



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report

Friday 15th February

I think that The Lamb Shanks were still getting over their valentine celebrations from the previous night. When I looked at the main CSL site and saw that they had scored a 14 0 victory last week I thought how would we fare this time against them on their alley. Back in October last year near the start of the season they trashed us 14 0. Could this be our downfall after a few good wins and being currently equal 5th in the table? The match was slow to get going as far as I was concerned. B. Pearce of The Lamb Shanks suffered greatly to only score 18 which was a shame because he put so much effort into his game. Martin aka 'edgehog' was on good form to romp on to score an excellent 43 without a spare. On the last hand of the set P. Croom suffered as well with a vc. This gave us a clear sight of the victory for the set and went on to win it by 24 pins and score 2 valuable points. Going into the second set things began warming up nicely despite the cold outside. Neither team had anything that was worthy of a mention until Doug powered on to score a good 45 without a spare - this was not even our team's highest score, that was to come later. With this score it was enough to secure another set victory. This time it was a profit of 19 pins and a fantastic 43 pins ahead on the game and 2 more valuable points. On now to the third set with a handsome profit in the bag, we knew that we had a chance of victory all be it slim because with this game being so unpredictable it could go either way at any stage of the proceedings. C. Taylor of The Lamb Shanks had a really good set especially when he managed an excellent 16 spare on his final hand which catapulted him to a score of 48 which was their team's highest score. Kev played well to score an excellent 43 greatly assisted with his 11 spare on his second hand. Vince on the other hand played a blinder when he scored a fantastic 14 spare on his first and final hand to give him his highest score of the season and our team's highest score of the game of 49. Well done. This gave us another victory set and a further 14 pins to our profit, making our overall profit at this stage in the game of 57 pins and now 6 points. Where was this game going? I don't recall a game that we have played where we have been so far in front going into the final set. How would this end?? Could we turn the tables or crash at the final hurdle? On now to the final set. Both sides were fairly well matched hand for hand until J. Snook scored an excellent 11 spare on his 4th hand to give him an overall score of 45 so well done to him. Captain Woody, Vice and Dave had their work cut out, but the pins had cooled off somewhat and would not fall. S. Debruin of The Lamb Shanks seemed to have a stroke of bad luck on his final hand to score a 3. This gave them a set total of 112. Could we beat this? On the final hand down we needed an average of 6 pins to draw the set or 7 to win. Tensions ran high as Captain Woody took the alley for his final hand. He needed 8 to draw and the entire 9 pins to win the set. The pressure mounted, the ball was bowled. Pins scattered and fell. The ball left his hand to make contact with the remaining pins. He scored 8 with the three balls. Yes! This was enough to draw the set. Alas we only gained 1 point from this set, but with the 57 pins already in the bag we secured a well deserved victory over The Lamb Shanks of 13 points to 1. A very respectable score indeed. So well done to all who played and supported the team. Next week we will be back on our home alley against The Balmoral Steamers, last time we met on 12th October 2007 it was so close we only just beat them 8 points to 6. Can we do better?