

Macclesfield Quiz League

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News and Views: 2019–20 Season – Week 3 – 15 October 2019

Results

Yet again there were some very close games this week, with two matches being decided by a single point and one by two points. But of the other seven games, six were won by 27 points or more.

Six games were won by the teams that went "first first", and four went the other way. While the Specialist questions were almost perfectly balanced (according to the spreadsheet), the General Knowledge seem to have been somewhat biased in favour of the teams that went second ("first first"). For more details, please refer to Page 5.

Tables

The **Nags Head 'B'**, who didn't play this week, are now the only undefeated team in the A League. They lost their place at the top of the table to the **Dolphin** – but only on goal difference, and of course they have a game in hand.

There is no change at the top of the B League, where the **Waters Green Rams** continued their unbeaten start. The only other unbeaten team in this league are the **Dolphin Dragons**, who've only played one game so far.

In the C League, the top four remains the same. The top two – **Park Taverners** and **Brewers Arms** – have each played three and won three.

Individual

Scott Dawson (in his first game of the season) and **Alice Walker** both scored 54 this week. Alice got her first 18 questions right, and was on for a perfect score until the one about the host country for the 2022 Ryder Cup. She then got the one about the destination of the first Concorde flight out of Heathrow wrong as well.

Scott was on the same side of the questions, but went fourth rather than first. He missed out on one question in each half: the nationality of Egan Bernal (in Round 5, Sport) and the price of the ring in *The Owl and the Pussycat* (GK Q32).

Bad luck to both of them!

There was also a 51 for **Ashton Davies**. Top scorer in the C League was **Andy Ridgway** with 36.

Alice Walker has averaged 51 in her first three games, and has opened up a 24-point lead at the top of the A League individual table. **Dave Partington** and **Keith Pointon** are tied at the top of the B League table (with Dave having a slightly better highest score); and in the C League, **Shauna Barstow** is currently top but **Wendy Brown** is only 21 points behind with a game in hand.



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A League

Results

Rushton Diamonds	141	139	Royal Oak
Brian Bogie	39	33 33	Rosalie James Alan James
Dolphin	152	153	Church House Bollington
Alan Hodgson	42	51	Ashton Davies
Weaver	146	177	Queens
Ian Grieve	36	54	Alice Walker

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Dolphin	3	2	0	1	476	4
Nags Head 'B'	2	2	0	0	358	4
Queens	3	1	0	2	512	2
Weaver	2	1	0	1	306	2
Church House Bollington	2	1	0	1	305	2
Rushton Diamonds	2	1	0	1	294	2
British Flag	2	1	0	1	293	2
Royal Oak	2	0	0	2	296	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 3
Alice Walker	Queens	3	153	54	48	54
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	3	129	45	42	42
Haydn Thompson	Queens	3	123	48	36	48
Peter McBride	Dolphin	3	108	45	27	27
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	2	99	51	48	
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	2	93	51	42	51
Brian Bogie	Rushton Diamonds	2	81	42	39	39
Paul Morrissey	Nags Head 'B'	2	78	42	36	
Alan James	Royal Oak	2	75	42	33	33
Caroline Massey	Queens	3	72	30	18	18
Tim Massey	Queens	3	72	27	21	21



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B League

Results

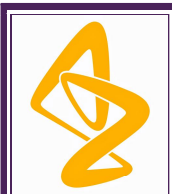
Plough Horntails	124	133	Harrington Academicals
Malcolm Asquith	33	36	Rob Parkin
Robin Hood	127	128	Nags Head
Jim Kennelly	30	27	Andrew Wright
Waters Green Rams	173	110	Waters Green Lemmings
Scott Dawson	54	27	Jon Thompson

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Waters Green Rams	3	3	0	0	505	6
Nags Head	3	2	0	1	445	4
Harrington Academicals	3	1	0	2	421	2
Robin Hood	3	1	0	2	416	2
Waters Green Lemmings	2	1	0	1	238	2
Dolphin Dragons	1	1	0	0	190	2
Plough Horntails	2	0	0	2	272	0
Chester Road Tavern	1	0	0	1	102	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 3
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	3	114	48	27	27
Keith Pointon	Waters Green Rams	3	114	45	30	30
Jim Kennelly	Robin Hood	3	105	42	30	30
Paul Prior	Nags Head	3	102	42	24	24
Lorraine Hilton	Robin Hood	3	93	39	24	24
Andy Johnson	Nags Head	3	87	39	21	21
David Reynolds	Waters Green Rams	3	81	30	24	27
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	2	75	39	36	36
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	2	69	36	33	
Adum Carr	Waters Green Rams	3	69	30	18	18
Dave Pennington	Nags Head	3	69	24	21	21



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C League

Results

Broken Cross Club	81	119	Brewers Arms
Peter Wilcox	21	36	Andy Ridgway
Sutton Club	128	101	Sutton Mutton
Chris Butler	30	24 24	Mick Graves Mike Proctor
Park Timers	100	137	Park Taverners
John Poyser	24	33	Shauna Barstow
Harrington 'B'	137	69	King's Gambit
John Green	30	18	Susan Taylor

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Park Taverners	3	3	0	0	427	6
Brewers Arms	3	3	0	0	354	6
Sutton Club	3	2	0	1	404	4
Park Timers	3	1	0	2	366	2
Harrington 'B'	2	1	0	1	261	2
Sutton Mutton	2	1	0	1	255	2
King's Gambit	3	1	0	2	166	2
Pack Horse Bowling Club	2	0	0	2	243	0
Broken Cross Club	3	0	0	3	204	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 3
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	3	102	36	33	33
John Poyser	Park Timers	3	90	36	24	24
Wendy Brown	Sutton Club	2	81	45	36	
Andy Ridgway	Brewers Arms	3	75	36	18	36
Simon Rumsey	Sutton Club	3	72	27	21	24
Tim Brewin	Park Timers	3	72	27	21	21
Heather Wallace	Park Taverners	3	66	27	18	18
Kenny Davenport-Slater	Brewers Arms	3	63	27	15	15
Trisha Ridgway	Brewers Arms	3	60	26	12	12
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	2	60	33	27	27
Pete Dykstra	Park Taverners	3	60	33	12	15

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 3
Paul Heaven	Sutton Club	3	60	27	12	21
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	3	60	24	15	15

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	Spec	Rushton Diamonds	6.24	5.05	6.67	17.96	
2	2	GK	Dolphin Dragons	4.03	8.04	5.65	17.72	17.65
3	3	Spec	British Flag	1.79	9.84	6.03	17.66	14.50
4	2	Spec	Sutton Mutton	5.04	6.23	4.11	15.38	8.61
5	1	GK	Rushton Diamonds	7.87	0.72	6.28	14.87	18.63
6	3	GK	British Flag	2.91	0.66	5.04	8.61	

Most teams found the **British Flag**'s questions quite difficult, with only six of the twenty teams scoring more than their average scores. Consequently both sets scored poorly for **Difficulty**.

The two sets had sharply contrasting results for **Balance**. According to the spreadsheet, the Specialist questions were almost perfectly balanced, while the General Knowledge were heavily biased in favour of the teams that went second ("first first").

Overall, the teams that went "first first" scored 99% of their average scores, while those that went "second first" scored only 90%. On an average team score of just under 127, this would have made a difference of 11 or 12 points – possibly enough to affect the results of two matches.

However ... in view of the excellent balance detected in the Specialist questions, another way of looking at it would be to see how many games were won by the team that 'lost' in the first eight rounds. The answer is only one; this was the derby match at the Royal Oak, where the Oak team won the Specialist part of the match by four points but the Rushton Diamonds came out overall winners by just two points.

The **Royal Oak** may therefore be entitled to feel hard done by, as they were on what seems to have been the rough end of the General Knowledge questions.

There was also one match where the Specialist part of the contest was tied. This was between the Plough Horntails and the Harrington Academicals. In this match the Academicals, going "second first", won by nine points despite apparently having the harder General Knowledge questions.

The **Entertainment** scores were no better than average for either set, with the Specialists being slightly more popular than the General Knowledge. The **overall** scores would have put the General Knowledge questions in 16th place (out of 36) last season, and the Specialists 33rd.