



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009

---

This week saw us still a little concerned over our unfortunate loss last week at the hands of The Reptiles. This week was looking to be a similar affair because last time we met The Persuaders we were stuffed 14 points to 0. Could we salvage something on this match? Or was it going to crash and burn once more? Read on and see...

Up first for us we had Biker, Andy M. and 'edgehog. The set began really badly and I am sorry to say that it did not seem to get any better, at least until the third hand when 'edgehog managed to score a well deserved spare of 14. This did not really give him much of an edge (please forgive the pun!) because he suffered greatly on his fifth and final hand where he only managed to score a 1 and a 2. Biker and Andy M. did not seem to do much better either until on their fifth hands they managed to score an 8 and a 9. This seemed to raise the spirits a little but it was just too little too late because their set totals were 31, 31 and 34 which gave us a set total of 96 which was rather low on normal standards. The Persuaders, on the other hand, did not seem to play that well either. They did have some marginal improvements on the scores over the hands whereby they hit a range of 4's, 5's, 6's, 7's and a couple of 9's. But no 8's! F. Shepherd played really well for them by being fairly consistent throughout the set but really pulled it together on his fifth hand when he too managed to hit a good 14 spare which did in fact give them their teams highest score of the night of 44, so well done to him. His supporting team players in the set hit a 31 and a 36. Their overall set total was a good 111 which alas meant that we were 15 pins down after the first hurdle and were already two pins out of pocket. Could we pull ourselves together or just pack up and go back home? Read on and see.

The Second set saw Grandad, Andy G. and Dixie step up to the mark to try and salvage what they could at this early stage in the game. This as it turned out, seemed to be a fairly well balanced set with average scores being forthcoming from all team players. Ok there were a couple of minor hiccoughs towards the end of the set on the fifth and sixth hand when Andy G. hit a 3 on his fifth hand and Grandad hit a 4 on his sixth. Other pins took the guise of plenty of 6's with a few 7's and 8's for dramatic effect. The player totals were 39, 35 and 39, which gave us an overall set total of 113. This was a vast improvement on the first set. The Persuaders also played an average sort of set. Again they also hit a few nice 6's and 7's. I don't quite know what was going on here but they also had a couple of bad hands on their fifth and sixth throws whereby one of their players could only hit a 3 and a 2. Their player totals were 41, 31 and 37. This gave them a set total of 109. Ok this was only a small victory on the set but at least it was in the right direction. This meant that we also now had two valuable points and we had cut the deficit down to a mere 11 pins. This gave us something a little easier to focus on to take us into the third set.

The third set consisted of Kev, John C. and Doug. Could they continue the climb to victory or was it just going to be a walk over in the park? This seemed to be going the same way as the first set – badly – especially with a first hand down of 12! Things did improve a little on the second set when Dixie managed to score a 9. Kev and John C. both hit 6's. Things improved a little for Kev and John from their third hand where John hit consistent 7's and Kev managed to hit a couple of 6's flanked by an 8 and a 9. Their individual totals were 38, 39 and 34 which gave us a set total of 111. Once



## CON B SKITTLES

more The Persuaders just could not seem to gather the momentum that they so wanted to get because they could not hit anything higher than an 8. They had plenty of 6's to place on the board with a couple of 4's, 5's and 7's thrown in. Their set totals were 38, 33 and 36, which gave them an overall set total of 107. This was extremely good news for us because we had gained another two valuable points and had stolen back 4 pins from the deficit so we were now only 7 pins down going into the fourth and final set of the night.

The final set consisted of Vince, Dave and Captain Woody. Could this stone keep trundling down the road and give us that much needed victory? Or would it just break apart into dust and gravel? Things just did not go the way we had planned. A range of pins fell from a 2, all the way up to a few 8's. A nice few 6's and 7's got in the way but were jostled by a 4 and a 5. The set totals were 36, 43 and 33, which gave us a set total of just 112. Was this to be enough or false hope? The Persuaders saw their golden opportunity. We should have seen it hiding when they burst forth with 5's, 6's, 8's and a couple of 9's. This basically wiped the floor with us because their set totals were 40, 41 and 40, which gave them an overall total of a whopping 121. We had lost the set, the match and the final six points available for a win. The overall totals were 432 to us and 448 to them.

Ok we lost the match but it gives us something to aim for next week when we shall be on our own alley once more and playing against The Dambusters. This should be an interesting match especially because we have played against them a couple of times already this season and are due to meet them again in the Front Pin Final (date and venue still to be announced). So tune in then for all the thrills, spills and excitement.