

'Error' — and cup final can't go on

An "administrative" error by finalists Mirfield Parish led to the Dewsbury and District League's Sheard Cup final being postponed last Sunday.

Parish, defending the trophy they won last year, were due to meet Howden Clough in the final but they they have now been ordered by the League's executive committee to replay their semi-final match with Upper Hopton.

The replay will be staged at Parish's Dunbottle Lane ground on Sunday. The final has been re-arranged for Sunday, September 8, at Wormalds and Walker's Sports Ground, Dewsbury.

Mr G. S. Cooper, the League's registration secretary, said Mirfield had been ordered to replay their semi-

final after it was learned an ineligible player had taken part in the original match.

The player concerned would not take part in the replay, nor in the final if Mirfield emerged winners.

Mr Cooper pointed out that Upper Hopton, Mirfield's semi-final opponents, had in no way made any protest to the League.

Mr J. H. Balmforth, the Mirfield secretary, said the player concerned, Barry North, had been with the club a number of years. There had been no attempt by the club to hide anything. It was an administrative error on the part of the club, who had been under an impression that North had been registered with the League to take part in the Sheard Cup.

Dewsbury and District League

Upper Hopton in easy Sheard Cup victory

UPPER HOPTON showed why they have emerged as one of the Dewsbury League's top teams with an easy 80-run victory over Howden Clough in the Sheard Cup Final on Sunday.

The match went ahead despite Saturday's torrential rain, the Wormald and Walker's wicket being in excellent condition.

For Howden Clough, things went sour in the final for the second year running. Set to make 157 to win, they were soon in trouble and crumpled to 76 all out.

Armitage (31) and Haikings (17) set Upper Hopton on the winning trail after both openers had gone comparatively cheaply.

FLOURISH

A late flourish of 20 by Michael Kaye boosted the Upper Hopton total. For Howden Clough, Purvis had to work hard for his 5-61, though he received good support from Sharp (3-26).

Howden Clough were soon struggling/losing two quick wickets, though Jackson (17) and Sharp (23) put up stern resistance.

All Upper Hopton bowlers were economical, though Michael Kaye (4-13) and Jim Sheard (3-18) did most damage.

The trophy was presented by League President Mr R. A. Sheard.

SHEARD CUP FINAL

UPPER HOPTON v HOWDEN CLOUGH

Upper Hopton

R. Wadsworth	Wicket & Catch	4
A. G. Purvis	Wicket & Catch	3
D. Haikings	Wicket & Catch	17
J. Jackson	Wicket & Catch	17
M. Kaye	Wicket & Catch	13
K. Armitage	Wicket & Catch	31
S. Sheard	Wicket & Catch	18
M. Purvis	Wicket & Catch	17
G. Sharp	Wicket & Catch	23
J. Sheard	Wicket & Catch	4
Extras		19
Total		156

Bowling: Purvis 3-2-25-3, Jackson 11-1-50-1, Sharp 10-2-26-3, Balmforth 2-1-10-0

Howden Clough

R. Marsh	Wicket & Catch	3
J. Wadsworth	Wicket & Catch	8
D. Haikings	Wicket & Catch	17
M. Kaye	Wicket & Catch	13
S. Sheard	Wicket & Catch	18
M. Purvis	Wicket & Catch	17
G. Sharp	Wicket & Catch	23
J. Sheard	Wicket & Catch	4
M. Purvis	Wicket & Catch	17
G. Sharp	Wicket & Catch	23
J. Sheard	Wicket & Catch	4
Extras		19
Total		76

Bowling: Newton 10-4-18-1, Sheard 10-1-53-2, Kennedy 7-1-12-2, Kaye 7-3-14-4

The Dewsbury and District Cricket League season comes to a finish with a challenge match between an Anglo Asian XI and a Dewsbury District XI at Wormalds and Walker's ground on Sunday (twickets pitched 2 p.m.)

Mr S. Adam will present the Asian Cup to the winning team and the Asian side, which includes several professionals from the Lancashire League, are bidding to retain the trophy they won last year.