News and Views: 2023–4 Season, Week 6 – 9 January 2024

Results

Four of the games this week were won by the teams that went "second first". The two teams that won going the other way were the **Dolphin Hammers** and the **Waters Green Nags**. But the spreadsheet detected negligible bias in either the Specialists or the General Knowledge (see the Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy section for more details).

Tables

With neither the Queens of the Castle nor the Dolphin playing, the **Nags Head 'B'** stretched their lead at the top of the A League table to four points. But the four teams immediately below them all have a game in hand, and they have yet to play two of them.

In the B League, the **Waters Green Nags** and **Bate Hallers** pulled away from the Park Taverners and the Sutton Club (neither of whom played). The Nags are still ahead of the Hallers on goal difference, but the latter have a game in hand. These two teams play each other next week, and then the Nags are setting the questions; so the Hallers have a couple of opportunities to make a move.

Individual

None of last week's A League top three played this week, and **Ian Grieve** made the most of the opportunity to go top. But his score of 45 was bettered by both **Mark Watson** and **Greg Spiller**, each of whom scored 51. **Ashton Davies** and **Dave Partington** each scored 42.

Top scorer in the B League was **Wynne Keith-Davies** with 48; **Ian Musgrave** and **Paul Prior** each scored 45, and **Julian Amey** scored 42. Wynne makes his first appearance in the Top Ten this week, but Paul and Ian remain in a strong position in the two top places.

There were fourteen personal bests this week – nine of them in the A League – but ten people recorded their lowest scores of the season also.

Questions

Most teams seem to have found the Specialists quite easy, and they are third (out of twelve) in the Entertainment table. The General Knowledge, according to the spreadsheet, were of exactly average difficulty (arguably the ideal standard), and both sets seem to have been very well balanced.

A few niggles have been mentioned on the Forum (how easy is it to recite the second line of the "she sells sea shells" tongue-twister, in 15 seconds, under pressure and without warning?!), but the consensus seems to be that the **Park Taverners** did a good job as question setters.

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 subheadings, the home teams are given first.

Poachers vs. Waters Green Weavers

Waters Green Weavers	Spec	GK	Total	Poachers	Spec	GK	Total
Alan Gilday	18	21	39	Ed Baron	18	21	39
Maddy Griffiths	9	6	15	Bob Gratton	12	15	27
Adum Carr	12	9	21	Greg Spiller	24	27	51
Ian Grieve	18	27	45	Ashton Davies	18	24	42
Conferred	10	19	29	Conferred	2	10	12
Passed over	4	5	9	Passed over	3	5	8
Totals	71	87	158	Totals	77	102	179

Nags Head 'B' vs. Harrington Academicals

Harrington Academicals	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head 'B'	Spec	GK	Total
Dave Partington	21	21	42	Steve Carter	12	18	30
Rob Parkin	12	15	27	Mark Watson	21	30	51
Alan James	15	12	27	Dave Robinson	24	15	39
Steve Dale	15	12	27	Paul Morrissey	15	15	30
Conferred	5	16	21	Conferred	4	8	12
Passed over	2	10	12	Passed over	5	11	16
Totals	70	86	156	Totals	81	97	178

Dolphin Hammers vs. Nags Head

Dolphin Hammers	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head	Spec	GK	Total
Liz Horrocks	18	18	36	Phil Davies	15	21	36
Pete Sayers	9	15	24	Neil Drummond	15	18	33
David Barber	18	21	39	Ian Tams	18	15	33
Dave Cooper	18	15	33	Tony Browne	12	15	27
Conferred	7	13	20	Conferred	1	9	10
Passed over	8	13	21	Passed over	4	6	10
Totals	78	95	173	Totals	65	84	149

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 subheadings, the home teams are given first.

Waters Green Nags vs. Chester Road Tavern

Waters Green Nags	Spec	GK	Total	Chester Road Tavern	Spec	GK	Total
Ian Musgrave	21	24	45	Tom Radley (pb)	12	21	33
Sunil Peck	3	9	12	Mitch Moores	15	12	27
Vic Usk	9	9	18	Chris Moores	6	9	15
Paul Prior	24	21	45	Ian Kenny	3	3	6
Conferred	7	14	21	Conferred	11	13	24
Passed over	7	14	21	Passed over	4	5	9
Totals	71	91	162	Totals	51	63	114

Bate Hallers vs. Sutton Mutton

Sutton Mutton	Spec	GK	Total	Bate Hallers	Spec	GK	Total
Wynne Keith-Davies	24	24	48	Julian Amey	15	27	42
John Stein	0	3	3	Grenville Leah	18	18	36
Mick Graves	9	9	18	Anne Jeater	18	18	36
Mike Proctor	12	12	24	Dave McGuinness	12	3	15
Conferred	10	16	26	Conferred	2	12	14
Passed over	6	6	12	Passed over	6	13	19
Totals	61	70	131	Totals	71	91	162

Park Timers vs. Pack Horse Bowling Club

Pack Horse Bowling Club	Spec	GK	Total	Park Timers	Spec	GK	Total
Reg Bloor	12	9	21	Andrew Fenton	15	12	27
Mike Wagstaff	0	3	3	John Poyser	18	12	30
Andrew Wagstaff	9	12	21	Karyn Johnston	12	6	18
Tim Bloor	18	15	33	Tim Brewin	9	18	27
Conferred	8	16	24	Conferred	5	10	15
Passed over	6	8	14	Passed over	8	7	15
Totals	53	63	116	Totals	67	65	132



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A League - Summary

Results

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

Poachers	179	158	Waters Green Weavers
Greg Spiller (pb) Ashton Davies Ed Baron (pb)	51 42 39	45	Ian Grieve
Nags Head 'B'	178	156	Harrington Academicals
Mark Watson Dave Robinson (pb)	51 39	42 27 27 27	Dave Partington Steve Dale (pb) Rob Parkin Alan James
Dolphin Hammers	173	149	Nags Head
Dave Barber Liz Horrocks (pb) Dave Cooper (pb) Pete Sayers (pb)	39 36 33 24	36 33 33 27	Phil Davies Ian Tams (pb) Neil Drummond Tony Browne (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Nags Head 'B'	5	5	0	0	855	10
Queens of the Castle	4	3	0	1	739	6
Poachers	4	3	0	1	699	6
Dolphin	4	3	0	1	667	6
Dolphin Hammers	4	2	0	2	624	4
Nags Head	5	1	0	4	712	2
Harrington Academicals	5	0	1	4	799	1
Waters Green Weavers	5	0	1	4	792	1

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 6
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	5	210	48	33	45
Haydn Thompson	Queens of the Castle	4	198	57	42	
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	4	198	54	42	
Alice Walker	Queens of the Castle	4	192	60	39	
Dave Partington	Hamilton Academicals	5	192	45	27	42
Mark Watson	Nags Heasd 'B'	4	189	54	39	51
Rob Parkin	Hamilton Academicals	5	183	48	27	27
Alan Gilday	Waters Green Weavers	5	180	45	24	39
Neil Drummond	Nags Head	5	165	48	27	33
Peter McBride	Dolphin	4	162	51	33	
Alan James	Hamilton Academicals	5	162	36	27	27



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B League – Summary

Results

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

Waters Green Nags	162	114	Chester Road Tavern
Iam Musgrave Paul Prior	45 45	33	Tom Radley (pb)
Bate Hallers	162	131	Sutton Mutton
Julian Amey Grenville Leah (pb) Anne Jeater	42 36 36	48	Wynne Keith-Davies (pb)
Park Timers	132	116	Pack Horse Bowling Club
John Poyser	30	33 21 21	Tim Bloor (pb) Andrew Vickerstaff (pb) Reg Bloor

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Waters Green Nags	5	4	0	1	797	8
Bate Hallers	4	4	0	0	505	8
Park Taverners	4	3	0	1	596	6
Sutton Club	4	3	0	1	569	6
Chester Road Tavern	5	2	0	3	670	4
Park Timers	5	2	0	3	642	4
Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	0	0	5	531	0
Sutton Mutton	4	0	0	4	501	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 6
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	5	213	57	30	45
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	5	198	48	24	45
John Poyser	Park Timers	5	150	36	24	30
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	5	144	39	21	27
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	4	135	39	27	
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	4	132	42	21	
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	4	129	48	15	48
Anne Jeater	Bate Hallers	4	129	39	24	36
Tim Bloor	Pack Horse Bowling Club	5	123	33	21	33
Tim Brewin	Park Timers	5	120	33	15	27



Macclesfield Quiz League

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Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	Nags Head 'B'	10.00	9.38	7.16	26.54	21.64
2	6	Spec	Park Taverners	9.72	9.08	6.83	25.64	26.00
3	5	GK	Harrington Academicals	8.21	8.68	5.83	22.72	12.37
4	2	Spec	Sutton Club	5.28	8.43	6.66	20. 37	21.98
5	6	GK	Park Taverners	4.14	9.63	5.67	19.44	19.10
6	4	Spec	Dolphin Hammers	4.37	8.26	6.17	18.80	11.27
7	3	Spec	Queens of the Castle	3.35	9.00	5.50	17.85	16.72
8	2	GK	Sutton Club	3.71	7.45	6.58	17.75	20.28
9	1	Spec	Nags Head 'B'	9.12	0.00	7.25	16.37	19.80
10	5	Spec	Harrington Academicals	5.78	4.71	5.67	16.16	23.24
11	3	GK	Queens of the Castle	3.06	5.18	5.75	13.99	13.47
12	4	GK	Dolphin Hammers	2.81	4.64	5.16	12.61	20.60

Most teams seem to have found the **Park Taverners**' Specialist questions quite easy and the General Knowledge of pretty much average difficulty. This is not just according to the spreadsheet; a couple of subjective comments tend to suggest the same.

Both sets seem to have been very well balanced. Overall, the teams that went "first first" scored 106% of their average marks, and those that went "second first" scored 108%. For the Specialist questions the figures were 115% and 119%; for the General Knowledge they were 99% and 100%, and no team scored less than 93% or more than 112% of their average.

On Entertainment, the Specialist questions are currently third (out of twelve) but the General Knowledge are only tenth. The Specialist questions just failed to dislodge the Nags Head 'B's General Knowledge set from top spot in the overall table (above), while the General Knowledge are fifth – still in the top half of the table.