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With no Game for Hasi one it was the turn of Hasi 2 and 4 to entertain the crowds at the pickup stadia - and they got their money's worth with possibly the latest finish known at the Hasi stadia - a disturbing trend that's developing and caused the last 2 games for Hasi 2 to be played to 11 which seem to work well in our favour as they were 2 fairly quick matches that brought us back in line.

### **Hasi 1 (19) Clayton Green ( 7)**

The scoreline is at best flattering and doesn't really tell the whole story - this was a well fought and close battle, to the outsider as time has gone on it seems that the Division is getting somewhat stronger.

First up **Dave ( ball popper ) Omara** - plying down at 4 and in need of a confidence boosting win Dave did just that - not always the prettiest but did what was expected - ground out a win, well played Dave - gets that graph back on the up

<http://www.resultszone.com/cgi-bin/resultszone.cgi/nwcls?ucid=ViewPlayerRankings&aid=history&memberId=11073#>

Skipper Hodgson next on - Mick does seem to be getting the rising stars and despite the old trickery and guile from our exiting skipper the young Luke had a little spare energy going through 3-2 (Don't look at the Graph Mick ) it will be fine next week.

**Match 1-1 over to Hasi Big Guns - Its now 9 pm and up step Tan** - 1<sup>st</sup> game the man was possessed like a whirlwind his opponent didn't even get a look in 15 - 5 , hitting the ball v hard ( all the time ) - Surely 15 minutes and we are over - NOPE, Tan wanted his monies worth and moment in the limelight. The next 3 games were a proper slugfest with who could hit it harder - the front of the court was the safest place to be - no one went there. AS Predictable as Hasi gets down to the wire Tan 15-13 in the last (not mentioning him winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> 16-14 from 14 - 9 down). The good thing in all that is the spirit shown to scrap to the last and take the big points - well played sir (there is an easier way though)

Cinderella's carriage is close to turning into a pumpkin as the clock gets to 9.45 - time to play to 11 - Ben fresh as daisy from holiday, a 4-hour drive and diet of pies and coke arrives a little stressed - decides he 2 wants a slugfest and monies worth before running out 3-1 winner - Match won.

Thank goodness for Mr Latham - with a space Balcony and having been there since 7, Simon goes on court at 10 - all finished for 10.20 - lesson in quietly getting on with it - lots of smiles and good banter as his opponent at one was grateful to lose. A Long night thanks all - we may need to look at how to seed up a little, although should promotion beckon, playing to 11 against Div. 3 teams, time might not be an issue!

### **Hasi 3 vs Blackburn Northern 3 Lost 19 points to 7 ( 4-1)**

I had high hopes for this week as Hasi 2 had beaten Blackburn last week with a weaker team than usual and we, HASI 3 , had a strong team this week but with home advantage Blackburn proved too much for us.

I (Derek) went on first against Paul Johnston who battered me in the first match of the season so I knew I was up against it. Lost the first but then responded well to some wise words from local boy Mick Wright and took the second. Lost the third but stuck in there and took both the last two. Pretty chuffed with that. Paul wasn't. He did confide that he'd recently recovered from life threatening Dengue fever! Do I care? Nope.

Mick went on next against everybody's favourite left handed unorthodox punk rocker Simon Cotton. Lost the first, came back to take the second, but lost the next two by a small margin. Damn!

Simon B locked horns with Brian Hayward who he had beaten the week before in the colours of Hasi 2. But lightning doesn't strike twice, at least not in Blackburn. Itching for revenge Brian never took this foot off Simon's throat and exacted revenge in convincing fashion.

2-1 down now but we still have hope. Andy against Steve Taylor, what a slugfest that was! I have to admit I didn't think Steve was that good on previous viewing but he pulled out all the shots to come back from a game down and win 3-1. Andy left nothing on court as usual but Steve played very well.

So, match over, but Chris Nuttall could add some points to our tally surely? Playing Ben Jones, who must be the quickest player in Division 4 and makes Gordon look pedestrian. Fairly soundly beaten in the first two games Chris added some control to his game and won the next two. Started the fifth well but couldn't maintain it, losing 2-3 in the end. But that is the best I've seen Chris play for some time, signs of a return to form.

So 7 valuable points which may close the gap on Wigan a little, we'll have to wait and see.

No competitive matches next week, friendly session with St Peters Burnley for some.

#### **Team 4 report.**

Bad two weeks for Hassy 4.

Hassy 4 v bury 3

#### **Ray v Fabian**

If only I had a Ray a few years younger he'd have these speedsters in the bag. Had the shots to beat a classy opponent but unfortunately not the legs.

1-3

#### **Neil v Rick**

Neil was by own admission never in it. Dragged in at last minute and lacking court time was deservedly beaten.

**0-3**

#### **Les v George**

Les playing a young man with an old name gave a good account of himself, but as with Ray lacked the legs to match the shots.

**0-3**

#### **Chris v Jimmy**

Chris played a guy who was without a doubt a class act. I asked my iron man to try and run him down but he had too many weapons in his arsenal to combat all thrown at him. Deserved winner

**0-3**

#### **Jason v Colin**

Good game this against a very cool customer who used the delay on his shots well. When at 1-1 thought Jason had the measure but Colin had some more gears and Jason's lengths

were short.

**1-3**

Need to get bodies back to have the final push.

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