



Macclesfield Quiz League

Sponsored by AstraZeneca

News and Views: 2019–20 Season – Week 5 – 5 November 2019

Results

The C League's two previously unbeaten teams, the **Park Taverners** and the **Brewers Arms**, played each other this week; a close match resulted in a win for the Taverners. This leaves us with just one unbeaten team in each League: **Nags Head 'B'** (A League) and **Waters Green Rams** (B League), as well as the Park Taverners.

This week we had our first drawn match of the season: in the C League, between the **Broken Cross Club** and the **Harrington 'B'**. We also had one game decided by just one point, one by three and another by eight.

Six games were won by the team going "first first", and four went the other way. According to the spreadsheet, the balance was quite good overall; for more details, please see Page 5.

Tables

Of our three unbeaten teams, **Nags Head 'B'** and **Park Taverners** top their respective Leagues, but the **Waters Green Rams** are only second in the B League, on goal difference – largely because the **Nags Head** have played one game more than them.

This is as it was last week, and in fact there was very little movement anywhere this week. Perhaps the most significant change was that in the C League, **Broken Cross Club** moved above the **Pack Horse Bowling Club** after gaining their first point of the season in the aforementioned drawn game.

Individual

There were 21 personal bests this week, while 32 people failed to improve on their lowest scores so far. This may suggest that some people struggled with the questions; not so the **Waters Green Lemmings**, all four of whom were among the 21 personal bests. Respect to them (even though it wasn't enough to beat the table-topping **Nags Head**)!

Highest scorer was **Ashton Davies**, with his second 51 of the season – in only his third game. The next highest scorers were **Mark Watson** and **Keith Pointon** with 45 each; there were also 42s for **Graham Bailey**, **Art Higham** and **Dave Partington**. Top scorer in the C League was **John Green** with 36.

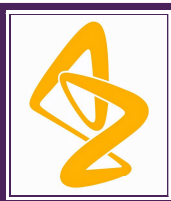
With none of the A League's top four playing this week, Mark Watson moved up from fifth place to second, behind **Alice Walker**. There was very little change in the B League table, where **Dave Partington** is still in top spot, but in the C League no fewer than five players moved above **Wendy Brown** who was on question setting duties. **Andy Ridgway** is now top, but everyone below him has at least one game in hand.

Three of those people have virtually identical records: **John Green**, **John Poyser** and **Mike Proctor** are in third, fourth and fifth places, each with a total of 117 points and a lowest score of 24. The only thing that separates them is that Mike has a highest score of 33 while the two Johns have a 36 each.

A Day at the Palace

In June we were delighted to report that our esteemed Secretary and Lord High Everything Else, **Mark Watson**, had been awarded the MBE for services to Community Policing.

Last Thursday (7 November) was Mark's Investiture day. You can read more about it (with photographs) on Page 6.



Macclesfield Quiz League

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A League

Results

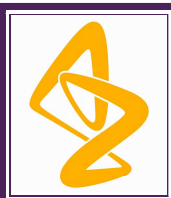
Royal Oak	160	161	Church House Bollington
Rosalie James	36	51	Ashton Davies (pb)
Bill Cawley	30	33	John Hargreaves
Alan James	30	30	Ed Baron (pb)
Gill Baker (pb)	27		
British Flag	143	167	Weaver
Geoff Shaw (pb)	30	42	Graham Bailey (pb)
Phil Davies (pb)	30	39	Alan Gilday (pb)
Neil Drummond	30		
Tony Browne (pb)	27		
Nags Head 'B'	174	163	Rushton Diamonds
Mark Watson	45	42	Art Higham (pb)
		36	Brian Bogie
		33	Chris Bogie (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head 'B'	4	4	0	0	699	8
Queens	4	2	0	2	690	4
Dolphin	4	2	0	2	643	4
Rushton Diamonds	4	2	0	2	616	4
Weaver	3	2	0	1	473	4
Church House Bollington	3	2	0	1	466	4
British Flag	4	1	0	3	586	2
Royal Oak	4	0	0	4	623	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Alice Walker	Queens	4	204	54	48	
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	4	192	51	45	45
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	4	177	48	42	
Haydn Thompson	Queens	4	162	48	36	
Brian Bogie	Rushton Diamonds	4	156	42	36	36
Rosalie James	Royal Oak	4	150	48	33	36
Peter McBride	Dolphin	4	150	45	27	
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	3	144	51	42	51
Alan James	Royal Oak	4	138	42	30	30
Paul Morrissey	Nags Head 'B'	4	135	42	24	33



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B League

Results

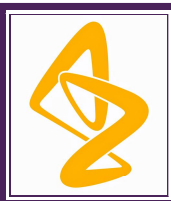
Harrington Academicals	128	153	Dolphin Dragons
Dave Partington	42	36	Dave Cooper
Waters Green Lemmings	129	148	Nags Head
Jon Thompson (pb)	39	33	Paul Prior
Bob Langstaff (pb)	30	27	Dave Pennington (pb)
Nick Peck (pb)	24		
Sunil Peck (pb)	12		
Chester Road Tavern	84	159	Waters Green Rams
Steve Moores	24	45	Keith Pointon (pb)
Robin Hood	131	134	Plough Horntails
Jim Kennelly	36	33	Malcolm Asquith (pb)
Tim Grimes (pb)	30		

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head	5	4	0	1	757	8
Waters Green Rams	4	4	0	0	664	8
Harrington Academicals	5	2	0	3	718	4
Plough Horntails	4	2	0	2	543	4
Dolphin Dragons	3	2	0	1	502	4
Robin Hood	4	1	0	3	547	2
Waters Green Lemmings	4	1	0	3	479	2
Chester Road Tavern	3	0	0	3	309	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	5	204	48	27	42
Paul Prior	Nags Head	5	168	42	24	33
Keith Pointon	Waters Green Rams	4	159	45	30	45
Jim Kennelly	Robin Hood	4	141	42	30	36
Jon Thompson	Waters Green Lemmings	4	135	39	27	39
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	4	135	39	27	27
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	4	132	42	21	21
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	4	129	33	30	33
Andy Johnson	Nags Head	4	117	39	21	
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	3	105	42	30	30



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C League

Results

Park Taverners	111	103	Brewers Arms
Graham Wallace	27	27	Andy Ridgway
Pack Horse Bowling Club	107	123	Park Timers
Reg Bloor	27	27 27	John Poyser Glyn Bradley
Broken Cross Club	122	122	Harrington 'B'
Jackie Hulme	24	36	John Green (pb)
Peter Bullivent (pb)	21		
Peter Wilcox	21		
Sutton Mutton	130	109	King's Gambit
Wynne Keith-Davies	30	27	Michael Taylor (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Park Taverners	5	5	0	0	664	10
Brewers Arms	5	4	0	1	584	8
Sutton Club	4	3	0	1	551	6
Harrington 'B'	4	2	1	1	509	5
Sutton Mutton	4	2	0	2	505	4
Park Timers	4	2	0	2	489	4
King's Gambit	5	1	0	4	396	2
Broken Cross Club	5	0	1	4	457	1
Pack Horse Bowling Club	4	0	0	4	475	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Andy Ridgway	Brewers Arms	5	132	36	18	27
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	4	126	36	24	24
John Green	Harrington 'B'	4	117	36	24	36
John Poyser	Park Timers	4	117	36	24	27
Mike Proctor	Sutton Mutton	4	117	33	24	27
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	3	114	45	33	
Kenny Davenport-Slater	Brewers Arms	5	111	30	15	18
Simon Rumsey	Sutton Club	4	99	27	21	
Trisha Ridgway	Brewers Arms	5	96	36	12	18
Pete Dykstra	Park Taverners	5	93	33	9	9



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Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	4	Spec	Park Timers	7.87	8.20	6.47	22.54	18.44
2	4	GK	Waters Green Rams	5.23	8.74	6.20	20.17	18.84
3	1	Spec	Rushton Diamonds	6.18	6.49	6.67	19.35	—
4	2	GK	Dolphin Dragons	3.64	9.38	5.65	18.67	17.65
5	5	GK	Sutton Club	4.82	7.22	6.11	18.15	21.28
6	3	Spec	British Flag	1.63	9.94	6.03	17.60	14.50
7	2	Spec	Sutton Mutton	4.85	6.88	4.11	15.84	8.61
8	1	GK	Rushton Diamonds	7.83	1.42	6.28	15.54	18.63
9	5	Spec	Sutton Club	2.03	0.00	6.19	8.22	—
10	3	GK	British Flag	2.59	0.00	5.04	7.63	—

It was a mixed week for the **Sutton Club's** questions, with the General Knowledge ending up in mid-table while the Specialists are only kept off the bottom by the British Flag's General Knowledge set.

Both sets scored quite well for Entertainment, being solidly in mid-table (fifth and sixth out of ten) but much closer in actual scores to the top (6.67) than the bottom (4.11). Perhaps tellingly, they were at least as popular in the C League as anywhere else, whereas the C League normally marks at least one point less than the League average and sometimes as much as two or three points less.

Several teams found the Specialist questions quite difficult, with eight teams (out of 22) managing less than 90% of their average scores. The teams that went second tended to struggle more than those that went first, scoring on average 86% of their averages as opposed to 103% for those that went first. This resulted in a zero score for balance – this week's Specialist questions being (according to the spreadsheet) the most unbalanced since the beginning of last season.

The General Knowledge were much closer to the norm in terms of Difficulty, with 15 of the 22 teams scoring more than their averages. The General Knowledge were also better balanced than the Specialists (according to the spreadsheet), scoring a decent mark in this category.

What bias the spreadsheet did detect in the General Knowledge questions worked against that in the Specialists (teams that went "second first" doing better), so overall the balance was not too bad: teams that went "first first" scored on average 101% of their averages, as opposed to 97% for those that went "second first". On an average team score of 139, this would have made a difference of five or six points – possibly enough to affect the results in three matches, including (obviously) the drawn game between the Harrington 'B' and the Broken Cross Club.



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A Day at the Palace



In June we were delighted to report that our esteemed Secretary and Lord High Everything Else, **Mark Watson**, had been awarded the MBE for services to Community Policing.

Last Thursday (7 November) was Mark's Investiture day. He writes:

"Prince Charles was in the chair and made the actual presentations. There were 84 people there on the day and I was 80th on the list to get mine!

"There were just a couple of well-known names in the recipients: Alfie Boe (Services to Music & Charity) and Rachel Whiteread (Services to Art). I managed to shake Alfie's hand and have a chat with him."

We would just like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mark once again on this richly-deserved honour.

