

ECCBA League Game – Sunday 23rd November 2014

Barton-Le-Clay Village Hall

Hertfordshire played their first ECCBA league fixture of the season away to Bedfordshire Barton-Le-Clay village hall on Sunday 23rd November. The team chose to represent Hertfordshire was as follows;

| H1 | H2 | H3 |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Lynda Coates | 1. Mary Cobbold | 1. Alan Bull |
| 2. Margaret Forrest | 2. Gill Barraclough | 2. Jacqui Harris |
| 3. Rebecca Hearn | 3. Vince Tamorro | 3. Marilyn Cook |
| 4. Jason Ellis | 4. Rob Washbrook | 4. Pete Cook |
| H4 | H5 | H6 |
| 1. Dave Smith | 1. Martin Simpson | 1. Thomas Ellis |
| 2. Roy Harden | 2. Ian Carter | 2. Andy Cobbold |
| 3. Jonathan Carter | 3. Paul Harris | 3. Sandra Gammage |
| 4. Mick Cook | 4. Craig Hearn | 4. David Danby |

Session 1

The odd number teams were up first for Hertfordshire. All three teams made confident starts and built early leads. H3 never relinquished their lead and although they could never quite get away from their opponents they always looked in control and won 10-4. H1 dropped 4 shots on one end to fall behind in their game but responded positively as they did not drop another end and pulled away to win 13-5. H5 trailed 7-6 going into their last end, the jack was moved towards the end of the carpet but the H5 skip played a good takeout shot to secure three and take the match 9-7. A fantastic start for us as we win the first session 6-0. We would need to maintain the momentum and build on the good start we had made.

Session 2

H6 built an early lead and always looked in control of their game. They continued to build good heads and never really looked in too much danger. The Beds skip, chasing the game a little did not get much luck throughout and a 13-2 was secured. The other two games were close throughout and looked like they could go either way. H4 always behind eventually ran out of ends, a 7-4 defeat saw us drop our first points of the day. H2 were involved in a very close game and managed to come out on top with a 10-8 win to secure a vital victory. A 4-2 session victory extended our lead to 10-2 overall.

Session 3

The closest session of the day. H1 maintained their good form from their first game; they always looked in control of their match and secured a second straight victory 11-6. H5 & H3 were not having things all their own way. H5 trailed by two going into the last end, but were holding two shots with our skip having last bowl. Unfortunately his effort to win the game with his last wood did not quite make it but the two shots were enough to secure a 7-7 draw. H3 took a two shot lead into the last end but

some poor bowls on the last end saw them match lie down as the skip went to bowl. With the first wood the count was cut to two and that is how it stayed. Another 7-7 draw, which meant another 4-2 session win which extended our lead to 14-4 at the mid point stage.

Session 4

H2 & H6 maintained their form from the first game and both secured victories. Although they were both made to work hard as H2 came out on top 7-4 and H6 won 10-7. H4 were able to complete a clean sweep as they responded from their defeat in the first session with an 11-6 win. A great session for us as we take it 6-0 and extended our lead to 20-4. This now meant we had won the match with two sessions to spare. It would just be a case of trying to extend our winning margin now.

Session 5

Arguably our best session of the day. All three teams built early leads and continued to extend them throughout the match. H5 came out on top with a 16-5 win, H3 won their game 14-2 and most impressive of all H1 won every end of their match and secured a 15-0 win. Another 6-0 session win extended our lead to 26-4.

Session 6

The final session of the day, H6 continued their great form with a very comfortable win 15-1. H4 were also comfortable winners as they came out on top with a 12-5 win. The final game with H2 was a much close encounter with the scores locked at 8-8 going in to the final end. A good final end saw us pick up three shots to secure an 11-8 win. A third straight 6-0 session completed a 32-4 win for us.

A fantastic performance and result for us. The score was the most points we had ever achieved in a single league match (27-9). It puts us into a great position to beat our 86 points from last year. A lot of the games in the first three sessions were very close and we were arguably a little fortunate to be 14-4 in front. The day could have been very different if the scores were closer. It seemed to knock the stuffing out of Bedfordshire whilst we grew in confidence and had the momentum well and truly behind us. Well done to everybody on the day, the teams' performances are shown below;

| | W | D | L | SF | SA | Pts |
|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| H1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 11 | 6 |
| H2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 20 | 6 |
| H3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 31 | 13 | 5 |
| H4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 18 | 4 |
| H5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 32 | 19 | 5 |
| H6 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 10 | 6 |
| Total | 15 | 2 | 1 | 195 | 91 | 32 |