

## BRIGHOUSE C v HALIFAX B - LOST 2 – 18

12th November 2017

The Brighouse C Team are finding it tough in the rarefied atmosphere of a higher league, but once again we didn't make it easy for ourselves by getting off to a terrible start. In the end it could rightly be said that we finished up with a bloodied nose!

The first round was not good as we found ourselves down by -39 IMPs. Only board 3 produced a positive score and we had already given ourselves a mountain to climb.

Round 2 did give us some success courtesy of board 11, where Richard & Alan doubled a 5 Hearts contract and took their opponents five down for 1100 points (12 IMPs on that board). This was the highlight of the afternoon, as it turned out. The same pair also prevented their opponents making 1NT on board 15 to give us another positive score. However we were another -17 IMPs down at the end of the round, -56 IMPs at half-time, and the mountain was growing bigger.

A good overall performance from Derek & Eunice helped us fare much better in round 3 and they were the only pair to make their contract on board 17 (4 IMPs). The only other noteworthy board was board 18, where three pairs were in 3NT, going down by three or four tricks, whereas Richard & Alan stuck at 1NT and made 8 tricks (8 IMPs). We only lost -3 IMPs on the round.

Hopes of keeping the score respectable were dashed as we lost five of the last eight boards. Derek & Eunice prevented their opponents from making a 3 Club contract on board 26 for 8 IMPs. On board 32, Alan & Jo doubled a 3 Spade contract and got their opponents down by one trick, whilst on the same board Keith & Edwina successfully defended a 5 Diamond contract (7 IMPs). However, a loss of another 17 IMPs on the round meant we were -76 IMPs on the match score, for a disappointing 2 – 18 defeat.

As football managers say, sometimes you have to acknowledge that you were beaten by a better team on the day. Well played the Halifax team.

Pair	Boards 1-8	Boards 9-16	Boards 17-24	Boards 25-32	Totals
1. Keith & Edwina	630	-580	-80	-1360	-1390
2. Alan & Jo	-780	0	-110	330	-560
3. Derek & Eunice	-700	-500	730	-1660	-2130
4. Richard & Alan	-1180	360	-670	1780	290
Totals	-2030	-720	-130	-910	-3790

Keith Stones.