



## News and Views: 2023–4 Season, Week 8 – 23 January 2024

### *Results and Tables*

Our last unbeaten record for this season went this week, when the **Nags Head 'B'** were beaten by the **Poachers** – whose score of 147 was a maximum, in the sense that it was the highest score of the week. Elsewhere the **Dolphin** recorded a comfortable victory over the **Queens of the Castle**, and this allowed the **Poachers** to move from third place to top the A League table on goal difference.

At the other end of that table, the **Nags Head** recorded only their second victory of the season, and their first since Week 1, to increase their advantage over the bottom two to three points.

The top six teams in the A League have all now played six games, as have all of the B League teams – all of whom play next week. The **Waters Green Nags** had a two–point lead last week, and they remain on top this week despite not playing. The **Bate Hallers** regained second place on goal difference (behind the Nags by an admittedly hefty margin) by beating the **Sutton Club**, while the **Sutton Mutton** doubled their advantage over the **Pack Horse Bowling Club** with a seven–point victory.

The closest game this week was at the Park Tavern, where the **Taverners** beat the **Chester Road Tavern** by just a single point (112–111).

Six of the seven games this week were won by the teams that went second in the Specialist questions, but according to the spreadsheet the questions were very well balanced (with no advantage to either side). The only team that won by starting first was the **Dolphin**.

### *Individual*

No one scored over 40 this week; the joint top scorers were **Alan Hodgson**, **Ashton Davies** and **Mark Watson**, each with 39. In the B League, where only five of last week's top eleven played, the highest scorer was **Julian Amey** with 36.

There were just four personal bests – one in the A League and three in the B League. Twenty–four out of 32 players in the A League, and 13 out of 24 in the B League, failed to better their lowest scores of the season.

### *Questions*

To cut a long story short: the Specialist questions were fine – well balanced, averagely difficult, and eighth out of 16 in the Entertainment stakes. But the General Knowledge, although equally well balanced, were clearly very difficult and proved to be the least popular set we've had so far this season. A common gripe was the number of questions where the answer was a year, or another type of number.

Paul Prior, of the Waters Green Nags, has posted on the Forum to acknowledge, as the main setter of the General Knowledge questions, that there were issues. No doubt the setters will learn from this experience and we look forward to a friendlier set of questions in Week 17, when the Nags will be setting for the second time this season (having drawn that short straw).

## A League – Full Results

**Note:** in this section, the teams that went "first first" (first in the Specialist questions) are on the left in the tables. In the headings, the home teams are given first.

### *Dolphin vs. Queens of the Castle*

Queens of the Castle	Spec	GK	Total	Dolphin	Spec	GK	Total
Alice Walker	18	18	36	Peter McBride	21	15	36
Haydn Thompson	12	15	27	Rossi Albanese	6	9	15
Caroline Massey	3	6	9	Alan Hodgson	9	30	39
Tim Massey	9	9	18	John Brown	6	9	15
Conferred	11	15	26	Conferred	11	12	23
Passed over	5	6	11	Passed over	5	12	17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>145</b>

### *Nags Head 'B' vs. Poachers*

Poachers	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head 'B'	Spec	GK	Total
Ed Baron	9	9	18	Mark Shaw	12	6	18
Bob Gratton	9	12	21	Mark Watson	21	18	39
Greg Spiller	6	27	33	Laurence Plant	3	18	21
Ashton Davies	15	24	39	Steve Carter	15	15	30
Conferred	15	12	27	Conferred	10	15	25
Passed over	2	7	9	Passed over	2	4	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>139</b>

### *Waters Green Weavers vs. Dolphin Hammers*

Dolphin Hammers	Spec	GK	Total	Waters Green Weavers	Spec	GK	Total
Liz Horrocks	15	12	27	Alan Gilday	12	12	24
Pete Sayers	6	6	12	Ian Grieve	15	12	27
Keith Duffield	9	12	21	Adum Carr	3	6	9
David Barber	12	18	30	Maddy Griffiths	6	3	9
Conferred	11	14	25	Conferred	14	17	31
Passed over	4	8	12	Passed over	6	10	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>116</b>

### *Harrington Academicals vs. Nags Head*

Please turn to Page 7.

## B League – Full Results

**Note:** in this section, the teams that went "first first" (first in the Specialist questions) are on the left in the tables. In the headings, the home teams are given first.

### *Park Taverners vs. Chester Road Tavern*

Park Taverners	Spec	GK	Total	Chester Road Tavern	Spec	GK	Total
Shauna Barstow	12	9	21	Tony Moores	12	6	18
Graham Wallace	15	12	27	Chris Moores	3	3	6
Heather Wallace	9	3	12	Jim Moores	6	18	24
Pete Dykstra	3	12	15	Tom Radley	18	9	27
Conferred	8	13	21	Conferred	13	12	25
Passed over	5	11	16	Passed over	6	5	11
<b>Totals</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>111</b>

### *Bate Hallers vs. Sutton Club*

Bate Hallers	Spec	GK	Total	Sutton Club	Spec	GK	Total
Dave McGuinness	12	9	21	Wendy Brown	12	6	18
Anne Jeater	15	6	21	John Green	15	15	30
Julian Amey	15	21	36	Emma Griggs	6	6	12
Pat Jeater	9	9	18	Chris Butler	12	12	24
Conferred	7	9	16	Conferred	7	14	21
Passed over	7	10	17	Passed over	6	6	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>117</b>

### *Sutton Mutton vs. Pack Horse Bowling Club*

Sutton Mutton	Spec	GK	Total	Pack Horse Bowling Club	Spec	GK	Total
Mick Graves	9	9	18	Reg Bloor	15	6	21
Mike Proctor	6	6	12	Tim Bloor	9	6	15
Wynne Keith-Davies	15	18	33	Andrew Vickerstaff	12	9	21
John Stein	3	6	9	Martin Williams	3	9	12
Conferred	12	9	21	Conferred	12	9	21
Passed over	2	12	14	Passed over	2	8	10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100</b>

## A League – Summary

### Results

**Note:** in this section, the home teams are on the left and the away teams are on the right.

<b>Dolphin</b>	<b>145</b>	127	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>
Alan Hodgson	39	36	Alice Walker
<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	139	<b>147</b>	<b>Poachers</b>
Mark Watson	39	39	Ashton Davies
<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	116	<b>125</b>	<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>
Ian Grieve	27	30 27 21	Dave Barber Liz Horrocks Keith Duffield (pb)
<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	119	<b>127</b>	<b>Nags Head</b>
Rob Parkin	30	27	Phil Davies

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Poachers</b>	6	5	0	1	1027	10
<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	6	5	0	1	994	10
<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	6	4	0	2	1056	8
<b>Dolphin</b>	6	4	0	2	989	8
<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	6	4	0	2	913	8
<b>Nags Head</b>	6	2	0	4	839	4
<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	7	0	1	6	1074	1
<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	7	0	1	6	1051	1

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
<b>Alan Hodgson</b>	Dolphin	6	<b>291</b>	53	39	39
<b>Ian Grieve</b>	Waters Green Weavers	7	<b>295</b>	48	27	27
<b>Alice Walker</b>	Queens of the Castle	6	<b>273</b>	60	36	36
<b>Haydn Thompson</b>	Queens of the Castle	6	<b>273</b>	57	27	27
<b>Dave Partington</b>	Harrington Academicals	7	<b>249</b>	45	17	18
<b>Rob Parkin</b>	Harrington Academicals	7	<b>243</b>	48	27	30
<b>Alan Gilday</b>	Waters Green Weavers	7	<b>240</b>	45	24	24
<b>Ashton Davies</b>	Poachers	5	<b>234</b>	60	39	39
<b>Peter McBride</b>	Dolphin	6	<b>234</b>	51	33	36
<b>Mark Watson</b>	Nags Head 'B'	5	<b>228</b>	54	39	39

## B League – Summary

### Results

**Note:** in this section, the home teams are on the left and the away teams are on the right.

<b>Park Taverners</b>	<b>112</b>	111	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>
Graham Wallace	27	27	Tom Radley
<b>Bate Hallers</b>	<b>129</b>	117	<b>Sutton Club</b>
Julian Amey	36	30	John Green
Dave McGuinness (pb)	21		
Anne JEater	21		
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	<b>107</b>	100	<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>
Wynne Keith–Davies	33	21	Andrew Vickerstaff (pb)
Mick Graves	18	21	Reg Bloor
Mike Proctor	12		
John Stein (pb)	9		

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	6	5	0	1	954	10
<b>Bate Hallers</b>	6	5	0	1	766	10
<b>Park Taverners</b>	6	4	0	2	836	8
<b>Sutton Club</b>	6	4	0	2	836	8
<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	6	2	0	4	781	4
<b>Park Timers</b>	6	2	0	4	753	4
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	6	2	0	4	750	4
<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>	6	0	0	6	631	0

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
<b>Paul Prior</b>	Waters Green Nags	6	<b>261</b>	57	30	
<b>Ian Musgrave</b>	Waters Green Nags	6	<b>228</b>	48	24	
<b>Graham Wallace</b>	Park Taverners	6	<b>198</b>	39	27	27
<b>Wynne Keith-Davies</b>	Sutton Muttos	6	<b>192</b>	48	15	33
<b>John Poyser</b>	Park Timers	6	<b>186</b>	36	24	
<b>Anne Jeater</b>	Bate Hallers	6	<b>183</b>	39	21	21
<b>Andrew Fenton</b>	Park Timers	6	<b>156</b>	39	12	
<b>Sauna Barstow</b>	Park Taverners	5	<b>153</b>	42	21	21
<b>Wendy Brown</b>	Sutton Club	6	<b>150</b>	39	18	18
<b>Tim Brewin</b>	Park Timers	6	<b>147</b>	33	15	

## Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Wk		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	10.00	9.41	7.16	<b>26.57</b>	21.64
2	6	Spec	<b>Park Taverners</b>	9.72	9.15	6.83	<b>25.69</b>	26.00
3	5	GK	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	8.24	8.82	5.83	<b>22.76</b>	12.37
4	7	GK	<b>Nags Head</b>	5.53	8.99	6.25	<b>20.76</b>	15.55
5	2	Spec	<b>Sutton Club</b>	5.29	8.47	6.66	<b>20.42</b>	21.98
6	6	GK	<b>Park Taverners</b>	4.16	9.48	5.67	<b>19.31</b>	19.10
7	7	Spec	<b>Nags Head</b>	5.64	7.35	6.75	<b>19.74</b>	10.58
<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	<b>5.07</b>	<b>8.37</b>	<b>6.16</b>	<b>19.60</b>	<b>15.55</b>
9	4	Spec	<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	4.40	8.31	6.17	<b>18.88</b>	11.27
10	3	Spec	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	3.36	8.91	5.50	<b>17.87</b>	16.72
11	2	GK	<b>Sutton Club</b>	3.70	7.33	6.58	<b>17.61</b>	20.28
12	1	Spec	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	9.15	0.00	7.25	<b>16.40</b>	19.80
13	5	Spec	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	5.79	4.79	5.67	<b>16.25</b>	23.24
14	3	GK	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	3.04	5.16	5.75	<b>13.95</b>	13.47
15	4	GK	<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	2.79	4.65	5.16	<b>12.61</b>	20.60
<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Waters Geen Nags</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.09</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>11.02</b>	<b>8.08</b>

It was a game of two halves for the **Waters Green Nags'** questions. The Specialist set, according to the spreadsheet, were well balanced and of pretty much average difficulty, and they were well received in the Entertainment marks. They're in a respectable 8th place in the overall table – just making it into the top half. But all teams seem to have struggled with the General Knowledge; they appear to have been the most difficult we've had since the start of last season, and they received the lowest Entertainment mark of any set so far this season.

No team managed a better than average score in the General Knowledge; the best effort was by the Poachers who scored 92% of their average, while three teams (all in the A League) scored less than 70%.

The good news is that both sets were quite well balanced, and each team got the benefit of the easier questions in one half (in each set, the teams that went second did better) – meaning that the overall balance was just about perfect.

Several contributors to the Forum have commented on the number of questions where the answer was a year or other number. For example: the length of a badminton court. Not 50 feet, not 60 feet, and not 40 feet. 44 feet, with two feet of leeway either way. Other setters may do well to note that what may be acceptable in a fully-conferred quiz, where several people can put their heads together and come up with a consensus, should be used sparingly – if at all – in the League format, where you have to field questions on your own (initially at least).



*Harrington Academicals vs. Nags Head*

<b>Nags Head</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Ian Tams</b>	9	12	21	<b>Dave Partington</b>	18	0	18
<b>Tony Browne</b>	12	12	24	<b>Rob Parkin</b>	15	15	30
<b>Neil Drummond</b>	9	15	24	<b>Alan James</b>	6	6	12
<b>Philip Davies</b>	15	12	27	<b>Gill Baker</b>	6	3	9
<b>Conferred</b>	8	8	16	<b>Conferred</b>	11	20	31
<b>Passed over</b>	4	11	15	<b>Passed over</b>	7	12	19
<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>119</b>