

HANGING HEATON RECORD CUP, LEAGUE AND COUNCIL

Given a mellow summer afternoon with a mature sun blessing both players and spectators, a steady rate of scoring and 11 men a side, cricket may be the game. But alas, it was no game to stir the imagination at Bennett Lane on Monday when Hanging Heaton defeated Hartshead Moor in the final of the Yorkshire Council Cricket Championship. For the most part the game, which actually started on Saturday, was played in a depressing drizzle. Hartshead could only field nine men and the fact that the Council had not chosen a neutral ground did not enhance the atmosphere in which the game was played.

Hanging Heaton, bearing in mind the fact that 40 minutes play on Saturday had seen Duckworth dismissed with only 10 runs on the board, started cautiously but despite numerous bowling changes, Hepponstall and Stead took the score to 66 before Whiteley with the second ball of his over forced Stead to break his wicket as he attempted a cut through the slips. Hirst bowling from the far end of the round was especially steady, bowling unchanged for over an hour. It was no great surprise when, 18 runs later, Bowers mistiming a good length ball from Burnett, was clean bowled. Hepponstall, who had opened slowly now settled down and pleased the crowd with some good off-the-toe shots through the covers. McNair came and went for 13, falling an easy victim to Hirst's off-spinner. Robinson came to the wicket to disprove the fact that the bowling commanded respect and in as many minutes, notched up a whirlwind 35.

ROBINSON'S PART.

Hartshead's start was nothing, if not surprising. With the second ball of his first over, Haigh had Walker well caught at mid-off by Hepponstall and it was left to 18-year-old Layton, defending stoutly, and Smith, scoring steadily, to bring the score into the thirties. But then change bowler Robinson had Layton well caught behind the wicket and once more Hartshead hopes fall. They were to fall still further though for with the score at 37 Smith, who had been the anchor of the team, had his off-stump knocked out of the ground by Robinson, the most dangerous of Heaton's bowlers, for a plucky 27. Five balls later Bellwood went, caught behind the wicket, falling victim to Haigh, who had once more returned to the attack.

With Smith gone Hartshead's batting became jerky and none of the batsmen was able to face the attack with confidence. Haigh knocked Holmes's middle stump out of the ground with a lovely ball which swung in to him. Whiteley brought a gleam to the eyes of Hartshead supporters when he took two fours off Haigh in one over, but this was short lived for, with the score at 66 his partner Burnett was brilliantly caught by Toddington, who running in from square leg, took the ball almost off his toes.

HANGING HEATON.

O. Hepponstall, not out,	34
D. Duckworth, b Holmes,	4
J. Basso, b Whiteley,	23
R. Bowers, b Burnett,	4
C. McNair, c Layton, b Hirst,	13
R. Robinson, not out,	35
Extras	6

Total (for 4 wks, 10ms. suspended) ... 150

HARTSHEAD MOOR.

Total	81
Hanging Heaton - D. Haigh, 11-3-40-3, H. Crane, 10-3-22-1, R. Robinson, 2-4-1-1, A. Toddington, 5-3-4-4	

THE PAST SEASON

By Henry Wilson

Hanging Heaton may have done more in local cricket than decorating its pavilion with three trophies—usefulness in addition to ornamentation may come out of it.

I'm assuming that in the Hanging Heaton club there is some professional team in any other of the local clubs—in fact the balance sheet may not look so happy as the score-book. And as Hanging Heaton have swept all before them one of two things will be the reaction of other clubs: (1) either to follow the policy of Hanging Heaton and pay out more for talent or (2) fight for the retention of local players.

There are weaknesses in both policies. It is becoming more and more essential to organise cricket. Tackle and ground maintenance facilities to increase their scope so that some clubs are strained to the utmost to carry on. Therefore, the remedy would appear to be to restrict professionalism and prevent a club which wishes all because it can buy its success. But to adopt this as a rule would be rather like saying that it is carried out. How illicit payments are going to be discovered is not quite clear.

But one thing is certain—amateur sport cannot compete with professional, particularly in the North. When does the amateur get to beat a professional? How do Queens Park fare in Scotland or Chesham in the Irish League? Not so well.

The fact that Hanging Heaton lost only one match in the Central Yorkshire League shows their strength. In previous seasons they have usually had a period when they have faltered—but not this season.

Stretal will take it as a feather in their cap that they were the only club to beat Hanging Heaton. They have also finished second in the first division, which is another feat for congratulations.

Stretal were the most disappointing side of the season—and were not far from the relegation zone. Richmondshire were a sound side but Staincliffe—another club trying to shed payments to players—only escaped relegation by a point.

Four Dewsbury after gaining promotion last season, go back to the second division. They may be short of cricket talent, but out of enthusiasm, Mr. Hainshaw and Mr. Chabrey do their best to carry the flag at Belle Fosse.

Chickensley have finished at the bottom of the second division. Here is another club that is having to rely on the love of cricket from players and supporters to keep the game open and well they've done it for a hundred years—may they do it for another century. Thorsdon have had a disappointing season—and yet have given some bright displays, some of the brightest falling in other divisions has been seen by this team.

After being a finalist in the Yorkshire Council Championship it is justice that Hartshead Moor should gain promotion to the first division.

In the Dewsbury and District League, Mirfield Parish Church are again champions after a play-off—although the "B" team, again in a play-off, were not as fortunate, losing to Whitley Lower "B".

CENTRAL YORKSHIRE LEAGUE. FIRST DIVISION.

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Hanging Heaton	19	11	1	7	37
Stretal	18	7	4	3	28
Richmondshire	16	3	3	1	16
Morris	15	7	3	5	21
Quetta	16	3	4	3	24
Basing	16	3	3	3	22
Staincliffe	16	3	3	3	24
Seaforth	15	1	2	1	14
Dewsbury	14	1	2	1	11

SECOND DIVISION.

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Hartshead Moor	18	12	3	3	36
Chickensley	18	9	2	7	29
Leedsridge	18	3	3	3	21
Thorsdon	18	3	3	3	21
Whitley	18	3	3	3	21
Chesham	18	3	3	3	21
Thorncliffe	18	3	3	3	21
Waddington, I.D.	18	2	3	3	14
Stretal	18	1	3	3	14
Chickensley	18	1	3	3	14

* Two points for a tie.

TEN WICKETS' WIN

Dewsbury could only come 88 runs against Hanging Heaton in the last match of the season on Saturday, and Quetta and Williamson were responsible for 38 of those. Seven Dewsbury batsmen failed to score and at one period Dewsbury had lost nine wickets for 19 runs. Haigh was mainly responsible for the Dewsbury collapse, claiming six wickets for 12 runs. Toddington took three wickets for 18 runs. Score:

Dewsbury - R. Basing 5, E. Kay 4, C. Williamson 12, J. Quetta 5, E. Wright 6, E. Chabrey 2, P. Pickering 5, P. Haden 5, E. Stretal 5, B. C. Gault 2, L. Woodhouse, n.o.b., extras 1. Total, 81.
Hanging Heaton - C. Hepponstall, n.o.b., 34; D. Duckworth, n.o.b., 4; Hirst 1. Total (for 4 wks, 10ms. suspended), 150.

HANGING HEATON CRICKET CLUB

WINNERS OF THE YORKSHIRE CRICKET COUNCIL, CENTRAL YORKSHIRE LEAGUE,
HEAVY WOOLEN DISTRICT CUP COMPETITION and WHEATLY CUP, Season 1951



BACK ROW:

H. Ellis, *A. Toddington*, *J. P. Duckworth*, *C. McNair*, *L. Lodge*, *H. Hamerth*, *D. Haigh*, *D. Duckworth*, *R. Bowers*, *H. Threadgold*
(HON. TRYS) (SCORER) (HON. SECY.)

FRONT ROW:

H. Stenson, *C. Heppenstall*, *H. Oldroyd*, *R. Robinson*, *J. Asquith*, *J. Stead*, *H. Crane*
(PRESIDENT) (CAPTAIN) (CHAIRMAN)