

News and Views: 2022–3 Season, Week 18 – 18 April 2023

Results and Tables

In the A League, the top three played the bottom three this week, and the top three all won. So there was no change at the top or bottom of the table and our congratulations go to the **Poachers**, who finish as champions for the first time. The team formerly known as the Church House Bollington have been in the A League for the last five seasons; last year they were runners-up, and this year their name will be on the trophy.

In the middle of the table, the **Waters Green Weavers** scored a relatively narrow victory over the **Nags Head 'B'** (the priorities of the latter's star player being elsewhere on this particular Tuesday evening). This meant that the Weavers leapfrogged their opponents into fourth place.

The **Dolphin Hammers** were confirmed as B League champions last week, despite losing their 100% record. But with the Plough Horntails on question setting duties, the **Waters Green Nags** (who had a full complement of four players, for the first time in a while) knew that they'd finish as runners-up if they avoided defeat against the **Sutton Club** (or scored more than 142 points). In fact they only managed a modest 104 points, but the Club scored the same – the match ending in the B League's first (and only) draw of the season. The Nags duly moved above the Horntails to finish in second place.

The only other change in the B League table was that the **Sutton Mutton** moved above the **Park Timers** into sixth place by beating the Chester Road Tavern, while the Timers were the latest victims of the Dolphin Hammers.

We can't be sure about promotion and relegation until we know how many teams will be taking part in the League next season. But in anticipation of at least two teams being promoted, we congratulate the **Dolphin Hammers** and the **Waters Green Nags**.

Individual

After several weeks of above-average scores, this was a low-scoring week. Top of the tree were **Brian Bogie** and **Ashton Davies**, with 45 each (on opposite sides in the same game), and no one else managed more than 40. **Peter McBride** and **Alan Hodgson** each scored 39, and the top scorer in the B League was **Dave Barber** – whose 36 was the only score above 27 in that league.

In what we currently expect to be the Harrington Diamonds' last ever game, **Brian Bogie**'s 45 was his best score of the season. He was the only player in either League to achieve that feat this week; and by contrast, no fewer than 28 people – 14 in each League – failed to beat their previous lowest scores of the season. This is the equivalent of seven teams, or nearly half of all those taking part this week.

There were no changes in either Top Ten, which means that the League individual champions are **Alan Hodgson** and **Paul Prior**. This is Alan's 13th A League individual title, but his first since the 2013–14 season. Paul retains the trophy he won for the first time last season; and it looks as though he'll be challenging for one in the A League next year.

Paul won the B League title by a margin of no fewer than 54 points from **Dave Barber**, but in the A League it couldn't have been much closer. **Alice Walker** was just one question behind Alan, and **Ashton Davies** was only two behind Alice.

Questions: please turn to Page 4



A League

Results

Queens	143	122	Nags Head
Alice Walker Haydn Thompson	33 33	30	Phil Davies
Nags Head 'B'	114	130	Waters Green Weavers
Laurence Plant	30	33	Graham Bailey
Dolphin	151	125	Harrington Academicals
Peter McBride Alan Hodgson	39 39	36	Dave Partington
Harrington Diamonds	131	146	Poachers
Brian Bogie (pb)	45	45	Ashton Davies

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Poachers	14	11	0	3	2334	22
Queens	14	10	0	4	2346	20
Dolphin	14	10	0	4	2267	20
Waters Green Weavers	14	9	1	4	2233	19
Nags Head 'B'	14	8	1	5	2274	17
Harrington Academicals	14	3	1	10	2142	7
Nags Head	14	2	1	11	1982	5
Harrington Diamonds	14	1	0	13	1886	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 18
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	14	525	54	42	39
Alice Walker	Queens	14	522	57	39	30
Ashton Davies	Poachers	13	516	54	39	45
Haydn Thompson	Queens	14	495	51	36	33
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	12	486	51	39	
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	14	468	48	36	36
Peter McBride	Dolphin	14	450	48	33	39
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	14	435	48	30	27
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	13	411	45	27	24
Graham Bailey	Waters Green Weavers	14	405	48	30	33



B League

Results

Pack Horse Bowling Club	79	108	Park Taverners
Tim Bloor	24	24	Graham Wallace
Park Timers	114	142	Dolphin Hammers
Glyn Bradley	24	36	Dave Barber
Waters Green Nags	104	104	Sutton Club
Bob Langstaff	27	24	John Green
Sutton Mutton	105	82	Chester Road Tavern
Mike Proctor	24	15	Jim Moores

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Dolphin Hammers	16	15	0	1	2487	30
Waters Green Nags	16	10	1	5	2218	21
Plough Horntails	16	10	0	6	2256	20
Park Taverners	16	10	0	6	2187	20
Sutton Club	16	9	1	6	2146	19
Sutton Mutton	16	5	0	11	2007	10
Park Timers	16	5	0	11	1825	10
Pack Horse Bowling Club	16	4	0	12	1768	8
Chester Road Tavern	16	3	0	13	1781	6

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 18
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	16	492	48	33	15
Dave Barber	Dolphin Hammers	15	438	42	30	36
Wynne Keith–Davies	Sutton Mutton	16	399	42	27	18
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Hammers	14	396	42	24	24
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	16	378	39	24	15
John Green	Sutton Club	14	375	51	24	24
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	14	375	45	21	24
Anne Jeater	Plough Horntails	15	360	42	24	
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	13	348	42	18	
Reg Bloor	Pack Horse Bowling Club	16	342	39	24	15
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	9	339	48	27	



Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	16	Spec	Park Taverners	10.00	8.78	7.22	26.00	19.42
2	10	GK	Park Timers	9.27	9.81	6.85	25.93	22.99
3	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	8.02	7.85	25.87	21.64
4	10	Spec	Park Timers	9.19	8.75	7.27	25.21	(-)
5	15	Spec	Waters Green Weavers	8.08	9.19	7.25	24.51	21.69
6	11	Spec	Harrington Academicals	7.67	8.40	7.27	23.34	20.88
7	12	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	6.21	9.12	6.75	22.08	15.35
8	2	Spec	Sutton Club	5.56	9.95	6.46	21.98	23.38
9	14	Spec	Sutton Mutton	6.81	8.07	6.21	21.09	(—)
10	8	Spec	Poachers	6.33	7.96	6.79	21.07	19.68
11	6	GK	Dolphin Hammers	5.22	9.71	5.67	20.60	(—)
12	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	9.45	2.67	8.16	20.29	19.80
13	2	GK	Sutton Club	4.62	9.99	5.68	20.28	(—)
14	17	Spec	Chester Road Tavern	7.21	5.33	7.10	19.64	22.70
15	13	Spec	Dolphin	4.50	9.46	6.47	19.51	8.13
16	16	GK	Park Taverners	6.36	6.87	5.87	19.10	(—)
17	12	GK	Pack Horse Bowling Club	8.86	3.64	6.41	18.91	(—)
18	13	GK	Dolphin	5.71	6.58	5.54	18.76	17.80
19	8	GK	Poachers	4.13	8.72	5.77	18.62	7.85
20	15	GK	Waters Green Weavers	4.25	7.70	6.12	18.08	20.94
21	5	Spec	Harrington Diamonds	5.18	7.83	5.39	17.63	23.04
22	5	GK	Harrington Diamonds	4.70	7.83	5.10	17.36	14.09
23	6	Spec	Dolphin Hammers	6.87	4.16	6.33	17.36	11.27
24	3	Spec	Queens	5.67	4.66	6.39	16.72	13.29
25	18	Spec	Plough Horntails	3.35	8.00	4.37	15.72	
26	7		Nags Head	2.59	8.24	4.72	15.55	13.01
27	14	GK	Sutton Mutton	4.20	4.90	4.41	13.50	16.26
28	3	GK	Queens	3.79	3.50	6.18	13.47	20.02
29	4	Spec	Waters Green Nags	4.53	2.96	4.91	12.41	18.17
30	17	GK	Chester Road Tavern	5.98	0.00	6.41	12.39	(-)
31	11	GK	Harrington Academicals	4.52	1.94	5.91	12.37	(-)
32	18	GK	Plough Horntails	0.00	8.32	3.37	11.69	
33	7	Spec	Nags Head	2.02	3.38	5.18	10.58	15.87
34	4	GK	Waters Green Nags	2.95	0.59	4.54	8.08	23.49
35	9	GK	Plough Horntails	1.60	0.61	3.74	5.95	18.45
36	9	Spec	Plough Horntails	0.00	0.00	2.50	2.50	(—)

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Macclesfield Quiz League

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The final results are now in, and the news is that the winners of the Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy this year are the **Park Taverners**' Specialist questions, from Week 16. After Week 17 they were tied with the **Nags Head 'B**''s General Knowledge set from Week 1, but Week 18's questions were so out of the ordinary (see below) that the latter have dropped to third place and the runners-up are the **Park Timers**' General Knowledge (from Week 10). The Timers' Specialist set are in fourth place, so congratulations to them on a consistent all-round set.

This week's questions were set once again by the **Plough Horntails**, and the good news is that (according to the spreadsheet) the overall balance was just about perfect; each of the two individual sets were themselves pretty well balanced, with a slight bias in each half towards the teams that went first.

Most teams struggled to answer the questions however, and on average scored only 83% of their averages over the season. This makes Week 18's questions the hardest we've had, except for the Horntails' first set (Week 9). The Entertainment marks reflect this: the Specialist questions are 33rd out of 36 (with an average score of 4.37 across the Leagues) and the General Knowledge are 35th (with 3.37).

The Horntails definitely drew a short straw when the question setters were selected for this season, and we hope they fare better next year. At the very least we hope that they will be able to call on some vetters.