

Toe The Oche



Fixture Week 1

12th September 2003

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Men of the Match This Week

- Andy Nye (Hersham) 30.62
- Gary Bullen (G/Lion) 30.52
- Aaron Turner (Snooker) 29.39
- James Turner (Frimley) 26.84
- Tony Denman (Salfords) 24.05

Can't Beat a Bit of Bullen

Golden Lion 7 (18 Legs) Ave 25.59 Ditton FC 5 (15 Legs) Ave 25.81

The first top of the table clash of the season ended exactly as the bookies might have called it, with a narrow Lion victory & a Gary Bullen Man of the Match.

Reliable & consistent Bullen (I avoided the word boring) declared to all that it was business as usual as he began the defence of the Player of the Season award he was so pleased to win last year.

Gary has bullied quite a few players in the last year or two, but in Spike Harris, he had an opponent who wasn't going to die quietly & the Ditton player pushed 'Penfold' all the way to his

first 30+ score of the year.

With Spike coming down like an avalanche to leave 16 after 15 darts in the fourth leg, Gary gobbled up a 95 finish to subdue his opposite number & hand a vital win to the home side in 19,13 & 15 darts

This was anyone's game after the pairs were shared, and vital wins from Gary Creamer over Lionel Sams, followed by Ray Smith giving the Barrier a torrid time, gave the Lion an edge as Clive 'Where's my Brylcreem?' Guest squared up to Ditton new boy Jimmy Mann.

Jimmy did everything right to impress his new team-mates

except kill the game, & after 7 missed doubles in leg 4, it was Guest who took the point in five legs to open a buffer for the Croydon side.

JR started a fightback for the visitors by beating a Richie Blake who still thought he was on holiday & when young Anthony Hopkins did a Hannibal Lecter on Peter Munt, the scores were level.

The Lion used home advantage well though & Terry Dersley set up Bullen with a chance to seal the Lion win, a chance he took in style.

Jim Bowen was right when he said "You can't beat a bit of Bullen" ... that WAS what he said wasn't it?

Woking Pines as Darters Birched

Walton Snooker 11 (27 Legs) Ave 26.13 Birch & Pines 1 (3 Legs) Ave 20.25

The team with the silliest name in the League did a damn silly thing & won the first point at Walton before being whipped silly by the defending Champions.

Dean Worsell & Phil Gallagher started their season off admirably by beating Ritchie Gardner & warchild Jason Kelly, but it just served to upset the Snooker, who only allowed their guests another 2 legs in the entire match.

One of those legs was gained by John Comer, who pro-

duced a game we never thought him capable of before going down bravely to Man of the Match Aaron Turner.

Turner is to Walton as Beckham is to Real Madrid (do we need him? Sod it, let's sign him anyway), complete with high profile girlfriend & silly hair-style & he turned in a Golden Balls performance on his Snooker debut.

There was nowhere to hide for the visitors as one by one, players stepped up to the oche & then stepped down again

empty-handed after a succession of whitewashes.

Phil Gallagher took a leg off of Ritchie Gardner at the death, but by then it was clear that this season is going to be a struggle for the Woking side after comfy wins from Steve Catt, Phil Wathen & Paul Hollis in particular.

Just to set the record straight, rumours that Gallagher's side are to be re-named Jake the Peg as they only have three legs are cruel & unsubstantiated!

Morfax Melt in Hersham Heat

Morfax 3 (Legs) Ave 20.51 Hersham 9 (Legs) Ave 23.33

Morfax's early season hopes were wiped out in a hot wash by the new & improved Hersham after the home side's players failed to shine in a singles points bonanza for the visitors.

Andy Nye led the way with a week's best performance to take an early lead in the averages table, but he will have been more happy with the way 'the side that Andy built' is improving after the shenanigans of last season.

Morfax took two of the pairs, but were afforded very few chances to improve

on that score as only John Skehan could wrestle a singles success for the hosts.

Alan Caves returned from a lengthy BDO ban to give Steve Jenkins a right good slapping (wish it was you?) & looks like he could be a bit tasty this year so don't spill his pint & never look at his bird OK?

Bob Aldous was as unflappable as ever & Dean Archer made a successful debut for his local team having left his Guildford days behind him to start his season off with a comfortable 3-0 win.

So what can the hosts take from a crushing result like this? Well, Paul Young pushed a determined Nye to five legs before succumbing & Super League new boy Phil Camm was close to his first win in a five-legger. Add to that the fact that Frankie has better to come & you can put this display down to post-summer doldrums.

There's no doubting, though, that the Hersham players have the stomach for this season ... apart from Phil 'Spewy' Milburn of course.

Saints Slain by James the Seventh

Frimley Green WMC 7 (19 Legs) Ave 22.39 St Peter's 5 (14 Legs) Ave 22.08

A confident & clinical Man of the Match performance from James Turner clinched the crucial 7th point to earn Frimley's first League win against St Peter's on the home side's return to Frimley Green Working Mens Club.

All that is left of Graham Smith's reign in remotest Surrey is a faint whiff of Chanel No 5 & a distant echo of high heels as Joe Pawley has now taken over the reigns & his team's Super League prospects look on the rise already.

Turner's fast finishing display left Steve Hayes helpless in the face of three first dart doubles & put his side into an unassailable 7-2 lead before a late flurry from the motorway-weary visitors.

Andy Evans, in his first winter Super League match since he ditched his Dave Whitcombe glasses, took the next point after a clumsy treble 13 left Alan Yates in a double 7 cul de sac from which he couldn't escape, & Rocket Jonnie & No Dart Arnold made the score respectable for the Morden side with late wins.

However, it was Frimley's night as they used a 3-1 lead in the pairs as a base on which Kenny Winter, Wayne Thurlow & Tony Steel built formidable defences to fight off the Saints' crusade.

Only Simon Duke could register a singles success, in his tete-a-tete with Tate, Clive Tate that is, as Frimley dominated the first two-thirds of the match.

Part of the Frimley team made up the Metropole side that took the wooden spoon last year ... looks like they're eager to give the damn thing back!

Dead Slow but for Denman

Jubilee Club 4 (11 Legs) Ave 19.82 Salfords 8 (21 Legs) Ave 20.18

As Super League matches go, this was not good. Just like you drink your tea in the morning & take time to wake up, so these teams were rubbing the sleep out of their eyes in the early hours of the League year!

But Salfords will be quite happy with that as they dragged their pyjama-clad frames through a comfortable 8-4 away win thanks to some generous singles play from their hosts.

Best of a lacklustre bunch was 'Deadly' Tony Denman, who laid to

rest Mark Budd, despite the Jubilee man kicking off with a 16 dart first leg. Mark has been showing more & more promise recently, but Denman was a-Wake to this & buried the point with some killer finishing ... may Mark Budd's game rest in pieces!

In what could have been a straight swap, Chris Jupp replaced Paul Watson in the Salfords line-up & whilst 'Serious' was losing in Frimley, Juppy was doing a serious job on Phil Smith to put the away side 4-3 up before Denman's game

Other newcomers in both teams had varied results, for while Barrie Cox began the season with a poor defeat, ex-Lion player Ronnie Godbeer won & the Jubilee's two new signings Neil Baker & Mick Campion both gained points, the only two, in fact, to record successes for the home side.

Salfords will be happy with 8 points, but in truth, both sides will want to wake up for week 2. Come on lads! A dump, a butcher's at Page 3 & an earful of Chris Tarrant should do it!

How Did You Play?

Frimley Green v St Peters

Clive Tate (21.21) 2, Simon Duke (21.19) 3
 Kenny Winter (23.48) 3, Ray Elnaugh (19.73) 0
 Wayne Thurlow (23.86) 3, Carl Ramsey (20.78) 0
 Tony Steel (25.71) 3, Paul Watson (24.28) 1
James Turner (26.84) 3, Steve Hayes (23.03) 0
 Alan Yates (19.93) 1, Andy Evans (21.34) 3
 Joe Pawley (21.37) 0, John Stephenson (24.24) 3
 Waine Hautot (19.59) 1, Peter Arnold (21.67) 3

Jubilee Club v Salfords

Neil Baker (21.47) 3, Darren Gale (17.04) 0
 Mick Lyford (21.06) 1, Steve Cogger (22.16) 3
 Phil Smith (22.32) 1, Chris Jupp (22.84) 3
 Mark Budd (25.23) 1, **Tony Denman (24.05) 3**
 Mick Campion (16.95) 3, Barrie Cox (16.61) 1
 Chris Gallagher (18.99) 0, Ron Godbeer (20.59) 3
 Wayne Jeffery (17.95) 0, Dave Askew (21.17) 3
 Alan Crook (15.83) 0, Tom Eley (18.11) 3

Morfax v Hershaw

Gary Bird (21.98) 1, Dave Horan (23.47) 3
 John Skehan (18.11) 3, Scott Harris (17.85) 0
 Phil Camm (21.89) 2, Phil Milburn (23.45) 3
 Paul Young (23.61) 2, **Andy Nye (30.62) 3**
 Frankie Prater (17.37) 0, Dean Archer (18.55) 3
 Mark Elnaugh (22.68) 0, Bob Aldous (25.05) 3
 Steve Jenkins (20.73) 0, Alan Caves (28.90) 3
 Neil Robinson (18.01) 0, Dale Redmond (18.78) 3

Walton Snooker v Birch & Pines

Paul Hollis (26.37) 3, Dean Worsell (22.68) 0
 Phil Wathen (27.83) 3, Nigel Brown (17.96) 0
 Jason Kelly (23.12) 3, Brian Allen (16.79) 0
 John Watson (25.05) 3, Jim Lane (14.63) 0
 Graham Hollis (26.84) 3, Andy Brown (21.12) 0
Aaron Turner (29.39) 3, John Comer (25.41) 1
 Steve Catt (28.36) 3, Mark Richmond (23.38) 0
 Ritchie Gardner (23.49) 3, Phil Gallagher (20.05) 1

Golden Lion v Ditton FC

Arthur Cooke (23.04) 0, Mickey Eden (25.05) 3
 Gary Creamer (24.20) 3, Lionel Sams (24.14) 1
 Ray Smith (28.36) 3, Keith Holmes (25.78) 0
 Clive Guest (24.93) 3, Jimmy Mann (26.24) 2
 Richie Blake (23.89) 0, Jason Roberts (26.84) 3
 Peter Munt (23.05) 1, Anthony Hopkins (25.05) 3
 Terry Dersley (28.36) 3, Graham Miller (25.20) 0
Garv Bullen (30.52) 3, Spike Harris (28.43) 1

KNOW YOUR OPPONENT: TOP SECRET FILE #1:

In the heat of battle, you, the player, must utilise all covert intelligence resources to defeat the enemy. The surveillance you need is here, direct from the files of the CTIA (Central TTO Intelligence Agency). Each week we will reveal essential facts which you must use to equip yourself for the campaign ahead. This data will self-destruct in 10 seconds ...



Name: Paul Watson
Age:
Location: Sutton
Team: St Peters
Style: Ponderous
Attitude: Serious
Danger Rating: 7/10
Combat Honours: Current Surrey A Team

player, Two recent man of Match awards, Hello Magazine 'Most Imaginative Whinge' award 2002.

Strengths: Possesses Voice of Mass Destruction, ear defenders a must!

Weaknesses: Tenacity wanes when not wearing England football shirt

Intelligence Overview: Likeness to Huckleberry Hound makes for easy Identification. DO NOT allow yourself to be cornered by this man, serious ear damage may result.

League Announcements

One of the disappointing aspects of last season was the fact that so many players were unaware of events associated with the League or the County, despite the fact that all the information needed was published in Toe The Oche!

There is a huge amount of positive feedback for TTO from every team involved in the Super League so it is quite clear that you all read it every week. PLEASE make sure that you read this final page carefully as it is by far the best way of getting vital information to you all. If you don't see important announcements this year, it will be YOUR fault!

To start with, take good note of my contact details:
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