



CON B SKITTLES

Knock Out Cup Round 1 Match Report Friday 7th January 2011

It seems like ages since the last time I was sitting here typing a report out. In fact it is almost a month since the last one, thanks to the snow just before Christmas and the match we should have played on 17th December being postponed! Never mind. I hope that you all had a good Christmas and New Year where possible and that not too many of you were subjected to the lurgy that is still very much in existence. I myself was a partial victim of it, but am happy to say that I am almost back to my usual fit self!

This first match of 2011 was the latest cup match of the current season. It was round 1 of the Knock out cup. We were playing at the White Hart pub and our opponents were The Rejects whom we had had a good victory over on their alley around the beginning of December. This was going to be an interesting match to say the least. So how did we do? Read on and see...

Playing first for us was Andy M., 'edgehog and Dixie which was a slight change to our usual opening orders because 'edgehog tends to play in the third mad slot and Dixie usually a little further down the running order. Because of the long break most of us seemed to be a little rusty and just couldn't seem to get going which was a shame because we tend to get some good scores on the White Hart alley. None of our players could get a spare in this first set but we did get close. The breakdown for us for this set was a 2, two 4's, three 5's, six 6's, three 7's, an 8 and two 9's. This gave us player totals of 40, 33 and 35 and a set total of 108. The Rejects must have been practicing over the Christmas period because their scores showed it. N. Sharland romped away for them in this set when he hit a 12 spare and a 14 spare on his fifth and sixth hands, which contributed in his overall score of 51, so well done to him, he shared that accolade with another of his team mates who also scored 51, but more about that later. Their breakdown for this set was a 4, a 5, six 6's, three 7's, three 8's, two 9's, a twelve spare and a 14 spare. The other player totals for this set were 43 and 40. These added to the 51 gave them a set total of 134. They had won this first set by 26 pins. Not a good start to the match for us.

The second set consisted of Andy Mc., P. Vincent and Doug. It looked like things were going to turn around for us on this set when Doug hit a 12 spare and a 16 spare on his second and third hands. This contributed to a phenomenal score of 57 which also ensured that he had the highest score for us on this match, so very well done to him indeed. The breakdown for us on this set was four 5's, five 6's, two 7's, four 8's, a 9, the 12 spare and the 16 spare. The other player totals for this set were 40 and 36 which when added to the 57 gave us a set total of a good 133. The Rejects didn't seem to let it bother them too much because they already had the upper hand thanks to their first set. None of their players could hit a spare this time, but they all had some fairly good scores without one. Their breakdown for this set was a 3, a 5, three 6's, four 7's, five 8's and four 9's. This gave them player totals of 42, 47 and 41 which gave them a set total of just 130. We had won the second set but only by 3 pins meaning we were now behind by 23 pins. We still had a lot to do to enable us to gain victory in this match. Could we still do it?



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The third set consisted of Cockney Al, Doc and Andy G. Momentum seemed to go a little slower for this set and the scores seemed to suffer a little for us. We kept on sending the balls down the alley in the vain hope of getting something out of it. The breakdown for us on this set was a 3, two 4's, three 5's, three 6's, four 7's, four 8's and a 9. The player totals for this set was 42, 40 and 31 which gave us a set total of 113. The Rejects kept up the pressure somewhat when T. Arthurs hit a good 11 spare on his final hand but this did not give him enough to get the highest score or equal high score, this was to come in the final set. Their breakdown for this set was four 4's, two 5's, two 6's, three 7's, three 8's, two 9's and the 11 spare. These gave them player totals of 42, 41 and 36 which gave them a set total of 119. They had won this set by 6 pins which meant that they were now 29 pins in front. We had a lot to do on the final set if we were to stay in this competition.

The final set consisted of Grandad, Dave and Captain Woody. This looked very much like it was going to go our way when Grandad hit a good 13 spare on his second hand down. Alas this did not quite hit the mark he was hoping for which was to either equal the score of Doug or even beat him because he could only manage a final score of 50. This was still an acceptable score though. The complete breakdown for this set was a 4, a 5, a 6, six 7's, six 8's, two 9's and the 13 spare. The other player totals for this set was 42 and 44. This gave us a final set total of an excellent 136. The Rejects did not let this bother them at all because overall their players hit three spares amongst them. S. King hit two 9 spares on his fourth and sixth hands to give him a score of 47 and R. Nicholls managed a good 15 spare on his second hand to give him their second highest score of the match of 51 so very well done to him. The breakdown for this set was a 4, four 6's, four 7's, six 8's, the two 9 spares and the 15 spare. The other player score was 39. These gave them a set total of 137. They had won this set by a single pin! The final overall totals for this match were 490 to us and 520 to them. They had won the match by 30 pins which meant that we were out of this cup match as well as the others. All we can do now is concentrate on getting a few more wins under our belts for the remainder of this season. The second half of it officially starts next week but we still have a postponed match to play when it can be slotted into the busy schedule.

Next week we will be away at the Boro Club against The Wanderers. When we played them at the start of the season we were very fortunate to beat them, can we do the double? Look back next week and see.