

TOP TWO AIM TO SET THE PACE

Leicestershire Foxes and Nottinghamshire Outlaws will battle it out for the top spot when they meet on Sunday. And with the Gloucestershire Gladiators sitting this weekend out the winners can go four points clear in Norwich Union League Division One.



Usman Afzaal

The Outlaws have made a flying start to life in Norwich Union League Division One, winning their opening two games against the Surrey Lions and Warwickshire Bears.

Usman Afzaal, pushing for a place in the England side, has been in particularly good form scoring 143 runs in his two innings.

The Foxes have won both of their first two games as they seek to improve on their final position of fourth last season.

Kent Spitfires are unbeaten after two games and they aim to maintain that record when they play host to winless Somerset Sabres at Tunbridge Wells.

Jamie Cox's side avoided relegation to Division Two by just two points last season but if early form is anything to go by, they are set for another season of fighting to escape the drop.

The final game of the day sees Northamptonshire Steelbacks go in search of their first points of the season against the Lions at Northampton.

David Ripley's side lost their opening game of the campaign against Gloucestershire Gladiators on May 13 but will look to bounce back in winning style.

The Lions, promoted to the top flight after clinching the Division Two crown last season, have struggled in the early stages of the current campaign and have lost their opening two games.

But Alistair Brown is in fine form after his unbeaten 111 against the Foxes in their last game.



Jamie Cox

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EAGLES LOOK FOR FIRST POINTS OF SEASON

Derbyshire Scorpions will aim to return to the top of Norwich Union League Division Two when they make the trip south to face Middlesex Crusaders at Southgate.

Durham Dynamos included England one-day prospect Paul Collingwood as they moved into pole position with a win against Lancashire Lightning last weekend and the Scorpions are now two points off the pace.

The Crusaders have endured a sluggish start to the campaign, with a washout against the Dynamos followed by a two-wicket loss against the same opponents a fortnight ago.

Essex Eagles look for their first points of the season when they face Hampshire Hawks at West End.

Two successive defeats have left them at the foot of the table but Ronnie Irani will seek to inspire his men to better things.










The Hawks have begun brightly and have amassed six points so far, with their one victory coming against Worcestershire Royals when they sneaked to a three-wicket win.










Glamorgan Dragons face Sussex Sharks at Swansea, with both sides having made identical starts to the season.

Both have won one and lost one to leave them with four points apiece, but former Northamptonshire batsman Richard Montgomerie has been in fine form for the Sharks after notching 106 runs in his two innings.



Paul Collingwood

Division 1 table at a glance	Points
	8
	8
	8
	6
	6
	4
	—
	—
	—

Division 2 table at a glance	Points
	10
	8
	8
	6
	4
	4
	2
	2
	—

2001 Stats (by division)

● 2001 DIVISION ONE STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Nottinghamshire Outlaws	2	2	0	0	0	8
Leicestershire Foxes	2	2	0	0	0	8
Gloucestershire Gladiators	4	2	2	0	0	8
Kent Spitfires	2	1	0	0	1	6
Warwickshire Royals	3	1	1	0	1	6
Yorkshire Phoenix	2	1	1	0	0	4
Surrey Lions	2	0	2	0	0	0
Northants Steelbacks	1	0	1	0	0	0
Somerset Sabres	2	0	2	0	0	0

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING (2001)

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
M.J.Saggers	3/19	Spitfires v Sabres	Taunton
J.Lewis	3/20	Gladiators v Foxes	Leicester
G.J.Smith	3/32	Outlaws v Lions	The Oval
S.A.J.Boswell	3/32	Foxes v Lions	The Oval
D.E.Malcolm	3/34	Foxes v Gladiators	Leicester
G.M.Fellows	3/34	Phoenix v Gladiators	Bristol

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES (2001)

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
D.P.Ostler	134*	Royals v Gladiators	Edgbaston
A.D.Brown	111*	Lions v Foxes	The Oval
K.J.Barnett	101	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Northampton
D.J.Marsh	97*	Foxes v Lions	The Oval
U.Afzaal	94*	Outlaws v Royals	Trent Bridge
B.C.Holloake	70*	Lions v Outlaws	The Oval

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS (2001)

Total	Teams	Venue
248 for 4	Royals v Gladiators	Edgbaston
233 for 8	Outlaws v Lions	The Oval
231 for 6	Foxes v Lions	The Oval
230 for 4	Lions v Foxes	The Oval

■ MOST CATCHES (2001) EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
D.P.Ostler	Royals	4	2
D.J.Bicknell	Outlaws	3	2
M.C.J.Ball	Gladiators	3	3

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS (2001)

Wkts	Player	Team
6	J.Lewis	Gladiators
5	D.R.Brown	Royals
5	A.J.Holloake	Lions
4	N.M.K.Smith	Royals

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS (2001)

Total	Teams	Venue
116	Gladiators v Foxes	Leicester
149	Sabres v Spitfires	Taunton
154	Sabres v Phoenix	Headingley
158	Phoenix v Gladiators	Bristol

■ LEADING DISMISSALS (2001)

Name	Team	Dism's	Mtchs
R.C.J.Williams	Gladiators	7	4
N.D.Burns	Foxes	4	2
K.J.Piper	Royals	4	2
R.J.Blakey	Phoenix	3	2

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS (2001)

Runs	Player	Team
185	K.J.Barnett	Gladiators
143	U.Afzaal	Outlaws
134	D.P.Ostler	Royals
134	B.C.Holloake	Lions

● 2001 DIVISION TWO STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Durham Dynamos	3	2	0	0	1	10
Derbyshire Scorpions	3	2	1	0	0	8
Worcestershire Bears	3	2	1	0	0	8
Hampshire Hawks	2	1	0	0	1	6
Glamorgan Dragons	2	1	1	0	0	4
Sussex Sharks	2	1	1	0	0	4
Middlesex Crusaders	2	0	1	0	1	2
Lancashire Lightning	3	0	2	0	1	2
Essex Eagles	2	0	2	0	0	0

● BEST INDIVIDUAL BOWLING (2001)

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
G.Welch	5/22	Scorpions v Dragons	Derby
N.C.Phillips	4/21	Dynamos v Lightning	Riverside
T.Lungley	4/28	Scorpions v Eagles	Derby
T.A.Munton	4/31	Scorpions v Bears	Worcester
S.R.Lampitt	4/37	Bears v Sharks	Kidderminster
C.B.Keegan	4/43	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside

● BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES (2001)

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
R.J.Bailey	94	Scorpions v Eagles	Derby
R.R.Montgomerie	91	Sharks v Eagles	Chelmsford
D.G.Cork	83*	Scorpions v Dragons	Derby
B.L.Hutton	77	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside
S.D.Peters	66	Eagles v Sharks	Chelmsford
N.H.Fairbrother	62	Lightning v Dragons	Old Trafford

■ HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS (2001)

Total	Teams	Venue
243 for 6	Sharks v Eagles	Chelmsford
242 for 9	Eagles v Sharks	Chelmsford
211 for 6	Dynamos v Lightning	Riverside
198 for 6	Scorpions v Eagles	Derby

■ MOST CATCHES (2001) EXCLUDING WICKETKEEPERS

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
W.S.Kendall	Hawks	2	1
R.S.C.Martin-Jenkins	Sharks	2	2
M.W.Goodwin	Sharks	2	2

■ LEADING WICKET-TAKERS (2001)

Wkts	Player	Team
7	S.R.Lampitt	Bears
7	G.Welch	Scorpions
6	N.C.Phillips	Dynamos
6	T.A.Munton	Scorpions

■ LOWEST TEAM TOTALS (2001)

Total	Teams	Venue
131	Eagles v Scorpions	Derby
138	Dragons v Scorpions	Derby

■ LEADING DISMISSALS (2001)

Name	Team	Dism's	Mtchs
K.M.Krikken	Scorpions	7	3
S.J.Rhodes	Bears	5	3
A.Pratt	Dynamos	4	2
W.K.Hegg	Lightning	3	2

■ LEADING RUN SCORERS (2001)

Runs	Player	Team
116	R.J.Bailey	Scorpions
106	R.R.Montgomerie	Sharks
101	N.H.Fairbrother	Lightning
96	D.A.Leatherdale	Bears