



# Macclesfield Quiz League

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## News and Views: 2023–4 Season, Week 14 – 12 March 2024

### Results

Five of the six matches were won by the teams that went first in the Specialist questions. There was a great variety in the margins of victory. One match in the B League was won by 56 points, and one by 46, while one in the A League was won by 31 points; but one in the A League was settled by only two points and one in the B League by just a single point.

The comfortable winners were the **Sutton Club** and the **Waters Green Nags** in the B League, and the **Nags Head 'B'** in the A League. Those that won less convincingly were the **Dolphin Hammers** (by two points over the **Queens of the Castle**) and the **Chester Road Tavern** (one point over the **Park Timers**).

The only team to win by going second in the Specialist questions was the **Poachers**.

The Poachers found themselves eight points down to the **Nags Head** with four rounds to go, but they won those four rounds by 42 points to 22, to win the match by a margin of twelve points. There was a similar pattern at the Dolphin, where the **Hammers** led by 30 points after 16 of the 20 rounds. The **Queens of the Castle** pulled back 28 points in the last four (45–17), but fell short by just two points.

### Tables

**Waters Green Nags** increased their lead at the top of the B League table to six points. With a healthy advantage in goal difference, and only three games to play, the Nags are now virtually assured of the B League title.

In the A League, the **Nags Head 'B'** and the **Poachers** opened the gap to the **Dolphin** (who didn't play) in third place to four points.

The only actual movement in either table was between third and fourth in the B League, where the **Sutton Club** swapped places with the **Bate Hallers** (who also didn't play).

### Individual

The top scorers this week were **Dave Barber**, **Alice Walker**, **Laurence Plant** and **Ian Musgrave**, all with 48. This was at least an equal personal best for all of them except (you-know-who). The only other scores over 40 were for **Greg Spiller** (45) and **Ian Grieve** (42).

There was no movement at the business end of the Top Tens in either league, but at the top of the A League table, **Alice Walker** played the game she had in hand over **Alan Hodgson** and closed the gap to 15 points. This is still a useful lead however, as both have now played eleven games. In the B League, **Paul Prior** has played eleven games, while his team-mate **Ian Musgrave** has only played ten and will have a chance to reduce the 33-point gap, next time he plays.

There were eight personal bests – the same as last week – three in the A League and five in the B League. Seven of them were by people on the teams that started first. There were two personal bests in seats 1, 3 and 5, one each in seats 7 and 8 ... and none in any of seats 2, 4 or 6.

Five people failed to better their lowest scores of the season.

**If your total accumulated score doesn't increase by as much as you expected next week, it's probably because you've played twelve games and only eleven of them will count.**

*Questions: please turn to Page 7.*

## A League – Summary

### Results

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

<b>Poachers</b>	<b>154</b>	141	<b>Nags Head</b>
Greg Spiller	45	39	Neil Drummond
<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	<b>166</b>	164	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>
Dave Barber (pb) Dave Cooper (pb)	48 42	48	Alice Walker
<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	<b>169</b>	138	<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>
Laurence Plant (pb)	48	42	Ian Grieve

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	11	9	0	2	1860	18
<b>Poachers</b>	10	9	0	1	1742	18
<b>Dolphin</b>	11	7	0	4	1745	14
<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	11	6	0	5	1884	12
<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	10	5	0	5	1530	10
<b>Nags Head</b>	11	3	0	8	1570	6
<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	11	2	1	8	1653	5
<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	11	1	1	9	1655	3

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 14
<b>Alan Hodgson</b>	Dolphin	11	<b>513</b>	54	36	
<b>Alice Walker</b>	Queens of the Castle	11	<b>498</b>	60	33	48
<b>Haydn Thompson</b>	Queens of the Castle	11	<b>477</b>	57	27	36
<b>Mark Watson</b>	Nags Head 'B'	10	<b>456</b>	54	36	36
<b>Ian Grieve</b>	Waters Green Weavers	11	<b>447</b>	48	27	42
<b>Peter McBride</b>	Dolphin	11	<b>432</b>	51	33	
<b>Greg Spiller</b>	Poachers	9	<b>399</b>	51	33	45
<b>Dave Barber</b>	Dolphin Hammers	10	<b>393</b>	48	30	48
<b>Dave Partington</b>	Harrington Academicals	11	<b>393</b>	45	18	
<b>Neil Drummond</b>	Nags Head	11	<b>348</b>	48	21	39



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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.

<b>Sutton Club</b>	<b>169</b>	113	<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>
Simon Rumsey	36	27	Reg Bloor
Wendy Brown	33	27	Andrew Vickerstaff
Emma Griggs (pb)	30	24	Tim Bloor
Chris Butler	30	15	Martin Williams (pb)
<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	<b>170</b>	124	<b>Park Taverners</b>
Ian Musgrave (pb)	48	33	Shauna Barstow
Paul Prior	39		
Bob Langstaff (pb)	36		
<b>Park Timers</b>	127	<b>128</b>	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>
Andrew Fenton	30	33	Mitch Moores (pb)
John Poyser	30		

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	11	10	0	1	1696	20
<b>Park Taverners</b>	11	7	0	4	1543	14
<b>Sutton Club</b>	11	7	0	4	1534	14
<b>Bate Hallers</b>	10	6	1	3	1317	13
<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	11	5	0	6	1413	10
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	10	4	0	6	1255	8
<b>Park Timers</b>	11	3	0	8	1407	6
<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>	11	0	1	10	1228	1

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 14
<b>Paul Prior</b>	Waters Green Nags	11	<b>426</b>	57	24	39
<b>Ian Musgrave</b>	Waters Green Nags	10	<b>393</b>	48	24	48
<b>John Poyser</b>	Park Timers	11	<b>354</b>	39	24	30
<b>Graham Wallace</b>	Park Taverners	10	<b>333</b>	39	24	24
<b>Shauna Barstow</b>	Park Taverners	10	<b>303</b>	42	12	33
<b>Anne Jeater</b>	Bate Hallers	10	<b>303</b>	39	21	
<b>Wynne Keith-Davies</b>	Sutton Mutton	10	<b>297</b>	48	12	
<b>Heather Wallace</b>	Park Taverners	10	<b>288</b>	51	9	21
<b>Wendy Brown</b>	Sutton Club	9	<b>285</b>	42	18	33
<b>Andrew Fenton</b>	Park Timers	11	<b>285</b>	39	12	30



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## 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 headings, the home teams are given first.

### *Poachers vs. Nags Head*

Nags Head	Spec	GK	Total	Poachers	Spec	GK	Total
Neil Drummond	15	24	39	Ed Baron	9	18	27
Phil Davies	18	15	33	Bob Gratton	15	12	27
Tony Browne	12	9	21	John Hargreaves	3	15	18
Neil Johnson	9	12	21	Greg Spiller	21	24	45
Conferred	7	15	22	Conferred	7	15	22
Passed over	2	3	5	Passed over	6	9	15
<b>Totals</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>154</b>

### *Dolphin Hammers vs. Queens of the Castle*

Dolphin Hammers	Spec	GK	Total	Queens of the Castle	Spec	GK	Total
Liz Horrocks	21	15	36	Alice Walker	21	27	48
Shaun Horrocks	6	9	15	Haydn Thompson	12	24	36
Dave Cooper (pb)	15	27	42	Caroline Massey	9	18	27
David Barber (pb)	21	27	48	Tim Massey	9	15	24
Conferred	8	10	18	Conferred	7	12	19
Passed over	3	4	7	Passed over	2	8	10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>164</b>

### *Nags Head 'B' vs. Waters Green Weavers*

Nags Head 'B'	Spec	GK	Total	Waters Green Weavers	Spec	GK	Total
Giles Pocklington	18	6	24	Graham Bailey	15	15	30
Mark Watson	15	21	36	Adum Carr	9	18	27
Laurence Plant (pb)	21	27	48	Alan Gilday	12	3	15
Paul Morrissey	15	3	18	Ian Grieve	18	24	42
Conferred	7	16	23	Conferred	4	12	16
Passed over	7	13	20	Passed over	1	7	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>138</b>

## 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 headings, the home teams are given first.

### *Sutton Club vs. Pack Horse Bowling club*

Sutton Club	Spec	GK	Total	Pack Horse Bowling Club	Spec	GK	Total
Simon Rumsey	21	15	36	Reg Bloor	9	18	27
Emma Griggs (pb)	15	15	30	Andrew Vickerstaff	9	18	27
Chris Butler	15	15	30	Tim Bloor	9	15	24
Wendy Brown	21	12	33	Martin Williams (pb)	6	9	15
Conferred	5	11	16	Conferred	4	8	12
Passed over	11	13	24	Passed over	2	6	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>113</b>

### *Waters Green Nags vs. Park Taverners*

Waters Green Nags	Spec	GK	Total	Park Taverners	Spec	GK	Total
Bob Langstaff (pb)	15	21	36	Shauna Barstow	12	21	33
Sunil Peck	3	9	12	Heather Wallace	9	12	21
Ian Musgrave (pb)	21	27	48	Graham Wallace	3	21	24
Paul Prior	21	18	39	Pete Dykstra	6	6	12
Conferred	8	13	21	Conferred	10	15	25
Passed over	6	8	14	Passed over	6	3	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>124</b>

### *Park Timers vs. Chester Road Tavern*

Chester Road Tavern	Spec	GK	Total	Park Timers	Spec	GK	Total
Mitch Moores (pb)	18	15	33	Andrew Fenton	21	9	30
Chris Moores	6	15	21	Tim Brewin	6	18	24
Jim Moores	12	15	27	Karyn Johnston	6	15	21
Bill Moores	9	6	15	John Poyser	15	15	30
Conferred	8	16	24	Conferred	5	9	14
Passed over	4	4	8	Passed over	3	5	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>127</b>

## Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Wk		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	6	Spec	<b>Park Taverners</b>	10.00	9.68	6.83	<b>26.51</b>	26.00
2	1	GK	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	10.00	8.35	7.16	<b>25.51</b>	21.64
3	5	GK	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	8.15	9.89	5.83	<b>23.87</b>	12.37
4	12	GK	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	7.37	8.93	6.83	<b>23.13</b>	12.39
5	9	Spec	<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	6.65	9.27	6.93	<b>22.85</b>	24.51
6	12	Spec	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	7.43	8.36	6.75	<b>22.54</b>	19.64
7	13	Spec	<b>Park Timers</b>	7.09	8.32	6.33	<b>21.74</b>	25.21
8	7	GK	<b>Nags Head</b>	6.05	8.87	6.25	<b>21.17</b>	15.55
9	7	Spec	<b>Nags Head</b>	5.54	7.54	6.75	<b>19.83</b>	10.58
10	8	Spec	<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	4.72	8.91	6.16	<b>19.79</b>	15.55
11	2	Spec	<b>Sutton Club</b>	4.77	8.34	6.66	<b>19.77</b>	21.98
12	6	GK	<b>Park Taverners</b>	4.55	9.26	5.67	<b>19.48</b>	19.10
13	4	Spec	<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	4.00	9.05	6.17	<b>19.22</b>	11.27
14	11	GK	<b>Poachers</b>	5.25	6.53	6.41	<b>18.19</b>	18.62
15	9	GK	<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	5.96	5.22	6.46	<b>17.64</b>	18.08
<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>9.44</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>17.50</b>	<b>13.50</b>
17	1	Spec	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	9.43	0.10	7.25	<b>16.78</b>	19.80
18	2	GK	<b>Sutton Club</b>	4.20	5.46	6.58	<b>16.24</b>	20.28
19	11	Spec	<b>Poachers</b>	5.61	3.84	6.41	<b>15.86</b>	21.07
20	3	Spec	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	2.56	7.39	5.50	<b>15.45</b>	16.72
21	5	Spec	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	5.03	3.80	5.67	<b>14.50</b>	23.24
22	3	GK	<b>Queens of the Castle</b>	3.57	4.66	5.75	<b>13.98</b>	13.47
23	10	GK	<b>Bate Hallers</b>	1.59	8.54	3.50	<b>13.63</b>	8.82
24	13	GK	<b>Park Timers</b>	6.32	0.00	6.16	<b>12.48</b>	25.93
<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	<b>7.17</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.67</b>	<b>10.84</b>	<b>21.09</b>
26	4	GK	<b>Dolphin Hammers</b>	3.31	1.73	5.16	<b>10.20</b>	20.60
27	8	GK	<b>Waters Green Nags</b>	0.00	6.71	2.93	<b>9.64</b>	8.08
28	10	Spec	<b>Bate Hallers</b>	0.00	5.21	3.75	<b>8.96</b>	8.11

There was a female theme running through the **Sutton Mutton's** Specialist questions, and also to a slightly lesser extent in the General Knowledge. This proved too much for most teams (as the Forum bears out), and neither set went down well; in the Entertainment table they are 25th and 26th (out of 28). But they did each get one good mark: most teams scored well in the Specialists (giving a good mark for Difficulty), and according to the spreadsheet the General Knowledge were very well balanced – the teams that went first (second in the Specialists) scoring on average 96%, while their opponents scored 97%.

This also earned the General Knowledge questions a reasonable mark for Difficulty. But ... the Specialists scored zero for Balance. They appeared to be heavily biased in favour of the teams that went first – who scored on average 120% of their average scores, while those that went second scored only 91%. This was borne out by the fact that five of the six matches were won by the teams that started first.



### *Questions (carried over from Page 1)*

Last season the **Sutton Mutton's** Specialist questions had an alcoholic theme throughout, and there were more than a few questions on the same theme in the General Knowledge. This went down well; the Specialists scored 6.21 for Entertainment, which – combined with strong scores for Difficulty and Balance – saw them in 9th place (out of 36) in the Question Setters' Trophy table come the end of the season.

This season, the Mutton clearly aimed to repeat that success. Round 1 was entitled The Fairer Sex, and the other seven Specialist rounds continued in that vein. About 60 of the 96 General Knowledge questions were also about women, and to my mind, about 40 of them could be said to be about female achievements and/or feminist issues.

This was a laudable effort no doubt, but it seems to have proved too much for most teams (including, I think it's fair to say, at least two of the three in which the sexes were equally represented). The questions scored only 3.75 and 3.67 for Entertainment, putting them 25th and 26th (out of 28) in the table of that measure.

The apparent bias in the Specialist questions (see above) probably didn't help.