

National Cricket League - Fact File



The Norwich Union National Cricket League is just beyond the halfway stage and there are still a myriad of possibilities as far as the championships, promotion and relegation are concerned.

Crowds have flocked to cricket grounds around the country to witness the excitement of the one-day competition and savour the talents of the world-class players on show.

Four teams are still in with a chance of clinching the Norwich Union NCL Division One title, with Worcestershire Royals currently in pole position, but Somerset Sabres, Gloucestershire Gladiators and Leicestershire Foxes are all within four points of the leaders.

At the other end of the table, former one-day kings Lancashire Lightning are in the unfamiliar position of bottom spot, along with Kent Spitfires on a meagre 12 points. Yorkshire Phoenix, Northamptonshire Steelbacks and Sussex Sharks will also have



their work cut out to avoid being relegated to Division Two next season.

Surrey Lions appear to have already wrapped up promotion to the upper-tier for next season, and remain impressively unbeaten after 10 games. But Nottinghamshire Outlaws will not have given up on the title, while Middlesex

Crusaders and Warwickshire Bears also have a slim chance if the Lions were to slip badly.

Glamorgan Dragons and Essex Eagles will both harbour hopes of a top-three finish which will see them in the upper echelon of the Norwich Union National Cricket League.

At the foot of the table, either Derbyshire Scorpions or Hampshire Hawks look set for the wooden spoon at the end of the season, with both teams having won just one match all summer.

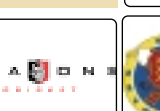
On the field, the imported talents of Glenn McGrath, Michael Bevan and Shane Warne have been superb, but home-grown stars such as Alec Stewart and Graham Thorpe continue to shine.

Norwich Union Division One

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Worcestershire Royals	9	6	2	0	1	26
Somerset Sabres	9	6	3	0	0	24
Gloucestershire Gladiators	10	6	4	0	0	24
Leicestershire Foxes	9	4	2	2	1	22
Yorkshire Phoenix	10	4	6	0	0	16
Northamptonshire Steelbacks	10	4	6	0	0	16
Sussex Sharks	9	3	4	1	1	16
Kent Spitfires	10	2	6	0	2	12
Lancashire Lightning	8	2	4	1	1	12

Norwich Union Division Two

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Surrey Lions	10	8	0	0	2	36
Nottinghamshire Outlaws	9	7	2	0	0	28
Middlesex Crusaders	10	5	3	1	1	24
Warwickshire Bears	9	5	3	1	0	22
Glamorgan Dragons	9	4	3	2	0	20
Essex Eagles	9	4	4	0	1	18
Durham Dynamos	10	3	7	0	0	12
Derbyshire Scorpions	9	1	8	0	0	4
Hampshire Hawks	9	1	8	0	0	4



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Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
M.A.Atherton	105	Lightning v Sabres	Taunton
G.A.Hick	101	Royals v Sabres	Taunton
C.J.Adams	100	Sharks v Steelbacks	Northampton
M.L.Hayden	96*	Steelbacks v Foxes	Leicester
M.E.Trescothick	92*	Sabres v Spitfires	Taunton
B.F.Smith	90	Foxes v Lightning	Old Trafford

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
J.M.M.Averis	5/20	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Northampton
I.J.Harvey	5/33	Gladiators v Sabres	Taunton
G.D.McGrath	4/9	Royals v Phoenix	Worcester
G.D.McGrath	4/12	Royals v Gladiators	Worcester
G.P.Swann	4/14	Steelbacks v Phoenix	Headingley
K.Adams	4/19	Spitfires v Foxes	Leicester

Highest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
295 for 7	Sabres v Spitfires	Maidstone
272 for 6	Sharks v Phoenix	Arundel
260 for 3	Sharks v Steelbacks	Northampton
251 for 8	Steelbacks v Sabres	Northampton
243 for 6	Sabres v Steelbacks	Taunton
241	Spitfires v Sabres	Maidstone
240	Steelbacks v Sabres	Taunton

Leading Catches (excluding wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
D.Byas	(Phoenix)	8	10
C.J.Adams	(Sharks)	7	8
I.D.Blackwell	(Sabres)	7	9
M.G.Bevan	(Sharks)	6	8
U.B.A.Rashid	(Sharks)	5	8

Lowest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
76	Steelbacks v Spitfires	Canterbury
112	Steelbacks v Gladiators	Northampton
120	Gladiators v Royals	Worcester
129	Gladiators v Phoenix	Headingley
129	Phoenix v Steelbacks	Headingley
132	Royals v Phoenix	Worcester
135	Sharks v Gladiators	Bristol

Leading Run Scorers

M.G.Bevan (Sharks)	420
M.E.Trescothick (Sabres)	370
C.J.Adams (Sharks)	351
D.S.Lehmann (Phoenix)	336
D.J.G.Sales (Foxes)	334
M.L.Hayden (Foxes)	329

no. of innings in brackets

Leading Wicket-takers

G.D.McGrath (Royals)	22 (9)
J.M.M.Averis (Gladiators)	22 (10)
P.S.Jones (Sabres)	21 (9)
I.J.Harvey (Gladiators)	20 (10)
R.J.Kirtley (Sharks)	17 (8)
M.J.Hoggard (Phoenix)	16 (9)

no. of matches in brackets

Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
G.P.Thorpe	126*	Lions v Outlaws	Guildford
A.J.Hollooake	111	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
S.G.Law	104*	Eagles v Crusaders	Chelmsford
M.T.G.Elliott	94	Dragons v Eagles	Cardiff
I.J.Ward	90*	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
A.J.Strauss	90	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
P.J.Franks	6/27	Outlaws v Dynamos	Riverside
A.W.Laraman	6/51	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside
A.J.Hollooake	5/29	Lions v Dynamos	Riverside
A.J.Harris	5/35	Outlaws v Hawks	Trent Bridge
A.R.C.Fraser	4/18	Crusaders v Eagles	Chelmsford

Highest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
273 for 3	Lions v Outlaws	Guildford
268 for 5	Lions v Dragons	The Oval
236 for 7	Dragons v Hawks	Cardiff
233	Crusaders v Dynamos	Riverside
230 for 7	Lions v Dynamos	Riverside
222 for 5	Hawks v Dynamos	Basingstoke

Leading Catches (excluding wicket-keepers)

Name	Team	Ctchs	Mtchs
P.D.Collingwood	(Dynamos)	9	9
D.G.Cork	(Scorpions)	8	8
P.N.Weekes	(Crusaders)	7	9
J.L.Langer	(Crusaders)	7	9
T.J.Mason	(Eagles)	6	8
G.P.Thorpe	(Lions)	5	6

Lowest Team Totals

Total	Teams	Venue
73	Hawks v Lions	Southampton
87	Scorpions v Dynamos	Darlington
94	Hawks v Lions	The Oval
105	Scorpions v Bears	Derby
114	Scorpions v Crusaders	Derby
116	Lions v Hawks	Southampton
118	Hawks v Bears	Southampton

Leading Run Scorers

S.M.Katich (Dynamos)	408(10)
M.TG.Elliott (Dragons)	343 (8)
J.E.Morris (Outlaws)	313 (9)
S.G.Law (Eagles)	274 (7)
D.J.Bicknell (Outlaws)	272 (9)
P.D.Collingwood (Dynamos)	269 (9)

no. of innings in brackets

Leading Wicket-takers

P.J.Franks (Outlaws)	19 (9)
N.Killeen (Dynamos)	15 (7)
D.S.Lucas (Outlaws)	15 (8)
A.R.C.Fraser (Crusaders)	15 (9)
R.L.Johnson (Crusaders)	14 (7)
D.R.Brown (Bears)	14 (8)

no. of matches in brackets



Worcestershire Royals



POSITION	P	W	L	T	NR	PTS
1st	9	6	2	0	1	26

Season So Far

Worcestershire Royals' pre-season capture of Australian pace star Glenn McGrath highlighted the county's desire for silverware this season - and they have simply been brilliant in the first half of the Norwich Union National League Division One campaign.

McGrath was always expected to take wickets in his first English season, but he has been especially effective with the white ball on seaming, early-season pitches. His 22-wicket haul at an average of just 6.36 helped to take the Royals to the summit of the league with six victories in succession - despite an opening-game defeat against

Yorkshire Phoenix.

But the hallmark of a winning side is their ability to hit back with the right result, and they achieved it with a nine-run revenge win against Phoenix at Headingley.

The victory kick-started their awesome run which included notable back-to-back wins over one-day specialists Lancashire Lightning and Gloucestershire Gladiators.

England one-day player Vikram Solanki struck an unbeaten 59 against Lightning before that man McGrath picked up three wickets for just 11 runs in a 12-run victory.

Second-placed Somerset Sabres could do little to prevent Royals' stay at the top as

Graeme Hick struck a magnificent century to steer his side to 222 from 45 overs. Kabir Ali then helped his side to a four-run success after producing an impressive spell of bowling, claiming three wickets for 44 runs with his medium pace.

Royals produced a disappointing showing in their latest game, a three-wicket defeat against Gladiators. But they have already shown that they have what it takes to last the distance this season. And if Hick, Solanki and McGrath can continue to fire - the Royals look to have both the talent and the substance to march to the Division One title.

2000 National Cricket League

Batting averages

Name	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg
P.R.Pollard	8	8	0	312	89	39.00
G.A.Hick	4	4	0	145	101	36.25
K.R.Spiring	4	4	0	135	71	33.75
S.J.Rhodes	9	9	3	137	42	22.83
V.S.Solanki	9	9	1	163	59*	20.37
Kadeer Ali	1	1	0	20	20	20.00
D.A.Leatherdale	9	9	0	151	35	16.77
E.J.Wilson	9	9	1	118	38	14.75
R.C.Driver	4	4	0	58	29	14.50
D.N.Catterall	3	2	1	11	9*	11.00
S.R.Lampitt	9	8	1	64	20	9.14
R.K.Illingworth	9	8	1	55	30	7.85
Kabir Ali	8	5	3	5	2*	2.50
G.D.McGrath	9	3	1	0	0*	0.00
M.J.Rawnsley	1	1	1	4	4*	-
A.Sheriyar	3	2	2	2	1*	-

Bowling averages

Name	O	M	R	Wkts	Avg	Best
G.D.McGrath	67.4	20	140	22	6.36	4-9
Kabir Ali	50.5	4	232	13	17.84	3-19
R.K.Illingworth	48.5	3	215	10	21.50	3-26
D.A.Leatherdale	32	1	169	6	28.16	3-39
S.R.Lampitt	62.1	12	228	8	28.50	3-32
M.J.Rawnsley	8	2	33	1	33.00	1-33
A.Sheriyar	20	2	98	1	98.00	1-37
G.A.Hick	5	0	28	0	-	-
D.N.Catterall	9	0	61	0	-	-

2000 Norwich Union National Cricket League Rankings

Batting

Pos	Name	Total
6=	P.R.Pollard	89
45=	V.S.Solanki	56
55=	D.A.Leatherdale	53
64=	S.J.Rhodes	51
76=	E.J.Wilson	44
90=	G.A.Hick	39
97=	K.R.Spiring	37
120=	S.R.Lampitt	28
136=	R.K.Illingworth	24
139=	R.C.Driver	23

Bowling

Pos	Name	Total
2=	G.D.McGrath	142
23=	S.R.Lampitt	83
50=	Kabir Ali	67
64=	R.K.Illingworth	59
115=	D.A.Leatherdale	25
138=	A.Sheriyar	14
154=	M.J.Rawnsley	9
164=	G.A.Hick	5

Highest Team Totals

Score	Against
222 for 8	Sabres
216 for 7	Lightning
207 for 4	Steelbacks
206 for 7	Sharks
173 for 8	Phoenix
145 for 9	Gladiators
141	Gladiators

Wicket Takers

Name	Wkts
G.D.McGrath	22
Kabir Ali	13
R.K.Illingworth	10
S.R.Lampitt	8
D.A.Leatherdale	6
M.J.Rawnsley	1
A.Sheriyar	1

Leading Scorers

Name	Score
P.R.Pollard	312
V.S.Solanki	163
D.A.Leatherdale	151
G.A.Hick	145
S.J.Rhodes	137
K.R.Spiring	135
E.J.Wilson	118
S.R.Lampitt	64

Sticky Fingers

Name	(catches)
E.J.Wilson	4
G.A.Hick	3
K.R.Spiring	3
Kabir Ali	3
D.A.Leatherdale	3
R.K.Illingworth	2
D.N.Catterall	1

Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
G.A.Hick	101	Worcs v Sabres	Taunton
P.R.Pollard	89	Worcs v Steelbacks	Worcester
K.R.Spiring	71	Worcs v Sharks	Hove
V.S.Solanki	59*	Worcs v Lightning	Old Trafford
P.R.Pollard	55	Worcs v Phoenix	Headingley
K.R.Spiring	49	Worcs v Phoenix	Headingley

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
G.D.McGrath	4/9	Worcs v Phoenix	Worcester
G.D.McGrath	4/12	Worcs v Gladiators	Worcester
G.D.McGrath	3/11	Worcs v Lightning	Old Trafford
G.D.McGrath	3/15	Worcs v Gladiators	Cheltenham
G.D.McGrath	3/19	Worcs v Sharks	Hove
Kabir Ali	3/19	Worcs v Steelbacks	Worcester



Somerset Sabres



POSITION	P	W	L	T	NR	PTS
2nd	9	6	3	0	0	24

Season So Far

The Sabres are in with a brilliant chance of winning the Norwich Union National Cricket League as they move into the second half of the season.

Jamie Cox's side are within two points of leaders Worcestershire Royals and with seven games to go the championship is wide open.

It has been an impressive first season in the top division for the West Country side, who finished runners-up in the Second Division last season.

As ever, Cox has been vital to their success, scoring some useful runs at the top of the order but he has by no means hogged the limelight.

That largely belongs to England's latest

recruit Marcus Trescothick, who has had a fine season to date.

The opener is the top Englishman in the division batting averages, second only to the Sussex Sharks' Michael Bevan, a man widely regarded as the best one-day batsman in the world.

Trescothick's impressive statistics were certainly one of the main factors in the Sabres' fine start to their campaign.

The Sharks, Gloucestershire Gladiators, Northamptonshire Steelbacks and Kent Spitfires all fell victim to the Taunton-based club in the opening weeks.

They may only have won two of their subsequent five matches, but with the Royals' stunning start to the season coming to an

end with two recent defeats, they are very much still in the hunt.

Welshman Steffan Jones has been the key performer with the ball for the second-placed side.

The 26-year-old is the side's leading wicket-taker with 21, including a best of 4 for 21, and is well placed among the division's top bowlers.

Next up for the Sabres are the Yorkshire Phoenix, who they beat by two runs in their previous game. The third-placed Gladiators follow at Bristol for a game that could have a significant bearing on the final shape of the table.

2000 National Cricket League

Batting averages

Name	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg
M.E.Trescothick	8	1	370	92*	52.85	
K.A.Parsons	9	8	229	66	38.16	
P.D.Bowler	7	6	0	211	69	35.16
I.D.Blackwell	9	8	2	202	50*	33.66
J.Cox	9	9	0	201	62	22.33
M.Burns	9	8	0	165	56	20.62
R.J.Turner	8	7	2	99	22	19.80
G.D.Rose	6	5	2	48	17*	16.00
P.S.Jones	9	5	2	44	27	14.66
J.I.D.Kerr	1	1	0	13	13	13.00
M.N.Lathwell	2	2	0	25	19	12.50
P.W.Jarvis	6	3	1	18	18	9.00
A.R.Caddick	3	2	0	18	16	9.00
P.C.L.Holloway	9	9	1	58	15	7.25
M.P.L.Bulbeck	1	1	0	1	1	1.00
A.R.K.Pierson	1	1	1	31	31*	-

Bowling averages

Name	O	M	R	Wkts	Avg	Best
P.S.Jones	75.4	7	340	21	16.19	4-32
M.E.Trescothick	51.2	2	251	13	19.30	4-50
A.R.Caddick	26.2	7	65	3	21.66	2-15
M.Burns	8	1	46	2	23.00	2-24
M.P.L.Bulbeck	6	1	23	1	23.00	1-23
A.R.K.Pierson	9	0	50	2	25.00	2-50
P.W.Jarvis	47.2	1	251	9	27.88	3-23
G.D.Rose	48	9	183	6	30.50	2-18
K.A.Parsons	42	1	222	7	31.71	2-25
I.D.Blackwell	57	2	233	6	38.83	3-30
J.I.D.Kerr	2	0	14	0	-	-
J.Cox	6	0	29	0	-	-
P.D.Trego	12	0	56	0	-	-

2000 Norwich Union National Cricket League Rankings

Batting

Pos	Name	Total
6=	M.E.Trescothick	89
20=	K.A.Parsons	70
30=	I.D.Blackwell	67
47=	P.D.Bowler	55
55=	M.Burns	53
55=	J.Cox	53
85=	R.J.Turner	40
139=	G.D.Rose	23
144=	P.C.L.Holloway	21
155=	P.S.Jones	18

Bowling

Pos	Name	Total
19=	P.S.Jones	89
50=	I.D.Blackwell	67
65=	G.D.Rose	58
73=	M.E.Trescothick	56
87=	A.R.Caddick	46
100=	K.A.Parsons	37
101=	P.W.Jarvis	34
150=	P.D.Trego	11

Highest Team Totals

Score	Against
295 for 7	Spitfires
243 for 6	Steelbacks
229	Steelbacks
218 for 8	Royals
198	Lightning
197	Sharks
181	Gladiators

Wicket Takers

Name	Wkts
P.S.Jones	21
M.E.Trescothick	13
P.W.Jarvis	9
K.A.Parsons	7
G.D.Rose	6
I.D.Blackwell	6
A.R.Caddick	3

Leading Scorers

Name	Score
M.E.Trescothick	370
K.A.Parsons	229
P.D.Bowler	211
I.D.Blackwell	202
J.Cox	201
M.Burns	165
R.J.Turner	99
P.C.L.Holloway	58

Sticky Fingers

Name	Wkts
(catches)	
I.D.Blackwell	7
M.E.Trescothick	3
P.C.L.Holloway	3
G.D.Rose	2
M.Burns	2
J.Cox	2
M.P.L.Bulbeck	1

Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
M.E.Trescothick	92*	Somerset v Spitfires	Taunton
M.E.Trescothick	72	Somerset v Sharks	Bath
M.E.Trescothick	71	Somerset v Spitfires	Maidstone
P.D.Bowler	69	Somerset v Steelbacks	Northampton
M.E.Trescothick	68	Somerset v Steelbacks	Taunton
P.D.Bowler	67	Somerset v Royals	Taunton

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
P.S.Jones	4/32	Somerset v Gladiators	Taunton
P.S.Jones	4/33	Somerset v Phoenix	Scarborough
P.S.Jones	4/36	Somerset v Steelbacks	Taunton
M.E.Trescothick	4/50	Somerset v Steelbacks	Northampton
P.W.Jarvis	3/23	Somerset v Phoenix	Scarborough
I.D.Blackwell	3/30	Somerset v Spitfires	Maidstone



Gloucestershire Gladiators



POSITION	P	W	L	T	NR	PTS
3rd	10	6	4	0	0	24

Season So Far

Gloucestershire Gladiators' pedigree as a one-day side is undoubted. The side claimed silverware in both one-day competitions last season - and one already this year - and now coach John Bracewell is trying to coax his side into repeating those heroics as the Norwich Union National Cricket League Division One moves towards an exhilarating finale.

The Gladiators are perfectly placed to strike for the championship, and Bracewell will be setting his sights on a total of a dozen victories this season. That does not leave much room to play with for captain Mark Alleyne.

The Gladiators' 10 outings this year have

resulted in six wins and four defeats. And if 12 wins are to be clocked up by September, Gloucestershire Gladiators will surely claim the Norwich Union National Cricket League Division One title. So when Jamie Cox's second-placed Somerset Sabres make the short journey to Bristol for the Gladiators' next match, the home side will be desperate to make it three wins on the bounce.

That could hoist them to the top of the league, and if wicketkeeper Jack Russell proves to be as useful with his bat as he was in the five-wicket victory over Kent Spitfires, the signs are good.

Russell smashed 55 runs from 60 balls to shore up the innings after a batch of cheap

wickets threaten to disrupt the side's dreams of more silverware glory. That was a very useful victory as the Spitfires - who are having a poor season at the wrong end of the table - posted 199 runs on the board.

If Gloucestershire Gladiators are to claim first spot, they must be sure to avoid a repeat of the form that blighted three weeks in May. Then, three successive defeats in three weeks, against Yorkshire Phoenix, Kent Spitfires and Worcestershire Royals, sent jitters through the camp. But they bounced back and now have 24 points in the kitty and 24 more to play for.

2000 National Cricket League

Batting averages

Name	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg
R.C.Russell	10	10	3	231	55*	33.00
K.J.Barnett	8	8	0	239	62	29.87
D.R.Hewson	3	3	0	85	45	28.33
I.J.Harvey	10	10	1	213	58*	23.66
M.W.Alleyne	8	8	2	137	44*	22.83
M.C.J.Ball	4	3	1	40	30*	20.00
C.G.Taylor	7	5	1	63	37*	15.75
T.H.C.Hancock	7	7	0	109	33	15.57
J.N.Snape	10	10	1	140	39	15.55
R.J.Cunliffe	5	4	0	49	34	12.25
M.G.N.Windows	10	10	0	98	38	9.80
M.J.Cawdron	4	4	0	38	26	9.50
J.Lewis	2	2	0	16	16	8.00
J.M.M.Averis	10	7	1	40	13	6.66
A.M.Smith	10	7	4	10	3*	3.33
R.C.J.Williams	2	2	0	2	2	1.00

Bowling averages

Name	O	M	R	Wkts	Avg	Best
I.J.Harvey	79.2	9	267	20	13.35	5-33
J.M.M.Averis	81.2	4	341	22	15.50	5-20
A.M.Smith	86	18	226	13	17.38	3-20
K.J.Barnett	6	0	24	1	24.00	1-24
M.J.Cawdron	25	1	111	3	37.00	2-37
M.W.Alleyne	58	1	226	6	37.66	2-27
J.N.Snape	35	2	166	4	41.50	1-19
M.C.J.Ball	30	2	140	3	46.66	2-45
J.Lewis	16	1	78	1	78.00	1-39

2000 Norwich Union National Cricket League Rankings

Batting

Pos	Name	Total
11=	R.C.Russell	84
16=	K.J.Barnett	73
25=	I.J.Harvey	68
47=	J.N.Snape	55
64=	M.W.Alleyne	51
90=	T.H.C.Hancock	39
97=	M.G.N.Windows	37
120=	D.R.Hewson	28
127=	C.G.Taylor	26
151=	R.J.Cunliffe	19

Bowling

Pos	Name	Total
1=	A.M.Smith	149
3=	I.J.Harvey	130
6=	J.M.M.Averis	107
37=	M.W.Alleyne	74
103=	J.N.Snape	32
107=	M.J.Cawdron	30
117=	M.C.J.Ball	24
153=	J.Lewis	10
157=	K.J.Barnett	8

Highest Team Totals

Score	Against
211	Phoenix
200 for 5	Spitfires
192 for 5	Spitfires
180	Foxes
173	Sabres
150 for 9	Steelbacks
149 for 7	Royals

Wicket Takers

Name	Wkts
J.M.M.Averis	22
I.J.Harvey	20
A.M.Smith	13
M.W.Alleyne	6
J.N.Snape	4
M.C.J.Ball	3
M.J.Cawdron	3

Leading Scorers

Name	Runs
K.J.Barnett	239
R.C.Russell	231
I.J.Harvey	213
J.N.Snape	140
M.W.Alleyne	137
T.H.C.Hancock	109
M.G.N.Windows	98
D.R.Hewson	85

Sticky Fingers

Name	(catches)
M.W.Alleyne	4
T.H.C.Hancock	3
J.N.Snape	3
I.J.Harvey	3
M.C.J.Ball	2
C.G.Taylor	2
K.J.Barnett	2

Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
K.J.Barnett	62	Gladiators v Spitfires	Tunbridge Wells
I.J.Harvey	58*	Gladiators v Spitfires	Tunbridge Wells
R.C.Russell	55*	Gladiators v Spitfires	Cheltenham
K.J.Barnett	55	Gladiators v Sharks	Bristol
I.J.Harvey	52	Gladiators v Phoenix	Bristol
R.C.Russell	49	Gladiators v Foxes	Leicester

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
J.M.M.Averis	5/20	Gladiators v Steelbacks	Northampton
I.J.Harvey	5/33	Gladiators v Sabres	Taunton
J.M.M.Averis	4/21	Gladiators v Sharks	Bristol
I.J.Harvey	4/23	Gladiators v Royals	Worcester
I.J.Harvey	3/19	Gladiators v Spitfires	Tunbridge Wells
A.M.Smith	3/20	Gladiators v Phoenix	Bristol



Leicestershire Foxes



POSITION	P	W	L	T	NR	PTS
4th	9	4	2	2	1	22

Season So Far

Leicestershire Foxes are perfectly placed for an assault on the Norwich Union National League Division One title with seven games of the season remaining.

Captain Vince Wells has seen his side beaten just twice so far this summer, and they are just four points adrift of league leaders Worcestershire Royals, with 28 points still to play for. And with Royals due to visit Grace Road in the penultimate match of the season, the scene is already being set for a potential championship-decider.

Foxes made an unusual start to the season, with their encounters against Sussex Sharks and Lancashire Lightning both ending in ties, with the scores level after 45 overs on both occasions. But they followed up their unbeaten start to the season with

back-to-back three-wicket victories over Kent Spitfires and Yorkshire Phoenix. Sussex Sharks were the first side to get the better of the Foxes in the Norwich Union competition, recording an 11-run victory at Horsham in June. But Wells' men bounced back well, with a 38-run success over a strong Gloucestershire Gladiators side.

Their eagerly-awaited first encounter with Worcestershire Royals fell victim to the weather, although Foxes looked well-placed after reducing Royals to 108-8 after 38 overs. Northamptonshire Steelbacks inflicted a second defeat on Foxes, but Lightning were sent home to Lancashire with their tails between their legs after a seven-wicket drubbing.

Ben Smith and Aftab Habib have been the

star performers with the bat for Foxes, with both players averaging over 45 at this stage of the season. Smith scored an impressive 90 in the tied match against Lightning at Old Trafford, before hitting an unbeaten 88 in the Headingley victory over Phoenix.

Habib has saved his best performances for the home crowd, with 70 against Steelbacks and 63 against Lightning at Grace Road. Former England all-rounder Chris Lewis is the leading wicket-taker, with 12 victims, while the spin of India's Anil Kumble has helped him pick up 11 wickets. Foxes next three matches are all against teams below them in the table, before they face a testing run-in with matches against Gladiators, Royals and a double-date with Somerset Sabres.

2000 National Cricket League

Batting averages

Name	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg
B.F.Smith	9	8	2	289	90	48.16
A.Habib	8	7	2	234	70	46.80
D.L.Maddy	9	8	2	182	87*	30.33
V.J.Wells	8	7	0	176	81	25.14
J.M.Dakin	6	5	2	54	18*	18.00
P.A.J.DeFreitas	8	6	0	106	40	17.66
T.R.Ward	7	6	0	100	53	16.66
A.Kumble	7	2	1	15	13	15.00
C.C.Lewis	9	8	2	73	26*	12.16
N.D.Burns	9	5	1	45	16*	11.25
D.I.Stevens	8	7	0	71	32	10.14
J.Ormond	7	3	2	7	3*	7.00
D.Williamson	3	1	0	0	0	0.00
I.J.Sutcliffe	1	0	0	0	0	-

Bowling averages

Name	O	M	R	Wkts	Avg	Best
D.Williamson	15	0	66	4	16.50	2-23
C.C.Lewis	69	12	203	12	16.91	4-34
A.Kumble	62	6	205	11	18.63	3-26
J.Ormond	59.3	7	228	10	22.80	3-43
D.L.Maddy	20.3	1	92	4	23.00	2-34
V.J.Wells	59	4	210	9	23.33	3-32
J.M.Dakin	48	7	219	7	31.28	2-36
P.A.J.DeFreitas	62	7	241	5	48.20	2-40

2000 Norwich Union National Cricket League Rankings

Batting

Pos	Name	Total
16=	B.F.Smith	73
25=	A.Habib	68
52=	D.L.Maddy	54
76=	V.J.Wells	44
102=	P.A.J.DeFreitas	33
110=	C.C.Lewis	30
110=	T.R.Ward	30
136=	J.M.Dakin	24
136=	D.I.Stevens	24
155=	N.D.Burns	18

Bowling

Pos	Name	Total
4=	C.C.Lewis	126
13=	A.Kumble	93
24=	V.J.Wells	82
36=	J.Ormond	75
50=	P.A.J.DeFreitas	67
93=	J.M.Dakin	44
102=	D.L.Maddy	33
118=	D.Williamson	23

Highest Team Totals

Score	Against
218 for 5	Gladiators
208	Sharks
193 for 7	Phoenix
187	Steelbacks
177 for 9	Lightning
165 for 3	Lightning
164 for 8	Sharks

Wicket Takers

Name	Wkts
C.C.Lewis	12
A.Kumble	11
J.Ormond	10
V.J.Wells	9
J.M.Dakin	7
P.A.J.DeFreitas	5
D.Williamson	4

Leading Scorers

Name	Runs
B.F.Smith	289
A.Habib	234
D.L.Maddy	182
V.J.Wells	176
P.A.J.DeFreitas	106
T.R.Ward	100
C.C.Lewis	73
D.I.Stevens	71

Sticky Fingers

Name	Catches
(catches)	
J.Ormond	4
C.C.Lewis	4
P.A.J.DeFreitas	3
D.L.Maddy	3
I.J.Sutcliffe	2
T.R.Ward	2
A.Kumble	2

Best Individual Scores

Name	Score	Teams	Venue
B.F.Smith	90	Foxes v Lightning	Old Trafford
B.F.Smith	88*	Foxes v Phoenix	Headingley
D.L.Maddy	87*	Foxes v Glos	Leicester
V.J.Wells	81	Foxes v Sharks	Horsham
A.Habib	70	Foxes v Steelbacks	Leicester
A.Habib	63	Foxes v Lightning	Leicester

Best Individual Bowling

Name	Wkts/Runs	Teams	Venue
C.C.Lewis	4/34	Foxes v Sharks	Leicester
A.Kumble	3/26	Foxes v Spitfires	Leicester
A.Kumble	3/28	Foxes v Glos	Leicester
C.C.Lewis	3/29	Foxes v Lightning	Old Trafford
A.Kumble	3/29	Foxes v Lightning	Leicester
V.J.Wells	3/32	Foxes v Spitfires	Leicester