

News and Views: 2022–3 Week 13 – 7 March 2023

Results

Five of this week's matches were won by the teams that started first. The margins in three of those games were pretty convincing, but the **Pack Horse Bowling Club** beat the **Park Timers** by only nine points, while the **Plough Horntails** scored the narrowest possible victory over the **Sutton Mutton**: 139 points to 138.

Tables

Every team in the A League has now played ten games. The **Poachers** maintained their two–point advantage, but the four teams immediately below them are separated by a single point. Second plays third next week, when the **Dolphin** host the **Queens**.

The bunching at the top means that three teams have become separated from the other five. With four games to go this might be described as "squeaky bum time" for the **Nags Head** and the two **Harrington** teams.

The **Dolphin Hammers** continue to keep the B League's chasing pack at arms' length, having been one of the two teams (along with the **Waters Green Weavers**) to win by starting second this week. But the **Waters Green Nags** and **Sutton Club** both get a chance to make up ground next week, when the Hammers don't play.

Individual

Individual scores this week were modest, the best being 45 for **Dave Partington**, **Alice Walker** and **Haydn Thompson**. **Dave Barber**'s 42 was the highest score in the B League, and **Bob Gratton** also scored 42.

There were only seven personal bests, and nine people failed to beat their lowest scores. Eight of the latter were in the B League, and only one in the A League.

Alan Hodgson and **Alice Walker** are now separated by only one question at the top of the A League table, and **Ashton Davies** is only 42 points behind Alice with a game in hand.

In the B League, several teams have now played twelve games and so individuals' lowest scores will start to be discounted next week. **Paul Prior** however has only played eleven, putting him in a very strong position at the top of the table.

Questions

Both of the **Dolphin**'s question sets find themselves just above half–way in the Cars & Vans 4U table – the only weak point being an apparent bias in the Specialists, towards the teams that started first.

There aren't many gripes on the Forum, which is to the credit of the setters considering the questions hadn't been vetted (for completely understandable reasons). One point that has been made is that they were printed on rather a small font (10 point), making them quite hard to read. Other things being equal we would be right behind any efforts to minimise paper usage; but we should maybe bear in mind that the lighting in the typical public house may not be as bright as on our desks and dining tables at home – not to mention that the eyesight of some of us is not what it used to be!

A League

Results

Waters Green Weavers	167	135	Nags Head
Graham Bailey	36	33 33	Phil Davies Neil Drummond
Poachers	179	157	Harrington Academicals
Bob Gratton	42	45 39	Dave Partington Alan James (pb)
Nags Head 'B'	140	183	Queens
Steve Carter (pb) Paul Morrissey (pb)	36 33	45 45	Alice Walker Haydn Thompson

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Poachers	10	8	0	2	1673	16
Queens	10	7	0	3	1701	14
Dolphin	10	7	0	3	1611	14
Nags Head 'B'	10	6	1	3	1629	13
Waters Green Weavers	10	6	1	3	1586	13
Harrington Academicals	10	2	1	7	1531	5
Nags Head	10	1	1	8	1422	3
Harrington Diamonds	10	1	0	9	1337	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 13
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	10	465	54	39	
Alice Walker	Queens	10	462	57	36	45
Haydn Thompson	Queens	10	426	48	27	45
Ashton Davies	Poachers	9	420	54	39	39
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	9	393	51	39	
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	10	393	48	24	45
Peter McBride	Dolphin	10	384	48	27	
Graham Bailey	Waters Green Weavers	10	357	48	27	36
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	10	354	48	24	33
Ed Baron	Poachers	10	315	48	18	33



Macclesfield Quiz League

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B League

Results

Dolphin Hammers	151	133	Park Taverners
Dave Barber (pb)	42	30 30	Shauna Barstow Graham Wallace
Chester Road Tavern	96	137	Sutton Club
Bill Moores (pb)	21	30	Chris Butler
ParkTimers	99	108	Pack Horse Bowling Club
Tim Brewin	24	24 24 24	Reg Bloor Tim Bloor Andrew Vickerstaff
Sutton Mutton	138	139	Plough Horntails
Wynne Keith-Davies Mike Proctor Mick Graves John Stein (pb)	39 27 24 18	36	Malcolm Asquith (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Dolphin Hammers	12	12	0	0	1936	24
Waters Green Nags	11	9	0	2	1625	18
Suttin Club	11	8	0	3	1484	16
Plough Horntails	12	7	0	5	1650	14
Park Taverners	12	6	0	6	1660	12
Park Timers	11	4	0	7	1190	8
Pack Horse Bowling Club	11	3	0	8	1198	6
Sutton Mutton	12	2	0	10	1520	4
Chester Road Tavern	12	1	0	11	1276	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 13
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	11	441	48	33	
Dave Barber	Dolphin Hammers	12	414	42	21	42
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	12	369	42	15	39
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	12	363	39	18	30
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Hammers	11	360	42	24	30
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	9	339	48	27	
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	11	324	45	18	30
Mike Proctor	Sutton Mutton	11	285	36	12	27
Anne Jeater	Plough Horntails	11	282	36	18	18
Reg Bloor	Pack Horse Bowling Club	11	276	39	12	24



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Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	8.75	7.85	26.60	21.64
2	10	GK	Park Timers	9.14	9.55	6.85	25.55	22.99
3	11	Spec	Harrington Academicals	8.19	9.10	7.27	24.56	20.88
4	10	Spec	Park Timers	9.76	7.33	7.27	24.36	(-)
5	8	Spec	Poachers	6.64	9.05	6.79	22.48	19.68
6	2	Spec	Sutton Club	5.93	9.71	6.46	22.10	23.38
7	12	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	6.79	8.28	6.75	21.82	15.35
8	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	3.25	8.16	21.41	19.80
9	6	GK	Dolphin Hammers	4.59	9.64	5.67	19.90	(-)
10	13	Spec	Dolphin	6.23	6.87	6.47	19.57	8.13
11	2	GK	Sutton Club	3.76	9.74	5.68	19.18	(-)
12	13	GK	Dolphin	3.63	9.59	5.54	18.76	17.80
13	5	Spec	Harrington Diamonds	5.56	7.32	5.39	18.27	23.04
14	12	GK	Pack Horse Bowling Club	8.80	2.90	6.41	18.11	(-)
15	6	Spec	Dolphin Hammers	7.39	4.06	6.33	17.77	11.27
16	8	GK	Poachers	3.04	8.94	5.77	17.76	7.85
17	3	Spec	Queens	6.15	4.45	6.39	16.99	13.29
18	5	GK	Harrington Diamonds	3.78	7.73	5.10	16.61	14.09
19	7	GK	Nags Head	1.34	7.90	4.72	13.96	13.01
20	3	GK	Queens	2.70	3.92	6.18	12.80	20.02
21	4	Spec	Waters Green Nags	4.97	2.58	4.91	12.46	18.17
22	11	GK	Harrington Academicals	3.65	2.22	5.91	11.77	(-)
23	7	Spec	Nags Head	2.30	2.95	5.18	10.43	15.87
24	4	GK	Waters Green Nags	1.84	0.00	4.54	6.38	23.49
25	9	GK	Plough Horntails	0.00	0.73	3.74	4.47	18.45
26	9	Spec	Plough Horntails	0.00	0.00	2.50	2.50	(-)

The **Dolphin's** questions scored quite well all round, and both sets are just above half-way in the table. They were of pretty much average difficulty; on average, teams scored 99% of their average scores for the season. The teams that started first did slightly better with 101%, while those starting second scored only 97%.

On an average team score of 141, this may have made a difference of five or six points. Most matches this week were decided by a much greater margin than this, but it's hard to avoid the conclusion that the result of the match between the **Plough Horntails** and the **Sutton Mutton** may have been affected. According to the spreadsheet, the bias was mainly in the Specialist section, where the teams that went first scored 105% while those that went second scored only 96%. In the General Knowledge, the balance (according to the spreadsheet) was very good: the teams that went second (first in the Specialists) scored 98% and those that went first scored 97%.

Despite the apparent bias, the Specialists went down rather better and are 8th (out of 26) in the Entertainment table, while the General Knowledge are 18th.