

● NATIONAL COACH ISSUES WORLD CUP CHALLENGE

Players and fans alike are looking to make the most of the opportunities presented by the 2001 Norwich Union League.

England coach Duncan Fletcher will be watching the action closely as he looks to assemble a World Cup squad.

"The Norwich Union League will give players a platform to catch the eye of selectors as we look to build a squad for South Africa," he said.

Fans are set to turn out in even greater numbers to savour the unique flavour of the competition.

A survey last season by NOP indicated 90 per cent of fans felt they received value for money. More than 80 per cent were encouraged to attend because matches were played under floodlights.

This season there are 24 floodlit games scheduled and many will feature music, big screen entertainment and a £10,000 national Rollerball competition.

Norwich Union will also unveil Inter Cricket - a version of the game aimed at helping the 11-16 age group develop their cricket skills. That could unearth the stars of the future and benefit Fletcher's successors.

Without doubt the stars of the present are Gloucestershire - holders of all three domestic one-day cups. But the Gladiators are sure to face stiff competition as they defend their Norwich Union League title, and not least from the newly promoted, star-studded Surrey side.

So Lions v Gladiators is one fixture that stands out from the Division One schedule. In Division Two Lancashire Lightning will be the team to beat as they look to bounce back from relegation.



Mark Alleyne, captain of the Gloucestershire Gladiators, with the Norwich Union League Trophy after last season's triumph

● MAKE SURE YOU RECEIVE YOUR COPY

The Norwich Union League Fact File will bring you all the stats from the competition as the season unfolds.

Each edition will be posted to cricket writers, media organisations and the first class counties to make sure you have as much background information as possible at your fingertips. Content will include league tables, averages, batting and bowling performances and other stats of interest that emerge during the season.

The Fact File can also be viewed and downloaded at the ECB website. Just visit ecb.co.uk and click on the Norwich Union logo.

On occasions, such as when the fixture schedule is particularly hectic, we may deliver additional stats updates as text files by e-mail.

The Fact File is produced by The Press Association on behalf of the Norwich Union League.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, if you would like to make sure we have your e-mail address in order to send you stats updates, or if you have suggestions for improving the Fact File please use the contact numbers below or send an e-mail to phil.ascough@pa.press.net.

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	36
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● FINAL STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Gloucestershire Gladiators	16	9	6	0	1	38
Yorkshire Phoenix	16	9	7	0	0	36
Northamptonshire Steelbacks	16	9	7	0	0	36
Leicestershire Foxes	16	7	6	2	1	34
Kent Spitfires	16	7	7	0	2	32
Somerset Sabres	16	7	8	0	1	30
Worcestershire Royals	16	6	8	0	2	28
Lancashire Lightning	16	6	8	1	1	28
Sussex Sharks	16	5	8	1	2	26

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
J.Cox	110	Sabres v Lightning	Old Trafford
M.A.Atherton	105	Lightning v Sabres	Taunton
R.Dravid	104	Spitfires v Royals	Canterbury
S.C.Ganguly	102	Lightning v Sabres	Old Trafford
S.C.Ganguly	101*	Lightning v Gladiators	Old Trafford
G.A.Hick	101	Royals v Sabres	Taunton
C.J.Adams	100	Sharks v Steelbacks	Northampton
M.Burns	97	Sabres v Foxes	Taunton
M.L.Hayden	96*	Steelbacks v Foxes	Leicester
M.E.Trescothick	92*	Sabres v Spitfires	Taunton
B.F.Smith	90	Foxes v Lightning	Old Trafford
A.P.Wells	90	Spitfires v Sharks	Hove
M.G.Bevan	89*	Sharks v Phoenix	Arundel Castle
P.R.Pollard	89	Royals v Steelbacks	Worcester
D.S.Lehmann	89	Phoenix v Sharks	Arundel Castle
R.R.Montgomerie	89	Sharks v Steelbacks	Eastbourne
B.F.Smith	88*	Foxes v Phoenix	Headingley
D.L.Maddy	87*	Foxes v Gladiators	Leicester
D.L.Maddy	86	Foxes v Gladiators	Bristol
A.McGrath	85*	Phoenix v Sabres	Taunton

■ LEADING CATCHES EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
R.J.Warren	(Steelbacks)	11	13
C.J.Adams	(Sharks)	11	14
D.Byas	(Phoenix)	10	12
M.G.Bevan	(Sharks)	10	12
J.Cox	(Sabres)	10	16
M.W.Alleyne	(Gladiators)	8	14
I.D.Blackwell	(Sabres)	8	16
G.A.Hick	(Royals)	7	7
G.M.Fellows	(Phoenix)	7	15
A.McGrath	(Phoenix)	6	10
A.Kumble	(Foxes)	6	12
R.Dravid	(Spitfires)	6	13
A.L.Penberthy	(Steelbacks)	6	15
M.L.Hayden	(Steelbacks)	6	15
U.B.A.Rashid	(Sharks)	6	15
D.A.Leatherdale	(Royals)	6	16
R.J.Warren	(Steelbacks)	5	5

■ LEADING DISMISSALS

Name	Team	Dis	Mtchs
N.D.Burns	(Foxes)	30	16
P.A.Nixon	(Spitfires)	26	14
R.J.Blakey	(Phoenix)	26	16
R.C.Russell	(Gladiators)	25	16
S.J.Rhodes	(Royals)	23	16
R.J.Turner	(Sabres)	17	15
W.K.Hegg	(Lightning)	12	14
D.Ripley	(Steelbacks)	10	15
N.J.Wilton	(Sharks)	7	10

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS

Player (Team)	Runs
M.G.Bevan (Sharks)	706
S.C.Ganguly (Lightning)	569
D.S.Lehmann (Phoenix)	564
D.J.Sales (Steelbacks)	547
B.F.Smith (Foxes)	508
J.Cox (Sabres)	485
C.J.Adams (Sharks)	483
M.E.Trescothick (Sabres)	464
M.L.Hayden (Steelbacks)	462
R.Dravid (Spitfires)	437
K.A.Parsons (Sabres)	436
R.R.Montgomerie (Sharks)	419
I.J.Harvey (Gladiators)	399
D.L.Maddy (Foxes)	393
M.Burns (Sabres)	387

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

Player (Team)	Wkts
M.J.Hoggard (Phoenix)	37
I.J.Harvey (Gladiators)	34
G.D.McGrath (Royals)	30
J.M.M.Averis (Gladiators)	29
P.S.Jones (Sabres)	28
R.J.Kirtley (Sharks)	26
A.L.Penberthy (Steelbacks)	22
G.M.Hamilton (Phoenix)	20
D.M.Cousins (Steelbacks)	19
M.A.Robinson (Sharks)	18
A.M.Smith (Gladiators)	18
G.Chapple (Lightning)	17
M.E.Trescothick (Sabres)	16
A.Kumble (Foxes)	16
K.J.Innes (Steelbacks)	16

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
I.J.Harvey	5/19	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Bristol
J.M.M.Averis	5/20	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Northampton
M.J.Hoggard	5/28	Phoenix v Foxes	Leicester
A.L.Penberthy	5/29	Steelbacks v Gladiators	Bristol
M.J.Hoggard	5/30	Phoenix v Steelbacks	Northampton
G.Keedy	5/30	Lightning v Sharks	Old Trafford
I.J.Harvey	5/33	Gladiators v Sabres	Taunton
G.M.Hamilton	5/34	Phoenix v Sharks	Scarborough
G.D.McGrath	4/9	Royals v Phoenix	Worcester
C.E.W.Silverwood	4/11	Phoenix v Foxes	Leicester
G.D.McGrath	4/12	Royals v Gladiators	Worcester
G.P.Swann	4/14	Steelbacks v Phoenix	Headingley
C.White	4/14	Phoenix v Lightning	Headingley
I.D.Austin	4/14	Lightning v Gladiators	Old Trafford
D.L.Maddy	4/16	Foxes v Sabres	Taunton
K.Adams	4/19	Spitfires v Foxes	Leicester
J.M.M.Averis	4/21	Gladiators v Sharks	Bristol
M.A.Robinson	4/23	Sharks v Foxes	Leicester
I.J.Harvey	4/23	Gladiators v Royals	Worcester
B.J.Phillips	4/25	Spitfires v Steelbacks	Canterbury

■ LEADING ECONOMY RATES (35 OVERS MINIMUM)

Name	Team	Economy
G.D.McGrath	(Royals)	2.16
A.R.Caddick	(Sabres)	2.77
A.M.Smith	(Gladiators)	2.78
C.White	(Phoenix)	2.81
D.Gough	(Phoenix)	2.89
C.C.Lewis	(Foxes)	3.13
I.J.Harvey	(Gladiators)	3.31
I.D.Austin	(Lightning)	3.37
M.A.Ealham	(Spitfires)	3.41
A.Kumble	(Foxes)	3.46

■ LEADING STRIKE RATES (10 WICKETS MINIMUM)

Name	Team	S/R
C.White	(Phoenix)	19.21
M.J.Hoggard	(Phoenix)	19.70
I.J.Harvey	(Gladiators)	19.79
M.J.Saggers	(Spitfires)	21.53
D.L.Maddy	(Foxes)	21.92
G.D.McGrath	(Royals)	22.53
G.M.Hamilton	(Phoenix)	23.05
R.J.Kirtley	(Sharks)	24.46
M.J.McCague	(Spitfires)	25.27
M.E.Trescothick	(Sabres)	25.50

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
295 for 7	Sabres v Spitfires	Maidstone
272 for 6	Sharks v Phoenix	Arundel
269 for 9	Gladiators v Foxes	Bristol
267 for 6	Foxes v Sabres	Taunton
260 for 3	Sharks v Steelbacks	Nthampton
251 for 8	Steelbacks v Sabres	Nthampton

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
53	Foxes v Phoenix	Leicester
68	Lightning v Phoenix	Headingley
76	Steelbacks v Spitfires	Canterbury
98	Royals v Spitfires	Worcester
101	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Bristol
109	Steelbacks v Phoenix	Northampton

■ LEADING CENTURY-MAKERS

Name	Team	100s	Innings
S.C.Ganguly	(Lightning)	2	13
M.A.Atherton	(Lightning)	1	6
G.A.Hick	(Royals)	1	7
R.Dravid	(Spitfires)	1	13
C.J.Adams	(Sharks)	1	14
J.Cox	(Sabres)	1	16

■ LEADING DUCK-MAKERS

Name	Team	Ducks	Innings
V.S.Solanki	(Royals)	4	16
N.J.Wilton	(Sharks)	3	10

● FINAL STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Surrey Lions	16	11	3	0	2	48
Nottinghamshire Outlaws	16	11	4	0	1	46
Warwickshire Bears	16	10	5	1	0	42
Middlesex Crusaders	16	8	5	1	2	38
Essex Eagles	16	7	7	0	2	32
Glamorgan Dragons	16	7	7	2	0	32
Durham Dynamos	16	5	11	0	0	20
Hampshire Hawks	16	5	11	0	0	20
Derbyshire Scorpions	16	2	13	0	1	10

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
G.P.Thorpe	126*	Lions v Outlaws	Guildford
M.E.Cassar	126	Scorpions v Dynamos	Derby
D.J.Bicknell	115	Outlaws v Lions	Trent Bridge
A.J.Hollooake	111	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
N.Shahid	109*	Lions v Outlaws	Trent Bridge
J.A.Daley	105	Dynamos v Lions	The Oval
S.G.Law	104*	Eagles v Crusaders	Chelmsford
U.Afzaal	95*	Outlaws v Hawks	Southampton
M.T.G.Elliott	94	Dragons v Eagles	Cardiff
J.L.Langer	93	Crusaders v Bears	Birmingham
S.G.Law	92	Eagles v Lions	Colchester
I.J.Ward	90*	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
A.J.Strauss	90	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside
D.J.Bicknell	90	Outlaws v Scorpions	Derby
D.A.Kenway	90	Hawks v Scorpions	Southampton
R.A.Smith	88*	Hawks v Dynamos	Riverside
S.P.James	88*	Dragons v Eagles	Southend-on-Sea
M.P.Maynard	88*	Dragons v Outlaws	Trent Bridge
M.T.G.Elliott	88	Dragons v Scorpions	Cardiff
P.D.Collingwood	86	Dynamos v Lions	The Oval

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS

Player (Team)	Runs
P.D.Collingwood (Dynamos)	607
S.M.Katich (Dynamos)	598
D.J.Bicknell (Outlaws)	537
M.P.Maynard (Dragons)	501
R.A.Smith (Hawks)	464
J.E.R.Gallian (Outlaws)	439
S.P.James (Dragons)	439
M.T.G.Elliott (Dragons)	429
I.J.Ward (Lions)	429
S.G.Law (Eagles)	413
M.R.Ramprakash (Crusaders)	408
M.E.Cassar (Scorpions)	405
M.J.Powell (Dragons)	396
W.S.Kendall (Hawks)	388
D.P.Ostler (Bears)	385

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

Player (Team)	Wkts
N.Killeen (Dynamos)	29
S.K.Warne (Hawks)	25
D.R.Brown (Bears)	25
P.J.Franks (Outlaws)	25
N.C.Phillips (Dynamos)	24
A.J.Hollooake (Lions)	23
A.F.Giles (Bears)	22
A.P.Cowan (Eagles)	22
R.L.Johnson (Crusaders)	21
A.D.Mascarenhas (Hawks)	21
O.T.Parkin (Dragons)	20
P.Aldred (Scorpions)	19
A.P.Grayson (Eagles)	19
Saqlain Mushtaq (Lions)	18
S.D.Thomas (Dragons)	18

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
P.J.Franks	6/27	Outlaws v Dynamos	Riverside
N.Killeen	6/31	Dynamos v Scorpions	Derby
A.W.Laraman	6/42	Crusaders v Dragons	Cardiff
A.W.Laraman	6/51	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside
A.J.Hollooake	5/29	Lions v Dynamos	Riverside
A.J.Harris	5/35	Outlaws v Hawks	Trent Bridge
A.R.C.Fraser	4/18	Crusaders v Eagles	Chelmsford
N.Killeen	4/18	Dynamos v Crusaders	Southgate
S.K.Warne	4/23	Hawks v Scorpions	Southampton
P.N.Weekes	4/26	Crusaders v Scorpions	Derby
A.J.Tudor	4/26	Lions v Hawks	The Oval
D.S.Lucas	4/27	Outlaws v Scorpions	Derby
I.D.Hunter	4/29	Dynamos v Eagles	Ilford
M.E.Cassar	4/29	Scorpions v Hawks	Southampton
K.J.Dean	4/30	Scorpions v Bears	Derby
A.D.Mullally	4/30	Hawks v Eagles	Colchester
N.C.Phillips	4/30	Dynamos v Lions	The Oval
S.K.Warne	4/32	Hawks v Eagles	Southampton
B.L.Hutton	4/32	Crusaders v Bears	Birmingham
I.D.K.Salisbury	4/32	Lions v Eagles	Colchester

■ LEADING CATCHES

EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
J.L.Langer	(Crusaders)	11	15
P.D.Collingwood	(Dynamos)	11	15
T.J.Mason	(Eagles)	9	14
N.M.K.Smith	(Bears)	9	16
D.G.Cork	(Scorpions)	8	9
T.L.Penney	(Bears)	8	15
S.M.Katich	(Dynamos)	8	16
G.P.Thorpe	(Lions)	7	8
M.P.Maynard	(Dragons)	7	11
P.N.Weekes	(Crusaders)	7	13
A.F.Giles	(Bears)	7	13
A.J.Hollooake	(Lions)	7	14
D.P.Ostler	(Bears)	7	16
I.D.K.Salisbury	(Lions)	6	6
N.Shahid	(Lions)	6	7
U.Afzaal	(Outlaws)	6	13

■ LEADING DISMISSALS

Name	Team	Dis	Mtchs
C.M.W.Read	(Outlaws)	27	16
K.J.Piper	(Bears)	22	15
A.N.Aymes	(Hawks)	16	11
D.Alleyne	(Crusaders)	15	11
M.P.Speight	(Dynamos)	13	9
K.M.Krikken	(Scorpions)	12	9
D.A.Kenway	(Hawks)	11	5
L.D.Sutton	(Scorpions)	9	7
B.J.Hyam	(Eagles)	9	9

■ LEADING ECONOMY RATES (35 OVERS MINIMUM)

Name	Team	Economy
M.P.Bicknell	(Lions)	2.77
A.A.Donald	(Bears)	2.84
E.S.H.Giddins	(Bears)	3.15
R.C.Irani	(Eagles)	3.33
T.A.Munton	(Scorpions)	3.35
Saqlain Mushtaq	(Lions)	3.37
C.E.Dagnall	(Bears)	3.38
A.R.C.Fraser	(Crusaders)	3.46
G.Welch	(Bears)	3.49
A.D.Mullally	(Hawks)	3.66

■ LEADING STRIKE RATES (10 WICKETS MINIMUM)

Name	Team	S/R
A.J.Hollooake	(Lions)	15.56
I.D.K.Salisbury	(Lions)	20.00
C.E.Dagnall	(Bears)	21.00
N.Killeen	(Dynamos)	21.68
A.W.Laraman	(Crusaders)	22.29
R.L.Johnson	(Crusaders)	23.38
M.C.Ilott	(Eagles)	25.09
P.N.Weekes	(Crusaders)	25.53
Saqlain Mushtaq	(Lions)	25.66
B.C.Hollooake	(Lions)	26.00

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
289 for 5	Eagles v Dragons	Southend
288 for 4	Outlaws v Lions	Trent Bridge
285	Dragons v Eagles	Southend
273 for 3	Lions v Outlaws	Guildford
268 for 5	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
263 for 5	Dragons v Hawks	Sthampton

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
73	Hawks v Lions	Southampton
87	Scorpions v Dynamos	Darlington
94	Hawks v Lions	The Oval
105	Scorpions v Bears	Derby
108	Bears v Lions	Whitgift
114	Scorpions v Crusaders	Derby

■ LEADING CENTURY-MAKERS

Name	Team	100s	Innings
N.Shahid	(Lions)	1	7
G.P.Thorpe	(Lions)	1	8
J.A.Daley	(Dynamos)	1	8
M.E.Cassar	(Scorpions)	1	13
S.G.Law	(Eagles)	1	13
A.J.Hollooake	(Lions)	1	14
D.J.Bicknell	(Outlaws)	1	16

■ LEADING DUCK-MAKERS

Name	Team	Ducks	Innings
B.J.Hyam	(Eagles)	3	9
S.J.Lacey	(Scorpions)	3	11