



CON B SKITTLES

Match Report 7th November 2008

Well here we have it. Another league match to contend with after a busy time last week of having to play not one, but two cup matches. One we won, the other we lost. But that's how things go. For this match we were away at the Regency Pub where last season we saw Dave hit a fantastic 69 with three spares, thus winning the match. Could we do the same this week? Or would it turn out to be a bad night all-round?

Up first we had Doug, Dave and 'edgehog. Playing Doug and Dave on the first set is something that does not happen very often, but because Dave was a bit off colour he wanted to play and go, which is just what he did. Doug played a very consistent game throughout his set by scoring mainly 8's but suffered a minor hiccup on his fourth hand where he dropped to score a 2. Not wanting to let this worry him he came back with another 8 and finishing off his set with a 9. His final total was a very good 43 without a spare. Dave was not quite there drifting with 7's and 8's. He had a slight dip when he only managed a 5 on his third hand, but made up well for it on his final hand with a good 9. His set total was a good 44; again this was reached without a spare. The power on this set was held by 'edgehog, where he mainly scored 7's, 8's and a 9 to romp home with an excellent 47 without a spare. This was not our teams' highest score by a long way. This was to come later. Our set total was an excellent 134. The Double Six tried to equal or better our score, but this was not possible. G. Haines began with an 8 then followed on with four 6's. He tried to spoil things on his final hand when he scored a good 12 spare which was the first of the match. Their set total was 125. This meant that we had gained two valuable points and we were 9 pins up on the game to take us into the second set.

The second set saw Biker, Andy M. and Dixie in action to follow what was an excellent first set. Could it continue? Biker started off with a 4 which was disappointing for him. He soon recovered composure to continue with mainly 7's and a couple of 9's and went on to score 43 without a spare. Andy M. began with a string of 7's until his fifth hand where he hit an 8, but spoiled it on his final hand with a 6. So this meant that over the entire six hands he had scored a 7 on average, which gave him his best score so far this season of 42, without a spare. Dixie began his run on a shaky 5 but upped his game a little to hit a combination of 7's and 8 and a couple of 9's. His final set total was a good 45. This meant that so far all of our players had scored in the forties, which would mean that Captain Woody could have a difficult job next week deciding who should be dropped under the policy of "lowest score is dropped the following week". Our set total this time was a good 130. I think that the Double Six began to worry a little because they seemed to lose a bit of the edge and were all over the place so could only muster a set total of 112. This gave us yet another 2 valuable points and another 18 pins to the total which meant we now had 27 pins to take with us into the third set.

The Third set saw Kev, John and Andy G. Kev and John who usually like playing on the third set fought to get the balls to connect with the pins but just kept finding the gaps. Kev just had the upper hand by scoring 6's, 7's and 9's to continue on and score a good 44 (yes yet another in the 40's!), John on the other hand did not fare as well, just managing to scrape a 35 which was the



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reverse of his score last week of 53 which was a shame. Andy G. on the other hand kept chipping away at the pins and managed to also score 42 without a spare. Our set total was 121. The Double Six, on the other hand, seemed to gather themselves together and began to fight back. K. Hastewell hit a spare on his final hand, but alas it only gave him a 9. There seems not to be any justice in this game. They went on to score a good 129 for this set. This meant that they stole 2 points from us and reduced our pin total by 8 to give us a buffer of 19 to enter into the final set.

Our final set was Lee, Vice and Captain Woody. This seemed to be our teams' power set. Lee played steadily and consistently and managed to hold on to a score of 38. The magic really came when Captain Woody hit an 18 spare on his third hand, and hit a 14 spare on his fifth hand. This gave him a massive score of 59 which was our teams' highest score of the night and is currently the highest score for one of our players so far this season, knocking Dave off his perch for the current leader in the "highest score cup" of the season. Vice pulled out the stops on his fourth hand to hit an excellent 13 spare. His set total was an excellent 47. Our set total was a huge 144. The Double Six fought on bravely. R. Carter almost upset the apple cart with his 14 spare on his fourth hand down and went on to score an excellent 54, which was their highest score of the night. His two team mates tried to gather momentum and hit a 43 and a 45. Their set total was 142. This meant that we had just scraped a win on this set by 2 pins and a further 2 points. This gave us 6 match points and 6 points for the win on the game. We ended up with a nice 12 points to 2 victory and a win overall of 21 pins. We were back on winning form once more.

Can we continue this next week when we are back on our own home alley? You will just have to tune in next week for the next gripping instalment of the up's and down's of the Con B Skittle Team.