

Sale came out on top in the local Derby matches against Brooklands in the Cheshire County league on Saturday, comfortably winning the 1st XI encounter at Georges Road and having the better of a drawn 2nd XI match at Dane Road.

With the early season derby matches being washed out the much anticipated return fixtures started under grey skies as IS Recruitment sponsored Sale won the toss and asked Brooklands to bat first.

Dan Newton got Sale off the perfect start removing Oli Bowdon for 2. Together with Amlyn Layton they kept the run rate around 2 runs per over, Layton taking the next wicket with the score on 42.

With the pressure on the home side a smart bit of fielding from Ben Haberson saw him run out Ben Cunliffe for 17, a wicket that started a collapse from 53-2 to 73-8. Tyrone Lawrence the main tormentor as he picked up 5-20.

The Brooklands tail waged briefly before Newton returned to take the 9th wicket and then take the catch off James Dodds as Brooklands subsided to 103 all out in the 48th over.

Sale chased the modest total with relative ease, reaching 64-1 thanks to an assured 25 from Dodds at the top of the order.

At the other end a fluent 32 from Lawrence put Sale well ahead of the required rate before he fell with the score on 73.

Despite the loss of Newton for 16 with the scores level, Sam Hunt saw Sale to their target and 25 points and putting a big dent in Brooklands promotion ambitions at they accrued just 2 points.

The return match at Dane Road was a closer affair as second placed Sale 2nd XI posted a below par 194 all out in their 50 overs.

With a number of regulars missing it was left to Viraj Sorathia to anchor the innings with a fine 70, his third 50 in as many matches.

At 138-7 it looked like Sale would be well short of a competitive total, before Chris Scott (24) and Saad Khan (19) added valuable lower order runs.

Scott and Khan proved equally useful with the ball as they took early wickets to put Sale on top.

Despite 2 wickets and a run out from Rob Grant Brooklands entered the closing stages as marginal favourites reaching 170-7 before Khan returned to take his third wicket. Another run out, this time from debutant Elliot Norris, meant that Brooklands had to bat out the final overs to secure the draw. Sale taking 13 points to Brookland's 8.

Didsbury put a dent in Sale 3rd XI's title ambitions after then won by 6 wickets on Sunday. Jamie Coombes (39) and Asad Khan (34) were the top scorers as Sale posted a below par 164 all out.

Didsbury reached their target for the loss of 4 wickets in the 43rd over.

Sale 4th XI picked up a welcome win as they routed Ashley 5s. Faraas Sait and Naman Mudalier both took 3 wickets each as the home team were bowled out for 98.

Sale went on to complete a 10 wicket win as Theo Brodbeck (36 not out) and Dylan Parekh (37 not out) reached their target inside 12 overs.

Earlier in the week Sale Silverbacks over 40's match against Urmston was washed out.