

National Cricket League - Fact File

LAST YEAR'S NATIONAL LEAGUE champions Lancashire Lightning will still be the team everyone has to beat when the new Norwich Union campaign begins on April 30.

The Old Trafford club have long-boasted the most consistent and talented limited overs line-up in the country and despite the loss of contracted England players Mike Atherton, Andrew Flintoff and Chris Schofield, they should still be regarded as strong favourites to retain their crown.

Last season's surprise package in terms of one-day cricket were Gloucestershire Gladiators and John Bracewell's side look set to continue in that vein and could provide a stiff challenge to Lancashire Lightning.

Yorkshire Phoenix looked to be making a strong challenge for the National League last season but came unstuck during a poor, late run and a more consistent effort this season should see them into a top three place at the very least.

The newly-promoted counties should not be taken too lightly as they all performed impressively to gain their elevation by a long way from the rest of the division.

Sussex Sharks won the Second Division after being pushed all the way by Somerset Sabres and both sides will feel they can perform well after going far in the other one-day competitions last season.

The other Norwich Union National League One debutants are Northamptonshire Steelbacks who have also developed into a useful one-day side under coach Bob Carter and will be confident of avoiding an immediate return to Division Two.

Surrey Lions never managed to get to grips with the National League last term but will surely be favourites for promotion from the Second Division this time around.

Despite the fact that they will be regularly weakened by international call-ups, their squad is still more than capable and they should be the team to watch in Norwich Union Division Two.

Warwickshire Bears, Essex Eagles and Hampshire Hawks - last season's relegated sides - will all be hoping to bounce back at the first time of asking while other Second Division sides to watch could be a young and more determined Middlesex Crusaders outfit and Glamorgan Dragons, who have plenty of talent among their ranks.



Issue No.1



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How it Works
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DIVISION ONE

Gloucestershire Gladiators
Kent Spitfires
Lancashire Lightning
Leicestershire Foxes
Northamptonshire Steelbacks
Somerset Sabres
Sussex Sharks
Worcestershire Royals
Yorkshire Phoenix

DIVISION TWO

Derbyshire Scorpions
Durham Dynamos
Essex Eagles
Glamorgan Dragons
Hampshire Hawks
Middlesex Crusaders
Nottinghamshire Outlaws
Surrey Lions
Warwickshire Bears

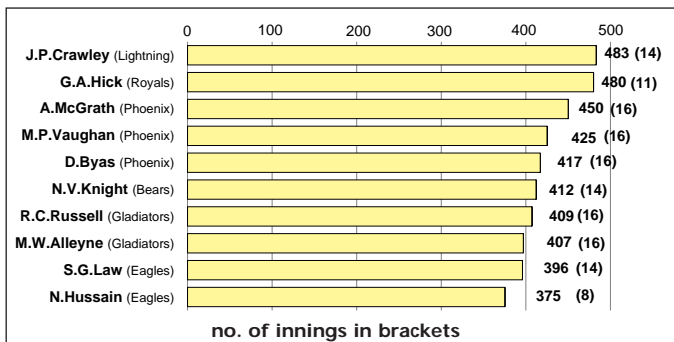
Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
A.Flintoff	143	Lightning v Eagles	Chelmsford
W.P.C.Weston	125	Royals v Bears	Edgbaston
C.C.Lewis	116*	Foxes v Spitfires	Canterbury
N.Hussain	114	Eagles v Phoenix	Headingley
G.A.Hick	110*	Royals v Foxes	Worcester
J.S.Laney	106*	Hawks v Eagles	Southend
N.V.Knight	106*	Bears v Royals	Worcester
N.V.Knight	102*	Bears v Foxes	Leicester
R.A.Smith	97*	Hawks v Eagles	Southampton
P.A.Nixon	96*	Foxes v Spitfires	Canterbury
J.P.Stephenson	96	Hawks v Lightning	Southampton
M.A.Atherton	95*	Lightning v Hawks	Southampton
A.Symonds	95	Spitfires v Foxes	Canterbury
R.C.Russell	91*	Gladiators v Phoenix	Cheltenham
M.W.Alleyne	91	Gladiators v Hawks	Bristol
D.L.Maddy	89*	Foxes v Hawks	Southampton
G.A.Hick	89	Royals v Bears	Worcester
R.J.Rollins	87	Eagles v Lightning	Chelmsford

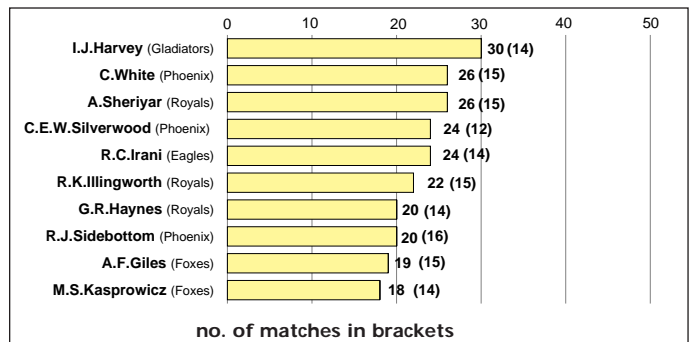
Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
M.J.Rawnsley	5/26	Royals v Spitfires	Tunbridge Wells
P.J.Martin	5/28	Lightning v Bears	Edgbaston
J.M.Dakin	5/30	Foxes v Spitfires	Leicester
R.C.Irani	5/33	Eagles v Hawks	Southampton
I.J.Harvey	5/41	Gladiators v Foxes	Bristol
M.C.J.Ball	5/42	Gladiators v Phoenix	Cheltenham
D.W.Headley	5/43	Spitfires v Bears	Maidstone
D.W.Headley	4/13	Eagles v Bears	Edgbaston
I.D.Austin	4/15	Lightning v Eagles	Old Trafford
M.J.Cawdron	4/17	Gladiators v Bears	Cheltenham
S.R.Lampitt	4/18	Royals v Hawks	Worcester
D.W.Headley	4/21	Spitfires v Hawks	Canterbury
D.A.Leatherdale	4/23	Royals v Bears	Edgbaston
A.Flintoff	4/24	Lightning v Hawks	Old Trafford
C.White	4/25	Phoenix v Gladiators	Headingley
M.J.Rawnsley	4/27	Royals v Lightning	Old Trafford
J.N.Snape	4/27	Gladiators v Royals	Worcester
G.R.Haynes	4/28	Royals v Eagles	Chelmsford

Leading Run Scorers



Leading Wicket-takers



Leading Catches (excluding wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
N.V.Knight	(Bears)	14	13
M.P.Vaughan	(Phoenix)	10	16
D.Byas	(Phoenix)	9	16
M.G.N.Windows	(Gladiators)	9	16
G.A.Hick	(Royals)	8	11
G.R.Haynes	(Royals)	8	14
V.S.Solanki	(Royals)	8	15
M.W.Alleyne	(Gladiators)	8	16
N.Hussain	(Eagles)	7	8
J.P.Stephenson	(Hawks)	7	11
A.Flintoff	(Lightning)	7	11
M.C.J.Ball	(Gladiators)	7	12
D.A.Leatherdale	(Royals)	7	14
K.J.Barnett	(Gladiators)	7	14
J.N.Snape	(Gladiators)	7	16

Leading Economy Rates (35 overs minimum)

Name	Team	Economy
I.D.Austin	(Lightning)	2.98
A.D.Mullally	(Foxes)	3.10
T.M.Moody	(Royals)	3.17
M.Muralitharan	(Lightning)	3.33
A.M.Smith	(Gladiators)	3.45
M.Watkinson	(Lightning)	3.52
C.E.W.Silverwood	(Phoenix)	3.54
M.A.Ealham	(Spitfires)	3.54
J.B.D.Thompson	(Spitfires)	3.57
P.J.Martin	(Lightning)	3.64

Highest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
301 for 6	Lightning v Eagles	Chelmsford
298	Eagles v Lightning	Chelmsford
287 for 4	Royals v Bears	Edgbaston
261	Gladiators v Phoenix	Cheltenham
259 for 5	Hawks v Eagles	Southend
250 for 6	Royals v Foxes	Worcester
250 for 8	Foxes v Bears	Edgbaston

Leading Dismissals (wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Dis	Mtchs
R.J.Blakey	(Phoenix)	32	16
P.A.Nixon	(Foxes)	24	15
S.J.Rhodes	(Royals)	22	15
R.C.Russell	(Gladiators)	19	16
W.K.Hegg	(Lightning)	17	14
S.A.Marsh	(Spitfires)	15	14
B.J.Hyam	(Eagles)	13	10
T.Frost	(Bears)	8	11

Leading Strike Rates (35 overs minimum)

Name	Team	S/R
I.J.Harvey	(Gladiators)	21.56
D.A.Leatherdale	(Royals)	21.90
A.Flintoff	(Lightning)	23.64
A.Sheriyar	(Royals)	24.19
M.J.Rawnsley	(Royals)	24.75
C.E.W.Silverwood	(Phoenix)	25.45
R.C.Irani	(Eagles)	25.58
S.R.Lampitt	(Royals)	25.64
C.White	(Phoenix)	26.34
M.J.Cawdron	(Gladiators)	27.60

Lowest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
102	Spitfires v Royals	Tunbridge Wells
106	Hawks v Spitfires	Canterbury
109	Bears v Eagles	Edgbaston
113	Bears v Royals	Edgbaston
117	Eagles v Bears	Colchester

Leading century-makers

Name	Team	100s	Innings
N.V.Knight	(Bears)	2	14
N.Hussain	(Eagles)	1	8
W.P.C.Weston	(Royals)	1	8
C.C.Lewis	(Foxes)	1	9
G.A.Hick	(Royals)	1	11
A.Flintoff	(Lightning)	1	11
J.S.Laney	(Hawks)	1	12

Leading duck-makers

Name	Team	Ducks	Innings
I.J.Sutcliffe	(Foxes)	3	9
J.M.M.Averis	(Gladiators)	2	6

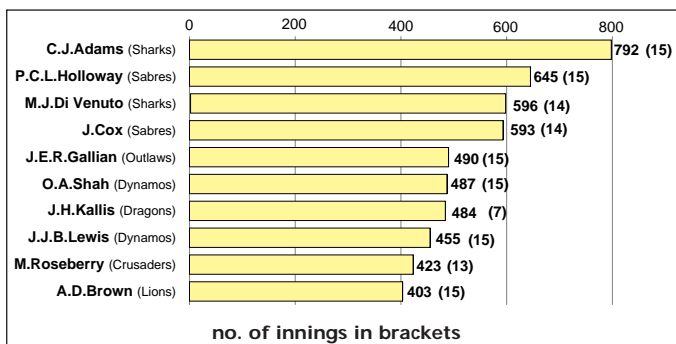
Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
C.J.Adams	163	Sharks v Crusaders	Arundel
J.H.Kallis	155*	Dragons v Lions	Pontypridd
O.A.Shah	134	Crusaders v Sharks	Arundel
J.E.R.Gallian	130	Outlaws v Scorpions	Derby
C.J.Adams	115*	Sharks v Sabres	Taunton
O.A.Shah	112	Crusaders v Lions	Lord's
M.E.Trescothick	110	Sabres v Crusaders	Taunton
M.E.Cassar	109	Scorpions v Outlaws	Trent Bridge
J.E.R.Gallian	108*	Outlaws v Sharks	Cleethorpes
A.W.Evans	108	Dragons v Scorpions	Cardiff
A.D.Brown	105	Lions v Scorpions	Derby
J.H.Kallis	104*	Dragons v Sabres	Cardiff
M.E.Cassar	103	Scorpions v Sabres	Taunton
P.C.L.Holloway	101*	Sabres v Lions	Guildford
J.Cox	101	Sabres v Outlaws	Trent Bridge
I.D.Blackwell	97	Scorpions v Dragons	Derby
P.C.L.Holloway	94*	Sabres v Scorpions	Taunton
M.J.Di Venuto	94*	Sharks v Outlaws	Hove
M.A.Roseberry	91*	Crusaders v Sabres	Taunton

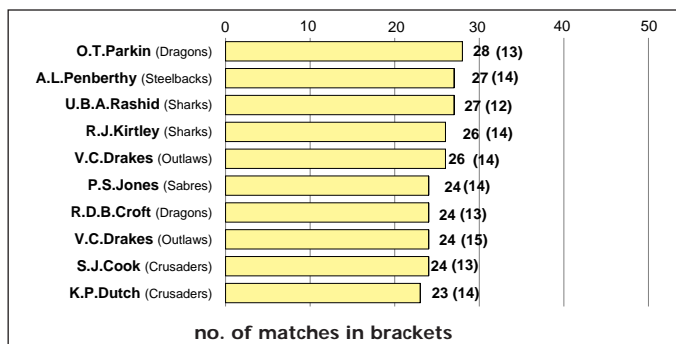
Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
M.P.Bicknell	7/30	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
U.B.A.Rashid	5/24	Sharks v Dragons	Swansea
P.J.Franks	5/27	Outlaws v Dragons	Trent Bridge
V.C.Drakes	5/31	Outlaws v Dynamos	Riverside
G.P.Swann	5/35	Steelbacks v Dynamos	Riverside
K.P.Dutch	5/35	Crusaders v Sabres	Taunton
A.L.Penberthy	5/41	Steelbacks v Sabres	Northampton
N.C.Phillips	4/13	Dynamos v Scorpions	Riverside
A.L.Penberthy	4/17	Steelbacks v Crusaders	Northampton
G.M.Roberts	4/23	Scorpions v Dragons	Derby
P.W.Jarvis	4/28	Sabres v Lions	Guildford
R.D.B.Croft	4/31	Dragons v Outlaws	Colwyn Bay
M.E.Cassar	4/31	Scorpions v Crusaders	Scorpions
R.J.Kirtley	4/31	Sharks v Outlaws	Hove
U.B.A.Rashid	4/32	Sharks v Steelbacks	Northampton
S.D.Thomas	4/33	Dragons v Sabres	Cardiff
M.A.Robinson	4/34	Sharks v Steelbacks	Northampton
C.M.Tolley	4/34	Outlaws v Crusaders	Trent Bridge
I.E.Bishop	4/34	Lions v Dynamos	The Oval

Leading Run Scorers



Leading Wicket-takers



Leading Catches (excluding wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
R.J.Warren	(Steelbacks)	11	13
U.B.A.Rashid	(Sharks)	10	15
C.J.Adams	(Sharks)	9	15
P.N.Weekes	(Crusaders)	9	16
D.J.Sales	(Steelbacks)	8	14
P.D.Collingwood	(Dynamos)	8	15
B.L.Hutton	(Crusaders)	7	8
R.J.Kirtley	(Sharks)	7	13
A.W.Evans	(Dragons)	7	13
R.D.B.Croft	(Dragons)	7	14
A.D.Brown	(Lions)	7	15
K.A.Parsons	(Sabres)	7	15
M.R.Ramprakash	(Crusaders)	6	12
K.M.Curran	(Steelbacks)	6	14

Leading Economy Rates (35 overs minimum)

Name	Team	Economy
A.R.Caddick	(Sabres)	3.09
R.S.C.M-Jenkins	(Sharks)	3.12
A.R.C.Fraser	(Crusaders)	3.42
P.A.J.DeFreitas	(Scorpions)	3.49
I.E.Bishop	(Lions)	3.78
J.H.Kallis	(Dragons)	3.82
M.A.Robinson	(Sharks)	3.86
S.L.Watkin	(Dragons)	3.87
K.M.Curran	(Steelbacks)	3.91
U.B.A.Rashid	(Sharks)	3.95

Highest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
297 for 5	Sharks v Crusaders	Arundel
294 for 4	Dragons v Lions	Pontypridd
288 for 6	Crusaders v Sharks	Arundel
286 for 7	Outlaws v Scorpions	Derby
269 for 7	Outlaws v Scorpions	Trent Bridge
261 for 9	Scorpions v Outlaws	Trent Bridge

Lowest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
44	Dragons v Lions	The Oval
99	Dragons v Crusaders	Cardiff
114	Crusaders v Scorpions	Scorpions
121	Crusaders v Steelbacks	Northampton
121	Dragons v Sharks	Swansea
127	Dragons v Sharks	Hove

Leading Dismissals (wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Dis	Mtchs
D.C.Nash	(Crusaders)	20	15
C.M.W.Read	(Outlaws)	19	14
R.J.Turner	(Sabres)	19	15
M.P.Speight	(Dynamos)	18	14
J.N.Batty	(Lions)	14	11
S.Humphries	(Sharks)	14	13
A.D.Shaw	(Dragons)	12	9
D.Ripley	(Steelbacks)	12	10
K.M.Krikken	(Scorpions)	10	10

Leading Strike Rates (35 overs minimum)

Name	Team	Economy
A.R.Caddick	(Sabres)	3.09
R.S.C.M-Jenkins	(Sharks)	3.12
A.R.C.Fraser	(Crusaders)	3.42
P.A.J.DeFreitas	(Scorpions)	3.49
I.E.Bishop	(Lions)	3.78
J.H.Kallis	(Dragons)	3.82
M.A.Robinson	(Sharks)	3.86
S.L.Watkin	(Dragons)	3.87
K.M.Curran	(Steelbacks)	3.91
U.B.A.Rashid	(Sharks)	3.95

Leading century-makers

Name	Team	100s	Innings
J.H.Kallis	(Dragons)	2	7
M.E.Cassar	(Scorpions)	2	14
C.J.Adams	(Sharks)	2	15
J.E.R.Gallian	(Outlaws)	2	15
O.A.Shah	(Crusaders)	2	15
A.D.Brown	(Lions)	1	15
G.E.Welton	(Outlaws)	1	9

Leading duck-makers

Name	Team	Ducks	Innings
G.P.Swann	(Steelbacks)	4	14
D.E.Malcolm	(Steelbacks)	3	13