

YORKSHIRE SECOND ELEVEN IN THE MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

SEASON 1923

FINAL TABLE

Team	P	W	L	DWF	DLF	NC/Ab	Pts	PtPC	NetRpW	
Points awarded	-	5	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	
1	Buckinghamshire	8	6	0	0	2	0	32	80.000	5.002
2	Surrey 2nd XI	12	8	2	1	0	1	43	78.812	7.893
3	Dorset	8	5	1	2	0	0	31	77.500	5.450
4	Northumberland	8	6	1	0	1	0	31	77.500	4.542
5	Staffordshire	8	5	1	1	1	0	29	72.500	2.295
6	Berkshire	8	3	2	3	0	0	24	60.000	3.626
7	Hertfordshire	10	3	1	4	2	0	29	58.000	3.470
8	Kent 2nd XI	8	1	1	4	2	0	19	47.500	1.161
9	Bedfordshire	8	1	1	4	2	0	19	47.500	0.768
10	<i>Yorkshire 2nd XI</i>	8	2	3	2	1	0	17	42.500	-3.824
11	Lancashire 2nd XI	10	1	3	4	1	1	18	40.000	1.466
12	Cheshire	10	2	3	2	3	0	19	38.000	-1.395
13	Devon	10	3	4	0	2	1	17	37.778	-0.150
14	Cornwall	8	1	3	2	2	0	13	32.500	-2.203
15	Wiltshire	8	2	3	0	3	0	13	32.500	-7.991
16	Norfolk	10	1	3	2	4	0	15	30.000	0.263
17	Durham	10	1	5	1	2	1	10	22.222	-2.587
18	Oxfordshire	8	1	5	0	2	0	7	17.500	0.234
19	Monmouthshire	8	1	5	0	2	0	7	17.500	-6.452
20	Cambridgeshire	8	0	6	1	1	0	4	10.000	-18.425

Order in the table - Position of teams in the final table is determined, first, by the better percentage of possible points (PtPC) and the by the net runs per wicket (NetRpW)

FINAL AVERAGES – BATTING AND FIELDING

Player	M	I	NO	TR	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct/St
W R Allen	8	16	0	327	71	20.43	-	3	10/6
J W Brook	7	14	2	216	53	18.00	-	2	1
J Drake	6	10	3	116	57*	16.57	-	1	12
H Taylor	7	12	0	193	59	16.08	-	1	1
E H Jackson	3	6	0	84	26	14.00	-	-	3
C Turner	3	6	0	79	56	13.16	-	1	3
E F Holdsworth	7	13	0	168	37	12.92	-	-	2
J T Bell	7	14	0	178	77	12.71	-	1	1
P Coates	6	11	3	83	27*	10.37	-	-	7
A Mitchell	5	10	1	84	19	9.33	-	-	1
E M Smeeth	4	7	0	61	20	8.71	-	-	1
C P Whiting	4	7	0	41	14	5.85	-	-	5
J S W Usher	3	6	0	25	10	4.16	-	-	-
A Booth	8	13	4	35	12	3.88	-	-	5
L Ryder	6	10	2	20	11	2.50	-	-	4

ALSO BATTED

Player	M	I	NO	TR	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct/St
S Allen	1	2	1	9	6*	9.00	-	-	-
J S Stephenson	1	2	0	4	4	2.00	-	-	2
F I Turner	1	2	2	126	66*	-	-	2	-
E J Pye-Smith	1	2	0	0	0	-	-	-	-

FINAL AVERAGES – BOWLING

Player	O	M	R	W	BB	Ave	5wI	10wM
S Allen	32.3	7	76	8	6/31	9.50	1	-
J Drake	192.4	61	451	34	7/22	13.26	3	1
L Ryder	119.3	22	335	23	5/28	14.56	1	1
E F Holdsworth	89.4	23	222	13	3/14	17.07	-	-
C P Whiting	62.2	18	154	9	3/9	17.11	-	-
P Coates	105	36	226	11	3/25	20.54	-	-
A Booth	236	55	622	26	4/45	23.92	-	-

ALSO BOWLED

Player	O	M	R	W	BB	Ave	5wI	10wM
E M Smeeth	11	3	30	1	1/12	30.00	-	-

LINE SCORES OF MATCHES PLAYED

v Lancashire (North Ormesby, Middlesbrough) 21 & 22 May 1923 - *Lancs 142 (A Booth 4/69, C P Whiting 3/9) & 236/7d (L W Houseman 64*, J L Hopwood 59; J Drake 5/45) drew with Yorks 144 (S Ellis 5/62, F B Watson 4/30) & 92/2 (W R Allen 53)

v Northumberland (Jesmond) 25 & 26 June 1923 – (Toss unknown) Yorks 191 (H Taylor 59, C Turner 56; W Hetherton 5/56, G T Milne 4/69) & 145 (J W Brook 50*; G T Milne 6/55 [and match figs of 10/124]) lost to Northumberland 141 (L Ryder 5/28, P Coates 3/25) & 198/9 (L Ryder 5/58 [and match figs of 10/86], E F Holdsworth 3/40) by one wkt

v Durham (South Shields) 27 & 28 June 1923 - *Yorks 154 (A Goodrick 7/43) & 144 (W Spiller 5/71) beat Durham 121 (A Booth 4/45, J Drake 4/46) & 100 (J Drake 7/22 [and match figs of 11/68]) by 77 runs

v Durham (College Grove, Wakefield) 4 & 5 July 1923 - *Yorks 102 (W Spiller 7/47) & 174 (C R Milam 4/32, W Spiller 4/71 [and match figs of 11/118]) beat Durham 149 (L H Weight 74; J Drake 5/44) 7 126 (J Drake 3/47) by one run

v Cheshire (Coatham Rd, Redcar) 23 & 24 July 1923 – (Toss unknown) Yorks 113 (J W Brook 53; C C Clifton 4/29) & 62 (J Cook 5/27, C C Clifton 5/31) lost to Cheshire 128 (J Drake 4/49, L Ryder 3/34) & 51/3 (E F Holdsworth 3/14) by seven wkts

v Lancashire (Old Trafford) 6 & 7 Aug 1923 – (Toss unknown) Lancs 222 (J T Tyldesley 64; P Coates 3/31, A Booth 3/58) & 122/5d (A Booth 4/56) drew with Yorks 129 (F I Turner 60*; S Ellis 6/48, A Rhodes 3/19) & 139/6 (F I Turner 66*; S Ellis 3/42)

v Cheshire (Boughton Hall Av, Chester) 8 & 9 Aug 1923 – (Toss unknown) Yorks 187 (J T Bell 77; L N Jones 5/26, W E Jones 3/38) & 128/7d (W R Allen 71; L N Jones 5/57 [and match figs of 10/83]) drew with Cheshire 146 (A Allen 6/31) & 95/4 (H W Hodgson 51*)

v Northumberland (Duke's Park, Bridlington) 15 & 16 Aug 1923 – (Toss unknown) Northumberland 278 (C F Stanger-Leathes 96, J H C Lindesay 80; L Ryder 4/75, A Booth 3/102) beat Yorks 50 (G T Milne 6/26, W Hetherton 4/24) & 46 (G T Milne 4/19 [and match figs of 10/45], W Hetherton 6/26 [and match figs of 10/50]) by an innings & 182 runs

CAREER FIGURES AND BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS (WHERE KNOWN) OF PLAYERS WHO MADE THEIR DEBUTS IN 1923

153) **SPENCER ALLEN** - Born – 20 December 1893 in Halifax, West Yorkshire
Died – 9 October 1978 in Bradford, aged 84.

He was a LH batsman and SLA bowler

First Class debut – v Middlesex at Lord's in 1924

Yorkshire career – 1923 to 1924

Highest score – 41* v Lancashire, Old Trafford, 1924 (2nd XI Minor Counties Championship Match)

Highest score in First Class cricket – 6 v Middlesex, Lord's, 1924 (County Championship)

Best bowling – 6/6 v Lincolnshire, Keighley CC, 1924 (2nd XI Minor Counties Championship Match)

Best Bowling in First Class cricket – 2/116 v Middlesex, Lord's, 1924 (County Championship)

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class cricket	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
1	2	0	8	6	4.00	-	-	-
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
3	5	2	95	41*	31.67	-	-	1

BOWLING

1st Class cricket	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	36	6	116	2	58.00	2/116	-	-
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	86.1	27	175	17	10.29	6/6	2	-

A schoolmaster by profession, he taught at Leeds Modern School and retired to Ilkley in 1968. He played for the Leeds club and for Queensbury in the Bradford League.

154) **ARTHUR BOOTH** - Born – 3 November 1902 in Featherstone, West Yorkshire
Died – 17 August 1974 in Rochdale, Lancashire, aged 71.

He was a RH batsman and SLA bowler

First Class debut – v Essex, Headingley, 1931 (County Championship)
Yorkshire career – 1923 to 1951

Highest score in First Class matches – 29 v Middlesex, Bramall Lane, Sheffield in 1946 (County Championship)
Career-best bowling – 8/41 v Northumberland, Osborne Avenue, Jesmond in 1931(2nd XI Minor Counties Championship)
Best Bowling in First Class matches – 6/21 v Warwickshire, Edgbaston, 1946 (County Championship)

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
38	40	16	137	29	5.70	-	-	12
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
22	32	13	71	12	3.94	-	-	11

BOWLING

1st Class Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	1208	525	1931	131	14.74	6/21	7	1
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	545.4	107	977	87	11.22	8/41	4	1

During and just after the second world war, Yorkshire cricket chugged along quite successfully, with the old stagers, Brian Sellers, Maurice Leyland, Wilf Barber, Herbert Sutcliffe, Len Hutton and Bill Bowes but all were older and perhaps not all with their pre-war capabilities.

The glory days of lefties like George Hirst, Wilfred Rhodes and the sadly-missed Hedley Verity had passed and the young pretender was awaited. Veteran Horace Fisher twirled manfully away until in crept Arthur Booth. It seemed Yorkshire had to reluctantly use him as he had made his first class debut for them in 1931 and was not recalled until his *annus mirabilis* in 1946 at the age of 43. But all the time, the county was searching for a more permanent solution.

Eventually after some impressive performances (and quite a few moderate ones) Yorkshire felt obliged to grant him his cap in 1946 before it became a posthumous one. After years of hard graft, he surely deserved it.

He is also remembered for his appearances at Roundhay Park, in Leeds, in the days when Yorkshire would send strong sides for charity events. One such game involving Booth saw an Arthur Clues XI as the opponents, put together by the former Australian Rugby League player, a stalwart of the Leeds and Hunslet clubs.

Such players as Leyland and Hutton would play, and sides would also include Lancastrians Cyril Washbrook, Joe Hardstaff and Eddie Paynter. AB Sellers would go virtually unnoticed with Arthur Wood keeping wicket.

Booth had been capped in 1935 by Northumberland in the Minor Counties Championship before his recall to Yorkshire. Illness restricted Booth to just four appearances in 1947 and he effectively disappeared as Johnny Wardle and Alan Mason contested the spot. He later served Warwickshire as a talent scout and then was a Committee member for Lancashire until 1970.

He played club cricket for Spen Victoria (Bradford CL) and Littleborough in the Central Lancashire League.

155) **John DRAKE** – Born 1 Sept 1893 in Tong Park, Baildon, W Yorks
Died 22 May 1967 in Meanwood, Leeds, aged 73.

He was a RH batsman and RA fast-medium bowler

First-class debut – v Essex at Leyton on 23-26 June 1923 (County Championship)

Yorks career – 1923-1924

High highest first-class score (10) came in the County Championship game against Glam at Bramall Lane, Sheffield on 18-21 Aug 1923

His best first-class return (1/44) came in his debut match (above)

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
3	4	1	21	10	7.00	-	-	2
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
13	20	4	217	57*	13.56	-	1	20

BOWLING

1st Class Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	46	11	117	1	117.00	1/44	-	-
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	278.3	102	1006	65	15.47	7/22	5	1

156) **John Stewart STEPHENSON** – Born 10 Nov 1903 in Brough, E Yorks

Died – 7 Oct 1975 in Horsham, Sussex, aged 71.

He was a RH batsman and RA medium-paced bowler

First-class debut – (for Oxford un) v Lancs, The Parks, 5-8 May 1923 (University Match)

Yorks career – 1923-1926

His highest first-class score (72) came against H D G Leveson-Gower's XI, playing for Oxford Un, at the Saffrons, Eastbourne, on 30 June to 2 July, 1926
 His best first-class bowling figures (3/44) came against Glos for Oxford Un, played at the Fry's Gd, Bristol on 24-26 June 1925 (University match)

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches (For Yorks & Oxford Un)	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
35	53	5	949	72	19.77	-	5	21
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
1	2	0	4	4	4.00	-	-	2

BOWLING

1st Class Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	153	31	521	11	47.36	3/44	-	-

He was educated at Shrewsbury School and University College, Oxford. He later taught at Lancing College, Sussex.

157) **Cyril TURNER** – Born 11 Jan 1902 in Wombwell, S Yorks
 Died 19 Nov 1968, Wath-on-Deerne, S Yorks, aged 66.

He was a LH batsman and RA medium-paced bowler

First-class debut – v Cambridge Un at Fenner's on 27-29 May 1925 (University Match)
 Yorks career – 1925-1950

His highest first-class score (130) came against Somerset at Bramall Lane, Sheffield, on 15-17 Aug 1936 (County Championship)
 His best first-class bowling return (7/54) came against Glos at the Wagon Works Gd, Gloucester, on 18-21 May 1935 (County Championship)
 His career-best score (207*) came in the Minor Counties Championship against Lancs at Old Trafford on 7 & 8 Aug 1933

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
201	266	32	6132	130	26.20	2	36	181
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
98	142	30	3466	207*	30.94	3	15	58
2nd XI Friendly Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
2	3	0	99	93	33.00	-	1	1

BOWLING

1st Class Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	2442.3	680	5354	173	30.94	7/54	4	-
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	1573.2	390	3626	154	23.54	6/86	1	1
2nd XI Friendly Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	24	10	43	2	21.50	2/14	-	-

He was awarded his County Cap in 1935 and a benefit season in 1946. This raised £2439 (£102,821 in 2020). After retiring, he took up the role of scoring for the first XI. He was connected to the Sheffield Utd club and it was there that the young F S Trueman appeared, thanks to Turner. He also ensured that Trueman was seen by the county and the rest, as they say, is history.

158) **Francis Irving TURNER** – Brother of Cyril (above), he was born on 3 Sept 1894 in Barnsley
Died 18 Oct 1954 in Killearn, Stirlingshire, Scotland, aged 60.

He was a RH batsman and RA medium-paced bowler

First-class debut – v Middx, Lord's, 28-30 May 1924 (County Championship)

Yorks career – 1923-1924

His highest first-class score (12) was made against Leics at Bradford PA on 16-19 Aug 1924 (County Championship)

His career-best score (66*) was made against Lancs at Old Trafford on 6 & 7 Aug 1923 in his only appearance in the Minor Counties Championship

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
5	7	0	33	12	4.71	-	-	2
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
1	2	2	126	66*	-	-	2	-

He was a steel-worker in later life and played club cricket in Scotland for the Uddingston club, Glasgow. He represented Scotland against the touring South Africans at Hamilton Crescent, also in Glasgow, on 19 & 20 July 1935. Making 3 and 22 and taking one catch.

159) **Charles Percival WHITING** – Born 18 Apr 1888 in Dringhoe, Skipsea, E Yorks

Died 14 Jan 1959, Drifffield, E Yorks, aged 70.

First-class debut – v Kent, Angel Gd, Tonbridge, 18-20 June 1914 (County Championship)

Yorks career – 1911-1923

His best first-class batting performance (26) came against Kent in his debut match (above)

His best first-class bowling return (5/46) was recorded against Essex at Headingley on 29 Jun to 1 July 1914 (County Championship)

His career-best batting performance (31) was in friendly cricket against the Bradford CL at Bradford PA on 20 & 21 Aug 1919.

He did make 40 when playing for the East Riding against the second eleven in a friendly game at Beverley on 12 & 13 Aug 1914.

His career-best bowling figures (6/84) were also in friendly cricket against the Airedale-Wharfedale Senior CL at Horsforth Hall Park CC, Leeds, on 15 & 16 July 1919

CAREER STATISTICS - BATTING & FIELDING

1st Class Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
6	10	2	92	26	11.50	-	-	2
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
4	7	0	41	14	5.85	-	-	5
2nd XI Friendly Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average	100s	50s	Ct/St
14	18	0	194	31	10.77	-	-	7

BOWLING

1st Class Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	121	21	416	15	27.73	5/46	1	-
2nd XI Minor Counties Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	62.2	18	154	9	17.11	3/9	-	-
2nd XI Friendly Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Figures	5wI	10wM
	254	54	812	39	20.82	6/84	2	-

A very fast amateur bowler from Drifffield, he dismissed Frank Woolley in his first match (above). In 1920, at Headingley, Hants ran up 456/2 dec against Yorks and Whiting took both wickets at a personal cost of 124. He declined an offer from the county of professional terms due to his business commitments. He was connected to the Drifffield club for many years.
