



# CON B SKITTLES

## Front Pin Rd 1 Match Report Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011

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This was our second match of the week and it was going to be a tough one to say the least. We had the fortune or miss fortune to be placed against The Depoteers again in a Cup Match. Last time we met them was in the Knock Out cup where we were dumped out unceremoniously by 23 pins. This week was going to be a lot different because it was a Front Pin match and we were playing at The Century Club in Worle where the alley was not only sunk a little as far as the bar area was concerned but it was also a long one to say the least. All we could do was hope for the best and put past upsets from the previous encounters behind us and do the job in hand which was to play this game of skittles and hopefully make it fruitful.

Playing first for us was Andy G., Dixie and 'edgehog. The set began with only 'edgehog getting off the starting blocks. As is often the case in a Front Pin match V/C's are very common but thankfully we only had five of them. The highest we could get on this set was an 8 which is still very good. The breakdown for us on this set was the 5 V/C's, a 2, three 3's, three 4's, three 5's, a 6, a 7 and an 8. Our player totals for this set were 24, 21 and 15 which gave us a set total of 59. The Depoteers seemed to have a better time than we did because they got five 8's but also hit a number of V/C's. The breakdown for this set was seven V/C's, a 4, a 5, two 6's, two 7's and five 8's which gave them player totals of 25, 22 and 28 which gave them a set total of 75. The 28 was scored by P. Dawson which also turned out to be their highest score of the night, so well done to him. The Depoteers had won the set by 16 pins. Things were not looking too good at this stage, but with the Front Pin matches things could turn around almost on a knife edge.

The second set consisted of Andy M., Steve T. and Doug. We still hit five V/C's and once more could not get above an 8. The set began with a total hand of 10, which on a front pin match seemed to be a fairly good start. The pins kept falling quite nicely and thankfully we all managed to score over 20. The breakdown for this set was five V/C's, a 1, a 2, a 4, five 5's, two 6's, a 7 and two 8's. Our player totals for this set were 22, 21 and 24 which gave us a set total of a reasonable 67. The Depoteers on the other hand were not quite as fortunate because they hit ten V/C's amongst them. Their breakdown for this set was the ten V/C's, a 1, two 4's, two 6's, two 7's and an 8. These gave them player totals of 25, 5 and 13 which gave them a set total of just 43. We had managed to pull this one off and win the set by 24 pins which meant that we were now in front by a mere 8 pins. The match could still go either way as the tension mounted.

Playing third set for us was Kojak, John C. and Grandad. This turned out to be a fairly interesting set for us because Grandad managed to get our only spare of the night on his third hand. It was only a 6 spare though bearing in mind the nature of the match and how the scoring is done. He did manage to make it count for him though because he ended up with a player total of 28 which was our highest score of the night, so well done to him. We were all willing Kojak to do well on this set because hand after hand he just couldn't make the connection with the front pin until his final hand when he did manage to score. The breakdown for us on this set was ten V/C's, a 1, a 4, two 6's including the 6 spare, two 7's and two 8's. Our player totals for this set were 1, 18 and 28 which gave us a set total of 47. The Depoteers suffered just as much as we did, if not more, because one of



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their players did get through the entire set without a score at all thus he ended up with six V/C's. The breakdown on this set was twelve V/C's, a 2, a 3, two 4's and two 7's which gave them player totals of 18, 0 and 9 which gave them a set total of 27. We had won this set by 20 pins which meant that we were now in the lead by 28 pins. I have seen this sort of score crumble like a digestive biscuit being dropped onto a concrete floor. Could we keep the edge?

Playing the final set for us was Grant, Dave and Captain Woody. The set began a little on the low side for us because we could only hit a sum total of 5 on our first hand. Things did improve a little during the set until our fourth hand where we could only manage a hand total of 4. The breakdown for us on this set was eight V/C's, a 1, a 3, two 4's, two 5's, three 6's and a 7 which gave us player totals of 16, 26 and 5. Our set total was a reasonable 47. The Depoteers were really going to suffer on this set because it turned out that they were a player short which meant that they had to play a low score. This turned out to be the 0 scored on the third set, so they had to play like they had never played before to try and repair the damage already inflicted upon them. Their first hand didn't look like that was going to happen because the two players both hit V/C's. Things looked a little frightening because B. Gregory hit an excellent 13 spare on his second hand, but alas could not get any closer because he hit a couple of lower scores and another couple of V/C's. His final score though was 21. The breakdown for this set, including the low score, was eleven V/C's, two 2's, two 3's, a 6, an 8 and the 13 spare. Their other player total was just 16. Their final set total was just 37. We had won this set by 10 pins.

The final total for this match was 220 to us and 182 to The Depoteers. We had won overall by an excellent 38 pins which meant of course that we were through to the next round to be played near the end of January 2012. Let's hope we can keep up the good form we have shown so far in this cup run.

Next week we will be playing at The Workingmens club on Wednesday against The Gatecrashers. With any luck we can continue the fight in the second division and be victorious once more.