

News and Views: 2018–19 Season – Week 5 – 13 November 2018

By **Haydn Thompson**, with input from **Mark Watson**.

Results

There were two very close results this week in the B League, where the **Waters Green Lemmings** beat the **Park Taverners** by 149 points to 146 and the **Nags Head** beat the **Rushton Diamonds** by 153 points to 148. Just as close was the C League match at the **Pack Horse Bowling Club**, where the **Brewers Arms** lost by 127 points to 132.

Tables

The **Rushton Diamonds'** defeat was their first of the season, and it left the **Harrington Academicals** two points clear at the top of the B League. In the A League the **Dolphin** are the only team with a 100% record, but they are currently one point behind the **Ox-fford** who have played one more game, winning three and drawing one. Meanwhile in the C League, there is a slightly artificial position whereby four teams have played five games and four have played only three. The **Chester Road Tavern** currently top the table with eight points, but both the **Robin Hood** and the **Sutton Club** are only two points behind and have two games in hand.

Individual

Mark Watson was once again the star performer, scoring a mighty 57 points. Mark went second on the team that went "second first" – answering questions 4 in the Specialists and 3, 11, 19 etc. in the General Knowledge. The one he didn't get was the one about the coffee balalaika; having never heard of it and faced with three hands on the table, each with five fingers extended, he conferred. No doubt if this had been his 18th or 19th question, instead of his 4th, he'd have gone for it anyway!

The last score of 57 was exactly two years ago: Season 2016–17, Week 5, by **Alan Hodgson**. The last one before that was just three weeks (including a Cup round) earlier: Season 2016–17, Week 3, by ... **Mark Watson**.

There were 24 personal bests this week: nine in the A League, 8 in the B and 7 in the C. Second highest score in the A League was **Alice Walker's** 54, while there were three 45s in the B League (**Art Higham**, **Dave Partington** and **Jon Thompson**) and the highest score in the C League was 36 for **Tony Moores**.

Questions

Some people have commented in Nick's blog on individual questions. The ones about Luis Suarez and the most eaten fruit were singled out for being somewhat obscure, while the one about the "rodent-like piece of computer hardware" maybe erred in the opposite direction. No one got a 3 for answering Norwich City (although at least one team apparently scored 1 on conferral); but congratulations to **Keith Pointon** and **Paul Prior** for getting the banana question right!

A League

Results

Ox-fford 'C'	189	141	Dolphin Dragons
Alice Walker (pb)	54	36	Liz Horrocks
Haydn Thompson (pb)	48	33	Dave Cooper (pb)
Tim Massey (pb)	33	24	Mike Ockleton (pb)
Church House Bollington	168	139	Waters Green Rams
Ashton Davies	42	45	Keith Pointon (pb)
Ed Baron	33		
John Hargreaves (pb)	30		
Weaver	160	176	Ox-fford
Graham Bailey (pb)	48	57	Mark Watson (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Ox-fford	4	3	1	0	680	7
Dolphin	3	3	0	0	487	6
Ox-fford 'C'	4	2	1	1	700	5
Weaver	4	2	0	2	667	4
Church House Bollington	4	2	0	2	637	4
Royal Oak	4	2	0	2	627	4
Dolphin Dragons	4	0	0	4	557	0
Waters Green Rams	3	0	0	3	470	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Mark Watson	Ox-fford	4	213	57	51	57
Alice Walker	Ox-fford 'C'	4	198	54	45	54
Haydn Thompson	Ox-fford 'C'	4	177	48	39	48
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	4	174	45	42	42
Ed Baron	Church House Bollington	4	150	45	33	33
Paul Morrissey	Ox-fford	4	144	45	27	36
Rosalie James	Royal Oak	4	141	45	27	
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	3	138	48	42	
Alan Gilday	Weaver	4	138	42	27	27
Alan James	Royal Oak	4	129	39	30	
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	4	129	39	24	36

B League

Results

Waters Green Lemmings	149	146	Park Taverners
Jon Thompson (pb)	45	39	Graham Wallace
Bob Langstaff (pb)	36		
Nick Peck (pb)	21		
Plough Horntails	125	162	Harrington Academicals
Malcolm Asquith (pb)	33	45	Dave Partington (pb)
Rushton Diamonds	148	153	Nags Head
Art Higham (pb)	45	33	Andrew Wright (pb)
		30	Paul Prior (pb)
		30	Alasdair Reid

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Harrington Academicals	4	4	0	0	670	8
Rushton Diamonds	4	3	0	1	599	6
British Flag	4	2	0	2	596	4
Nags Head	3	2	0	1	455	4
Park Taverners	4	1	0	3	554	2
Plough Horntails	4	1	0	3	541	2
Waters Green Lemmings	4	1	0	3	629	2
Sutton Mutton	3	1	0	2	399	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	4	168	45	39	45
Brian Bogie	Rushton Diamonds	4	153	42	36	36
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	4	144	42	33	36
Art Higham	Rushton Diamonds	4	135	45	27	45
Bob Langstaff	Waters Green Lemmings	4	132	36	27	36
Jon Thompson	Waters Green Lemmings	4	129	45	24	45
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	3	120	45	36	39
Stuart Mills	Harrington Academicals	4	120	36	21	21
Phil Davies	British Flag	3	117	48	33	
Anne Jeater	Plough Horntails	4	117	36	24	24



Macclesfield Quiz League

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C League

Results

Pack Horse Bowling Club	132	127	Brewers Arms
Reg Bloor (pb)	27	30	Trisha Ridgway (pb)
Andrew Vickerstaff	27	30	Tim Hayes (pb)
Harrington 'B'	124	156	Chester Road Tavern
John Green	33	36	Tony Moores (pb)
Martin Biss	30	33	Steve Moores (pb)
Tom Aindow (pb)	21	30	Mitch Moores (pb)
Park Timers	121	133	Robin Hood
John Poyser	24	27	Phil Moss
Glyn Bradley	24		

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Chester Road Tavern	5	4	0	1	678	8
Park Timers	5	3	0	2	661	6
Robin Hood	3	3	0	0	450	6
Sutton Club	3	3	0	0	417	6
Harrington 'B'	5	2	0	3	649	4
Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	1	0	4	580	2
Cock Inn	3	0	0	3	362	0
Brewers Arms	3	0	0	3	354	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
John Green	Harrington 'B'	5	171	39	30	33
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	5	135	36	21	21
Glyn Bradley	Park Timers	4	123	39	24	24
Andrew Vickerstaff	Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	120	30	18	27
John Poyser	Park Timers	4	114	36	21	24
Tim Bloor	Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	114	33	12	21
Mitch Moores	Chester Road Tavern	4	111	30	27	30
Jim Moores	Chester Road Tavern	3	102	39	27	
Geoff Parkin	Harrington 'B'	4	96	36	12	12
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	5	93	33	27	

Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	Spec	Ox-fford	9.47	7.66	7.17	24.30	24.69
2	1	GK	Ox-fford	7.68	9.08	7.22	23.97	17.22
3	5	GK	Sutton Club	6.49	8.60	6.33	21.42	19.98
4	2	GK	Dolphin Dragons	5.15	8.89	6.22	20.26	17.65
5	3	GK	Plough Horntails	5.07	9.32	5.51	19.90	8.76
6	4	Spec	Waters Green Rams	4.52	9.89	5.39	19.80	
7	2	Spec	Dolphin Dragons	6.10	6.83	6.22	19.16	20.42
8	3	Spec	Plough Horntails	3.64	9.47	5.76	18.86	
9	5	Spec	British Flag	6.04	5.56	6.72	18.32	24.61
10	4	GK	Waters Green Rams	6.35	0.89	5.22	12.46	18.84

This week's questions reversed the trend of falling Entertainment scores, and are currently ranked third (GK) and fourth (Specialist) in that respect. Both sets were also slightly easier than average, earning good scores for Difficulty. On Balance, the **Sutton Club's** General Knowledge set scored well and the **British Flag's** Specialist questions earned a perfectly respectable score.

Overall, the teams that went "first first" scored 106% of their average scores, while those that went "second first" scored 109%. This would mean a difference of a fraction over four points on an average team score of 137. In other words, if you went "first first" and lost by four points or less*, you can maybe consider yourselves unlucky. As it happens, in each of the three closest games this week (mentioned on Page 1), the losing teams went "first second" – so (according to the spreadsheet) the questions were not to blame!

The Flag's position of ninth out of ten so far this season doesn't look great at first sight, but their total score is (like that for Balance) perfectly respectable and would have put them in ninth place last season. This speaks well for the standard of questions this season – if you agree with the criteria on which they're judged by the spreadsheet – and if this trend continues then I think we can all give ourselves a pat on the back.

* or fewer, if you prefer.