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Subject: FW: Thursday Club Report
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Here am de news

In a week where my job was to push a pen only, Red Leader had dropped his admin burden on all texty and a tad sneaky like ...I duly waited up on Thursday like it was Crimbo evening, the stark realization that there is no Santa struck home, and after a few sherbet's out the green bottle I wobbled off muttering about Salvage Hunters, which I am currently binge watching, and slept with my racquet, having woken up feeling a bit stringy, I have cobbled together the report

Team 1

Hassy 1 v Monton 2

No Gordo /Red Leader or Tiny Tim so time for everyone to step up (Ed's note .except Bruce, who is sulking) Some great matches

Si Latham up first

2 nil up and cruising but this guy would not go away and eventually won out 3-2

Tan up next

Against a great player dug in but unfortunately up against the wrong side of 3-2

Ben

To keep us in the running, again down to wire but couldn't cross that line losing 3-2

Foxy

No pressure as the match was lost and served up the performance of the night grinding his opponent down in the 5th 3-2 ,well played Tony (I am assuming this is Tarzan ? Ed)

Tom

Playing a young buck losing 3-1.10 points against a strong Monton 2. Plenty of positives, no injuries, time to dig in long season ahead, going to be interesting

Team 2

AWOL, missing in action

Team 3

Capt Si is blossoming now, Oscar Wilde, eat your heart out.....

Hassy 3 v Markland 2

The Fifth Beatle Scurlock v J Tomlinson

Dave started off perfectly and it looked like points in the bag But injury to his foot kicked in and Dave's mobility went to zero Unfortunate 1-3

Andy Wray v Steve Daniels

Bit of needle crept in here with contact as Steve's inability to clear properly, and the marking was poor to say the least Andy won through with a good aggressive display 3-1 (Ed's note politely putting it one thinks ?)

Fizzy Foz v John Muller

The most convincing win of the night, for once I managed to keep my head and see my dominance through to a well needed victory 3-0

Si Baynes v Matt Muller

Game of the night. Matt started off like a Ferrari & Si could not touch him Then the man of steel turned steely eyed and decided it wasn't over It became attritional and went to the very end with Si getting squeaked 3-2

Mick Wright v Jamie Harrison

A close contender for game of the night

A well played, hard fought battle with Mick having 2 match points (he will not thank me for bringing that up) Jamie just pipping Mick at the end 3-2

A great nights squash boys, that elusive win is coming

Team 4

Fairways Lodge 3 v Haslingden 4 (Lost 2-3)

Ooooooooooh it was close, so close but more of that later.

5: Steve Riley stepped in at the last minute and overcoming his usual nerves continued to play even better squash. He figured out his young opponent and never let him get comfortable, lifting the ball to the back over the poor little mites head. Solid performance, 3-0 win in the bag.

4: John Keating started slowly against Pasquale , losing the first game. But taking a leaf out of Steve's book he lifted the ball to the back of the court and poor old Pasquale couldn't deal with it.

3-1 win to take us to a 2-0 lead.

Bloody hell. We might be in with a chance here

3: Steve Michie against a young guy who had the shots and style to worry him. Steve did his best but came second , a 0-3 loss.

Damn, reality sets in.....

2: Danny played well against another relative youngster but couldn't close out any of the games despite them all being close to 12 or 13 points.

Oh well, now it all depends on me.

1: Derek. It wasn't my intention to play #1 this season but a man's gotta do what a man's gotta do. Honestly , I shouldn't have even been on the same court as this guy but strangely he made me play well. After losing the first game I managed to win the second 16-18. Then in the third he whupped me again. Normal service resumed I thought. Somehow I won the fourth 16-18 again to set up the decided. Not sure I know how I did that.

In the last the force was again with me and I got to 14-10 , so I had 4 match points!

Surely I couldn't blow it from here?

Correct, Yes I could. Lost 17-15 in the fifth.

Like I said earlier sooooooo close, if only, Ifs ,buts and maybes , but no cigar. Failed to bring home the bacon.

Honestly I played as well as I have for many years, I didn't think I still had that in me. I was knackered after the third game , never mind taking it to a nerve- jangling fifth.

Epic, Danny says I am a legend, just imagine what I would be if I had actually won.

What's better than a legend? Answers on a postcard please.

Good match and John and Steve R deserve to play next week for winning in style.

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