

News and Views: 2018–19 Season – Week 16 – 12 March 2019

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

Cancelled Games

In Week 11 (29 January), two games were called off due to concerns about the weather:

- **Rushton Diamonds v. Waters Green Lemmings**
- **Cock Inn v. Robin Hood**

Neither the Lemmings nor the Cock felt it was safe to travel (the second game was due to be played at the Robin Hood). The League points were therefore awarded to the Diamonds and the Robin Hood.

In the B League, the Diamonds are pushing for promotion, while the Lemmings are in some danger of relegation; and there is a chance that either or both of these issues may be affected by the number of match points scored by the teams involved.

In the C League, the Robin Hood are already confirmed as champions and the Cock Inn's League position is unlikely to be affected in any meaningful way. Even so, in order to be strictly fair to all parties, the Committee has decided that the teams at whose request the matches were called off should be awarded the average scores for losing teams on that night in their respective divisions, and the other two teams should be awarded the average scores for the winning teams.

Match scores were not high in Week 11. The points awarded are as follows: Rushton Diamonds 129, Robin Hood 103, Waters Green Lemmings 114, Cock Inn 98. These points have been included in the League tables published below.

Results

The League's only unbeaten record is no more, after the **Chester Road Tavern**'s victory over the **Robin Hood**. Sympathy is due to the Robin, but this result must be all the sweeter for the CRT after they lost to the same opposition in the Plate competition back in January.

Also in the C League, the **Brewers Arms** were denied a fourth consecutive victory (against the **Harrington 'B'**) by just four points. This was particularly unfortunate for the Brewers, as they were only able to field three players this week.

It was in Week 7 that the A and B Leagues' last unbeaten records came to an end, and both of those results were repeated in the reverse fixtures this time around: the **Dolphin** losing to the **Waters Green Rams** and the **Harrington Academicals** to the **British Flag**.

Like the Brewers, the Dolphin are perhaps entitled to consider themselves a tad unfortunate, as both of the Rams' victories were by just a single point.

Tables

The Dolphin's defeat means that they are unable to catch the **Ox-fford**, so the A League trophy will reside at the **73 and Pizza** for the next twelve months. At the other end of the table, the **Royal Oak's** defeat has in all likelihood done little to improve the **Dolphin Dragons'** chances of A League survival.

The B League title is still up for grabbing by either the **British Flag**, **Rushton Diamonds** or **Harrington Academicals**, but the **Nags Head** have only a slim hope of taking the second promotion spot (especially as the **Diamonds** and **Academicals** play each other this week). A quick glance at the table might suggest that the Nags are not mathematically clear of relegation yet, but the fixture list means that they are in fact safe whatever happens.

In the C League, any one of the **Park Timers**, **Chester Road Tavern** or **Sutton Club** can still join the **Robin Hood** in promotion. There are also three candidates for the wooden spoon, and there's every chance that it might come down to the match between the **Cock Inn** and the **Brewers Arms** in Week 18.

Individual

Top scorer this week was **Scott Dawson** with 54. This was only Scott's fourth game of the season, and he has a very healthy average of 48 points.

Batting second in the team that went "first first", Scott got a full house in the General Knowledge questions; the two he didn't get were in Specialist rounds 5 and 7 (Two Wheels and Science: the Triumph motorbike named after the American speed test place, and the fabric obtained from the Angora goat.)

Special mention should also be made of **Jim Moores's** 45, which helped the **Chester Road Tavern** to become the first team to beat the Robin Hood this season (in the League). This equals Jim's **All Time Personal Best** (ATPB), which he last scored in the 2006-7 season.

In the A League there were two 48s (**Mark Watson** and **Alan Hodgson**), and three 45s (**Graham Bailey**, **Ashton Davies** and **Peter McBride**). Top scorer in the B League was **Alasdair Reid** with 42.

There were **eleven personal bests** this week, and **fourteen** people failed to better their lowest scores of the season.



Macclesfield Quiz League

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A League

Results

Ox-fford	171	156	Royal Oak
Mark Watson	48	36	Rosalie James
Weaver	159	170	Church House Bollington
Graham Bailey	45	45 33 33	Ashton Davies John Hargreaves (pb) Bob Gratton
Dolphin	167	168	Waters Green Rams
Alan Hodgson Peter McBride Derek Owen (pb)	48 45 24	54 33 33	Scott Dawson (pb) David Reynolds (pb) Keith Pointon

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Ox-fford	13	9	1	3	2073	19
Ox-fford 'C'	12	8	1	3	2018	17
Church House Bollington	13	7	0	6	2085	14
Dolphin	12	7	0	5	1904	14
Weaver	13	6	0	7	2120	12
Royal Oak	13	6	0	7	1990	12
Dolphin Dragons	12	4	0	8	1743	8
Waters Green Rams	12	2	0	10	1708	4

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 16
Mark Watson	Ox-fford	11	546	57	36	48
Alice Walker	Ox-fford 'C'	12	498	54	33	
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	13	495	57	39	45
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	11	486	51	36	48
Haydn Thompson	Ox-fford 'C'	12	468	51	33	
Peter McBride	Dolphin	12	468	48	33	45
Graham Bailey	Weaver	12	423	48	30	45
Alan Gilday	Weaver	13	411	48	30	27
Ed Baron	Church House Bollington	12	402	45	30	30
Keith Pointon	Waters Green Rams	12	393	45	27	33



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B League

Results

Waters Green Lemmings	141	107	Sutton Mutton
Bob Langstaff	24	24	Mike Proctor
Nick Peck	24		
Jon Thompson	24		
Nags Head	148	156	Park Taverners
Alasdair Reid (pb)	42	33	Graham Wallace
		33	Nick Crowdy
		30	Pete Dykstra (pb)
Rushton Diamonds	165	135	Plough Horntails
Brian Bogie	39	30	Dave McGuinness
Neil Scott (pb)	36	30	Malcolm Asquith
British Flag	155	135	Harrington Academicals
Geoff Shaw (pb)	36	36	Rob Parkin
Neil Drummond	36		

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
British Flag	13	9	0	4	1943	18
Rushton Diamonds	13	9	0	4	1882	18
Harrington Academicals	12	8	0	4	1790	16
Nags Head	12	7	0	5	1845	14
Plough Horntails	13	6	0	7	1762	12
Park Taverners	13	5	0	8	1758	10
Waters Green Lemmings	12	5	0	7	1584	10
Sutton Mutton	12	1	0	11	1440	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 16
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	11	390	45	18	30
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	11	384	42	27	36
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	12	372	45	27	33
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	12	372	45	21	21
Brian Bogie	Rushton Diamonds	10	366	45	24	39
Phil Davies	British Flag	11	354	48	15	27
Art Higham	Rushton Diamonds	11	354	45	24	33
Andrew Wright	Nags Head	10	339	48	27	27
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	12	336	39	27	30
Anne Jeater	Plough Horntails	13	336	39	24	24



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C League

Results

Harrington 'B'	128	124	Brewers Arms
Tom Aindow (pb)	24	33	Andy Ridgway
Martin Biss	24		
John Green	24		
Robin Hood	137	146	Chester Road Tavern
Jim Kennelly	36	45	Jim Moores (pb)
		27	Chris Moores (pb)
Sutton Club	147	92	Cock Inn
Wendy Brown	30	30	Jackie Hulme

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Robin Hood	12	11	0	1	1680	22
Park Timers	13	7	1	5	1588	15
Chester Road Tavern	13	7	0	6	1611	14
Sutton Club	12	7	0	5	1514	14
Harrington 'B'	13	6	0	7	1551	12
Pack Horse Bowling Club	13	4	1	8	1521	9
Cock Inn	12	4	0	8	1386	8
Brewers Arms	12	3	0	9	1438	6

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 16
John Green	Harrington 'B'	11	321	39	18	24
Jim Kennelly	Robin Hood	8	309	48	33	36
John Poyser	Park Timers	12	291	36	18	
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	11	285	33	6	30
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	13	279	36	18	
Trisha Ridgway	Brewers Arms	11	279	36	15	30
Andy Ridgway	Brewers Arms	10	270	45	18	33
Jackie Hulme	Cock Inn	11	267	42	9	30
Chris Butler	Sutton Club	11	267	30	18	27
Mitch Moores	Chester Road Tavern	12	252	30	12	24



Macclesfield Quiz League

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Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	Ox-fford	9.89	8.11	7.22	25.22	17.22
2	1	Spec	Ox-fford	10.00	5.80	7.17	22.97	24.69
3	16	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	7.48	7.67	6.51	21.66	14.96
4	2	GK	Dolphin Dragons	6.40	9.01	6.22	21.63	17.65
5	5	GK	Sutton Club	7.92	6.97	6.33	21.22	19.98
6	14	GK	Dolphin	5.79	9.16	5.78	20.73	13.17
7	7	GK	Ox-fford 'C'	10.00	4.30	6.26	20.56	19.10
8	8	Spec	Park Taverners	7.11	6.57	6.72	20.40	(11.45)
9	3	GK	Plough Horntails	6.34	7.71	5.51	19.56	8.76
10	9	GK	Rushton Diamonds	5.78	7.65	5.39	18.82	14.14
11	9	Spec	Park Timers	9.92	1.44	7.00	18.36	(23.61)
12	2	Spec	Dolphin Dragons	5.66	6.24	6.22	18.12	20.42
13	13	GK	Cock Inn	7.60	4.93	5.56	18.09	7.42
14	3	Spec	Plough Horntails	2.35	9.87	5.76	17.98	
15	4	Spec	Waters Green Rams	3.17	9.36	5.39	17.92	
16	15	GK	Waters Green Lemmings	4.13	7.89	4.57	16.59	12.70
17	13	Spec	Harrington Academicals	7.32	3.01	5.83	16.16	18.04
18	7	Spec	Ox-fford 'C'	2.10	7.95	5.87	15.91	12.56
19	10	GK	Robin Hood	4.71	7.28	3.89	15.88	(14.01)
20	10	Spec	Nags Head	1.39	8.13	5.50	15.02	(7.83)
21	4	GK	Waters Green Rams	7.88	1.83	5.22	14.93	18.84
22	5	Spec	British Flag	5.47	2.58	6.72	14.77	24.61
23	8	GK	Chester Road Tavern	6.01	2.86	5.67	14.54	13.96
24	6	GK	Harrington 'B'	5.05	3.22	5.32	13.59	(16.23)
25	6	Spec	Waters Green Lemmings	2.86	4.89	4.97	12.72	14.47
26	16	GK	Pack Horse Bowling Club	5.92	0.00	5.96	11.88	
27	12	Spec	Church House Bollington	0.33	6.38	5.10	11.81	17.13
28	12	GK	Church House Bollington	1.94	4.86	4.82	11.62	14.74
29	15	Spec	Harrington 'B'	3.08	1.21	5.50	9.79	16.23
30	11	Spec	Sutton Mutton	0.00	5.90	3.17	9.07	11.5
31	11	GK	Brewers Arms	0.00	3.85	3.89	7.74	(11.16)
32	14	Spec	Dolphin	2.36	0.00	5.22	7.58	7.84

Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy: Comments

Not for the first time this season, it was a game of two halves for this week's questions – all of which were set by the **Pack Horse Bowling Club**.

Both sets scored well enough for **Entertainment** – the Specialists being in sixth place (out of 32) and the General Knowledge in twelfth. For **Difficulty**, the Specialists scored well (teams scoring on average 109% of their average scores) and the General Knowledge are in mid-table with an average score of exactly 100%.

It was on **Balance** that the two sets diverged. The Specialists were quite well balanced, according to the spreadsheet, but with a slight bias in favour of the teams that went first, who averaged 111% of their average scores while those going second averaged 107%. This gave the Pack Horse's Specialist questions an excellent total score of 21.66, putting them third in the current table – behind only the Ox-fford's two sets.

Unfortunately the spreadsheet detected a heavy bias in the General Knowledge questions, towards the teams that went first (second in the Specialists). The teams that went "second first" scored on average 108% of their average scores, while those going "first first" averaged only 91%.

Overall, according to the spreadsheet, there was a distinct bias towards the teams that went "second first": 108% to 99%. On an average team score of 140, this would have made a difference of 12 or 13 points. This may potentially have affected the results of one game in each division.