

# A CHAMPIONSHIP DECIDED.

## SPEN VALLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET LEAGUE.

### HARTSHEAD MOOR BEAT SCHOLES.

The championship of the Spen Valley and District League was decided on the Heckmondwike Cricket Club's ground on Saturday, where a large gathering of spectators assembled and witnessed a contest which included some very interesting incidents. In connection with the match were all the essentials for a fight of more than ordinary interest. To begin with, the teams, Hartshead Moor and Scholes, were the nearest of neighbours and the keenest of rivals, and each had a record which was a really splendid one, considering the comparatively limited extent of its resources. They had finished their League programmes with an exactly similar number of points, and their positions had been the reward of pure merit and cricket skill. Needless to say there was a capital attendance of the supporters of each club, and from other districts in the Spen Valley there were many people interested in the summer pastime.

Agreeable though it was, it was just a little ironical that the afternoon—the third Saturday in September, when footballers were engaged in stiff League games—should have turned out to be one of the most pleasant cricket days of the whole of the season. The sun shone with almost June-like splendour, and in this respect spectators and players alike had much to be thankful for. One's mind went back to some previous week-ends in the so-called summer when the cold winds made one fairly shiver.

Scholes had the good-fortune which the winning of the toss meant on a hard, dry wicket almost made for run-getting. Up to a certain point, the advantage was made the most of, and the Scholes followers were justified in thinking that the Moorites would be set a bigger task than they could have bargained for. But as subsequent events proved, the opening only flattered to deceive. For this there was some reason, as will subsequently be seen. Scholes' first batsmen were Luther Asquith—who has had such a remarkably successful season with both bat and ball—and Tom Ormondroyd, and matters for a time went on swimmingly. Thirty-two runs had been scored before Asquith fell to a batch of Davy's bowling. Only eight runs had been added when Ormondroyd followed his partner to the pavilion, and from this point matters went all awry for Scholes. Milton Kershaw was really the only following batsman who faced the Hartshead Moor attack with success and confidence, and the result was that the whole side was out for ninety-seven—a most disappointing ending, and a total which gave not the least promise of victory.

An incident which undoubtedly had a considerable effect on the fortunes of Scholes was an accident to Fetzer Kershaw. Whilst this player was in partnership with his brother, he was struck on the side of the face by a rising ball from A. Barber, and escorted off the field in great pain, he was unable to take any further part in the game. All present felt sorry for him and his side, and the regret was undoubtedly shared by the Hartshead Moor players. It must have taken some spirit out of the Scholes team as a body.

The Hartshead Moor batsmen started their task full of confidence, and they always looked like coming out on top. Park and Wilson only put on fourteen for the first wicket, but fifty-five runs had been made before the third wicket fell, and there were four wickets in hand when the winning hit was sent. Wilson showed good defence in that whilst he only made eight he was at the wickets during a period when over fifty runs were made, but the great feature of the innings was the part which H. Brook played. This batsman showed by far the best form in the game, and his score of forty-six was the result of a very fine display. In one over off Asquith he hit three boundaries, and his methods throughout were both clean and forcible. It was a pity he hadn't the distinction of making the winning boundary and his fifty at the same time. He was easily missed latish on, and some would have it that had this chance been taken there might easily have been a much more exciting finish.

their respective sides in this department. Scores:—

Scholes.		Hartshead Moor.	
1	L. Asquith, c Wilson	1	V. Squire, c Davy
1	b Davy	19	Ramsden
6	T. Ormondroyd, lbw, b	1	I. Asquith, c Ramsden
—	Wild	15	b A. Barber
68	F. Clapham, c Park	13	M. Sharp, b Ramsden
—	b Davy	13	J. Ambrose, b A. Barber
2	D. Squire, c Park	0	J. Blackburn, not out
—	Wild	0	Extras
8	M. Kershaw, lbw, b	27	Total
10	Ramsden	1	97
6	F. Kershaw, ret. hurt	1	Total for 6 wickets
5	E. Wilson, c Blackburn	8	100
—	b Squire	10	
1	G. Park, c V. Squire	10	
—	b Asquith	10	
71	H. Squire, b Kershaw	46	
—	b Squire	6	
—	W. C. Davy, c I. Asquith	6	

### PRESENTATION OF THE CUP.

There was a scene of enthusiasm at the close, the victorious players having a rousing reception from their supporters when they left the playing field. In front of the pavilion, the presentation proceedings took place.

Mr. T. W. Crowther, of Heckmondwike, the president of the League, handed the cup to the captain of the Hartshead Moor team, Mr. H. Ramsden, and expressed the pleasure which it gave him to do so. It was, he said, well for these honours to go round (hear, hear). Hartshead Moor had accomplished a splendid season's record, and they had been so well followed by Scholes that a deciding match had been necessary. He must confess that he had a bit of sympathy for Mr. Squire and his team, as it was the second time they had been near gaining the honour (hear, hear).

Mr. Ramsden said he would first of all like to express his regret at the accident which had happened to one of the Scholes players (hear, hear). He thought he felt as much for him as anybody (hear, hear). Personally, he was of course very glad to receive the cup on behalf of his club, and he thought the most ardent Scholeser would admit that they were the better team on the season's play (hear, hear). If they did not win the cup again next season, he hoped Scholes would (applause).

Mr. Crowther then presented the cup for the second teams to Gomersal, who had gained the championship that afternoon by beating Heckmondwike; and this was acknowledged by a Gomersal representative.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Crowther, on the motion of Mr. Clayton (Roberttown), seconded by Mr. Ramsden. Mr. Clayton remarked that although the Heckmondwike club was withdrawing from the League he hoped they would not lose the services of Mr. Crowther (applause).

The winning team had a hearty welcome on their arrival at the Moor Top with their cup.

## CRICKET AVERAGES — SEASON 1910.