

Brighouse D versus Ripon B – Won 12 - 8

12th. November 2017

The first home match of the season proved a difficult one for Brighouse who were facing a deficit right up to the final 8 boards where victory was snatched from the jaws of defeat. We were told by some of the Ripon players that this is the first season that their club has fielded a B team.

Pair	Boards 1-8	Boards 9-16	Boards 17-24	Boards 25-32	Totals
1.Doreen & Steve	-2170	500	-410	1070	-1010
2.Sandra & Brian	2070	90	690	-140	2710
3 Barbara & Maurice	-2130	-590	570	290	-1860
4.Deanna & Eric	1480	-30	-840	260	870
Totals	-750	-30	10	1480	710

No slams were bid during the match either by Brighouse or Ripon.

The first eight boards went in favour of Ripon by a margin of plus 13 IMPS with mostly part scores. Game was bid and made on a couple of boards where scores were even. This was not a good start for the home team. Could the visitors maintain their advantage?

Boards 9 to 16 was again mostly part scores bid by both teams which were made but the overall result on these boards was plus 8 Imp to Ripon giving them an interval lead of 21 IMPS. The Break was welcome. The tea was perhaps better than home matches of the last few seasons Keith having liaised with the chef to provide more savouries than sweets though the vegetarian options left something to be desired. Cheese sandwiches would be acceptable but it may be better to have pickles separate from the cheese.

Boards 17 to 24 were once again played in a mix of game and part scores with the home team beginning to find their stride to end the round with a net score of zero and leaving the visitors still with a 21 IMP advantage. Could the away team maintain the advantage or would the home team sustain the momentum of the third round?

The final eight boards proved once again to be a mixture of game and part game contracts with no slams in evidence. Brighouse continued their sprint for the line and pulled back 32 IMPS to take the match by 11 IMP and an overall victory 12 – 8.

The post-match analysis was generally positive with team members seeming to have an enjoyable afternoon but it is easy to say that when you have won.