League

In an attempt to encourage more lower league clubs to enter the Cheshire Cup this season, any teams competing outside the top two divisions of the above leagues who enter the Cheshire Cup but are knocked out in Round 1 (or Round 2 if they received a bye in Round 1) will automatically be entered into Round 1 of the Cheshire Shield.

Both competitions will be 40 overs per side played in white clothing with a red ball in 2023. A switch to coloured clothing in future in the Cheshire Cup is being considered, with either a white ball or pink (white is considered to be better quality than pink but that requires black sightscreens which few clubs have at the moment). Until the availability of black sightscreens is more widespread a pink ball will be considered for 2024 - it is thought the quality of some pink balls is improving. Clubs will be consulted on this in the autumn of 2023 to gauge opinion on switching to coloured clothing/ pink ball for 2024.

As per last year, clubs can confirm their entries online via the following links:

Cheshire Cup: <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/3lqs10>

Cheshire Shield: <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/3lqs1p>

Entry is free as we wish to encourage all affiliated clubs to participate in either the Cup or Shield. However, if a club fails to honour a fixture there will be a fine of £50 which must be paid by the club to the Cheshire Clubs' Cricket Committee before the end of the season. To assist clubs with planning their diaries, the provisional dates for the Cheshire Cup and Shield are as follows:

Cheshire Cup		Cheshire Shield
May 21	Round 1	June 18
June 11	Round 2	July 9
July 2	Round 3	July 23
August 6	Semi Final	August 13
September 3	Final	August 27

The provisional Cheshire Cup dates above were chosen to avoid Cheshire CCC fixture dates, the first three rounds of the National Knockout Cup and County League T20 Finals Day as far as possible. For clubs progressing further in the National Knockout, if there is a fixture clash the Cheshire Cup game may be rearranged with the agreement of the Competition Secretary. In the event that Cheshire CCC progress beyond the group stages in the 20 or 50 over competitions there may be unavoidable fixture clashes with Cheshire Cup rounds. If this happens the Cheshire fixture will take precedence and any Cheshire Cup fixture involving clubs with players selected for Cheshire will be rearranged by the Competition Secretary to avoid Cheshire (or the club) fielding understrength sides.

We look forward to receiving your entry,
Kind regards
David Gane
Competitions Secretary – Cheshire Clubs' Cricket Committee

Any clubs wishing to enter by post should return the slip below to Competitions Secretary David Gane (address at the top of this letter) or email the details below to davidjgane@btinternet.com

Name of Club:
Competition you wish to enter (delete as appropriate): Cheshire Cup Cheshire Shield
Club representative:
Email:
Telephone Contact:
Match day contact and phone number (if different from the above):.....