

Stat Attack

By Paul Smith

Over the last couple of weeks I have received private questions about league high and low scores as well as largest margins of victory, as I had to do the research to answer these I thought I would share my findings with everyone.

As ever I have to preface my research and findings with the contents of the rider in red at the bottom of this article. I also have to confirm the practices I have always adopted in classifying only some 1st XI league games as eligible to be considered for team 'league records' status, these being games where there were panel umpires present. With the enlarging of the league the possibility of complete mismatches of team's respective strengths have been greatly increased, and I would not want the enormous amount of work I have done over the years being degraded by say a team scoring 500 runs against an opposition that had just eight players. I would not classify that as a league record. Also I do not feel I want to have to judge what is and is not a 'suitable' game for record status game by game, so I have adopted my rule of 'panel umpired' games only.

So in week 1 of this 2025 season, and what started off my questions, was Brondesbury 1s scoring 425-5 from their 45 overs. In replying Southgate were bowled out for 111. This prompted questions as to whether this was the largest winning margin in league history. My research shows that Brondesbury's win by **314 runs** is the highest margin of victory by runs as it beats the 302 run victory that Hampstead achieved in beating Kenton in 2024.

I can also confirm that Brondesbury's 425 is the largest 'qualifying' team high score in my database. The other scores of over 400 are below:

425-5 Brondesbury vs Southgate (2025)

423-7 Enfield vs Wembley (2016)

419-5 Bessborough vs Kensington & Chelsea (2022)

416-7 Hampstead vs Kenton (2024)

400-6 Harrow Town vs Kenton (2024) - in reply Kenton scored 393, so actually a pretty close finish!

It should not go unnoticed that all those scores have been scored in limited overs games, and that this should not really be surprising. Some have exclaimed amazement that in time games, where some teams could bat up to 66 overs, higher scores have not been achieved over the years. However consider whether if you need to bowl the opposition out to win - one beauty of time cricket, why would a team pile on way too many runs, taking up time they may need to bowl themselves to victory? As declarations or closing an innings is not allowed in overs games, there is no 'legal' or honourable way to cut short an innings, so runs continue to be piled on as there is nothing to lose.

For the record, there have been just three 'non-qualifying' but higher recorded scores in MCCL league games:

467-2 Willow Leather 3s vs Winchmore Hill 6s (2023)

446-4 Harrow St Marys 2s vs Southgate 2s (2019)

434-8 Stallions vs Harrow Millenium (2023)

I think it goes with saying that scores are getting higher as ~~the standard of cricket falls~~ as players get better at scoring runs! I am sure you know what my opinion is – more mismatches equals poor cricket.

Now moving on to the week 3 result that probably caught everyone's eye, including the Daily Telegraph where on Monday 26th May 20025 it was deemed to be the top sporting story:

Top stories

Club cricket side bowled out for two after conceding 426

426 / 6 (45)

2 / All out (5.4)

Won the toss and elected to field

North London 3s		Richmond 4s	
Batsman	Runs	Bowler	Wickets
A. Smith	10	J. Brown	1
B. Jones	5	K. Green	1
C. White	15	L. Black	1
D. Black	10	M. Red	1
E. Green	10	N. Blue	1
F. Brown	10	O. Yellow	1
G. White	10	P. Purple	1
H. Black	10	Q. Pink	1
I. Red	10	R. Grey	1
J. Blue	10	S. Brown	1
K. Yellow	10	T. Green	1
L. Purple	10	U. Blue	1
M. Pink	10	V. Grey	1
N. Grey	10	W. Brown	1
O. Brown	10	X. Green	1
P. Green	10	Y. Blue	1
Q. Blue	10	Z. Yellow	1
R. Yellow	10	AA. Purple	1
S. Purple	10	AB. Pink	1
T. Pink	10	AC. Grey	1
U. Grey	10	AD. Brown	1
V. Brown	10	AE. Green	1
W. Green	10	AF. Blue	1
X. Blue	10	AG. Yellow	1
Y. Yellow	10	AH. Purple	1
Z. Purple	10	AI. Pink	1
AA. Pink	10	AJ. Grey	1
AB. Grey	10	AK. Brown	1
AC. Brown	10	AL. Green	1
AD. Green	10	AM. Blue	1
AE. Blue	10	AN. Yellow	1
AF. Yellow	10	AO. Purple	1
AG. Purple	10	AP. Pink	1
AH. Pink	10	AQ. Grey	1
AI. Grey	10	AR. Brown	1
AJ. Brown	10	AS. Green	1
AK. Green	10	AT. Blue	1
AL. Blue	10	AU. Yellow	1
AM. Yellow	10	AV. Purple	1
AN. Purple	10	AW. Pink	1
AO. Pink	10	AX. Grey	1
AP. Grey	10	AY. Brown	1
AQ. Brown	10	AZ. Green	1
AR. Green	10	BA. Blue	1
AS. Blue	10	BB. Yellow	1
AT. Yellow	10	BC. Purple	1
AU. Purple	10	BD. Pink	1
AV. Pink	10	BE. Grey	1
AW. Grey	10	BF. Brown	1
AX. Brown	10	BG. Green	1
AY. Green	10	BH. Blue	1
AZ. Blue	10	BI. Yellow	1
BA. Yellow	10	BJ. Purple	1
BB. Purple	10	BK. Pink	1
BC. Pink	10	BL. Grey	1
BD. Grey	10	BM. Brown	1
BE. Brown	10	BN. Green	1
BF. Green	10	BO. Blue	1
BG. Blue	10	BP. Yellow	1
BH. Yellow	10	BQ. Purple	1
BI. Purple	10	BR. Pink	1
BJ. Pink	10	BS. Grey	1
BK. Grey	10	BT. Brown	1
BL. Brown	10	BU. Green	1
BM. Green	10	BV. Blue	1
BN. Blue	10	BW. Yellow	1
BO. Yellow	10	BX. Purple	1
BP. Purple	10	BY. Pink	1
BQ. Pink	10	BZ. Grey	1
BR. Grey	10	CA. Brown	1
BS. Brown	10	CB. Green	1
BT. Green	10	CC. Blue	1
BU. Blue	10	CD. Yellow	1
BV. Yellow	10	CE. Purple	1
BW. Purple	10	CF. Pink	1
BX. Pink	10	CG. Grey	1
BY. Grey	10	CH. Brown	1
BZ. Brown	10	CI. Green	1
CA. Green	10	CJ. Blue	1
CB. Blue	10	CK. Yellow	1
CC. Yellow	10	CL. Purple	1
CD. Purple	10	CM. Pink	1
CE. Pink	10	CN. Grey	1
CF. Grey	10	CO. Brown	1
CG. Brown	10	CP. Green	1
CH. Green	10	CQ. Blue	1
CI. Blue	10	CR. Yellow	1
CJ. Yellow	10	CS. Purple	1
CK. Purple	10	CT. Pink	1
CL. Pink	10	CU. Grey	1
CM. Grey	10	CV. Brown	1
CN. Brown	10	CW. Green	1
CO. Green	10	CX. Blue	1
CP. Blue	10	CY. Yellow	1
CQ. Yellow	10	CA. Purple	1
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