

English Pétanque Association Inter-Regional Championship 2008

Challenge Squad Team Manager's Report

I awoke on the Saturday morning thinking to myself "Do I remember being asked to be challenge manager or not last night?" as I may have had a couple of drinks by that point! So I arrived at the playing area to find out it wasn't a dream. I hope I did a good job looking after the teams as well as playing.

The weekend started with a rather bad loss of 3 games to 1 in the first round, with my team losing 13-0, leading by example, maybe not. We then went on to do much better winning 4-0. After this good win we carried on to win the next 2 rounds 3-1. Then we played Chiltern and had a rather bad 4-0 loss. This left us in 3rd place after the 1st day's play, with which I was very happy.

In the 1st round on Sunday we played Wales, SCPA3 won very nicely 13-0 but the other 3 games were all a long way down, but each team supported each other which gave a lot of encouragement to us all. After they finished each game all teams stayed and supported the others which helped lead us to a 4-0 win. We then went and won the following round 3-1, this put us level on wins with Kent who were 2nd, we both had 25wins. We just needed to do that bit better than Kent in the final round. Unfortunately this wasn't to happen, Kent won 4-0 and we won 2.

Team Final results were:

Shedfield	8 wins +52
Farmhouse	8 wins +20
Lamb E	6 wins +13
2+1	5 wins +13

Challenge results were:

1 st Chiltern	30 wins
2 nd Kent	29 wins
3 rd SCPA	27 wins

Each team did their best for the whole weekend with each team winning at least 50% of the games. This is a really great result for everybody, especially considering this was most people's first experience of the Inter-regionals. Everyone was a credit to themselves and the region.

I really enjoyed being team manger and would very much like to do this again but not as a player manager, as I did find it distracting trying to watch 3 other games as well as play in my own.

Chris Barron