Macclesfield Quiz League
Sponsored by AstraZeneca

News and Views: 2023–4 Season, Week 2 – 14 November 2023

Results

Four of the six games were won by the teams that went second in the Specialists. The spreadsheet did suggest a *slight* bias towards those teams, but the margin of victory was quite significant in each case so (according to the spreadsheet) no results are likely to have been affected.

The closest game was the **Bate Hallers**' victory over the **Park Timers** by 121 points to 102. The biggest margin was notched up by the **Waters Green Nags**, who scored 149 to the Pack Horse Bowling Club's 101, while the other four games were all decided by margins of between 23 and 27.

Tables

With four teams having played two games and four having played one, in each League, there are two teams in each League that have played two and won two: **Queens of the Castle** and the **Dolphin**, in the A League, and **Waters Green Nags** and the **Chester Road Tavern** in the B League.

Individual

Top scorer this week was **Mark Watson** with 54. Next best was **Alice Walker** with 51, and with Mark having only played one game, Alice retains top spot in the A League Individual table. There is no change either in the next three places, as **Haydn Thompson**, **Alan Hodgson** and **Peter McBride** all scored 42. Best of the rest (in the A League) was **Rob Parkin**, whose 39 saw him pull away from the three others that scored 48 last week and into fifth place.

39 was the best score in the B League, by **Paul Prior** and **Anne Jeater**. This was the first game of the season for Anne's team (Bate Hallers), but Paul's 39 puts him level with **Tony Moores** on a total of 81 points in the first two games. Tony holds on to first place in the table by virtue of his 51 last week, which is the best score of the season so far in the B League. (The Park Taverners, for whom **Heather Wallace** also scored 51 last week, didn't play this time.)

Questions

The **Sutton Club**'s questions were well received, both sets scoring exactly 6.50 for Entertainment, and there was consistent marking across both Leagues. The marks for Difficulty and Balance were just as good, and we can expect to see two decent placings come the end of the season.

A few minor niggles have been mentioned on the Forum: one wrong answer (Independent Savings Account), one ambiguous question (one dart or three?), a collective noun for which there are at least five possible answers, and one player (in each game) getting two tricky football questions, in consecutive rounds, in the General Knowledge. (We all know how the last one will have happened, and we've probably all done it at one time or another, but this is the sort of thing that should be picked up in vetting.)

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Full Results – A League

Results – Details

Note: in this section, the teams that went "first first" (first in the Specialist questions) are on the left.

Waters Green Weavers	Spec	GK	Total	Dolphin	Spec	GK	Total
Janet Lawton	3	3	6	Derek Owen	9	18	27
Maddy Griffiths	12	12	24	Peter McBride	21	21	42
Alan Gilday	6	18	24	John Brown	12	15	27
Ian Grieve	15	18	33	Alan Hodgson	15	27	42
Conferred	14	20	34	Conferred	5	9	14
Passed over	6	11	17	Passed over	5	7	12
Totals	56	82	138	Totals	67	97	164

Dolphin Hammers	Spec	GK	Total	Nags Head 'B'	Spec	GK	Total
Liz Horrocks	6	27	33	Mark Shaw	18	9	27
Pete Sayers	15	9	24	Mark Watson	33	21	54
Keith Doffield	3	15	18	Laurence Plant	21	6	27
David Barber	18	18	36	Paul Morrissey	15	12	27
Conferred	15	15	30	Conferred	14	12	26
Passed over	3	4	7	Passed over	7	3	10
Totals	60	88	148	Totals	108	63	171

Queens of the Castle	Spec	GK	Total	Harrington Academicals	Spec	GK	Total
Alice Walker	18	33	51	Dave Partington	12	24	36
Haydn Thompson	18	24	42	Alan James	18	15	33
Stuart Orford	15	21	36	Steve Dale	6	12	18
Tim Massey	12	9	21	Rob Parkin	18	21	39
Conferred	5	11	16	Conferred	8	13	21
Passed over	2	10	12	Passed over	2	4	6
Totals	70	108	178	Totals	64	89	153

Full Results – B League

Note: in this section, the teams that went "first first" (first in the Specialist questions) are on the left.

Park Timers	Spec	GK	Total	Bate Hallers	Spec	GK	Total
John Poyser	9	15	24	Grenville Leah	6	6	12
Andrew Fenton	12	9	21	Gill Dawson	6	12	18
Tim Brewin	0	15	15	Anne Jeater	12	27	39
Jenni Brewin	3	3	6	Pat Jeater	6	0	6
Conferred	8	5	13	Conferred	7	15	22
Passed over	11	12	23	Passed over	8	16	24
Totals	43	59	102	Totals	45	76	121

Waters Green Nags	Spec	GK	Total	Pack Horse Bowling Club	Spec	GK	Total
Bob Langstaff	6	21	27	Reg Bloor	9	12	21
Sunil Peck	12	3	15	Mike Vickerstaff	6	0	6
Ian Musgrave	12	12	24	Andrew Vickerstaff	9	3	12
Paul Prior	15	24	39	Tim Bloor	15	9	24
Conferred	9	15	24	Conferred	7	19	26
Passed over	9	11	20	Passed over	4	8	12
Totals	63	86	149	Totals	50	51	101

Sutton Mutton	Spec	GK	Total	Chester Road Tavern	Spec	GK	Total
Mike Proctor	12	24	36	Tony Moores	12	18	30
Wynne Keith-Davies	9	6	15	Chris Moores	3	9	12
Mick Graves	3	9	12	Jim Moores	18	15	33
John Stein	9	0	9	Bill Moores	12	18	30
Conferred	10	16	26	Conferred	8	12	20
Passed over	3	11	14	Passed over	4	10	14
Totals	46	66	112	Totals	57	82	139

A League – Summary

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

Dolphin	**164**	138	Waters Green Weavers
Peter McBride Alan Hodgson	42 42	33	Ian Grieve
Nags Head 'B'	**171**	148	**Dolphin Hammers**
Mark Watson	54	36	Dave Barber
Harrington Academicals	153	**178**	**Queens of the Castle**
Rob Parkin	39	51	Alice Walker

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Queens of the Castle	2	2	0	0	400	4
Dolphin	2	2	0	0	350	4
Nags Head	1	1	0	0	188	2
Nags Head 'B'	1	1	0	0	171	2
Harrington Academicals	2	0	0	2	336	0
Waters Green Weavers	2	0	0	2	324	0
Poachers	1	0	0	1	171	0
Dolphin Hammers	1	0	0	1	148	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 2
Alice Walker	Queens of the Castle	2	**111**	60	51	51
Haydn Thompson	Queens of the Castle	2	**99**	57	42	42
Alan Hodgson	Dolphin	2	**93**	51	42	42
Peter McBride	Dolphin	2	**93**	51	42	42
Rob Parkin	Harrington Academicals	2	**87**	48	39	39
Ian Grieve	Waters Green Weavers	2	**81**	48	33	33
Dave Partington	Harrington Academicals	2	**81**	45	36	36
Tim Massey	Queens of the Castle	2	**69**	48	21	21
Alan Gilday	Waters Green Weavers	2	**69**	45	24	24
Alan James	Harrington Academicals	2	**69**	36	33	33

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	**149**	101	**Pack Horse Bowling Club**
Paul Prior	39	24	Tim Bloor
Bate Hallers	**121**	102	**Park Timers**
Anne Jeater	39	24	John Poyser
Sutton Mutton	112	**139**	**Chester Road Tavern**
Mike Proctor	36	33	Jim Moores

Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
Waters Green Nags	2	2	0	0	331	4
Chester Road Tavern	2	2	0	0	306	4
Park Taverners	1	1	0	0	176	2
Bate Hallers	1	1	0	0	121	2
Sutton Mutton	2	0	0	2	259	0
Park Timers	2	0	0	2	249	0
Sutton Club	1	0	0	1	153	0
Pack Horse Bowling Club	1	0	0	1	101	0

Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 2
Tony Moores	Chester Road Tavern	2	**81**	51	30	30
Paul Prior	Waters Green Nags	2	**81**	42	39	39
Ian Musgrave	Waters Green Nags	2	**72**	48	24	24
Bob Langstaff	Waters Green Nags	2	**63**	36	27	27
Andrew Fenton	Park Timers	2	**57**	36	21	21
John Poyser	Park Timers	2	**57**	33	24	24
Heather Wallace	Park Taverners	1	**51**	51	51	
Mick Graves	Sutton Mutton	2	**51**	39	12	12
Wynne Keith-Davies	Sutton Mutton	2	**51**	36	15	15
Tim Brewin	Park Timers	2	**48**	33	15	15

Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent	Total	Last Yr
1	1	GK	**Nags Head 'B'**	10.00	9.57	7.16	**26.64**	21.64
2	1	Spec	**Nags Head 'B'**	9.05	0.00	7.25	**16.30**	19.80
3	2	Spec	**Sutton Club**	5.30	8.66	6.50	**20.62**	21.98
4	2	GK	**Sutton Club**	3.74	7.51	6.50	**17.83**	20.28

Last week was always going to be a difficult act to follow, but the **Sutton Club**'s questions scored well all round. In last season's table, the Specialists would have been 10th (out of 36) and the General Knowledge 20th.

Both sets scored exactly 6.50 for Entertainment, which would have put them in 13th place last season, and the scores were also quite consistent across both Leagues. According to the spreadsheet, both sets were of pretty much average difficulty – teams scoring on average 97% of their average scores in the Specialists and 98% in the General Knowledge.

The spreadsheet did suggest a slight bias in both sets of questions, towards the sides that went second in the Specialists. The extent of the apparent bias was pretty much the same in both halves, and overall the teams that went "second first" scored exactly 100% of their average scores, while those that went first scored 95%. On an average match score of 140 this may have made a difference of about seven points – and the margin was quite a bit bigger than this in all six games, so no results are likely to have been affected.