Macclesfield Quiz League
Sponsored by AstraZeneca

News and Views: 2019–20 Season – Week 8 – 3 December 2019

Results

One of the three remaining 100% records went this week when the **Waters Green Rams** lost to the **Robin Hood**. This leaves the **Nags Head 'B'** (in the A League) and **Park Taverners** (C League) as the only undefeated teams this season. Which of them will fall first – or will they both make a clean sweep?

Otherwise, in a low-scoring week – but one in which the questions seem to have been quite well balanced (see below) – most results went according to form.

Unusually (especially for this season), there were no really close games; the smallest margin was the twelve points that separated the **Nags Head 'B'** from the **Weaver**.

Tables

The only Top Three change came in the C League, where the **Sutton Club** moved into second place above the **Brewers Arms** (who were on question setting duties).

In the B League, **Waters Green Lemmings** climbed out of the relegation zone, at the expense of the Plough Horntails, with a victory over the Chester Road Tavern.

Individual

Top scorer this week was **Alan Hodgson** with 45. There were three 42s – all in the A League; in the B League no one managed more than 30, and in the C League the highest score was 27.

Just three people scored personal bests this week: take a bow **Brian Bogie** (42), **Nick Crowdy** (27) and **Tim Brewin** (also 27). As many as 45 people (out of 88) failed to beat their lowest scores of the season. These 45 were pretty evenly spread across the three leagues: 14 in the A, 16 in the B, and 15 in the C.

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A League

Results

Queens	**151**	113	**British Flag**
Alice Walker	33	24	Neil Drummond
Stuart Orford	33	24	Geoff Shaw
Rushton Diamonds	139	**162**	**Church House Bollington**
Brian Bogie (pb)	42	42	Ashton Davies
Nags Head 'B'	**154**	142	**Weaver**
Mark Watson	42	39	Graham Bailey
Dolphin	**154**	136	**Royal Oak**
Alan Hodgson	45	36	Alan James

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head 'B'	7	7	0	0	1200	14
Dolphin	7	5	0	2	1130	10
Church House Bollington	6	4	0	2	957	8
Queens	6	3	0	3	999	6
Weaver	6	3	0	3	928	6
Rushton Diamonds	6	2	0	4	911	4
British Flag	6	1	0	5	815	2
Royal Oak	6	0	0	6	918	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	7	321	57	42	45
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	7	321	51	42	42
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	6	291	54	42	42
Alice Walker	Queens	6	279	54	33	33
Peter McBride	Dolphin	7	264	45	27	27
Brian Bogie	Rushton Diamonds	6	237	42	36	42
Haydn Thompson	Queens	6	234	48	24	24
Rosalie James	Royal Oak	6	210	48	30	30
Graham Bailey	Weaver	6	204	42	27	39
Alan James	Royal Oak	6	198	42	24	36

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B League

Results

Waters Green Lemmings	**128**	90	**Chester Road Tavern**
Jon Thompson	30	30	Mitch Moores
Plough Horntails	98	**137**	**Dolphin Dragons**
Malcolm Asquith	21	27	Liz Horrocks
Robin Hood	**112**	96	**Waters Green Rams**
Jim Kennelly Lorraine Hilton	21 21	27	Keith Pointon

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head	7	6	0	1	1057	12
Waters Green Rams	6	5	0	1	903	10
Dolphin Dragons	6	4	0	2	922	8
Robin Hood	7	3	0	4	942	6
Waters Green Lemmings	6	3	0	3	753	6
Harrington Academicals	6	2	0	4	848	4
Plough Horntails	6	2	0	4	784	4
Chester Road Tavern	6	0	0	6	720	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	6	246	48	27	
Jim Kennelly	Robin Hood	7	243	48	21	21
Keith Pointon	Waters Green Rams	6	228	45	27	27
Jon Thompson	Waters Green Lemmings	6	207	42	27	30
Paul Prior	Nags Head	6	201	42	24	
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	6	195	42	21	
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	6	195	42	21	27
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	6	186	36	21	21
Andy Johnson	Nags Head	6	180	39	21	
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	5	162	39	27	

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C League

Results

Park Taverners	**125**	101	**Pack Horse Bowling Club**
Nick Crowdy (pb)	27	24	Andrew Vickerstaff
Harrington 'B'	87	**102**	**Sutton Mutton**
John Green	21	24	Wynne Keith–Davies
Broken Cross Club	85	**116**	**Park Timers**
Peter Wilcox Peter Bullivent Lynne White	15 15 15	27	Tim Brewin (pb)
Sutton Club	**113**	86	**King's Gambit**
Wendy Brown	27	24	Michael Taylor

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Park Taverners	7	7	0	0	908	14
Sutton Club	7	6	0	1	926	12
Brewers Arms	7	5	0	2	828	10
Park Timers	7	4	0	3	863	8
Sutton Mutton	7	3	0	4	838	6
Harrington 'B'	7	2	1	4	831	5
Pack Horse Bowling Club	7	2	0	5	845	4
Broken Cross Club	8	1	1	6	774	3
King's Gambit	7	1	0	6	583	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
John Poyser	Park Timers	7	210	39	21	21
John Green	Harrington 'B'	7	201	39	21	21
Andy Ridgway	Brewers Arms	7	198	36	18	
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	6	195	45	24	27
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	6	159	36	15	18
Kenny Davenport–Slater	Brewers Arms	7	156	30	15	
Simon Rumsey	Sutton Club	7	156	27	12	21
Peter Wilcox	Broken Cross Club	7	153	33	15	15
Wynne Keith–Davies	Sutton Mutton	5	150	42	24	24
Tim Brewin	Park Timers	7	150	27	12	27

Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	4	Spec	**Park Timers**	8.13	7.89	6.47	**22.49**	18.44
2	7	Spec	**Royal Oak**	7.83	9.49	5.15	**22.47**	8.43
3	4	GK	**Waters Green Rams**	5.46	8.42	6.20	**20.08**	18.84
4	1	Spec	**Rushton Diamonds**	6.57	6.29	6.67	**19.53**	
5	6	Spec	**Queens**	4.45	8.88	6.03	**19.36**	15.92
6	2	GK	**Dolphin Dragons**	3.83	9.37	5.65	**18.86**	17.65
7	3	Spec	**British Flag**	2.36	9.80	6.03	**18.20**	14.50
8	5	GK	**Sutton Club**	5.03	6.93	6.11	**18.07**	21.28
9	6	GK	**Queens**	4.75	6.53	5.86	**17.14**	21.09
10	2	Spec	**Sutton Mutton**	5.34	6.82	4.11	**16.27**	8.61
11	1	GK	**Rushton Diamonds**	8.04	0.99	6.28	**15.31**	18.63
12	7	GK	**Royal Oak**	3.04	3.99	5.98	**13.01**	17.10
13	**8**	**Spec**	**Brewers Arms**	**0.00**	**8.68**	**3.86**	**12.54**	**(8.05)**
14	**8**	**GK**	**Nags Head**	**1.04**	**6.74**	**4.08**	**11.86**	**(15.49)**
15	5	Spec	**Sutton Club**	2.78	0.00	6.19	**8.97**	
16	3	GK	**British Flag**	2.79	0.00	5.04	**7.83**	

For the full spreadsheet, please click here.

Most teams struggled with this week's questions; in fact only one team scored better than their average mark, and they only managed 101%. This was the **Church House Bollington**. Thirteen teams scored less than 90% of their averages: three in the A League, four in the B, and six in the C.

The questions were not popular, and sit in 15th and 16th place (out of 16) in the Entertainment rankings.

The saving grace for both sets was their balance. In the Specialists, teams that went "first first" averaged 87% of their average scores for the season so far, and those that went "second first" scored 84%. For the General Knowledge, those figures were 90% and 84% respectively. Overall, teams that went "first first" scored 88% and those that went "second first" scored 85%. On an average team score of 119, this might have made a difference of three or four points. As it happens, and unusually (especially for this season), the closest game was won by a margin of 12 points, so (according to the spreadsheet) no team can justifiably claim that they were robbed by the balance.

A cynic might say that the questions were equally hard for both teams.