

News and Views: 2023–4 Season, Week 13 – 5 March 2024

Results and Tables

In the A League the bottom two played each other, and the **Waters Green Weavers** recorded their second victory of the season. This enabled them to move above their opponents, the **Harrington Academicals**, into seventh place.

At the top of the table, the **Nags Head 'B'** went top of the table on goal difference, but they will be aware that the **Poachers**, who didn't play this week, now have a game in hand.

There were victories for the **Dolphin** and **Queens of the Castle**, who remain in third and fourth place but both moved two points closer to the top two.

In the B League the top two played each other, and the **Waters Green Nags** came away with the spoils. This enabled the **Park Taverners** and Bate Hallers, both of whom won, to move above the **Sutton Club** into second and third place.

Individual

There were eight personal bests this week – seven of them in the B League. The best seat would appear to have been Seat 4 – second on the team that started second. All three B League players in this position scored personal bests, while in the A League **Mark Watson's** 51 was the highest score of all. There was also one personal best in each of Seats 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

The next highest scorers, after Mark, were **Heather Wallace** and **Haydn Thompson**, each with 48. **Peter McBride**, **Alice Walker** and **Ian Grieve** all scored 45, while **Alan Hodgson**, **Alan Gilday** and **Wendy Brown** all scored 42 – bringing the total number of scores over 40 to nine.

There was no change in the A League Top Ten, and only five of the B League Top Ten played. One of those who didn't play was Wynne Keith-Davies, who was overtaken by both **Graham Wallace** and **Anne Jeater**.

Questions

Team scores were somewhat higher than average this week, but only for the teams that started first – the scores for those that started second (taken together) were exactly average.

Entertainment marks were good, both sets scoring over 6. The only negative comment on the Forum concerns two similar pop music questions going to the same person (in consecutive rounds). We all know how this happens, and it's something that both setters and vetters should be on the lookout for.

Setters should maybe also remember that it's customary to name two or three albums in such questions, no matter how well-known the artist or group. Top Ten albums for Snow Patrol in 2011 and Van Morrison in 2017 seem to have slipped from the memories of most people.

I might also mention that as paired questions go, achluophobia is not really a match for agoraphobia. It means fear of darkness, and is listed by collinsdictionary.com as a New Word Suggestion – "being monitored for evidence of usage."

A League – Summary

Results

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

Dolphin	155	145	Nags Head
Peter McBride	45	36	Phil Davies
Alan Hodgson	42		
Nags Head 'B'	161	186	Queens of the Castle
Mark Watson	51	48	Haydn Thompson
Harrington Academicals	153	184	Waters Green Weavers
Rob Parkin	36	45	Ian Grieve
		42	Alan Gilday
		39	Graham Bailey
		33	Lesley Davies (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head 'B'	10	8	0	2	1691	16
Poachers	9	8	0	1	1588	16
Dolphin	11	7	0	4	1745	14
Queens of the Castle	10	6	0	4	1720	12
Dolphin Hammers	9	4	0	5	1364	8
Nags Head	10	3	0	7	1429	6
Waters Green Weavers	10	2	1	7	1515	5
Harrington Academicals	11	1	1	9	1655	3

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 13
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	11	513	54	36	42
Alice Walker	Queens of the Castle	10	450	60	33	45
Haydn Thompson	Queens of the Castle	10	441	57	27	48
Peter McBride	Dolphin	11	432	51	33	45
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	9	420	54	39	51
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	10	405	48	27	45
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	11	393	45	18	33
Greg Spiller	Poachers	8	354	51	33	
Dave Barber	Dolphin Hammers	9	345	45	30	
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	10	330	48	15	36

B League – Summary

Results

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

Park Taverners	186	126	Pack Horse Bowling Club
Heather Wallace	48	39	Andrew Vickerstaff (pb)
Graham Wallace (pb)	39		
Shauna Barstow	36		
Pete Dykstra (pb)	30		
Waters Green Nags	154	125	Sutton Club
Paul Prior	36	42	Wendy Brown (pb)
Bob Langstaff	33		
Vic Uske (pb)	21		
Sunil Peck	21		
Bate Hallers	148	124	Chester Road Tavern
Malcolm Asquith	36	33	Tom Radley (pb)
Anne Jeater	36	27	Tony Moores
		18	Karl Burgess
		9	Ian Kenny (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Waters Green Nags	10	9	0	1	1526	18
Park Taverners	10	7	0	3	1419	14
Bate Hallers	10	6	1	3	1317	13
Sutton Club	10	6	0	4	1365	12
Chester Road Tavern	10	4	0	6	1285	8
Sutton Mutton	10	4	0	6	1255	8
Park Timers	10	3	0	7	1280	6
Pack Horse Bowling Club	10	0	1	9	1115	1

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 13
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	10	387	57	24	36
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	9	345	48	24	
John Poyser	Park Timers	10	324	39	24	
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	8	309	39	27	39
Anne Jeater	Bate Hallers	9	303	39	21	36
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	10	297	48	12	
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	8	270	42	12	36
Heather Wallace	Park Taverners	9	267	51	9	48

Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	10	255	39	12	
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	8	252	42	18	42

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. Nags Head

Dolphin	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head	Spec	GK	Total
John Brown	12	9	21	Neil Drummond	0	21	21
Derek Owen	6	6	12	Neil Johnson	12	21	33
Peter McBride	18	27	45	Ian Tams	12	21	33
Alan Hodgson	18	24	42	Phil Davies	21	15	36
Conferred	6	13	19	Conferred	7	10	17
Passed over	6	10	16	Passed over	0	5	5
Totals	66	89	155	Totals	52	93	145

Nags Head 'B' vs. Queens of the Castle

Queens of the Castle	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head 'B'	Spec	GK	Total
Alice Walker	15	30	45	Steve Carter	6	15	21
Haydn Thompson	15	33	48	Mark Watson	21	30	51
Caroline Massey	15	24	39	Laurence Plant	9	21	30
Tim Massey	12	18	30	Paul Morrissey	15	18	33
Conferred	8	6	14	Conferred	11	9	20
Passed over	3	7	10	Passed over	3	3	6
Totals	68	118	186	Totals	65	96	161

Harrington Academicals vs. Waters Green Weavers

Waters Green Weavers	Spec	GK	Total	Harrington Academicals	Spec	GK	Total
Lesley Davies (pb)	15	18	33	Dave Partington	12	21	33
Graham Bailey	15	24	39	Rob Parkin	18	18	36
Alan Gilday	15	27	42	Alan James	15	18	33
Ian Grieve	21	24	45	Mike Hewitt	9	12	21
Conferred	5	11	16	Conferred	11	12	23
Passed over	1	8	9	Passed over	5	2	7
Totals	72	112	184	Totals	70	83	153

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. Pack Horse Bowling Club

Park Taverners	Spec	GK	Total	Pack Horse Bowling Club	Spec	GK	Total
Shauna Barstow	12	24	36	Reg Bloor	9	9	18
Graham Wallace (pb)	15	24	39	Andrew Vickerstaff (pb)	15	24	39
Heather Wallace	15	33	48	Tim Bloor	9	12	21
Pete Dykstra (pb)	12	18	30	Mary Bloor	12	9	21
Conferred	9	9	18	Conferred	10	11	21
Passed over	3	12	15	Passed over	1	5	6
Totals	66	120	186	Totals	56	70	126

Waters Green Nags vs. Sutton Club

Waters Green Nags	Spec	GK	Total	Sutton Club	Spec	GK	Total
Bob Langstaff	12	21	33	Simon Rumsey	6	15	21
Sunil Peck	9	12	21	Wendy Brown (pb)	18	24	42
Vic Uske (pb)	9	12	21	Emma Griggs	3	9	12
Paul Prior	9	27	36	John Green	15	15	30
Conferred	10	14	24	Conferred	8	7	15
Passed over	6	13	19	Passed over	4	1	5
Totals	55	99	154	Totals	54	71	125

Bate Hallers vs. Chester Road Tavern

Bate Hallers	Spec	GK	Total	Chester Road Tavern	Spec	GK	Total
Malcolm Asquith	12	24	36	Karl Burgess	6	12	18
Julian Amey	15	18	33	Tom Radley (pb)	15	18	33
Anne Jeater	15	21	36	Ian Kenny (pb)	9	0	9
Pat Jeater	6	6	12	Tony Moores	18	9	27
Conferred	7	11	18	Conferred	7	18	25
Passed over	5	8	13	Passed over	3	9	12
Totals	60	88	148	Totals	58	66	124

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Wk		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	6	Spec	Park Taverners	10.00	9.72	6.83	26.55	26.00
2	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	8.26	7.16	25.42	21.64
3	5	GK	Harrington Academicals	8.16	9.78	5.83	23.77	12.37
4	12	GK	Chester Road Tavern	7.40	9.17	6.83	23.40	12.39
5	9	Spec	Waters Green Weavers	6.67	9.22	6.93	22.83	24.51
6	12	Spec	Chester Road Tavern	7.45	8.56	6.75	22.76	19.64
7	13	Spec	Park Timers	7.09	8.65	6.33	22.07	25.21
8	7	GK	Nags Head	6.08	8.83	6.25	21.15	15.55
9	2	Spec	Sutton Club	4.73	8.42	6.66	19.81	21.98
10	8	Spec	Waters Green Nags	4.70	8.53	6.16	19.39	15.55
11	7	Spec	Nags Head	5.55	6.92	6.75	19.22	10.58
12	4	Spec	Dolphin Hammers	4.01	8.98	6.17	19.16	11.27
13	6	GK	Park Taverners	4.57	8.74	5.67	18.98	19.10
14	11	GK	Poachers	5.31	6.49	6.41	18.21	18.62
15	9	GK	Waters Green Weavers	5.98	5.15	6.46	17.59	18.08
16	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	9.40	0.00	7.25	16.65	19.80
17	2	GK	Sutton Club	4.25	5.38	6.58	16.21	20.28
18	11	Spec	Poachers	5.59	3.62	6.41	15.62	21.07
19	3	Spec	Queens of the Castle	2.59	7.51	5.50	15.60	16.72
20	3	GK	Queens of the Castle	3.59	4.62	5.75	13.95	13.47
21	10	GK	Bate Hallers	1.57	8.27	3.50	13.35	8.82
22	5	Spec	Harrington Academicals	5.10	2.55	5.67	13.33	23.24
23	13	GK	Park Timers	6.34	0.00	6.16	12.50	25.93
24	4	GK	Dolphin Hammers	3.32	1.73	5.16	10.20	20.60
25	8	GK	Waters Green Nags	0.00	6.78	2.93	9.71	8.08
26	10	Spec	Bate Hallers	0.00	4.82	3.75	8.57	8.11

The **Park Timers'** questions were somewhat easier than average, according to the spreadsheet, and both sets scored over 6 for Entertainment; the Specialists are 13th (out of 26) in that table, and the General Knowledge 16th. Unfortunately the balance was less good; the spreadsheet suggests a distinct bias in both sets towards the teams that started first. This is borne out by the fact that all six matches were won by those teams, although it may be worth noting that in every match, the team that went first had a higher average score than their opponents even before this week.

In the Specialist questions the teams that went first managed on average 108% of their average scores, while those that went second scored only 103%. In the General Knowledge the difference was even more pronounced: 115% to 97%. Overall the figures were 112% and 100%.

On an average team score of 154, this may have made a difference of up to 20 points.