

News and Views: 2017–18 Season – Week 15 – 6 March 2018

By Haydn Thompson, with input from Mark Watson.

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Results

Once again there were ten games this week, as all eight B League teams played. The top three teams all won, and in the mid-table clash at the Harrington the **Waters Green Lemmings** secured a comfortable victory over the **Academicals**. In the opposite fixture the **Waters Green Rams** had an even more comfortable victory over the **Harrington 'B'**, scoring 195 points – the second best score in all three Leagues this season, just one point behind the **Dolphin**'s total in Week 12.

The closest result was in the C League once again, and once again it involved the **Park Timers**, who lost by the odd point in 257 to the **Pack Horse Bowling Club**. Last week the Timers won by the same margin. This week they had a four-point lead going into the last round, but they lost that round by 8 points to 3.

Tables

Congratulations to the **Park Taverners** on becoming the first team to win promotion this season. Elsewhere in the C League, two close results meant that the **Cock Inn** moved ahead of the **Park Timers** into fourth place, and the **Pack Horse Bowling Club** moved ahead of the **Prince of Wales** (who didn't play) into sixth.

One more relegation issue was resolved this week, and we now know that the **Robin Hood** will be joining the C League next season along with the **Harrington 'B'**. As we've already seen, the top three teams in the B League all won and the bottom three all lost, so the only change was that the **Waters Green Lemmings** moved two points clear of the **Harrington Academicals** in mid-table.

The A League championship is now back in the hands of the **Ox–fford 'C'**, after the **Dolphin**'s narrow victory over the **Ox–fford**.

Individual

It was a very good week for individual scores, with **Mark Watson** racking up the season's third score of 54. There were also 51s for **Scott Dawson**, **Peter McBride**, **Bob Thompson** and **Haydn Thompson**. Bob has played three times this season, and has scored 51 each time – if he played every week, he would take some catching.

(**Note**: Bob and Haydn are definitely not twins – in fact they are not even related in any way, as far as we know.)

There were also 19 personal bests – a very respectable total for this stage in the season – and five personal worsts (or equal worsts).

In the B League Individual table, **Keith Pointon** moved into first place as **Alasdair Reid** and **Andrew Wright** had both played eleven games before this week. Similarly in the C League, **Shauna Barstow** lost first place to **Wynne Keith–Davies**.



A League

Results

Weaver	155	188	Ox-fford 'C'
Graham Bailey (pb) Lesley Davies (pb) Alan Gilday	45 36 36	51 42 33	Haydn Thompson Alice Walker Stuart Orford
Church House Bollington	153	138	British Flag
Bob Gratton (pb) Ed Baron	39 39	30 30	Geoff Shaw (pb) Ian Tams
Ox–fford	176	181	Dolphin
Mark Watson (pb)	54	51 42 36	Peter McBride Alan Hodgson Jeff Corry (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Ox-fford 'C'	11	10	0	1	1901	20
Ox–fford	12	9	1	2	1945	19
Dolphin	11	7	1	3	1743	15
Weaver	12	4	1	7	1803	9
Church House Bollington	12	4	1	7	1745	9
Dolphin Dragons	11	4	0	7	1557	8
Wharfies	12	3	0	9	1660	6
British Flag	11	3	0	8	1526	6

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 15
Haydn Thompson	Ox-fford 'C'	11	513	54	36	51
Mark Watson	Ox-fford	11	507	54	33	54
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	11	471	51	36	42
Alice Walker	Ox-fford 'C'	11	459	48	33	42
Peter McBride	Dolphin	11	444	51	30	51
Brian Bogie	Wharfies	11	417	51	24	
Graham Bailey	Weaver	12	405	45	30	45
Alan Gilday	Weaver	11	390	48	24	36
Liz Horrocks	Dolphin Dragons	11	366	45	21	
Ashton Davies	Church House Bollington	8	318	51	30	
Dave Cooper	Dolphin Dragons	11	318	39	15	



B League

Results

Nags Head	157	145	Robin Hood
Paul Prior (pb)	42	39 24 24	Jim Kennelly Andrew Clark (pb) Tim Grimes
Waters Green Rams	195	127	Harrington 'B'
Scott Dawson (pb) Bob Thompson (pb)	51 51	36 27 24	John Green (pb) Geoff Parkin Martin Biss (pb)
Plough Horntails	144	161	Royal Oak
Julian Amey	42	39	Bill Cawley
Harrington Academicals	117	144	Waters Green Lemmings
Rob Parkin Stuart Mills	30 30	30 27 27	Jon Thompson Nick Peck (pb) Bob Langstaff

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Royal Oak	12	9	0	3	1809	18
Nags Head	12	9	0	3	1740	18
Waters Green Rams	11	9	0	2	1680	18
Waters Green Lemmings	12	6	1	5	1556	13
Harrington Academicals	12	5	1	6	1568	11
Plough Horntails	11	5	1	5	1369	11
Robin Hood	12	2	1	9	1607	5
Harrington 'B'	12	0	0	12	1381	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 15
Keith Pointon	Waters Green Rams	11	399	45	27	33
Alasdair Reid	Nags Head	12	390	54	24	39
Andrew Wright	Nags Head	12	372	41	27	30
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	10	357	48	24	
Alan James	Royal Oak	12	354	42	21	36
Rosalie James	Royal Oak	12	342	45	24	33
Jon Thompson	Waters Green Lemmings	12	330	42	24	30
Bill Cawley	Royal Oak	11	330	42	12	39
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	9	315	48	24	30
Jim Kennelly	Robin Hood	10	312	42	21	39



C League

Results

Pack Horse Bowling Club	129	128	Park Timers
Reg Bloor Andrew Vickerstaff Mike Vickerstaff	24 24 24	36	Glyn Bradley (pb)
Sutton Mutton	127	132	Cock Inn
Wynne Keith-Davies	33	33	Peter Bullivent (pb)
Park Taverners	163	111	Chester Road Tavern
Graham Wallace Shauna Barstow Heather Wallace Pete Dykstra	30 30 30 27	33	Tony Moores (pb)

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Park Taverners	12	10	0	2	1573	20
Sutton Mutton	11	8	0	3	1352	16
Sutton Club	12	6	1	5	1425	13
Cock Inn	12	6	1	5	1396	13
Park Timers	11	6	0	5	1323	12
Pack Horse Bowling Club	12	5	0	7	1407	10
Prince of Wales	12	4	0	8	1362	8
Chester Road Tavern	12	1	0	11	1292	2

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Wk 15
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	11	312	42	15	33
Graham Wallace	Park Taverners	10	306	42	24	30
Shauna Barstow	Park Taverners	12	303	51	15	30
Peter Wilcox	Cock Inn	11	273	33	6	30
Jackie Hulme	Cock Inn	11	267	36	9	
Andy Ridgway	Prince of Wales	12	261	39	12	
Glyn Bradley	Park Timers	10	261	36	15	36
John Poyser	Park Timers	11	261	36	15	15
Mike Proctor	Sutton Mutton	10	246	39	12	
Mitch Moores	Chester Road Tavern	11	237	30	9	21



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Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Wk			Difficulty	Balance	Ent'mnt	Total	Last Yr
1	1	Spec	Ox–fford	10.00	8.37	7.22	25.59	24.69
2	12	GK	Park Timers	10.00	8.18	7.07	25.25	23.61
3	3	Spec	British Flag	7.56	9.78	7.11	24.45	22.17
4	6	GK	Sutton Club	7.31	8.83	5.79	21.93	19.98
5	15	Spec	Dolphin Dragons	8.16	5.80	6.97	20.93	22.04
6	4	GK	Waters Green Rams	5.41	7.00	6.22	18.62	18.84
7	5	GK	Ox-fford 'C'	4.85	8.40	5.37	18.62	17.41
8	7	Spec	Wharfies	4.55	8.34	5.44	18.32	14.58
9	15	GK	Dolphin Dragons	5.75	6.04	6.26	18.05	22.12
10	2	GK	Royal Oak	4.66	7.08	5.72	17.46	8.20
11	12	Spec	Harrington 'B'	4.90	5.70	6.28	16.88	(10.27)
12	13	Spec	Church House Bollington	4.41	6.10	6.22	16.73	20.49
13	2	Spec	Sutton Mutton	4.00	8.16	3.44	15.60	(11.50)
14	13	GK	Church House Bollington	2.68	7.53	5.22	15.43	15.79
15	4	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	2.56	8.04	4.40	15.01	(13.95)
16	6	Spec	Sutton Club	4.59	5.05	5.22	14.85	(19.98)
17	8	GK	Chester Road Tavern	5.32	3.67	5.67	14.66	(20.47)
18	3	GK	British Flag	2.94	5.93	5.67	14.55	(22.17)
19	8	Spec	Waters Green Lemmings	2.02	8.07	4.32	14.41	22.21
20	7	GK	Wharfies	4.33	6.60	3.33	14.26	22.03
21	11	GK	Dolphin	3.65	5.72	4.33	13.70	14.05
22	5	Spec	Ox–fford 'C'	3.80	3.85	5.79	13.44	19.47
23	1	GK	Ox–fford	6.89	0.00	6.50	13.39	17.22
24	9	Spec	Prince of Wales	0.00	9.05	3.83	12.88	(11.16)
25	14	Spec	Robin Hood	3.65	2.87	5.06	11.58	14.01
26	10	GK	Plough Horntails	3.61	1.41	5.11	10.13	(16.35)
27	10	Spec	Cock Inn	2.85	2.27	3.83	8.95	(14.69)
28	14	GK	Robin Hood	0.00	4.43	4.45	8.88	14.12
29	9	GK	Nags Head	0.71	2.80	5.11	8.62	(14.19)
30	11	Spec	Dolphin	3.15	0.00	4.67	7.82	220.37

For the full spreadsheet, please click here.

All questions were set by the **Dolphin Dragons**. Last year the Dragons scored just over 22 points in total for each set; this year their scores were slightly lower, but both sets are still in the Top Ten for this season (so far – out of 30).



The questions were quite popular, and currently stand fourth and seventh in the Entertainment table (Specialist and GK respectively). Unusually they went down best in the C League, which gave the Specialist rounds their highest score of the season: 6.67. The General Knowledge questions scored 6.50 in the C League and 6.12 overall.

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Nine of the ten games were won by the teams going "first first". The only team to buck this trend was the **Royal Oak**.

The spreadsheet agrees that the questions favoured the teams that went first in the Specialist questions. Both sets were relatively easy – especially the Specialists, where teams scored on average 115% of their average marks over the season. In the General Knowledge the figure was 105%. In each case the teams that went "first first" scored better percentage–wise; in total, the average was 114% going "first first" and 104% going "second first". If this is accurate, it means that on average scores of 135 (over the season), the teams going "second first" were effectively handicapped by approximately 13.5 points.

In the grand scheme of things however, the big news this week is that the **Ox-fford's** Specialist questions have returned to the top of the table at the expense of the **Park Timers'** set. This is down to a change in the Balance scores in each case. By way of explaining this, I can only say that the unusually high scores this week will have increased most teams' average scores, and this will result in some minor adjustment of the relative scores each week. Note that the Park Timers' questions were in the General Knowledge rounds, so these two sets are not compared directly.

I would also point out that there is very little difference between the total scores for these two sets of questions. The Ox–fford's score has increased from 25.20 to 25.59, while the Park Timers' score has decreased from 25.77 to 25.25. Last week the Park Timers were 0.55 ahead; this week they're behind by 0.34.

Assuming these two sets remain in such close competition until the end of the season, maybe we should declare it a draw, and each team should keep the trophy for six months!