



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report

Wednesday 19th March

### Knock-Out Cup Semi Final

We were looking forward to this match especially as we were in a fairly good position being in second place in the table and having beaten The Fortyniners in other matches. The problem was that we had not played at The Hornets Rugby Club for such a long time so knew it would be tough. So enough of the preliminaries and onto the report...

We were up first, wow did the balls seem small and the gaps between the pins look large! Des, aka 'Biker' could not find the mark and suffered to score one of his lowest of the season which was a shame. Andy M. managed slightly better to hit a reasonable score of 40. Martin aka 'edgehog' managed a reasonable score of 35, but he clearly was not happy with it. But it is only a game after all. L. McDowell of The Fortyniners gave us a bit of a scare in his second hand down when he hit a good 16 spare and went on to score a superb 45 in total. Not wanting to be out done W. Jenkins hit a good 11 spare on his fourth hand and went on to hit a good 40. Alas this meant that they won the set by 20 pins. So we needed to play catch up - fast. The second set was going to prove even tougher. Doug was not on his usual form which was a shame. We desperately needed some good scores. Alas the pressure was just too much and Doug also hit one of his lowest scores of the season. Andy G. and Dixie both had bad sets. But with all things being equal The Fortyniners also had a bad set. I think that they began to feel sorry for us. This did not help because they still won the set by 4 pins to bring their lead to 24. Could we recover? Read on to see... Kev began with a 5 on his first hand, perhaps not the best possible start, but we could build on it. John C. and Vince played well. On Kev's second hand he recovered well and managed to score a good 12 spare which put us back into contention. He went on to score a good 44. This was our teams' highest score of the evening so well done. On the other side of the fence R. Williams of The Fortyniners suffered a VC on his fourth hand down. After the match their captain said that in previous rounds of this cup at least one of their team players had hit a VC which was strange. It was thanks to Kev's spare and the VC that we managed to win the set by 12 pins, slashing the deficit to 12 pins. This meant we had it all to play for. How would it end? Dave, Vice and Captain Woody came to the frame and battled on valiantly. Dave managed to hit a good 10 spare on his second hand which was only our second spare of the evening and one of our 4 higher scores of 40 so well done. Unfortunately these scores were just not enough. The Fortyniners seemed to match our scores fairly well. We managed to pull back 2 pins on this set but it came too late. If we'd had a fifth set then things might have turned out differently. So our Knock-Out Cup run for this season is over. We wish all the best to The Fortyniners in the final. We need now to keep focused for the rest of the league games if we want to stand the chance of promotion into the second division.