

Lancashire grabbed a late response against Cheshire at Birkdale

The fixture was played at Royal Birkdale in sublime weather with Cheshire making an excellent start in the morning foursomes.

Cheshire's Lewis George & Chris Chilton and Steve Capper & Cam Massey set the morning scene with a 2&1 & a 2up respectively. Despite Lancashire's Doherty brothers, who pulled out an excellent 5&4 win, it was Cheshire's Rob Cull & Will Dodds (2&1) and Mike Harrington & Jack Brooks (1up) that produced a 4&2 morning result for the visitors.

In the early afternoon it was the Lancashire side which claimed three straight results from Jonathan Hust (2&1), Sean Doherty (2&1) and Ian Kenwright (1up) with only Lewis George offering a 1-up for the early visitors. From thereon in it was stalemate with the visitors producing five wins in the afternoon against seven from Lancashire leaving an overall 9 – 9 match all square.

The second matches were held on 16th June which covered Yorkshire vs Durham and Cumbria vs Northumberland.

Brave Durham gave their all against Yorkshire at Hornsea.

Durham gave their all against Yorkshire who just managed to claim a narrow 9.5 – 8.5 to clinch the overall match points. However, the morning foursomes was all square at 3-3 with the host claiming three wins in a row while Durham pounced to closed their three wins to steal the draw at lunch.

Once again it was Durham who made the early singles matches with three wins from Jamie Birkbeck (3&2), Chris Handy (5&3) and James Wilson (3&2) with Gavin Nesbit all square against Yorkshire's Dan Bradbury and only Ben Firth claimed his match. against Durham's James Glenn.

Yorkshire then steadied the ship with both Matthew Raybould (4&3) and Michael Hay also with a (4&3). George Heath claimed his match against Durham's Stefan Labushagne by 2 holes, while Ryan Dixon claimed a 4&3 leaving the match all square. In the end, a 1-up score from Yorkshire's Lewis Hollingworth gave Yorkshire a single 6.5 – 5.5 in the singles to leave the total match score-line of 9.5 – 8.5.

Cumbria slip-up gave Northumberland a chance to shine at Ulverston

Northumberland took an early 2 - 4 away score-line in the morning foursomes giving the Geordies a healthy start to their second campaign. Phil Ridden & Alex Dixon started the ball rolling with a 2&1 and Andrew Minnikin & Kit Holmes followed with Brad Robinson & Karl Mossom also with a 2&1 and a 1-hole with Joseph Robson & Luke Denny.

Despite Northumberland's morning start, the afternoon singles were a tight affair and it was the Geordies who needed to make their mark. Phil Ridden made a good start with a 5&4 win against Richard Mewse and Alex Dixon placed a 1-up.

However, three wins in a row for Cumbria changed the scene with Luke Walker (3&2) Stephen Jopson (1-up) and Kieran Waters (3&2) which started their ball rolling for the locals. Three wins from Andrew Wolstencroft (3&2) and John Clarke (1-up) and Rory Thompson (1-up) offered a 7 – 5 score-line bringing an overall 9 – 9 score.

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