

Match report – 23 October 2016

Harrogate "B" (15) versus Brighouse "A" (5)

Brighouse "A" held on grimly to 5 points in what could have been a whitewashed start to the season after the first 2 rounds were won convincingly by Harrogate.

The first session swung largely on 2 results: board 8 saw N&J miss a small slam that everyone else found, whilst board 6 saw M&B 4-off in 3 spades, doubled and vulnerable, whilst N&J went 4 off in 2 spades, not doubled. That said, the opponents E/W pair 4 got away very lightly in 4 spades going 6 off, not doubled. The first session ended with Harrogate 10 imps in front.

Session 2 saw N&J going 1 light in a small slam that just was not there, on board 11; everybody else bid and made game. With our team failing to find a further 4 games in the session that the opposition unerringly found, the +1400 point bonus that J&S gained on board 15 gave Brighouse their only positive result of the round, the cumulative score having reached +43 imps in Harrogate's favour.

In session 3, Brighouse were able to wipe their face, keeping the cumulative score unchanged.

The final session saw Harrogate take points from 5 of the last 8 boards, but could still only manage to add 5 imps to their score, which was not enough to add to the overall result that they were looking at after the second session; the score finished at 15-5 in Harrogate's favour.

Harrogate are a good team, who finished 3rd in division 4 last season and are probably looking for promotion this season.

Brighouse now look forward to playing Beauchief A at home in 3 weeks time; Beauchief were promoted to division 5 as division 4 champions, along with Brighouse who finished runners-up. Yet, in last season's head-to-head, Brighouse beat Beauchief narrowly, 11-9, and were the only team to beat them all season.

		Boards				
Direction	Partnership	1 - 8	9 - 16	17 - 24	25 - 32	Total
1↔	Mick & Brian	220	1250	1880	-610	2740
2↑	Derek & Ray	-540	-1670	-1550	1960	-1800
3↔	Neil & John	690	150	1060	-2180	-280
4↑	Joan & Shirley	-660	-720	-1460	650	-2190