



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report

Friday 22nd February

We knew that the Balmoral Steamers were a strong side to contend with, especially because we only just beat them last time we met on their alley way back in October last year. To begin with there was not much that could be split among the teams with similar ball by ball progress. Martin aka 'edgehog' began the set well but lost a small amount of focus near the midway point. He soon regained it and pulled it back. Andy M. was on slightly better form than he had been to score one of his better ones of the season. He skittled on to bag an average hand total of 7 to give him a score of 42 without a spare (sounds a bit like that classic book 'The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy' where the ultimate answer is '42' - anyway back to the story line!) D. Avery of The Balmoral played well to score 37. We went on to storm the set to win it by 12 pins. This gave us 2 initial well earned points. So moving into the second set. Kev got off to a shaky start but managed to pull a small spark out of the bag when he managed a 12 spare on his final hand. This gave him an overall set total of 39. Doug followed suit to also score 39 but he did this without a spare - see there is just no knowing just how these games pan out. Dixie also played well and he scored a good 40 overall, again without a spare. B. Garn and D. Longden had better luck on our alley when they both managed to score 44 without spares. This was enough for them to secure victory on the set by only 3 pins. This reduced our cushion of pins to 9 and robbed us of 2 possible points. Onto the third set where this game began to heat up. Lee and John C. just could not find the mark, but just when we thought our time was up Steve C. Aka 'Granddad' hammered through an excellent 14 spare on his second hand down. This gave him a fantastic score of 49 which also gave him our teams' highest score of the night. Alas this was not quite enough to secure any further points on this set because J. Warren, D. Blackwell and C. Murray all played well to all score above 40 without any spares. Accreditation goes to C. Murray for scoring their teams' highest score of 45 so well done. This helped them to rob a further 7 pins from our already depleted profit to now give us a cushion of 2 pins to take us into the final set. So now we needed to get some luck from somewhere because if we didn't then all we could get from this match would be a measly 2 points - but we did not want that, we wanted victory! Dave, Vince and Captain Woody entered into the frame, but the pins decided they would not be friendly so most of the time would not budge. Dave, however, did manage to get a good 13 pin spare on his fifth hand down, but this still only gave him an overall set total of 36. Unfortunately Vince and Captain Woody could not do much better. Our overall set total was only 102 - was this enough? I think that The Balmoral Steamers began to smell a victory and dropped their guard a little. This was just a tad too much because it all seemed to fall apart for them towards the end when Tony D. suffered greatly to slump to a score of 29 and a set total of 98! Yes!!! - this gave us a win on the set by 4 pins giving us an overall win of just 6 pins. At the end we had a fantastic well deserved win to give us 10 points overall. So well done to all concerned.