

**MATCH NUMBER 40: CHESHIRE V STAFFORDSHIRE**

Played at Filkins lane, Boughton Hall, Chester on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1911

Result: Staffordshire won by an innings & 38 runs Points: Staffordshire 5

Toss: Cheshire Umpires: M Myers & B Brown Debutants:

First day score: Cheshire 105, Staffordshire 275-8 (Meakin 79\*)

**Cheshire**

L N Jones	b Deyes	5	c Barnes b Bucknell	15
F Moorhouse	c Briggs b Barnes	40	retired hurt/ill	8
P Mason	c Poole b Deyes	22	st Poole b Barnes	12
*+F A Jones	run out	19	c Bucknell b Barnes	6
S E Rigg	b Barnes	4	c Vost b Barnes	0
J H Wright	b Barnes	4	b Barnes	1
J M Swift	c Meakin b Barnes	0	c Bucknell b Barnes	0
L Hales	c Vost b Barnes	0	c Briggs b Barnes	40
A Ashworth	c Meakin b Barnes	0	not out	30
J A Harrison	c Briggs b Bucknell	4	c Briggs b Bucknell	0
A H Fyffe	not out		c Meakin b Bucknell	16
Extras	b 6, lb 1	7	b 9, lb 2	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>(all out)</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>(all out)</b>	<b>139</b>

Fall of wickets	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
First innings	16	61	79	89	93	93	99	103	105	105
Second innings	25	37	37	42	42	44	48	112	139	

Barnes	18	9	21	6	(1)	18	8	29	6
Deyes	18	3	54	2	(2)	9	0	38	0
Bucknell	6.3	0	19	1	(3)	10	0	34	3
Vost	2	0	4	0	(4)	3	0	15	0
Nichols					(5)	4	0	12	0
Extras			7	1				11	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>9</b>

**Staffordshire**

E H Bourne	c Wright b Fyffe	20
A Hollowood	run out	47
P Briggs	c & b Moorhouse	34
L F Taylor	c F A Jones b Moorhouse	5
S F Barnes	c L N Jones b Moorhouse	8
J E Nichols	c L N Jones b Mason	47
E Vost	c Mason b Harrison	0
* B Meakin	not out	79
A Bucknell	b Fyffe	17
+J Poole	c F A Jones b Fyffe	2
G Deyes	c Hales b Mason	5
Extras	b 12, lb 3, nb 3	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>(all out)</b>	<b>282</b>

  

Fall of wickets	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
First innings	27	71	86	102	146	146	221	275	277	282

  

Mason	17.4	1	59	2
Fyffe	15	0	88	3
Moorhouse	16	0	53	3
Ashworth	8	0	22	0
Harrison	4	0	21	1
L N Jones	4	0	21	0
Extras			18	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>10</b>

Notes:

[Missing:

Sources: Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1911

STAFFORDSHIRE V. CHESHIRE.

The return match between these counties was played at Chester on Monday and Tuesday, and resulted in an easy victory for the visiting side, who completely outplayed their opponents. Staffordshire had a strong eleven, though Fereday and J. S. Heath were not included. The Cheshire team seems always unfamiliar, and again there were many new names. Smoker was absent, but A. H. Fryfe, a useful fast bowler, was included for the first time. The team was overshadowed, however, by Barnes's bowling being much too good for them, and the Staffordshire batting both effective and attractive. B. Meakin, for the second match in succession, went in at the critical point of the innings and played splendid cricket. The bowling of the side was, on the whole, good, though a few difficult chances were missed. But they would have been brilliant catches had they been taken, and it is hardly fair to speak of them as mistakes in the field.

The game was started at 11.35 on Monday. Cheshire having won the toss, Staffordshire took the field, and Barnes and Deyes opened the bowling action and watching Barnes bowl. He was very fast, and there was a distinct slope from side to side. From the city end the slope was from the left side, and, as there was a cross wind in the same direction one had visions of Barnes's leg-break fairly fizzing off the hill-side so to speak, at an abrupt angle, to the bewilderment of helpless batsmen. And the view became tangible a little later in the day. Barnes's bowling first, which could be done with an off break, and took the other end—a surprising choice. It seemed as though both bowlers would have been better suited by the opposite ends. Both were well on the mark, however, and though a couple of fours and a three came from Deyes in the course of his first three or four overs, they were all stroked through the slips whilst nothing whatever could be done with Barnes, who was bowling fast, and frequently turning them down the hill from the off. Twenty-five minutes produced 16 runs, and then Jones got on the top of a rather short one from the fast bowler, and chopped it on to the bottom of the off stump. Moorhouse was playing with great caution and watching Barnes closely. He was very near to several balls that kicked over the wicket, but managed to avoid touching these dangerous ones, and successfully smothered anything he could reach. With Mason in, and playing a similarly watchful game, the scoring was slower than ever, and 35 minutes produced ten runs, making 26 in the first hour. Two more over and a half from Barnes and Moorhouse appeared to give a hard, low chance to Briggs's right hand at first slip from the new bowler, having scored 20 at this point. Mason also got a lucky four from Bucknell, which went dangerously near Briggs in the same position from a very similar ball. At 36 Barnes was relieved, Deyes coming on at his end. Barnes had maintained rather more than his average speed, and not only entirely on his off-break, as he was obliged to do from that end. He kept an extraordinary length, and in an hour and five minutes delivered eleven overs without a single loose ball, or anything that could be hit with safety. Seven of his overs were maidens, and the only scoring strokes from him were three singles in the slips and one over the wicket in the past cover point. He actually bowled over an hour for three runs, and when he was taken off five runs had been scored from him in 65 minutes. His bowling certainly deserved wickets, for he was several times very near the balls; but after events proved that the conditions might almost have been made for his leg-break from the other end, as we have already seen. Cheshire were then in high admiration of his fast ball turning from the off, the judicious use of which makes his leg-spin tactically more deadly, we have always regarded the latter as his greatest asset. There are other right-handed bowlers who can work from the off as well as Barnes, though few have his extraordinary accuracy of aim, but we care to assert that there is no man living who can bowl a leg-break right-handed as he can. Many left-handed bowlers can turn the ball from the leg at a good speed, for it is the natural spin for the left hand, and therein lies, in a large measure, the left hander's advantage in bowling, leg-break being always more difficult to play than the off-break. But the leg spin, put in the right hand, gives the ball from the pitch with an acceleration of speed, or a "nip," which it is almost, if not absolutely, impossible for the dexter finger of the left hand to impart. Thus we should argue that a right-handed leg-break of good medium speed is the most difficult ball a right-hand batsman can have to play, and Barnes can bowl it far faster than any other player we have ever seen, and yet maintain a length worthy of an Attwell. Therefore, with conditions so favourable to this very ball, it was disappointing to see him forsake it in favour of the off-break, and not surprising that he had to come back to it.

With Deyes and Bucknell bowling, the scoring quickened, and 59 minutes to the end of 75 minutes, both batsmen bringing off a few good strokes, but at 81 Mason had a short one on his body that rose awkwardly, and in trying to hit it to leg in rather stiff fashion he skied it and was caught by the wicket-keeper. The pair had been together 55 minutes, and added 45 runs for the second wicket. The Cheshire captain and wicket-keeper, F. A. Jones, followed at 83, and Barnes was put on at the city end. From the first ball it was seen that there was trouble in store for the batsmen. The ball pitched on the leg stump, Jones went forward to it, but it flashed away from him and passed outside the off-wicket. The batsman was utterly beaten, and very lucky not to have been bowled. Then there came a rather shorter one, slightly on the leg side, and in stopping it Jones put it up almost within the reach of Meakin at short leg. Then another went clean past over the off-stump, and the next one, a little slower, and a beautiful length, was "cocked" up between the wickets, and Barnes himself nearly got to it. The second ball of the next over was mis-hit by Jones, and would have been an easy catch to Deyes at cover-point, but the fielder, excusably mis-judging it a little, ran in, and was unable to get back again quick enough to reach it, and 2 runs were scored. But bowling like this could not be long withstood, and Moorhouse, after putting one up rather dangerously close in on the leg-side, edged a breaking ball into the slips and was well caught. The ex-Warwickshire professional had played a dogged game and withstood some grand bowling for an hour and 50 minutes, but when Barnes bowled at his right end, Moorhouse, like all his colleagues,

simply could not play him. S. E. Riggs went in, and poked Barnes up on the off harmlessly. Lunch was taken with the score at 80 for three wickets. Barnes had then bowled 14 overs for 7 runs and one wicket.

On resuming, there was a procession, and seven men were out before the century appeared. At 89 Riggs had one from Barnes which he was obliged to go forward to, but, well up as it was, it turned quite enough to be at the ball, and bowled the off stump. Wright drove off for 4, Barnes touching it with the left hand, and was then bailed. Barnes touched it with the right hand, and he got four from Barnes through mis-fielding at cover-point, sending up the 100, which had taken two and a-half hours to get. Jones then foolishly ran himself out, Harrison capped a short ball up to short-leg, and Ashworth's latched a rising delivery from the other end and fell to a catch in the slips. Thus half an hour after lunch had seen seven wickets for 80 and 25 runs. Barnes had bowled four overs for 14 runs and five wickets, making his record six for 31, or, since he changed ends, six for 16.

E. H. Bourne and Hollowood opened Staffordshire's batting at three o'clock and the bowling was first by Barnes and Fryfe. The latter is an old Oxonian, who was playing county in the Varsity Eleven for his fast bowling, and he has in the last few years done a lot of bowling in friendly cricket in the South of England. Being now in business at Chester, he plays with Boughton Park, and should be of considerable value to the county. He bowls fast and with a high delivery, and though he is rather expensive in this match he gave the impression of being a good bowler. Bourne opened briskly, but Hollowood gave an easy catch at short slip from the fast bowler after scoring 2 and was let off. This proved an expensive mistake, for the Burslem man made no other slip until he ran himself out at several nice fours. One brilliant shot past cover from Fryfe, but he could not keep away from an off ball that was waist high, and the same fielder made no mistake this time. Briggs followed and immediately set about knocking the fast bowler off. He lifted him into the long field on either side of the wicket for twice, and made other good forcing strokes, the causing Fryfe to change ends at 45 and Moorhouse to bow instead of Mason. But Briggs sent up 50 in 37 minutes by hitting Moorhouse square for 4 and then on-drove the amateur to keep away from a sticky stroke through the slips, and, jumping two yards in to the fast bowler, hit him to the square-leg boundary by means of a quaint stroke. At 71 Briggs mistimed a ball from Moorhouse and was easily caught and bowled, and after Hollowood had twice put Fryfe to the leg boundary by beautiful

strokes, Taylor was snapped at the wicket. Barnes sent up the 100 in 75 minutes, but fell in the slips two runs later. With Nichols and Hollowood together, the home score was passed with four wickets down. After a short tea interval, Nichols hit out in refreshing style, getting Fryfe to leg for a three, and the two together led the charge for a few minutes. After a dangerous stroke in the slips, the Stoke professional made a grand off-drive from the fast bowler. There were changes in the bowling, and at 146 Hollowood was smartly thrown out in attempting too sharp a single. He had been at the wicket an hour and 50 minutes, and played sound, though not altogether impressive cricket, but a lucky hit to him, and he was caught at first slip from the first ball he received. Six wickets were thus down for 146, which was not entirely satisfying. But the Staffordshire captain again gave of his best and played the finest cricket of the match. After Nichols had been let off in the long field, Meakin began to hit and got a succession of beautifully-timed strokes. His most effective shot probably his off drive in front of cover, which, being sliced a little, generally beats cover and extra cover. Twice in one over he dispatched Harrison to the boundary in this wise, cut Jones for 4, and then off-drove him in precisely the same way to the rails. He kept on driving admirably, and after Nichols had got Jones to leg for a couple of runs, he was caught at short leg from a ball that had returned to the boundary and cut him late for 4. So matters went merrily on until 75 had been added in 50 minutes, when Nichols, being, like Hollowood, three short of his 50, was caught in the slips. He had been batting an hour and a half and shown more freedom than usual. A good many of his runs were made on the leg side, and he made a total of 20 minutes, and then Meakin and Bucknell scored 54 in 35 minutes by good cricket, Bucknell being bowled just on seven o'clock, and stumps being drawn with the score at 275 for eight wickets. The seventh and eighth wickets had placed Staffordshire in a happy position by adding 129 runs, of which Meakin had hit 79 by beautiful cricket and had given no chance.

Play was resumed on Tuesday in glorious weather at 11.10, the conditions being almost exactly the same as on the previous day. It was hoped that the Staffordshire captain would have time to reach his hundred, but he could not get any bowling, and when the two outstanding wickets had fallen for an addition of seven runs in ten minutes Meakin had only received three balls and had not increased his score. Altogether he was batting an hour and thirty-five minutes, and hit thirteen fours. He was never in any difficulty, except when the ball kicked awkwardly, as it sometimes did, and then he always managed to leave it alone. Staffordshire had been hit by Barnes at a fair average pace, the innings having lasted 215 minutes. The bowling was not specially good, and there was a certain sameness about it, Fryfe's extra turn of speed and spark of fire being almost the only variation.

Cheshire commenced their second innings at 11.35, and Barnes (City-end) and Deyes shared the bowling, Moorhouse and L. R. Jones were the first pair, and the former gave a chance at the wicket. Barnes after getting a lucky two through the slips. He was always in difficulties with Barnes, who was bowling in bewildering fashion as in the first innings. After beating the bat several times with leg-spin, Barnes pulled one back from the off, up the hill, and Harrison, who was unsuccessful for leg before. The next ball drew the batsman forward and turned eight or ten inches from the leg at an astonishing speed. Poolo had the balls off with a smartness few stumpers could excel, but though the

batsman was down on one knee, he had not drawn his toes over the crease. Nearly every ball from Barnes produced a thrill of some kind, but the two men stayed together half an hour for eight runs, and then Moorhouse drove a half-volley from Deyes to the off-boundary. In the same over the batsman was hit on the thumb, which had previously been injured, and was obliged to retire. Mason was missed at the wicket from the first ball he received and drove the next straight for four. In Deyes' next over he got two more fours, but facing Barnes reached right forward to smother that unsmotherable leg-break, was beaten by it and beautifully stumped. This was the beginning of another rout which though sensational was not surprising. The second wicket went at 37, and seven were out for 48. F. A. Jones edged one into the slips, it was caught so quickly by Wright bowled by one which he could hardly believe had hit the wicket, and the Rev. J. M. Swift beaten by the next four balls in succession and caught in the slips from the fifth, gaining the unenviable "pair." Then Harrison and L. N. Jones were taken in the slips at the other end from Bucknell, who had relieved Deyes. Hales and Ashworth enjoyed a charmed life. Both almost happily from the off and went to the boundary without hitting the wicket. Hales was almost caught in the slips from Barnes, gave a chance of stumping, and, trying a leg hit, sent the ball up over cover-point's head, whilst the next ball, almost a yorker, turned so quickly to beat batsman, wicket-keeper, and go for four byes. It looked as though any ball might end the partnership, but Barnes had bowled for more than an hour and a half, so a double change was tried at 70. From Nichols and Deyes runs came more readily, and at lunch the two were still together, and the score 105. Twenty minutes sufficed to finish the match after lunch, and Staffordshire won a most convincing victory by a record of four wickets for 50 runs in the match. Bucknell also bowled well, and Deyes had no luck at all, his bowling being good enough for much better figures than he obtained.

Score and analysis:—

CHESHIRE.			
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.		
Moorhouse, c. Briggs, b. Barnes	40	retired hurt	8
L. N. Jones, b. Deyes	5	c. Barnes, b. Bucknell	15
Mason, c. Poolo, b. Deyes	52	st. Poolo, b. Barnes	12
F. A. Jones, run out	20	c. Bucknell, b. Barnes	6
S. E. Riggs, b. Barnes	4	c. Vest, b. Barnes	0
J. H. Wright, b. Barnes	4	b. Barnes	1
Rev. J. M. Swift, c. Meakin, b. Barnes	0	c. Bucknell, b. Barnes	0
L. Eason, c. Vest, b. Barnes	0	c. Briggs, b. Barnes	40
A. Ashworth, c. Briggs, b. Bucknell	4	not out	30
J. A. Harrison, c. Meakin, b. Barnes	0	c. Briggs, b. Bucknell	0
A. H. Fryfe, not out	0	c. Meakin, b. Bucknell	16
Extras	7	Extras	11
Total	105	Total	159

STAFFORDSHIRE—1st Innings.

E. H. Bourne, c. Wright, b. Fryfe	20
Hollowood, run out	47
P. Briggs, c. and b. Moorhouse	34
L. F. Taylor, c. F. Jones, b. Moorhouse	5
Barnes, c. L. Jones, b. Moorhouse	8
Nichols, c. L. Jones, b. Mason	47
Vest, c. Mason, b. Harrison	0
B. Meakin, not out	79
Bucknell, b. Fryfe	17
J. P. Poolo, c. F. Jones, b. Fryfe	2
Deyes, c. Hales, b. Mason	5
Extras	18
Total	282

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

CHESHIRE.					
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.				
O.	M.	R.	O.	M.	R.
Barnes	18	9	21	6	18
Deyes	18	3	54	2	9
Bucknell	63	0	19	1	10
Vest	2	0	4	0	3
Nichols					12

STAFFORDSHIRE INNINGS.

CHESHIRE.					
O.	M.	R.	O.	M.	R.
Mason	17	4	1	59	2
Fryfe	15	0	88	3	
Moorhouse	16	0	53	3	
Harrison	4	0	21	1	
Ashworth	8	0	22	0	
J. Jones	4	0	21	0	

Mason bowled one no-ball and Fryfe two no-balls.

**MATCH NUMBER 40: CHESHIRE V STAFFORDSHIRE**

Played at Filkins Lane, Boughton Hall, Chester on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1911

Result: Staffordshire won by an innings & 38 runs    Points: Staffordshire 5

Toss: Cheshire    Umpires: M Myers & B Brown    Debutants:

First day score: Cheshire 105, Staffordshire 275-8 (Meakin 79\*)

**Cheshire 2<sup>nd</sup> Inns**

Moorhouse retired hurt (hit on thumb by Barnes) score 12-0

Notes: Staffordshire completed another big win twenty minutes after lunch on the second day, this time against Cheshire and another season double over their close rivals. Lead by their captain B.Meakin who made a score of 70+ runs for the second game running. S.F.Barnes came back into the Staffordshire line-up for this game after international duties to take 12 wickets for just 50 runs.

[Missing:

Sources: Staffordshire Annual Report, Staffordshire CCC scorebook, Staffordshire Advertiser (July 29)