



CON B SKITTLES

Match Report Friday 18th December 2009

So here it is the final match report for 2009. The last few weeks have been good as far as matches have been and at the time of this match we were at the top of the third division with a nice 103 points which is 3 points clear of second place. This week we were due to play our first match of the season against the former second division team The Atoms. They were near the bottom of the table so we thought that we stood a reasonable chance of doing well. Did it go to plan? Or was it going to end in a complete and utter disaster?

On the first set we had Biker, Andy M and 'edgehog. The set began well with 'edgehog hitting a 9 and Biker hitting an 8. Andy M. let the side down a little with a 6, but it was early in the match. Things began to heat up nicely when Andy M. managed to hit a spare on his fourth hand. Alas it was nothing to get too excited about because the next ball went straight through leaving him with a 9 spare. 'edgehog on the other hand also managed to get a spare on his fourth hand too but this was more fruitful because he hit a good 14 spare. We thought that this was going to be a contender for the highest score of the night for our team but this was going to come in the second set. The breakdown of the pins for us were as follows, a 2, a 4, two 5's, three 6's, two 7's, five 8's, a 9, a 9 spare and the 14 spare. These gave us player totals of 33, 38 and 54 and a set total of 125. The Atoms were not going to take this lying down and it showed too, especially when their first player hit an 11 spare on his first hand and the third player hit a 13 spare on his second hand. As it happened, both players hit 49 which was their highest score of the night so well done to them. The other scores were a 4, a 5, five 6's, four 7's, four 8's, a 9, the 11 spare and the 14 spare. The other player total was 34. Their final set total was a good 132. They had won the first set by just 7 pins so it was still wide open.

The second set consisted of Dixie, Doug and Andy G. This was the best set of the entire match as far as individual scores were concerned. Dixie had a string of good scores across the card, but Doug had the edge. He hit a 17 spare on his second hand and a 16 spare on his final hand. This gave him our teams' highest score of the match of a massive 67. So a huge well done goes to him. The other scores hit were four 6's, two 7's, four 8's, five 9's, the 16 spare and the 17 spare. The other player totals were 43 and 45. This gave us a set total of a massive 155. The Atoms fought on valiantly. They managed to hit a 15 spare on their fifth hand but this still could not make a significant change to the score board. They hit a 4, two 5's, three 6's, seven 7's, four 8's and the 15 spare which gave them player totals of 46, and two 41's. Their overall total for this set was just 128. We had won the second set with an excellent margin of 27. We were now 20 pins in front and the points were level.

The third set consisted of Kev, John C. and Mike. This was a fairly average set as far as general scores were concerned with a nice range of scores including another 9 spare, but this time from John C. on his fifth hand. The other scores on this set was a 1, a 3, a 4, two 5's, three 6's, six 7's, three 8's and of course the 9 spare. The player totals were 40, 34 and 37 which gave us a set total of just 111. The Atoms seemed to sense that this was going to be, potentially, their set when they hit a 12 spare on their fourth hand. The rest of the scores were fairly close together and consistent. They hit a 4, a 5, a 6, four 7's, eight 8's, a 9 and the 12 spare. This gave them player totals of 42, 44 and 47 and a set total of 133. They had won the set by 22 pins, taking away the lead



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we had built up from the second set. We were now just 2 pins behind going into the final set. Just how was this match going to end? It was very close indeed.

The final set consisted of Cockney Al, Dave and Captain Woody. They all fought on bravely but did have a few minor hiccoughs in the process. Dave tried to salvage some good scores when he hit a 10 spare on his final hand to give him a reasonable score of 43. Captain Woody, on the other hand, also hit 43 but his was without a spare. In this game there seems to be no justice. The scores we hit were a 3, two 4's, two 5's, five 6's, three 8's, three 9's and the 10 spare. Al's final score was 34. Our set total was a good 120. The Atoms seemed to be keeping the pace steady but their scores per hand seemed a little on the low side during parts of this set. This did not seem to bother them at all. Their player hands were four 5's, five 6's, two 7's, six 8's and a 9. This gave them player totals of 35, 41 and 45 which gave them a set total of 121. They had taken the final set from under our noses, by a single pin, to win the match by just 3 pins overall. They had also taken 12 points for the match. There is no doubt that this will probably gain them a couple of places in the table depending on how well the others above them did on the same night.

So, there you have it, our spree of good fortune seems to have run out for the time being which is a shame, but never mind! We can all look forward, hopefully, to having a good Christmas and some R & R with our families and friends. We do not have another match now until next year which sounds really weird but that is only two weeks away!

Our next match will be a cup match against the Electric Sports at the Century Club in Worle. So this again could be a very interesting match. So until then, take care, it is very slippery and cold outside.