

## Club Cricket

# Brathwaite launches a brutal attack on strugglers



Manraj Johal bagged five wickets

## B'HAM PREMIER LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

By PAUL SMITH

WEST Indian World Cup winner Carlos Brathwaite fired Knowle & Dorridge to an emphatic 145-run home win over struggling Ombersley.

The 33-year-old Barbadian smashed 11 sixes and eight fours in a whirlwind 61-ball 120, while Warwickshire's Ethan Brookes made 53 to set the visitors a daunting target of 308.

Brathwaite (3-31) then combined with Gareth Davies (3-6) to see Ombersley off for 163.

Table-topping Smethwick's unbeaten start to the season continued as Qamar Khan's brilliant 133-ball 140 led them to a comprehensive 129-run win at Kidderminster.

The home attack, which conceded 380 to Kenilworth Wardens last week, was again under fire as the visitors piled up 298 before Bears' prospect Manraj Johal grabbed 5-31 as the hosts were bowled out for 169. Joe Miskowski top-scored for Kiddy with 63.

Smethwick's nearest pursuers are Barnet Green, who cruised to an eight-wicket win over Shifnal on the back of fine all-round displays from Ben Chapman-Lilley and Jacques Banton.

The Warwickshire all-rounder took 3-25 while his team-mate grabbed 3-33 as Shifnal were bowled out for 175.

Opener Chapman-Lilley then made a solid 58 before Banton's unbeaten 71-ball 66 saw the hosts home with seven overs remaining.

Berkswell's woes continue after fourth-placed Moseley became the latest club to dent their reputation as the league's dominant force by claiming a convincing 166-run win at the Lant.

The multiple champions were hurried out in 24 overs for just 71 by a four-strong visiting attack led by Usman Awan (4-11). Bhavik Patel (62) and Asim Shoaib (82no) had earlier provided the foundation of Moseley's 237 for nine.

Shrewsbury are also at the wrong end of the table following their 81-run



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defeat at the hands of Kenilworth Wardens.

The league's in-form batter, Harry Johnson, was once again Wardens' hero, stroking a superb 126-ball 136 as his team posted 284.

Despite home skipper Will Parton making 80, another man-of-the-moment, teenage seamer Tommy Rex, grabbed 4-25 as the hosts were bowled out for 203.

Leamington also enter next week's South Warwickshire derby with Wardens in good heart following a 40-run home win over Halesowen.

When the hosts were 12 for four a total of 286 seemed an unlikely outcome before Luke de Souza and Ollie Currill combined in a superb 239-run fifth-wicket alliance.

Spa's left-handed opener reached a composed 152-ball 111, but it was the former Gloucestershire all-rounder's 124, containing nine sixes, that really set Arlington Avenue alight.

Eddie Rhodes took 5-47 for the visitors for whom former Worcestershire batter Alexei Kervezee made 103 before being last out with the score at 246.

# Brothers in arms leading Sutton's early charge

## WARWICKSHIRE PREMIER

SUTTON Coldfield's Thomason brothers have been dominant figures in the opening weeks and former Bear Aaron again produced the goods with a fluent 75 in the table-toppers' 27-run home win over Moseley Ashfield.

With Raul Ram contributing 81 and Amir Shabir 56 the visitors were set 277, and despite nine batters reaching double figures, none got to 50 as a fine spell from Graham Clark (4-46) held Ashfield to 250.

Aston Manor are Sutton's closest

challengers following a Hamza Nadeem and Shakeel Janjua-inspired 28-run win over visitors Walmley. The experienced pair both made half-centuries with Janjua lashing six sixes in his 29-ball 63.

This enabled the hosts to recover from 58 for four to 235 before the duo shared five wickets to just hold off a visiting side who looked extremely threatening while skipper Jono Newis (40) was at the crease.

Wes Landsdale's unbeaten 109, plus 50 not out from George Mackenzie, saw third-placed Rugby post 251 against Solihull Municipal.

Despite a half-century from Muni's Jonathan Stanley, this proved enough to deliver a 53-run success.

Defending champions Stratford are closing on the leading group after a battling two-wicket win at Coventry for whom Nathan Biggs top-scored with 48.

Chasing 188, Stratford owed plenty to overseas pro Tyler Scroop's 75 as they scrambled home in the last over. Biggs and Taran Toor shared six wickets for the hosts.

Bedworth's promising start continued with a high-scoring 28-run win over Bablake.



Josh Thomas

Finn Haynes (82), Kyle Taylor (62) and Max Page (56) laid the base for the hosts before Josh Thomas blasted 48 from 19 balls to take them to 313. Josh Bains took 4-36 for the visitors, whose 285 was led by a Haaris Azam half-century, but with brothers Indy and Juggy Nandra sharing seven wickets the hosts held firm.

Attock's last pair added the seven runs required for a one-wicket home win over Olton. Half-centuries for Kevin McClean and Gary Hawkins (71) saw the visitors to 234 for seven before Haydn Burke grabbed 4-24 as the hosts scrambled home following opener Omar Ali's 49-ball 58.

## DIVISION TWO

### 'Gale knocks the wind out of Barnards!'

A FINE all-round display from Swapnil Gugale sparked table-topping Harborne to a 97-run home win over Barnards Green.

The Indian pro made an elegant 118-ball 96 before a middle-order stumble left Tom Payne (65) to oversee Harborne's progress to 248.

Three wickets apiece from Mike Bevan and George Land, plus a tidy ten-over spell of Gugale off-spin, then completed the job as Barnards Green were bowled out for 151. Ollie Rogoff top-scored with 52 for the Malvern-based club who have made a surprisingly slow start to 2022.

As a result of this latest success, Harborne are the only unbeaten side in the division. They sit 11 points clear of a chasing pack headed by newly-promoted Lichfield, whose latest win was a tense three-wicket affair over visiting Dorridge for whom Mohammed Talukder (52) led the way.

Chasing a target of 180 the hosts charged home in the 35th over, but with seven wickets down they owed much to the cool head of Joe Seagar's unbeaten 46.

Alex Milton's 89 not out enabled third-placed Bromsgrove to battle their way to 216 at West Bromwich Dartmouth. The hosts' Ibbadat Thaman responded with 62 but the visitors' six-man attack always had matters in hand as Dartmouth were bowled out for 176 in the 47th over.

Wolverhampton have also enjoyed a productive start to 2022 and they join Lichfield and Bromsgrove on four wins following a comfortable 92-run derby success against Himley.

Wolves' Ramanjot Jaswal carried his bat for 109, while Charlie Home made a useful 59 of the home side's 237 for six.

The visitors then collapsed to 15 for six against Brad Fallon and Aqab Ahmed before Jamie Turner's 56 salvaged some pride as Himley closed on 145 for eight.

Mike Hill made an unbeaten 97 for Bridgnorth, who saw off newly-promoted basement boys Worfield by six wickets. Basit Zaman had earlier made 77 of the visitors' 249 for seven.

Bowlers dominated the mid-table tussle at Wem where Walsall claimed a three-wicket verdict chasing 87 in a match which in total lasted only 46 overs.