



CON B SKITTLES

Match Report Friday 30th April 2010

So here we are at the final match of this roller coaster of a season. We played some cracking good matches; we played some matches that saw us being sent packing with our tail firmly between our legs. Surprisingly for the last few weeks of the season we have been basking in the glory that we could get promoted up to Division two. We have been on the top of the table for a few weeks with a reasonable lead. Unlike the second division, promotion spots were almost decided a couple of weeks ago; but we decided that we would just hang on to the final match of the season to see what happened. For this match we only needed to score two points to ensure that we would go up in at least second place on the table, but if we were lucky enough to gain at least five points then we would be crowned Division three champions. Could we do it? Read on and see...

For our final match we were due to play on our home alley which, at times, had been our downfall. We were not going to let it get to us because our opponents were The Atoms. They had come down from the second division at the end of last season and they had also beaten us 12 points to 2 when we played them on their alley. We knew that, based on this information, they were good but they were placed in about position four or five on the table. Playing first for us was S. Cowgill, Doug and 'edgehog. All three of them got off to a fairly good start and continued to hit some reasonable scores. 'edgehog scored our first spare of the match on his second hand of a 12 spare so well done to him. This was not enough to give him our highest score of the match, this was to come later. The range of scores they hit was two 4's, three 5's, three 6's, four 7's, five 8's and the 12 spare. These gave them player totals of 36, 39 and 46 which gave us a set total of 121. The Atoms seemed to be a little off the match and their scores seemed to reflect this. They did, however, get their first spare too on this set but alas it was only a 9 spare on his fourth hand. It is always a shame when the ball goes right through on a spare but that's the way it goes sometimes. Their scores were two 3's, two 4's, four 6's, seven 7's, an 8 and the 9 spare. This gave them player totals of 41, 34 and 33 which gave them a set total of 108. We had won the first set by 13 pins and had gained the first points of the game. This meant that whatever else happens during the match we were now assured of going up to the second division.

The second set consisted of Andy M, Kev and Steve T. We began the assault when Kev hit an excellent 15 spare on his first hand, so well done to him; this helped give him a player total of 47. This still wasn't the highest score for our team. That was to come later. The breakdown of the scores was two 5's, five 6's, five 7's, four 8's, a 9 and the 15 spare. The other player totals on this set was 41 and 43 which when added to Kev's 47 gave us a set total of 131. The Atoms fought on bravely and tried to emulate Kev's score because he hit a 13 spare on his first hand down. As a result of this spare his final score was 45 but this was not their highest score either for the match, this was also to come later. The breakdown of scores was a 4, two 5's, two 6's, twelve 7's and the 13 spare. The other two player totals for this set were 37 and 41 and their set total was just 123. We had won the second set too by another 8 pins which meant that we were now a good 21 pins in front and now had four points on the score board. We just needed to gain one more point to ensure that we would be crowned Division three champions. Could we get it?

The third set consisted of M. Coleman, John C. and D. Cowgill. Once more we seemed to be having a good time of it because John C. hit a good 12 spare on his first hand and Mike hit a 12 spare



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on his final hand. This was turning into a very good match. The breakdown of scores for us on this set was a 3, three 5's, three 6's, four 7's, three 8's, two 9's and the two 12 spares. The player totals for this set was 45, 47 and 38 which gave us a set total of 130. Still we had not had our highest score of the match. The Atoms once more tried to gain some ground but alas just could not seem to get it together because another of their players suffered with a 9 spare. This did not seem to affect his overall score because he ended up with a reasonable 44. Still this was not enough to give them their highest score of the match. The complete breakdown of the scores was a 3, a 4, five 5's, three 6's, five 7's, a 9 and a 9 spare. The other two player totals were 30 and 36 which gave them a set total of just 110. We had won the third set too and this time by another 20 pins which meant that we were now flying well in the lead with 41 pins and six, more than welcome, points on the board and we were now guaranteed to be Division three champions. Could we get a clean sweep and win the final set too?

The final set consisted of Dixie, Dave and Captain Woody. This turned out to almost be a match on its own because Dixie hit a good 15 spare on his fourth hand down and Captain Woody hit a good 12 spare on his fifth hand. The breakdown for us on this set was a 4, a 5, three 6's, four 7's, seven 8's, the 12 spare and the 15 spare. These scores gave us player totals of 53, 39 and 46. The 53 by Dixie was our highest score of the match so well done to him. The overall total of this set was a huge 138. The Atoms now had their work cut out for them. They rose to the challenge but just could not tip the scales in their favour very much except on their final hand S. Hawking hit a good 14 spare which gave them their highest score of the match of 46, so well done to him. The breakdown of the scores was a 2, four 5's, two 6's, six 7's, four 8's and the 14 spare. The other two player totals were 41 and 35. This meant that their set total was just 122. We had won the final set too, this time by 16 pins. The overall match totals was 520 to us and just 463 to them. We had won the match by a whopping 57 pins and planted a nice 14 points on the board too. We had definitely ensured that we would be crowned Division three champions and were now on the way to playing some different teams on a few different alleys in the Second division.

Another interesting fact about this match was that the score of 520 was our highest score of the entire season which meant that it was a win win situation across the board.

Well there you have it. We came, we played and we conquered. We had an aim to not only win the match, but to get at least get 5 points. We did all of the above. I think that a well deserved break for the summer is now definitely on the cards whilst we psyche ourselves up for life in the second division.

See you next season; keep your eyes peeled on the site for details of when our first match is to be played and who we shall be playing against and the venue.

Enjoy the summer, because "WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS, MY FRIENDS!" as uttered by Freddie Mercury and Queen.