



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008

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This week we were fortunate enough to play back on our home alley against the Fortyniners. This was going to be the final match before the long awaited Christmas break, which is nice. At the time of writing this the Fortyniners had the same amount of points as us and like us were equal fourth in the table. We have beaten them in the past but this does not happen very often. So how did it go? Well read on below and see.

The first set for us saw Biker, Andy M. and 'edgehog take to the alley. Both Biker and Andy M. took a little while to get started. Biker started off with a 4 on his first hand, and then slipped to a 3 on his second. He managed to gain a little composure when he hit 9 on his third hand. He then dropped a little further to a 7 on his fourth hand and followed those with a 6 and a 5. Despite this misfortune he still ended up with a reasonable 34. Andy M., on the other hand, was really off the mark on his first hand when he hit a V/C which is almost unheard of in a normal league match. He rallied a little on his second hand when he hit an 8, but then lost it again to hit a 5, followed by a 3 followed by a 7 then finally a 4. His set total was a very disappointing 27. The saviour of this set though was 'edgehog. He has been playing really well of late and this match was no exception. He hit a couple of 7's and a couple of 4's. These were split up with a 6 on his third hand but then hammered down an 18 spare on his fifth hand. His set total was a good 46 which turned out to be our teams' highest score of the night, so well done to him. Our set total was a reasonable 107. The Fortyniners kept chipping away at the pins but we thought that J. Hooper was going to spoil things for us because he did not score anything less than a 6 over his six hands. His set total was a good 43. His two supporting players in this set seemed to be fairly easily matched with a range of 4's and 5's. There were a couple of 7's thrown in for good measure along with a 9. Their set totals were 31 and 33 which meant that they too had scored a set total of 107. This meant that the two points available for the first set had to be split in half giving each team a single point on the match and a level playing field on the second set.

Our second set consisted of Grandad, Doug and Andy G. Grandad played quite a good match and hit four 6's, a 5 and a 7. His set total was still only 36. Doug started off well with an 8 but then seemed to lose a little focus to hit a couple of 4's and a couple of 7's. He ended off his hand with a 5. His set total was 35. Andy G. played a little better because he hit a couple of 5's, a couple of 7's with a 6 and an 8 adding to the mixture. His set total was 38. This meant that our overall set total was 109 which was only two pins higher than that of the first set. The Fortyniners played better when C. Wright hit their teams' first spare of the night on his first hand. It did not bear much fruit because it turned out to be only a 9 spare after all the effort. V. Brooks must have been watching what Andy M had done on his first hand in the first set because he too hit a V/C during the match but his was on his fifth hand down. C. Wright had another bite of the cherry on his fifth hand down when he scored a 12 spare. His set total was 49 which was their teams' highest score of the night. This was the turning point for them. The other player totals for this set was 37 and 25. Their set total was 111, which meant that they had robed off us two valuable points and was now two pins ahead in this match.



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The third set saw Kev and John back in their usual set being supported by Lee. None of them seemed to be able to make much contact with the pins sitting on the end of the alley on the diamond because between them they hit five 5's, five 6's, four 7's and two 8's, with a 2 and a 3 tossed in to make up the numbers. Their set totals were 36, 35 and 33. Our set total was a disappointing 104. The Fortyniners saw their opportunity and went for it all balls blazing. Their scores over the set consisted of two 4's, three 5's, three 6's, five 8's and two 9's (one of which was a 9 spare!). What really messed things up was the fact that they had snuck in a 3 and a 7, J. Ling had tossed in a 16 spare on his second hand down which gave him a set total of 47, which was just two pins short of their highest of 49. His supporting players both hit 39. This meant that their set total was a massive 125. The Fortyniners had now taken another two points away from us and were now 23 pins ahead in this match. Could we recover in the final set?

For the fourth and final set we had Dave, Vice and Captain Woody on the case. Things looked like they were going nicely when Dave hit a 13 spare on his second hand which was added to quite nicely with a couple of 6's, a 5 and a 7. His set total was 45. Vice also played well. He hit three 7's, a 5, and 8 and a 9 spare which gave him a set total of 43. Captain Woody, on the other hand, did not have quite the same luck because he could only muster a couple of 8's, a 2, 4, 6 and a 9. His set total was 37 which meant that our set total for the final hand was 125. The Fortyniners seemed to have lost some of their pace for the final set because between them they hit three 4's, three 6's, six 7's, four 8's and a 5. Their player totals were 40 and two 37's giving them a set total of 114. This meant that we had got a set victory of eleven pins. This meant that the overall deficit of pins in this match had been reduced nicely to just 12. The overall totals was 445 pins to us and 457 to The Fortyniners. The points, however, were three points to us and eleven to The Fortyniners.

Let's hope that our fortunes change after Christmas in 2009. Our next match will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and our opponents will be The Depoteers at the Boro Sports and Social Club

Have a very Happy Christmas where possible and don't forget to look back after the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> January 2009 for the first match report of the new year.

