

News and Views: 2021–2 Season – Week 9 – 15 February 2022

Results

According to the spreadsheet (see [below](#)), the teams that went "second first" seem to have had the less tricky end of a challenging set of questions this week; but with eight matches being played, four of the teams that went "first first" still managed to win. They were the **Dolphin**, **Nags Head 'B'**, **Dolphin Dragons** and **Sutton Club**.

The closest game was in the C League, when the **Pack Horse Bowling Club** beat the **Sutton Mutton** by 117 points to 111. This was the Mutton's first defeat of the season, leaving the **Queens** (who held off a strong challenge from **Waters Green Weavers**) as the only unbeaten team.

Congratulations to the **Chester Road Tavern**, who enjoyed their first win of the season over **Waters Green Lemmings**.

That's covered seven of this week's winning teams, so it would be churlish not to mention the **Nags Head** – who enjoyed the biggest winning margin, over the **Plough Horntails**.

Tables

The **Nags Head**'s victory saw them return to the top of the B League table, as the **Park Taverners** suffered only their second defeat of the season, to the **Dolphin Dragons**.

The **Sutton Club** went two points clear at the top of the C League, ahead of their stablemates, the **Sutton Mutton**.

Otherwise the only changes were due to teams not playing.

Individual

Top scorer this week was **Mark Watson** with 48. **Alice Walker**, **Haydn Thompson** and **Alan Hodgson** each scored 45. Top scorer in the B League was **Alasdair Reid** with 39, and in the C League **Andrew Vickerstaff**'s personal best score of 33 helped the PHBC to register that narrow victory over the Sutton Mutton.

The only other personal best score was **Neil Drummond**'s 39. And 31 of the 63 players failed to better their lowest scores of the season – 7 in the A League, 12 in the B League and 12 in the C League. (Not for the first time this season, **Waters Green Lemmings** were a player short.)

As in the League tables, there were very few major changes in the leading Individual standings. The biggest climber was **Andy Johnson**, who not only took advantage of the Academicals' turn on QMing duties but also managed to score one more question than **Dave Barber**, resulting in a move from 5th to 2nd in the B League table.

A League

Results

Waters Green Weavers	144	172	Queens
Ian Grieve	39	45 45	Alice Walker Haydn Thompson
Harrington Diamonds	133	144	Dolphin
Brian Bogie	39	45	Alan Hodgson
Queen Bs	144	168	Nags Head 'B'
Neil Drummond (pb)	39	48	Mark Watson

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Queens	8	8	0	0	1409	16
Nags Head 'B'	7	5	0	2	977	10
Poachers	7	5	0	2	972	10
Dolphin	8	4	0	4	1241	8
Waters Green Weavers	8	2	0	6	1243	4
Queen Bs	8	2	0	6	1194	4
Harrington Diamonds	8	1	0	7	1148	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 9
Alice Walker	Queens	8	384	54	42	45
Haydn Thompson	Queens	8	363	51	36	45
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	8	357	54	33	45
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	8	312	42	33	39
Peter McBride	Dolphin	8	294	51	21	21
Graham Bailey	Waters Green Weavers	8	267	42	27	27
Ashton Davies	Poachers	6	252	51	21	
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	5	243	51	45	48
Brian Bogie	Harrington Diamonds	6	240	42	39	39
Neil Drummond	Queen Bs	7	234	39	24	39

B League

Results

Nags Head	172	94	Plough Horntails
Alasdair Reid	39	27	Dave McGuinness
Dolphin Dragons	130	121	Park Taverners
Dave Barber Dave Cooper	21 21	30	Graham Wallace
Chester Road Tavern	117	87	Waters Green Lemmings
Tony Moores	27	24	Tony Wilkinson

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head	8	6	0	2	1319	12
Park Taverners	8	6	0	2	1113	12
Dolphin Dragons	8	5	0	3	1224	10
Harrington Academicals	7	5	0	2	1094	10
Plough Horntails	8	3	0	5	1048	6
Chester Road Tavern	8	1	0	7	908	2
Waters Green Lemmings	7	1	0	6	696	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 9
Paul Prior	Nags Head	8	300	42	21	36
Andy Johnson	Nags Head	8	252	42	24	24
Dave Barber	Dolphin Dragons	8	252	42	21	21
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	7	249	51	21	39
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	7	249	45	27	
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	7	249	42	30	
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	7	240	48	18	18
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	8	240	36	24	30
Ian Musgrave	Nags Head	8	240	36	21	33
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	8	219	33	21	27

C League

Results

King's Gambit	81	116	Sutton Club
Michael Taylor	18	24	Emma Griggs
Sutton Mutton	111	117	Pack Horse Bowling Club
Wynne Keith-Davies	24	33	Andrew Vickerstaff (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Sutton Club	6	4	1	1	831	9
Sutton Mutton	5	3	1	1	628	7
Park Timers	5	3	0	2	693	6
Pack Horse Bowling club	5	2	0	3	536	4
King's Gambit	5	0	0	5	427	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 9
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	5	159	39	24	
John Poyser	Park Timers	5	156	39	24	
Mick Graves	Sutton Mutton	5	126	36	18	18
Simon Rumsey	Sutton Club	4	123	36	21	
Mike Proctor	Sutton Mutton	5	123	33	18	21
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	5	123	27	24	24
John Green	Sutton Club	5	120	33	21	21
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	6	120	24	9	9
Emma Griggs	Sutton Club	4	117	33	24	24
Andrew Vickerstaff	Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	114	33	18	33

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	8	GK	Waters Green Lemmings	8.75	8.11	6.22	23.08	(10.57)
2	6	Spec	Sutton Club	5.21	9.72	6.42	21.35	(21.28)
3	3	GK	Waters Green Weavers	10.00	4.28	7.00	21.28	11.37
4	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	6.09	7.17	7.67	20.94	
5	5	Spec	Harrington Diamonds	5.69	8.12	6.78	20.59	21.29
6	2	Spec	Harrington Academicals	10.00	3.17	6.33	19.50	20.57

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
7	3	Spec	Waters Green Weavers	9.28	3.91	6.11	19.30	17.48
8	4	GK	Cock Inn	5.01	5.57	6.56	17.14	21.28
9	4	Spec	Park Taverners	9.24	1.14	6.33	16.70	(13.42)
10	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	9.61	0.00	7.06	16.67	
11	2	GK	Shamrock Bar	6.74	3.77	6.06	16.57	11.51
12	9	Spec	Poachers	3.42	6.82	5.72	15.95	14.53
13	5	GK	Harrington Diamonds	2.37	6.21	6.42	15.01	16.28
14	6	GK	Plough Horntails	1.95	7.11	5.78	14.84	(7.62)
15	8	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	4.63	3.31	6.11	14.04	(15.35)
16	7	GK	Queen Bs	0.96	4.55	5.33	10.84	10.99
17	7	Spec	Queen Bs	0.00	3.02	5.94	8.96	18.11
18	9	GK	Poachers	0.00	0.00	5.11	5.11	19.63

This being Week 9, we have played the equivalent of half a normal season. This is the time when the spreadsheet stops taking last season's scores into account and just uses those from the current season. We would normally expect to see bigger changes than usual in the Difficulty and Balance scores, and some shuffling of the rankings.

This season we have three big 'climbers' and three that have gone the other way. Three sets of questions have moved up four places: **Sutton Club** up from 6th to 2nd, **WG Weavers** up from 11th to 7th, and **Park Taverners** up from 13th to 9th. And three sets have moved down five places: **Cock Inn**, down from 3rd to 8th, **Nags Head 'B'** down from 5th to 10th, and **Pack Horse Bowling Club** down from 10th to 15th. Five of these are Specialist questions; the only General Knowledge set to move significantly was the one set by the Cock Inn.

The **Waters Green Lemmings** will, I'm sure, be relieved to know that their General Knowledge questions from last week remain at the top of the table.

So what of this week's questions – all set by the **Poachers**? Well ... according to the spreadsheet, the Specialist questions were of pretty much average difficulty and balance; but it was a different story for the General Knowledge, which were not only the most difficult GK questions we've had so far this season but also the least well balanced. The teams that went "first first" scored, on average, only 85% of their average marks for the season, while those going "second first" managed, on average, 98%. Overall, the figures were 89% and 98%. On an average team score of 138, this could have made a difference of about 12 points.

Despite this apparent imbalance, four of the teams that went "first first" did manage to win; and of those that lost, only one lost by less than 12 points.

Neither set scored well for Entertainment; the Specialist questions find themselves 16th out of 18, and the General Knowledge 18th.

For the full spreadsheet, please click [here](#).