

● LAST-DAY DECIDER IN TITLE THRILLER

The race for the Norwich Union League title goes right down to the wire as Leicestershire Foxes and Kent Spitfires go into the final games neck and neck.

The Foxes looked set to wrap up the First Division title in record time as they raced out of the blocks with nine straight wins but the Spitfires have slowly reeled them in.

The Foxes, who play Nottinghamshire Outlaws, lead the table now only on run-rate and both they and the Spitfires have everything to play for.

Foxes captain Vince Wells said: "We would have liked to have sewn it up by now and we have had a couple of chances to do it.

"Losing by one run to Somerset was a blow. If that had gone the other way we could have won it but it wasn't to be. This is now a big game and we need to win."

Missing out on the title would be a bitter blow for the Foxes at the end of a season that promised so much, but Spitfires skipper Matthew Fleming has played down his side's chances of pipping them to the post.

He said: "We are pretty relaxed about it to be honest. It's Leicestershire's title to lose.

"They have been in the driving seat all season and they are still firm favourites. Their run-rate is still better than ours and we have got a very difficult game against Warwickshire to come."

The battle to avoid relegation remains just as interesting after Yorkshire Phoenix pulled themselves out of the bottom three with a 70-run win over Gloucestershire Gladiators.

Defeat would have condemned them to Division Two with Surrey Lions and Northamptonshire Steelbacks but now any one of the Phoenix, Gladiators, Outlaws or even Somerset Sabres could go down.



Trevor Ward of Leicestershire Foxes



Andrew Symonds of Kent Spitfires

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● CHAMPIONS TO RECEIVE TROPHY

Glamorgan Dragons will be in the party mood as they wrap up their Norwich Union League campaign with a visit from Middlesex Crusaders.

The Dragons will be crowned Division Two champions at Sophia Gardens after Durham Dynamos' victory over Worcestershire Royals left them with an unassailable lead going into the final round of games.

The Dragons were left hanging on after losing their penultimate game to Sussex Sharks, but with the title now secure they will plan to celebrate in style.

Joining them in Division One next season will be Jon Lewis' Dynamos, who claimed second place with that nine-run win over the Royals at Riverside.

The defeat leaves the third-placed Royals still sweating over the final promotion spot with Hampshire Hawks and now the Sharks breathing down their necks.

The Hawks have been in contention with the Royals all season but Chris Adams' Sharks have caught everyone by surprise with a sensational late run that has seen them win four games on the trot.

The Royals still hold a two-point advantage and will be promoted if they beat Essex Eagles but if they slip up all eyes will immediately turn to Hove where the Sharks take on the Hawks in a mouth-watering season finale.



Alan Mullally of Hampshire Hawks

Division 1 table at a glance	Points
	46
	46
	38
	28
	28
	26
	26
	20
	14

Division 2 table at a glance	Points
	44
	42
	36
	34
	34
	26
	24
	20
	12

● 2001 DIVISION ONE STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	RR
Leicestershire Foxes	15	11	3	0	1	46	9.30
Kent Spitfires	15	10	2	1	2	46	4.32
Warwickshire Bears	15	8	4	0	3	38	1.80
Yorkshire Phoenix	16	7	9	0	0	28	9.66
Somerset Sabres	15	6	7	1	1	28	-5.30
Gloucestershire Gladiators	15	6	8	0	1	26	2.61
Nottinghamshire Outlaws	15	6	8	0	1	26	-9.60
Surrey Lions	15	5	10	0	0	20	-6.50
Northants Steelbacks	15	3	11	0	1	14	-9.38

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
352 for 6	Phoenix v Outlaws	Scarborough
344 for 6	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Cheltenham
286 for 8	Gladiators v Outlaws	Cheltenham
284 for 5	Spitfires v Steelbacks	Canterbury

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
59	Bears v Phoenix	Headingley
86	Gladiators v Kent	Canterbury
91	Gladiators v Phoenix	Scarborough
108	Bears v Lions	Whitgift School

■ MOST CATCHES EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
M.C.J.Ball	Gladiators	11	13
D.Byas	Phoenix	11	16
D.P.Fulton	Spitfires	9	13

■ LEADING DISMISSALS

Name	Team	Dism'ls	Mtchs
R.J.Blakey	Phoenix	24	16
J.N.Batty	Lions	20	13
C.M.W.Read	Outlaws	19	14
P.A.Nixon	Spitfires	18	13

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
K.P.Dutch	6/40	Sabres v Steelbacks	Northampton
M.J.Saggers	5/22	Spitfires v Gladiators	Canterbury
J.M.M.Averis	5/40	Gladiators v Spitfires	Bristol
M.V.Fleming	5/40	Spitfires v Gladiators	Bristol
J.M.M.Averis	5/56	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Cheltenham

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
D.S.Lehmann	191	Phoenix v Outlaws	Scarborough
D.P.Ostler	134*	Bears v Gladiators	Edgbaston
A.D.Brown	130	Lions v Outlaws	Trent Bridge
M.V.Fleming	125	Spitfires v Steelbacks	Canterbury
M.G.N.Windows	117	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Cheltenham

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

Wkts	Player	Team
27	J.M.M.Averis	Gladiators
26	D.R.Brown	Bears
24	M.J.Saggers	Spitfires
21	B.C.Holloake	Lions

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS

Runs	Player	Team
753	D.S.Lehmann	Phoenix
560	P.D.Bowler	Sabres
557	D.J.Bicknell	Outlaws
553	A.D.Brown	Lions

● 2001 DIVISION TWO STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	RR
Glamorgan Dragons	15	10	3	0	2	44	15.19
Durham Dynamos	16	9	4	0	3	42	1.74
Worcestershire Royals	15	8	5	0	2	36	7.23
Hampshire Hawks	15	8	6	0	1	34	2.90
Sussex Sharks	15	8	6	0	1	34	1.44
Lancashire Lightning	15	5	7	0	3	26	-3.73
Essex Eagles	15	5	8	1	1	24	-7.75
Middlesex Crusaders	15	3	8	1	3	20	-7.55
Derbyshire Scorpions	15	3	12	0	0	12	-7.58

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
305 for 6	Dragons v Royals	Cardiff
289 for 6	Dragons v Eagles	Cardiff
288 for 6	Royals v Scorpions	Derby
275 for 3	Royals v Dynamos	Worcester

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS

Total	Teams	Venue
89	Lightning v Royals	Worcester
91	Lightning v Sussex	Hove
99	Royals v Lightning	Worcester
109	Crusaders v Sharks	Richmond

■ MOST CATCHES EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
N.C.Johnson	Hawks	13	14
J.P.Crawley	Lightning	9	13
W.S.Kendall	Hawks	8	10

■ LEADING DISMISSALS

Name	Team	Dism'ls	Mtchs
S.J.Rhodes	Royals	22	13
K.M.Krikken	Scorpions	21	13
A.Pratt	Dynamos	21	13
W.K.Hegg	Lightning	17	9

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
G.R.Napier	6/29	Eagles v Royals	Chelmsford
A.P.Cowan	5/14	Eagles v Crusaders	Southgate
C.B.Keegan	5/17	Crusaders v Hawks	Southgate
A.J.Bichel	5/21	Royals v Eagles	Chelmsford
G.Welch	5/22	Scorpions v Dragons	Derby

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
W.P.C.Weston	134	Royals v Scorpions	Derby
N.Peng	121	Dynamos v Royals	Worcester
M.P.Maynard	116*	Dragons v Hawks	Cardiff
N.Peng	112*	Dynamos v Eagles	Ilford
R.C.Irani	108*	Eagles v Dragons	Chelmsford

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

Wkts	Player	Team
25	A.J.Bichel	Royals
23	C.B.Keegan	Crusaders
21	C.T.Tremlett	Hawks
21	S.R.Lampitt	Royals

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS

Runs	Player	Team
663	R.R.Montgomerie	Sharks
518	M.P.Maynard	Dragons
490	V.S.Solanki	Royals
495	N.Peng	Dynamos

Div 1 & 2 Fixtures, D/L & How It Works

Div 1	Gloucs	Kent	Leics	N'hants	Notts	Som	Surrey	Warks	Yorks
Gloucs		Kent	Gloucs	Gloucs	Gloucs	No result	16/9	Warks	Glous
Kent	Kent		Leics	Kent	Kent	Tied	Kent	No result	Kent
Leics	Leics	Leics		Leics	Leics	Som	Leics	No result	Leics
N'ants	Gloucs	Kent	Leics		N'ants	Som	Surrey	Warks	N'ants
Notts	Tied	Kent	16/9	N'hants		Notts	Surrey	Notts	Yorks
Som	Glous	Kent	Leics	16/9	Notts		Som	Warks	Som
Surrey	Surrey	Kent	Leics	N'hants	Notts	Som		Surrey	Surrey
Warks	Warks	16/9	Leics	Warks	No result	Warks	Warks		Warks
Yorks	Yorks	Kent	Yorks	Yorks	Yorks	Yorks	Yorks	Yorks	

Teams score four points for a win and two points each for a tie or no result.

F = day/night floodlit match.

Div 2	Derbys	Durham	Essex	Glam	Hants	Lancs	Middx	Sussex	Worcs
Derbys		Durham	Derbys	Derbys	Hants	16/9	Derbys	Sussex	Worcs
Durham	Durham		Essex	Durham	Durham	Durham	Durham	Durham	Durham
Essex	Essex	Durham		Glam	Hants	No result	Essex	Sussex	Essex
Glam	Glam	Glam	Glam		Glam	Glam	16/9	Glam	Glam
Hants	Hants	Hants	Essex	Glam		Lancs	Middx	Hants	Hants
Lancs	Lancs	No result	Lancs	Glam	No result		Lancs	Lancs	Worcs
Middx	Middx	No result	Tied	No result	Hants	Middx		Sussex	No result
Sussex	Sussex	No result	Sussex	Sussex	16/9	Sussex	Sussex		Worcs
Worcs	Worcs	Worcs	16/9	No result	Worcs	Worcs	Worcs	Worcs	

THE DUCKWORTH/LEWIS SYSTEM

If matches are rain-affected the Duckworth Lewis system is used to reset targets. The system is based on what percentage of its resources (overs and wickets) a team have left. With 50 overs left and 10 wickets remaining, a team has 100 per cent of its resources left. The table shows the percentage of resources at other stages in the innings.

The procedure for working out targets is as follows:

1) For each innings: Use the table to calculate the resource percentage lost by the interruption and therefore calculate the resource percentage still available.

2) If team 2 have less resources available than team 1, calculate the ratio of the resources available to both teams. Team 2's revised target is obtained by scaling down team 1's score by this ratio.

3) If team 2 have more resources available than team 1, calculate the amount by which team 2's resources exceeds team 1's.

Work this out as a percentage of 225 (the average 50-over score in ECB matches and one-day internationals). This gives the extra runs to add to team score to give team 2's target.

		WICKETS LOST				
		0	2	5	7	9
OVERS LEFT	50	100	83.8	49.5	26.5	7.6
	40	90.3	77.6	48.3	26.4	7.6
	30	77.1	68.2	45.7	26.2	7.6
	25	68.5	61.8	43.4	25.9	7.6
	20	58.9	54.0	40.0	25.2	7.6
	10	34.1	32.5	27.5	20.6	7.5

HOW THE NORWICH UNION LEAGUE WORKS

The Norwich Union League operates on a three-up, three-down basis with the top three finishers in Division Two replacing the bottom three in Division One. Four points are awarded for a win, while teams will take two points each if matches are tied or the weather intervenes before the required number of overs have been completed and there is no result.

Matches will start at 1pm and end at 7.10pm with 45 overs per side, although all fixtures will begin 30 minutes earlier in September. Floodlit games will start at 4.10pm. The free-hit rule for no-balls applies to front-foot no-balls only. A batsman cannot be

dismissed from the bowler's next delivery after such an infringement.

This season teams will face penalties for slow over rates. If in the opinion of the umpire there are still overs to be bowled at the cut-off point then six runs will be added to the batting team for every over left to be bowled. If at cut-off time there are still four overs left to be bowled then 24 runs will be added to the batting team's score. The batting team will then go on and finish their overs. These will appear as penalty runs on the scorecard. If this takes the batting team over the target required then the match will finish at that point.

■ DIVISION ONE

SUNDAY APRIL 29
 Kent Spitfires NR Warwick Bears Canterbury
 Leics Foxes beat Gloucs Gladiators Leicester

SUNDAY MAY 13
 Northants Steelbacks lost to Gloucs Gladiators Northampton
 Surrey Lions lost to Notts Outlaws The Oval
 Yorks Phoenix beat Somerset Sabres Headingley

SUNDAY MAY 20
 Gloucs Gladiators beat Yorkshire Phoenix Bristol
 Notts Outlaws beat Warwickshire Bears Nottingham
 Somerset Sabres lost to Kent Spitfires Taunton
 Surrey Lions lost to Leics Foxes The Oval

TUESDAY MAY 29
 *Warwicks Bears beat Gloucs Gladiators Birmingham

SUNDAY JUNE 3
 Kent Spitfires tied with Somerset Sabres Tunbridge Wells
 Leics Foxes beat Notts Outlaws Oakham School
 Northants Steelbacks lost to Surrey Lions Northampton

SUNDAY JUNE 10
 Northants Steelbacks lost to Warwick Bears Northampton
 Notts Outlaws tied with Gloucs Gladiators Nottingham
 Surrey Lions lost to Somerset Sabres The Oval
 Yorkshire Phoenix lost to Kent Spitfires Headingley

SUNDAY JUNE 17
 Gloucs Gladiators lost to Warwick Bears Gloucester
 Kent Spitfires beat Notts Outlaws Maidstone
 Leics Foxes beat Northants Steelbacks Leicester
 Somerset Sabres beat Yorkshire Phoenix Bath

SUNDAY JUNE 24
 Notts Outlaws beat Somerset Sabres Nottingham
 Surrey Lions lost to Kent Spitfires The Oval
 Warwickshire Bears beat Leics Foxes Birmingham
 Yorks Phoenix beat Northants Steelbacks Headingley

SUNDAY JULY 1
 Somerset Sabres lost to Gloucs Gladiators Taunton

SUNDAY JULY 8
 Kent Spitfires beat Gloucs Gladiators Canterbury
 Leics Foxes beat Surrey Lions Leicester
 Northants Steelbacks beat Yorks Phoenix Northampton
 Somerset Sabres lost to Notts Outlaws Taunton

SUNDAY JULY 15
 Notts Outlaws lost to Kent Spitfires Nottingham
 Warwickshire Bears beat Northants Steelbacks Birmingham
 Yorkshire Phoenix lost to Leics Foxes Scarborough

TUESDAY JULY 17
 *Gloucs Gladiators NR Somerset Sabres Bristol

SUNDAY JULY 22
 Leics Foxes beat Kent Spitfires Leicester
 Surrey Lions lost to Northants Steelbacks Guildford

MONDAY JULY 23
 *Yorkshire Phoenix beat Warwick Bears Headingley

SUNDAY JULY 29
 Warwickshire Bears beat Surrey Lions Birmingham

TUESDAY JULY 31
 Gloucs Gladiators beat Notts Outlaws Cheltenham

THURSDAY AUGUST 2
 *Warwicks Bears NR Notts Outlaws Birmingham

SUNDAY AUGUST 5
 Gloucs Gladiators beat Northants Steelbacks Cheltenham
 Kent Spitfires lost to Leics Foxes Canterbury
 Yorkshire Phoenix beat Surrey Lions Headingley

SUNDAY AUGUST 12
 Northants Steelbacks lost to Kent Spitfires Northampton
 Somerset Sabres lost to Leics Foxes Taunton
 Surrey Lions beat Gloucs Gladiators The Oval

MONDAY AUGUST 13
 *Notts Outlaws lost to Yorkshire Phoenix Nottingham

TUESDAY AUGUST 14
 *Kent Spitfires beat Surrey Lions Canterbury

SUNDAY AUGUST 19
 Leics Foxes beat Yorkshire Phoenix Leicester
 Notts Outlaws beat Northants Steelbacks Nottingham
 Warwick Bears beat Somerset Sabres Birmingham

TUESDAY AUGUST 21
 *Somerset Sabres beat Surrey Lions Taunton

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22
 *Northants Steelbacks lost to Leics Foxes Northampton

SUNDAY AUGUST 26
 Yorkshire Phoenix beat Notts Outlaws Scarborough

MONDAY AUGUST 27
 Gloucs Gladiators lost to Kent Spitfires Bristol
 Leics Foxes lost to Somerset Sabres Leicester
 Warwick Bears beat Yorkshire Phoenix Birmingham

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 29
 Kent Spitfires beat Yorkshire Phoenix Beckenham

THURSDAY AUGUST 30
 Northants Steelbacks lost to Somerset Sabres Northampton
 Surrey Lions beat Warwick Bears Whitgift School

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2
 Northants Steelbacks beat Notts Outlaws Northampton

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3
 Gloucs Gladiators beat Leics Foxes Bristol
 Somerset Sabres lost to Warwick Bears Taunton
 *Surrey Lions beat Yorkshire Phoenix The Oval

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5
 *Leics Foxes NR Warwickshire Bears Leicester

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9
 Kent Spitfires beat Northants Steelbacks Canterbury
 Notts Outlaws lost to Surrey Lions Nottingham

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10
 Yorks Phoenix beat Gloucs Gladiators Scarborough

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16
 Gloucs Gladiators v Surrey Lions Bristol
 Notts Outlaws v Leics Foxes Nottingham
 Somerset Sabres v Northants Steelbacks Taunton
 Warwickshire Bears v Kent Spitfires Birmingham

***Day/Night Match NR=No Result**

■ DIVISION TWO

SUNDAY APRIL 29
 Derbys Scorpions beat Glam'n Dragons Derby
 Lancs Lightning NR Hants Hawks Manchester
 Middx Crusaders NR Durham Dynamos Lord's
 Worcs Royals beat Sussex Sharks Worcester

SUNDAY MAY 13
 Derbyshire Scorpions beat Essex Eagles Derby
 Hants Hawks beat Worcs Royals Southampton

SUNDAY MAY 20
 Durham Dynamos beat Middx Crusaders Chester-le-Street
 Essex Eagles lost to Sussex Sharks Chelmsford
 Lancs Lightning lost to Glam'n Dragons Manchester
 Worcs Royals beat Derbyshire Scorpions Worcester

SUNDAY MAY 27
 Durham Dynamos beat Lancs Lightning Chester-le-Street

SUNDAY JUNE 3
 Glam Dragons beat Sussex Sharks Swansea
 Hants Hawks lost to Essex Eagles Southampton
 Middx Crusaders beat Derbys Scorpions Southgate

SUNDAY JUNE 10
 Derbys Scorpions lost to Durham Dynamos Derby
 Essex Eagles lost to Glamorgan Dragons Chelmsford
 Lancs Lightning beat Middx Crusaders Manchester
 Sussex Sharks lost to Worcs Royals Horsham

SUNDAY JUNE 17
 Essex Eagles lost to Durham Dynamos Ilford
 Middx Crusaders lost to Hampshire Hawks Southgate
 Sussex Sharks beat Derbyshire Scorpions Arundel
 Worcs Royals beat Lancashire Lightning Worcester

SATURDAY JUNE 23
 *Lancs Lightning beat Essex Eagles Manchester

SUNDAY JUNE 24
 Derbys Scorpions beat Middlesex Crusaders Derby
 Glamorgan Dragons beat Worcs Royals Cardiff
 Hants Hawks beat Durham Dynamos Southampton

TUESDAY JULY 3
 *Derbyshire Scorpions lost to Worcs Royals Derby

WEDNESDAY JULY 4
 *Hants Hawks beat Sussex Sharks Southampton

SUNDAY JULY 8
 Durham Dynamos beat Glam'n Dragons Chester-le-Street
 Middx Crusaders tied with Essex Eagles Southgate

SUNDAY JULY 15
 Hants Hawks beat Derbys Scorpions Southampton
 Lancs Lightning NR Durham Dynamos Manchester
 Worcs Royals beat Middx Crusaders Worcester

MONDAY JULY 16
 *Sussex Sharks beat Essex Eagles Hove

WEDNESDAY JULY 18
 *Lancs Lightning lost to Worcs Royals Manchester

SUNDAY JULY 22
 Durham Dynamos beat Sussex Sharks Chester-le-Street
 Essex Eagles lost to Hampshire Hawks Southend
 Glamorgan Dragons beat Derbys Scorpions Cardiff

TUESDAY JULY 31
 *Worcs Royals beat Durham Dynamos Worcester

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1
 *Sussex Sharks beat Middlesex Crusaders Hove

SUNDAY AUGUST 5
 Derbys Scorpions lost to Hampshire Hawks Derby
 Glamorgan Dragons beat Lancs Lightning Colwyn Bay

SUNDAY AUGUST 12
 Durham Dynamos beat Derbys Scorpions Chester-le-Street
 Essex Eagles beat Worcs Royals Chelmsford
 Hants Hawks lost to Glam'n Dragons Southampton
 Middlesex Crusaders beat Lancs Lightning Lord's

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15
 *Durham Dynamos beat Hants Hawks Chester-le-Street

SUNDAY AUGUST 19
 Glamorgan Dragons beat Essex Eagles Cardiff
 Middlesex Crusaders NR Worcs Royals Lord's

MONDAY AUGUST 20
 *Lancs Lightning beat Sussex Sharks Manchester

SUNDAY AUGUST 26
 Essex Eagles NR Lancashire Lightning Colchester
 Middx Crusaders NR Glamorgan Dragons Lord's
 Sussex Sharks NR Durham Dynamos Hove
 Worcs Royals lost to Hampshire Hawks Worcester

MONDAY AUGUST 27
 Derbyshire Scorpions lost to Sussex Sharks Derby
 Glamorgan Dragons beat Durham Dynamos Cardiff
 Hants Hawks lost to Lancs Lightning Southampton

TUESDAY AUGUST 28
 *Essex Eagles beat Middlesex Crusaders Colchester

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 29
 *Glamorgan Dragons beat Hampshire Hawks Cardiff

THURSDAY AUGUST 30
 Sussex Sharks beat Lancashire Lightning Hove

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2
 Durham Dynamos lost to Essex Eagles Chester-le-Street
 Middx Crusaders lost to Sussex Sharks Richmond
 Worcs Royals NR Glamorgan Dragons Worcester

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3
 *Lancs Lightning beat Derbys Scorpions Manchester

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4
 *Sussex Sharks beat Glamorgan Dragons Hove

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9
 Durham Dynamos beat Worcs Royals Chester-le-Street
 Essex Eagles beat Derbys Scorpions Chelmsford
 Hants Hawks lost to Middx Crusaders Southampton

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16
 Derbys Scorpions v Lancashire Lightning Derby
 Glamorgan Dragons v Middx Crusaders Cardiff
 Sussex Sharks v Hampshire Hawks Hove
 Worcs Royals v Essex Eagles Worcester

NB: All Hampshire Hawks home matches will be played at the new West End Ground, Southampton