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Subject: Pickup stadia Packed for the Derby Night with Hasi 4 also there - meanwhile Hasi continue on their road trip and Hasi has its 1st ever 3000 pt plus ranked Player

Date: Fri, 12 Jan 2018 08:57:04 +0000

As we welcome back Hasi 2 and Hasi 4 to Thursday Nights Another great week on Court for all although continuing Road closure late at night making it very late nights for those on the road.

Hassy 1 away to Monton 1 (lost 18 - 9)

Tough gig but some good performances up 1st number 1 for a change Gordon or Tony showing us yet again how its done 3-1 win performance of the night and congratulations on our first 3000 point ranked player hopefully paving the way for other players to push up well done young man great start next up at 4 this week Mr Holland with another superb gritty performance just on the wrong side of a 3-2 unlucky pal next me at 2 loosing AGAIN 3-1 so up to John to keep us in the running unfortunately John at 3 full of the Aussie flu still putting in a massive effort ,losing 3-0 so match lost up last Tim no pressure unfortunately playing a young lad who I reckon could turn out a bit special Tim losing 3-0 .Plenty of positives 6 valuable points away from home and remember this team were one of the favourites to win the league last year .next up Bury at home need to know who's available cheers lads great stuff.

Haslingden 3 (9 points) - Haslingden 2 (18 points)

So the big Derby arrived, and the Pickup Stadia was packed , humming with anticipation.

Could the minnows of Hasi 3 beat the Great White Sharks of table topping Hasi 2?

Hasi 3 were not expected to get much out of the match but how wrong you would be if that was your assumption.

At the end of the night we were slightly disappointed not to win, it WAS that close honestly.

No jiggery pokery with the score card here, just some excellent performances, very close and very long matches, We were in danger of not getting to the Station before closing time.

Simon W v Alan

A very even match with Simon sneaking the first game 17-15, and then buoyed with confidence taking the second slightly more comfortably, but you can't right off our own pearly king. Back he came to take the third and then the fourth, 14-16 so it came down to the wire. The 5th game went back and forth but Simon squeaked it 15-13. Wow, we are 1-0 up, who would have believed it? We started on time but it's now 8:05 so we'd better crack on.

Derek v Mick H

Mick took the first but Nutts came down the corridor to offer tactical advice, and excellent advice it was. Derek took the next 15-9, thanks Chris.

Mick came back to take the next 10-15, but Nutts insisted his original advice was still sound.

It was, 17-15 to Derek, OMG!

What is going on? The crowd were yelling their encouragement and Mick was starting to flag a little.

Right down to the wire it went, and Derek eased over the line by 17-15.

Bloody hell, we are 2-0 up. How did that happen?

And now it's after 9pm and we've still only played 2 matches.

Simon B v Dave S

The stage was set, could Simon bring home the bacon? Would Hasi2 suffer the embarrassment of a loss to Hasi 3?

Can we claim bragging rights for the rest of time?

Errrrrrrr...no.

But it was close, damn close, very close.

So close that Dave had to come from 2-1 down and use all his 105 years of experience to inflict a cruel 13-15 fifth and final game defeat on Simon.

But we could almost taste the champagne.

If only

It's now 9:45pm and we still have 2 to play so we agreed to play the final two matches to 11 points. This obviously suited Hasi2 as both their guys had first team experience of playing to 11. (That's my story and I'm sticking to it)

Andy v Tan

Tan took the first game, but Andy continued the good form he showed last week and took the second. But Tan isn't Hasi's most improved player by accident, he turned the screw in the 3rd. Although Andy pushed hard Tan never looks like he ever breaks sweat and took the 4th game by 4-point margin.

So now it's 10:15 and the big guns stride onto the court.

Chris N v Simon L

Fairly short match. But it needed to be due to the timing. 2 big hitters slugging it out. Rally? What's that?

For every time Chris hit the tin he forfeited a chip on his supper in the pub.

Needless to say, he ended up with pie and peas only.

As the great coach Moussa Helal advised when asked " I keep hitting the tin Moussa, what should I do?" "Hit the ball higher son".

Wise words but ones that Chris obviously hasn't heard.
Simon winning 3-0, but all the games were pretty even.

So the match ended with a 3-2 win for Hasi 2 (18 points to 9).

But we were magnificent, and the performance warranted more than 9 points.
Strange how Derby matches bring out the best performances, but they certainly did tonight.

Excellent match, good spirit, good banter and well received by those watching on the balcony. I think Sir Pickup even stayed to the end, that's how good it was.

Hassy 4 match report.

Back with a bang.

First up everyone's favourite skipper

Me (Si F) v Olly

Playing at 2 and forced on court within minutes of arriving due to olly needing to do one.

If I don't say so myself a very measured and controlled performance leading from the front.

3-1

Ray v Andy

Same again, another measured clinical performance from the anchor of the team.

3-1

Chris Walsh v Danny

This boy was a new comer and was probably playing too far down the order. Just had too much for our iron man.

0-3

Steve v Duncan

Ouch!

2-0 up then 2-2 and neck and neck in the fifth, then match point Steve then injury strikes and forced to retire as the poor fella could barely walk.

Unfortunate end to a good game that he would have won.

2-3

Finally, our resident no 1

Jason v Fabian

A brilliant performance against a guy drafted in from their thirds.

Controlled the pace of the game and took away his opponent's weapons.

Top drawer.

Good start to the new year. Up the league we go.
Hoorah the 4 ths 🍷😊

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