

Stat Attack

By Paul Smith

At this time of year, as cricket clubs are re-awakening, the first question anyone who has not maintained much contact with their club over the winter months asks is, have we got a decent 'overseas' this year. I have put together some data on overseas player's performances from around the league during the 'database' era.

Highest Aggregate of League Runs Scored By Non-Resident Players

Player	Club(s)	Games	Total Runs	Average
Tom Scollay (8)	Eastcote & Crouch End	94	3,824	46.63
Brandon Buckley	Hampstead	85	3,080	40.53
Puneet Mehra	Indian Gymkhana	62	2,136	41.88
Wesley Morrnick	Finchley	68	1,865	30.57
Hannadige Soysa	Acton	49	1,753	37.30
Aaron Johnson	Shepherds Bush, Harrow and Kenton	46	1,720	40.00
Michael Philipson	Hornsey	50	1,720	40.95
Chris Gane (1)	North London	32	1,662	79.14
John Olive	Barnes	63	1,658	33.16
Andrew Lowe	Richmond	52	1,647	38.30
Brett Penny	Ickenham & Brondesbury	51	1,627	33.90
James Parslow	North Middlesex	52	1,599	34.76
Michael Padbury	Shepherds Bush	55	1,526	31.79
Brayden Sutton (3)	Southgate	31	1,421	54.65
Sandun Dias	Highgate	35	1,379	41.79
Jon Whealing	Shepherds Bush	51	1,374	31.23
Mitchell Fry (4)	Wembley	35	1,368	50.67
Tim Armstrong (6)	Teddington	35	1,342	49.70
Michael Morrisson	Stanmore	56	1,318	26.90
Mark Hanley (2)	Enfield	32	1,316	57.22
Andrew Jeffrey	Hampstead	34	1,271	41.00
Daniel Waugh	Teddington	48	1,253	39.16
William Russell (10)	Highgate & Brondesbury	35	1,197	42.75
Ronald Ettienne	Uxbridge & Harrow	32	1,180	40.69
Anshuman Rath	Stanmore & Brondesbury	34	1,163	35.24
Ankit Bhargava (5)	Highgate	27	1,158	50.35
Max Houlahan	Enfield	35	1,108	39.57
Arthur Falcao	Kenton & Stanmore	40	1,100	33.33
Hamish McCathy	Stanmore	44	1,092	28.00
Tyron Theophile (9)	Harrow Town	28	1,086	43.44
Cameron Rosser (7)	Enfield	28	1,085	47.17
Benjamin Hocking	North London	32	1,079	39.96
Darren Eckford	North Middlesex	69	1,038	22.57
Christopher Blake	Southgate & Brondesbury	34	1,000	32.26

[Click Here...](#) for a full listing of all non-resident player wicket aggregates. I have not annotated for which clubs these were taken for, as that was too much work!

Okay let me start of by acknowledging that having the highest aggregates is usually a function of most games played, so non-resident or overseas players who come back year after year are usually going to have the highest aggregates.

Looking at the table to the left, highest run aggregates, which I have only included players with over 1,000 runs, a familiar face tops the list. There is a slight quirk with Scollay's stats in that for some of his years in the league, while he had a Middlesex CCC contract he was classed as a resident player, however as he started and currently plays as a non-resident I have included all his runs.

As you would expect there are a lot of familiar names, but what surprised me is the fact that no Ealing player is on the list, clearly Ealing see their overseas player as a 'one and done' deal.

Looking at non-resident averages, I am not surprised at who tops the list, North London's Chris Gane's average is more than 20 better than the second best.

The figures in brackets next to the players names are their ranking in the table by average.

Thinking about those non-residents who were 'one and done', there were three players who did not make the table, but who were just under it:

Donovan Pell (Uxbridge) 963 – average 74.08

Daniel Doyle (Wembley) 927 – average 57.94

Mark Divin (Hampstead) 913 average 60.87

As you will see Donovan Pell's superb average for the 2018 season is close to Chris Gane's above, but well below Chris Gane's phenomenal 2006 and league record season's batting average of 100.70.

Highest Aggregate of League Wickets Taken By Non-Resident Players

Player	Club(s)	Games	Total Wickets	Average
Darren Eckford	North Middlesex	69	168	17.54
Puneet Mehra (8)	Indian Gymkhana	62	155	15.71
Wesley Morrick	Finchley	68	147	25.41
John Olive	Barnes	63	125	16.56
Daniel Waugh	Teddington	48	107	16.42
Michael Philipson (1)	Hornsey	50	101	14.24
Subhash Chaudhary (7)	Indian Gymkhana	34	97	15.48
Brett Penny	Ickenham & Brondesbury	51	97	25.96
Byron Hackshall (9)	North London	33	95	15.74
Michael Morrisson	Stanmore	56	87	23.33
Narendra Patel	Barclays & Kenton	37	86	16.17
Nayan Doshi	South Hampstead & Ealing	43	86	21.03
Carman Mapatuna	Highgate	28	83	15.99
Scott Burkinshaw	Winchmore hill	34	80	16.36
Matt Healey	Ealing	34	77	19.65
Patrick Darwen	Ealing	32	74	17.09
Theodore Modeste	Harrow	31	72	18.38
Mehul Gokani	Harrow Town & Brentham	34	69	21.00
Hamish McCarthy	Stanmore	44	68	23.60
Nicholas Ellsmore	Teddington	33	67	17.85
Jordan Gregory (6)	North London	34	66	15.02
Tom Scollay	Eastcote & Crouch End	94	65	28.34
Troy Scanlon	Ickenham	32	64	17.19
Sandun Dias	Highgate	35	62	20.63
Bhavik Patel (3)	Harrow St Marys	20	60	14.65
Tom Felton	Shepherds Bush	32	57	18.74
Ronald Ettienne (10)	Uxbridge & Harrow	32	56	15.96
Timothy Duncraft	Brentham	34	54	26.44
Ankit Bhargava	Highgate	27	53	17.26
Ishan Ratnayake	Ealing	34	53	20.38
Sean Solia (5)	Hornsey	33	52	14.98
Tyron Theophile	Harrow Town	28	52	18.94
Nayyar Abbasi	Harrow	31	52	22.94
James Munting	Twickenham	18	51	14.88
James Shepherd (4)	Winchmore Hill	18	50	14.28
James Nolen (2)	South Hampstead	32	50	17.92

[Click Here...](#) for a full listing of all non-resident player run aggregates. I have not annotated for which clubs these were scored for, as that was too much work!

In the table to the left I have only included players who have taken 50 or more league wickets.

Clearly it should not be seen as too much of a surprise that lots of players appear on both lists. How many clubs look for overseas players who can contribute with bat and ball!

Looking at who on the list is still playing in the league, it would seem that Darren Eckford (2005-2011) will not be being overtake atop the list any time soon, his efforts for North Middlesex are, I am sure still well remembered.

In terms of best bowling average, Hornsey's Michael Philipson top the list. Again figures in brackets indicate tanking by average. If anyone does not know the story, Philipson played 20012 - 2014, and was scheduled to return again in 2015. However at the end of the Australian season he was given a first class game which unfortunately (not for league batsmen) made him ineligible to play in the MCCCL.

A name that is certainly high on both lists is Wesley Morrick. This is a name which may not mean much to many around the league who play now, but Morrick was Finchley's overseas player in 2004-2007, before moving to Aston Rowant There he plays as a resident player because he has now settled in the UK. He is now still recognised as one of the best bowlers in the South of England.

Having suggested that Ealing using go for 'one and done' players,

Ealing had two overseas players who played back to back Healey (2001-2005) and Darwen (2006-2007) who make the list. Maybe the lack of Ealing batsmen on the batting list has more to do with Ealing as a batsmen's ground [smile]

The only other slight piece of additional information I have know about the list concerns Barnes' John Olive. He was a West Indian coach who Barnes obtained a work permit for, to have him come over and coach at their club. At that time VISA stipulations were different and Olive was not allowed to play in Middlesex under the conditions of his VISA. Special ECB permission had to be obtained and this meant that Olive did not play in the MCCCL his first year in the UK 2011. Olive's totals are for 2012 - 2017, so he would be higher if he had been allowed to play in the league his first season in the UK.

Before I end this piece I do have to admit to a slight flaw in my database. I do not think it affects too many players, but it will some and may explained why some clubs see their player missing from the lists. If a player who was first registered with the league as a non-resident player, later qualifies to play as a resident player, and this is not the place to explain how that is done, I change the player's designation from non-resident to resident in my database. What that means, and why I suggest a slight flaw in my system, is that those players are now seen as resident and would not be picked up by my calculations for this article.

I would like to remind all readers that the league's database only contains statistical data which has been submitted to the league since 2001. Please read my introductory piece for the necessary caveat about 'league records.'

The league web site now allows any player's complete playing history, as recorded in the league's database, to be seen just by enter a name into the search box on the Player Stats page.