



CON B SKITTLES

Match Report Friday 18th March 2011

Last week's result left us somewhat deflated to say the least. A 77 pin defeat is almost as bad as not having a final set to play, or at least having to play two very low scores! This week we were away at The White Hart pub where we tend to play fairly well. Although on saying that we have also played extremely badly on the alley. Our opponents this week were The Dambusters who had gained promotion to division 2 in the 2009 – 2010 Season. You could say that they were now seasoned Division 2 players. Alas this season they seem to be struggling a little because at the time of this report they were currently residing very near to the relegation position in the table. Last time they played against us on our alley it was a fairly close match because they could only gain 9 out of the available 14 points. Just how would we fare this week?

Playing first for us was Swifty, Andy M. and Doug. Things began quite nicely for us because all three of us gained 8's. Things did go a little downhill on a couple of hands, but soon picked up nicely again. The sad thing for us on this set was that we could not quite gain a spare but we did manage to hit four 9's between us. The breakdown for us on this set was a 3, a 4, three 5's, three 6's, two 7's, four 8's and the four 9's. These gave us player totals of 40 and two 41's and a set total of 122. The Dambusters played a steady set and were fairly consistent with their scores until K. Southan hit a good 13 spare on his fifth hand. This gave him a player total of 41. Their highest score was to come later in the match. Their breakdown for this set was two 4's, two 5's, six 6's, four 7's, two 8's, a 9 and the 13 spare. Their player totals were 42, 37 and 41 which gave them a set total of 120. We had won the first set but only by 2 pins. It looked like we might have won this set by a few more had we not had a couple of bad hands as already mentioned. At least we had a couple of points on the board and we needed to build upon them.

The second set consisted of Andy Mc., John C., and Cockney Al. This set got off to a rather shaky start for us with a few bad balls being bowled. But as I always say, every pin hit counts to the overall total. The breakdown for this set was two 2's, a 3, a 4, a 5, five 6's, two 7's, four 8's and two 9's. This gave us player totals of 35, 33 and 42 and a set total of 110. The Dambusters seemed to sense that they could have an opening on this set and their collective scores showed it as well. They seemed to be holding nicely onto a lead. Surprisingly though they didn't hit a spare on this set. Their breakdown was a 3, a 4, three 5's, four 6's, a 7, five 8's and three 9's. Their player totals were 43, 34 and 43 which gave them a set total of 120. They had won this set by 10 pins and had levelled the scores at two points each. They had also crept into the overall lead by just 8 pins. Were we going to sink once more without trace?

The third set consisted of P. Vincent, Doc and Neil. This turned out to be a very close set over all and a few excellent scores too, just to make things interesting. Doc hit a very good 12 spare on his fourth hand which gave him a player total of an excellent 45 so well done to him. This though, was not our highest score of the match; this was to come in the final set. The complete breakdown for us on this set was a 4, three 5's, two 6's, four 7's, five 8's, two 9's and the 12 spare. The other two player totals were 40 and 44 and our set total was 129. The Dambusters kept up the onslaught that had been started in the second set. A. Turner hit a 9 spare on his first hand, then a 13 spare on his second. These assisted him greatly in getting their highest score of the match which was 48 so very well done to him. Their breakdown for this set was a 3, a 4, six 6's, three 7's, three 8's, three 9's



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(including the 9 spare) and the 13 spare. Their other player totals were 39 and 41 which gave them a set total of 128. We had won this set by a single pin which meant that we were now in the lead as far as points were concerned but now just 7 pins behind. This match was still going to be anybody's for the taking.

The final set consisted of Grandad, Dave and Captain Woody. This set began well for us with Grandad and Dave both hitting 9's on their first hand. Things just got better when Captain Woody hit an excellent 16 spare on his second hand. His good fortune kept on rising, so much so, that he ended up with a tremendous score of 52, so very well done to him. This was not our highest score either! Not to be out done, Grandad hit a fantastic 17 spare on his third hand, but then had yet another 17 spare on his final one. This catapulted him into hitting our highest score of the match of 67 and also our highest individual player total so far this season, so very well done to him. The breakdown for us on this set was a 5, two 6's, four 7's, four 8's, four 9's, a 16 spare and two 17 spares. The other player total was 44. All these fantastic scores added together gave us a huge set total of 163. The Dambusters seemed not to know what had hit them. They tried their hardest to gain the upper hand, but alas this did not bear the fruit that they so desperately needed. Their breakdown for this set was a 4, three 5's, two 6's, three 7's, seven 8's and two 9's. This gave them player totals of 39, 42 and 45 which gave them a set total of 126. We had won the final set by 37 pins. The overall match totals were 524 to us and 494 to The Dambusters. We had won the match by an excellent 30 pins and had gained 12 points out of the available 14. This was a fantastic result and I am sure that Grandad thought so too!

Next week we shall be back on our own alley against The Gatecrashers. When we played against them back in November we were fortunate enough to win 11 points to 3. Currently they are fairly close to the top part of the table so I think our work could well be cut out for us on that match.

What a fantastic night we had this week. Can we equal it next week? Come back next week and see.