

News and Views: 2021–2 Season – Week 13 – 29 March 2022

Results

The **King's Gambit** recorded their first win of the season this week – but not in a way that they would want to. The **Pack Horse Bowling Club** were unable to field a team, meaning that the King's won by default.

Of the six matches that did go ahead this week, only one was won by the team going "first first". According to the spreadsheet, in the Specialist questions there was a heavy bias towards the teams that went "second first". This was somewhat counteracted by a slight bias the other way in the General Knowledge, but it is possible that one or two results may have been affected.

Tables

With most teams having one game to play, the top two and the bottom two places in the A League are decided. In the B League, **Harrington Academicals** will be champions if they beat the **Plough Horntails** next week, but if they lose they could be pipped at the post by the **Nags Head** (who play the **Park Taverners**).

The bottom two places in the B League have been decided for some time now, and in the C League, the one match to be played next week can have no effect on any League standings. The **Park Timers** moved into second place this week with a victory over the **Sutton Mutton**, but they are three points behind the **Sutton Club** who were already confirmed as champions.

It's too early to talk about promotion and relegation, as it will depend how many teams we have next season. Let's hope we can welcome back some of our old friends, or maybe even a new team or two!

Individual

Top scorers this week were **Ashton Davies** and **Paul Prior**, each with 48. There were also two scores of 42, for **Alan Hodgson** and **Ian Musgrave** – the latter (along with Paul's 48) helping the Nags Head to the highest team score of the week, with 176. Meanwhile in the C League, three players – **John Poyser**, **Andrew Fenton** and **Wynne Keith-Davies** – scored 30.

There were eight personal bests this week – one each in the A and C Leagues, and six in the B League – and six of the 46 players (four in the A League and two in the B League) failed to better their lowest scores of the season.

With the Queens not playing, **Alan Hodgson** and **Ashton Davies** both moved above **Haydn Thompson** in the A League table, and are now second and third respectively. They are separated by only one question, and it's Ashton who is in the stronger position as he has a lower "lowest score" to be marked off. But he'll need a phenomenal score to displace **Alice Walker** from the top spot.

In the B League, **Paul Prior** played his 10th game, meaning that all of his 48 points went onto his total. He now leads **Dave Partington** by four questions, and he also has a lower "lowest score" – making him very much the favourite to take the title for the first time.

With the Park Timers confirmed as C League champions, the interest in their final match – against the Pack Horse Bowling Club – will centre on the battle between **John Poyser** and **Andrew Fenton** for the Individual title. They are currently tied on 189 points, with Andrew having a marginally lower "lowest score" to come off.



Macclesfield Quiz League

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A League

Results

Poachers	142	159	Dolphin
Ashton Davies	48	45	Alan Hodgson
Waters Green Weavers	W	L	Nags Head 'B'
<i>Nags Head 'B' unable to field a team – Waters Green Weavers win by a walk-over</i>			
Harrington Diamonds	139	144	Queen Bs
Richard Briand (pb)	33	30	Ian Tams

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Queens	11	11	0	0	1915	22
Poachers	11	8	0	3	1597	16
Dolphin	11	6	0	5	1691	12
Waters Green Weavers	11	5	0	6	1558	10
Nags Head 'B'	11	5	0	6	1402	10
Queen Bs	12	3	0	9	1743	6
Harrington Diamonds	11	1	0	10	1515	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 13
Alice Walker	Queens	11	483	54	42	
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	11	453	54	33	45
Ashton Davies	Poachers	10	450	54	21	48
Haydn Thompson	Queens	11	441	51	36	
Peter McBride	Dolphin	11	390	51	27	42
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	10	381	42	33	
Mark Watson	Nags Head 'B'	8	366	51	39	
Phil Davies	Queen Bs	11	345	42	27	27
Graham Bailey	Waters Green Weavers	10	336	42	27	
Neil Drummond	Queen Bs	10	306	39	12	24

B League

Results

Harrington Academicals	144	133	Park Taverners
Rob Parkin	36	33	Shauna Barstow
Nags Head	176	107	Waters Green Lemmings
Paul Prior (pb) Ian Musgrave (pb)	48 42	39	Bob Langstaff (pb)
Dolphin Dragons	141	115	Chester Road Tavern
Liz Horrocks Dave Barber	36 36	33 33	Tony Moores (pb) Mitch Moores (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Harrington Academicals	11	9	0	2	1659	18
Nags Head	11	8	0	3	1756	16
Dolphin Dragons	11	7	0	4	1623	14
Park Taverners	11	7	0	4	1495	14
Plough Horntails	11	6	0	5	1439	12
Chester Road Tavern	12	1	0	11	1313	2
Waters Green Lemmings	11	1	0	10	1075	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 13
Paul Prior	Nags Head	10	375	48	21	48
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	11	363	48	30	30
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	11	342	45	24	36
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	10	333	48	18	36
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	10	321	51	21	24
Ian Musgrave	Nags Head	11	318	42	24	42
Dave Barber	Dolphin Dragons	11	312	42	21	36
Andy Johnson	Nags Head	11	303	42	21	30
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	11	294	36	24	24
Malcolm Asquith	Plough Horntails	10	282	33	18	

C League

Results

King's Gambit	W	L	Pack Horse Bowling Club
<i>Pack Horse Bowling Club unable to field a team – King's Gambit win by a walk-over</i>			
Park Timers	135	111	Sutton Mutton
John Poyser	30	30	Wynne Keith-Davies
Andrew Fenton	30		
Tim Brewin	27		
Karyn Johnson (pb)	21		

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Sutton Club	8	6	1	1	1084	13
Park Timers	7	5	0	2	946	10
Sutton Mutton	8	4	1	3	975	9
Pack Horse Bowling Club	7	2	0	5	637	4
King's Gambit	8	1	0	7	640	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 13
John Poyser	Park Timers	7	189	39	27	30
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	7	189	39	24	30
Emma Griggs	Sutton Club	6	171	33	21	
Simon Rumsey	Sutton Club	6	165	36	18	
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	8	159	30	24	30
Mick Graves	Sutton Mutton	8	156	36	18	18
Mike Proctor	Sutton Mutton	7	153	33	18	
John Green	Sutton Club	6	135	33	15	
Chris Butler	Sutton Club	7	135	27	18	
Andrew Vickerstaff	Pack Horse Bowling Club	6	129	33	15	

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	12	GK	Park Timers	8.05	9.33	6.44	23.82	(22.15)
2	6	Spec	Sutton Club	7.53	9.27	6.42	23.21	9.60
3	5	Spec	Harrington Diamonds	7.36	8.85	6.78	22.99	21.29
4	8	GK	Waters Green Lemmings	9.04	7.24	6.22	22.50	(10.57)
5	3	Spec	Waters Green Weavers	9.70	5.93	6.11	21.74	17.48
6	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	7.12	6.37	7.67	21.16	
7	13	GK	Queens	6.06	8.69	5.89	20.64	18.95
8	2	Spec	Harrington Academicals	10.00	4.29	6.33	20.62	20.57
9	3	GK	Waters Green Weavers	10.00	3.20	7.00	20.20	11.37
10	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	9.73	3.27	7.06	20.05	
11	4	Spec	Park Taverners	9.69	3.99	6.33	20.01	(13.42)
12	4	GK	Cock Inn	6.08	7.09	6.56	19.73	21.36
13	8	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	7.03	6.40	6.11	19.54	(15.35)
14	9	Spec	Poachers	6.33	7.24	5.72	19.29	14.53
15	10	Spec	Nags Head	8.31	3.77	6.50	18.58	22.38
16	11	GK	Dolphin	3.66	9.20	5.14	18.01	15.60
17	6	GK	Plough Horntails	4.13	7.96	5.78	17.87	(7.62)
18	7	Spec	Queen Bs	4.63	5.57	5.94	16.15	18.11
19	2	GK	Shamrock Bar	7.28	2.38	6.06	15.72	(13.55)
20	5	GK	Harrington Diamonds	4.25	4.03	6.42	14.70	16.28
21	13	Spec	Queens	6.72	0.00	6.53	13.25	20.90
22	7	GK	Queen Bs	3.59	3.72	5.33	12.60	10.99
23	12	Spec	Dolphin Dragons	0.54	4.15	6.17	11.07	(20.49)
24	11	Spec	Dolphin	0.00	3.16	5.31	8.47	20.37
25	9	GK	Poachers	2.79	0.00	5.11	7.85	19.63
26	10	GK	King's Gambit	0.00	1.53	5.11	6.64	7.40

Despite the misgivings of some of the setters, the **Queens'** questions proved to be slightly easier than average. Overall, teams scored 101% of their average scores for the season; since Week 5 (11 January), only in Week 8 have the questions been easier.

The General Knowledge questions were slightly easier than the Specialists, with teams scoring (on average) 102% in the former and 100% in the latter.

For Entertainment, the A and B Leagues gave above average marks to both sets of questions. In the C League, the Specialist questions went down well enough but the General Knowledge were scored only 4.50 – 25th out of the 26 question sets so far this season. (The A League ranked them 6th with a score of 7.25, and the B League equal 12th with 5.83.)



The worst news for the Queens, however, was that they failed (not for the first time) to achieve anything like a fair balance in the Specialist questions. Teams going "first first" scored on average only 91% of their average scores, while those going "second first" scored 109%. This was the heaviest bias we've had so far this season, meaning that the Specialist questions scored zero in this criterion.

The balance in the General Knowledge questions was much better – 103% and 101%. This went to counteract the bias in the Specialists to a certain extent, and overall the teams going "first first" scored 98% of their averages for the season while those going "second first" scored 104%. On an average team score of 139 this could have made a difference of 8 or 9 points, and one or two of the six results may have been affected by this imbalance.

For the full spreadsheet, please click [here](#).