



# CON B SKITTLES

## Match Report Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009

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This week we are back to reality and playing a regular league match after our two cup matches last week. We were playing away at the The Bristol Inn against the Tornadoes. At the time of writing this they were also languishing near the bottom of the Third Division, just like us. They too have not had that much success in their matches either this season. It seemed to me that currently we were almost as bad as each other!

Our first set consisted of Biker, Andy M. and Dixie. Both Biker and Dixie began our assault by scoring 7's which is always a good start to have. Andy M. began well when he managed to score a good 15 spare with his first hand, but tailed off a little from there. Dixie kept our dream very much alive when he scored a good 14 spare on his fifth hand. Other scores in this set were a 4, three 5's, six 6's, five 7's, a 9, and the 14 and 15 spare. Our player totals were 35, 44 and 49 which gave us a set total of 128. The Tornadoes were just starting to get up to speed towards the end of their first set. Getting there though seemed to be a little tough. Their scores were a 2, a 3, a 4, six 5's, three 7's, two 8's and two 9's. Their set totals were 38, 28 and 40 giving them a set total of 106. The first set was ours. We had managed to gain the upper hand by a mere 22 pins. Could we make it count for the rest of the match?

The second set consisted of M. Coleman, Doug and Cockney Al. This was to be our best set of the match with Doug scoring our highest score of the night helped admirably with his 17 spare perfectly executed on his third hand. Other scores in this set were six 5's, two 6's, four 7's, four 8's and the 17 spare. Our player totals were 37, 53 and 37 which gave us a total of 127. The Tornadoes tried valiantly to catch us with nearly similar scores being hit by all their players. They hit a 3, two 4's, a 5, two 6's, five 7's, five 8's and two 9's. Their player totals were 43, 42 and 36. Their set total was 121. We had won the second set by six pins. We were now 28 pins in front and had gained 4 valuable points so far. Things were looking good. Were the tables going to turn in our favour? Or would we be facing another defeat?

Playing for us on the third set was Kev, John C. and Andy G. Kev seemed not to be at home on this alley, but every pin counts so every little bit could potentially count to be a lot. The scores we hit were two 4's, three 5's, a 6, seven 7's, two 8's and three 9's. This gave us player totals of 33, 42 and 46 giving us a set total of 121. The Tornadoes, still gathering their power, began to whip up a storm. Their players hit a 1, a 3, a 4, four 6's, four 7's, three 8's and four 9's. These scores gave them player totals of two 45's and a 30. Their set total was 120. We had taken the third set but only by a single pin. We were now 29 pins in front and had scored 6 points so far. It could still go either way basing the assumptions on the fact that they were now hitting better scores than they had at the beginning of the match.

We were going to have to play a low score for the final set due to the fact that about four of our regular players were away. This could potentially give us a slight disadvantage because the Tornadoes would know what one of our final scores was before they played the set. Fighting on for us in this set was Dave and Captain Woody. Dave began well when he hit a good 12 spare on his first hand. This was our fourth spare of the night which was not bad considering the fact that we had been sadly lacking in such things of late. Our player scores for this set including the Low Score was a 4, five 5's, two 6's, four 7's, four 8's, a 9



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and the 12 spare. This gave us player totals of 51, 38 and the low score of 33. Our set total was a reasonable 122. The Tornadoes seemed to sense that this set could eventually be taken and give them some much needed points. Their scores were two 5's, four 6's, six 7's, two 8's and four 9's. Their player totals were 42, 40 and 46. The 46 was their highest score of the night by J. Dark without a spare too which was very good, so well done to him. Their total pins for this set was 128 which was the highest set total for this match. They had taken just six pins off us. This as it happened did not really affect the overall outcome of the match because we had scored a good 498 and they had scored 475. We had won our second league match of the season and had gained 12 most welcome points to boot.

What an enjoyable match it was with the victory even nicer. Next week we shall be at home once again and we shall be playing against Nalgo. At the end of last season they finished just below us in the table, but so far this season they are above us. It is swings and roundabouts once more.

See next weeks report for the thrills and spills of that match.