



News and Views: 2022–3 Season – Week 5 – 13 December 2022

Results

We had our first draw of the season this week, with the **Harrington Academicals** and **Nags Head** scoring 160 each. Of the other six games, four were won by the teams that went "first first" and two by those that went second. There was one other close game, as the **Sutton Club** beat the **Park Taverners** by 134 points to 130.

Tables

No change at the top of the A League, where the **Poachers** retained their 100% record. The **Nags Head 'B'** remain in second place despite not playing, mainly because (as mentioned above) the Academicals dropped a point.

The **Queens** climbed two places with a victory over the Dolphin, and the **Nags Head** lifted themselves off the bottom of the table by virtue of the point they took off the Academicals (and the Diamonds not playing).

In the B League the **Dolphin Hammers** are still the only undefeated team; the only change is that the **Park Taverners** and the **Plough Horntails** (previously second and third respectively) swapped places after the aforementioned narrow defeat for the Taverners.

Individual

Top scorer this week was **Alice Walker** with 51. **Ed Baron** scored 48, while **Dave Partington**, **Alan Hodgson** and **Ian Musgrave** scored 45 each.

Alice, Ed and Dave were all in Seat 1 (going first on the teams that went "first first"). Alan was on the other side, as was Ian.

There were 11 personal bests this week. Five of them were in the drawn match between the **Nags Head** and the **Academicals** – three to the Nags, who went "second first", and two to the Accies. In contrast there were no personal bests in the next closest game, between the **Park Taverners** and the **Sutton Club** – where all four players on the winning team (the Sutton Club) scored the same. This does not happen often! (More details to follow.)

Questions

The Harrington Diamonds' questions scored quite well all round: pretty much average difficulty, and quite well balanced (according to the spreadsheet). The Entertainment marks were respectable, although the General Knowledge went down better in the A League than in the B. More details on page 4.

A couple of controversies have been mentioned on the Forum. The question about the Rue Morgue Murders seems to have flummoxed everybody, with no trace being found on subsequent searches of Agatha Christie ever mentioning those particular (fictional) events; and several people commented that if anything, "padre" would have been a better answer than "chaplain" for the one about the clergyman who ministers to a military body.



Macclesfield Quiz League

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A League

Results

Nags Head	160	160	Harrington Academicals
Phil Davies (pb)	36	45	Dave Partington (pb)
Neil Drummond pb)	33	39	Alan James (pb)
Tony Browne (pb)	30		
Waters Green Weavers	139	152	Poachers
Ian Grieve	36	48	Ed Baron (pb)
Queens	176	134	Dolphin
Alice Walker	51	45	Alan Hodgson
Haydn Thompson	42		
Tim Massey (pb)	24		
Caroline Massey	24		

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Poachers	4	4	0	0	678	8
Nags Head 'B'	3	3	0	0	521	6
Harrington Academicals	4	2	1	1	656	5
Queens	4	2	0	2	665	4
Waters Green Weavers	4	2	0	2	608	4
Dolphin	4	1	0	3	623	2
Nags Head	4	0	1	3	592	1
Harrington Diamonds	3	0	0	3	440	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	4	192	54	45	45
Alice Walker	Queens	4	189	57	39	51
Haydn Thompson	Queens	4	171	48	36	42
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	4	162	45	33	33
Peter McBride	Dolphin	4	159	48	27	27
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	4	159	45	33	45
Ed Baron	Poachers	4	150	48	24	48
Ashton Davies	Poachers	3	141	54	42	
Alan James	Harrington Academicals	4	141	39	30	39
Graham Bailey	Waters Green Weavers	4	138	42	30	30

B League

Results

Park Taverners	130	134	Sutton Club
Shauna Barstow	36	24	Simon Rumsey
		24	Wendy Brown
		24	Chris Butler
		24	John Green
Dolphin Hammers	187	86	Chester Road Tavern
Dave Barber (pb)	39	18	Bill Moores
Dave Cooper (pb)	36	18	Tony Moores
Liz Horrocks	36	12	Chris Moores
		9	Karl Burgess (pb)
Pack Horse Bowling Club	100	148	Waters Green Nags
Reg Bloor	27	45	Ian Musgrave
Mike Vickerstaff (pb)	12		
Tim Bloor	12		
Andrew Vickerstaff	12		
Plough Horntails	145	112	Park Timers
Julian Amey	39	33	John Poyser (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Dolphin Hammers	5	5	0	0	802	10
Plough Horntails	5	3	0	2	711	6
Park Taverners	5	3	0	2	704	6
Waters Green Nags	4	3	0	1	600	6
Sutton Club	4	3	0	1	565	6
Sutton Mutton	4	1	0	3	529	2
Pack Horse Bowling Club	4	1	0	3	436	2
Park Timers	4	1	0	3	418	2
Chester Road Tavern	5	0	0	5	499	0

(Individual Top Ten on next page)

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	5	165	39	21	36
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	4	162	48	33	42
Dave Barber	Dolphin Hammers	5	162	39	21	39
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	5	159	45	18	30
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	4	150	48	27	45
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	4	144	42	27	
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	5	144	33	24	27
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Hammers	4	138	39	27	36
Julian Amey	Plough Horntails	3	132	48	39	39
Anne Jeater	Plough Horntails	5	126	33	21	24

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	9.98	7.85	27.83	21.64
2	2	Spec	Sutton Club	4.35	7.75	6.46	18.57	(-)
3	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	0.00	8.16	18.16	19.80
4	2	GK	Sutton Club	4.03	8.25	5.68	17.96	23.38
5	5	Spec	Harrington Diamonds	3.65	8.63	5.39	17.67	23.04
6	5	GK	Harrington Diamonds	4.20	8.30	5.10	17.60	14.09
7	3	Spec	Queens	4.41	2.20	6.39	13.00	13.29
8	3	GK	Queens	3.08	0.25	6.18	9.51	20.02
9	4	Spec	Waters Green Nags	2.77	1.06	4.91	8.74	18.17
10	4	GK	Waters Green Nags	2.15	0.00	4.54	6.69	23.49

Last year it was a case of "a game of two halves" for the **Harrington Diamonds'** questions, with the Specialists scoring 23.04 while the General knowledge only managed 14.09. This season, both sets came down squarely in the middle of those figures, with a difference of only 0.07 in their total scores.

Both sets scored quite well all round. Teams scored on average 99% of their average scores, meaning that these were of almost exactly average difficulty. They were also pretty well balanced, with just a slight bias towards the teams that went "first first" – who scored 101%, compared with 97% for their opponents.

The difference was pretty much the same in both sets, with figures of 98% to 95% in the Specialists and 103% to 99% in the General Knowledge.

On an average team score of 140, this may have made a difference of five or six points. There were a couple of matches where the difference between the teams fell within this range (including one draw), but as this may come down to no more than two questions it would be unfair to speculate as to whether the apparent bias may have made a difference.

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