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To: "pdfconvert@pdfconvert.me" <pdfconvert@pdfconvert.me>
Subject: 12-03-2020 To coin a phrase - entering the final furlong
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As we enter the final phases of this season – assuming we are allowed to finish the season all is good with the Good ship Hasi and like buses we wait for weeks for a full house the 2 come along in 3 weeks, clean sweep for the Hasi massive. Confidence is on the up, the snowflakes seem to have solidified (well most of them !) Tan continues to have broad shoulders for Hasi 1, leading and learning in the bearpit that is nu 1 –(someone is really going to get it off Tan soon then take cover for gentleman Tan will have gone not to be seen again !) Hasi 2 “ The Marines “continue repairing confidence and rebuilding old snowflakes and ex retired players - even having the time and inspiration to uncover a new guest scribe in the resplendent Mr Wray. Are Mr Watkinson and Mr Nuttall succession planning I ask ? Hasi 3 March on with a determination to win the league and using that extra point - maybe time to soon see how high A J can go in that division – and Hasi 4, the truly majestic Hasi 4 continue to develop (not quite sure what we are developing but who cares its smiles all round – Lets hope we can keep it going to the end of the season.

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Hasi 1 vs vVillage hotel bury

Won 4-1 or 17-6 – Done the double on them

First up me (Tan) at 1 vs Lloyd

Lost 3-0 but no bagels this time

Next up Tom at 2 vs olly coleman – won 3-1

Dressed in all his compression wear this time and straight on court. Used all his court craft to take the first. The second he was cruising and clearly frustrating Olly.

A truly horrible shot soured the game with Olly turning on a shot and giving it the full beans to play a shot with tom diving for cover- no damage done but poor form and no apology- out of order if you ask me and tom rightly annoyed. Fired him up though as he wrapped the second up.

A little blip in the third getting some match balls but tinning at the finish line. Temporary reprieve as he finished things up in the fourth. Good win!

Next up fin at 5 vs our old friend Jason kirk

Fin in 1st gear for this game- just doing enough without overly taxing himself- not bad to be cruising in

div 3 without playing at 100%.

3-0 bish bash bosh- he tells me that's his fifth win on the bounce. Nice if you can get it

Next up Gordy at 3 vs james won 3-1

Showed all facets of his lorry driving skills today. I've never seen him play so many winning drops in the first game- all that practice turning that steering wheel with his spin backhand drop.

The second game seems he decided he wanted a bagel- let off by james but at 9-0 down a hard task to win that one. Crucial third game which Gordy took 11-9. Kept the pressure on in the fourth to win 3-1.

So match won

Last up Tim at 4 vs Jim

Another left hander for bury. Slow start from our man losing the first. Still quite nervy in the second with some awkward bounces not going his way but managed to level the game. The game hung on the third- Tim squeaking out a 14-12. The last was a procession with Tim winning 3-1.

So early finish and a team win- next week Cheetham hill away - tough gig but confidence seems to be on the up😊

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David Lloyd North 2 vs Hasi Marines - hasi Marines win 17-4

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Haslingden Marines trip South to The Middleton Dave was never going to be a forgone conclusion. Although akin to the Cheltenham form book, the Marines were odds on favourite for this meet.

First race was the evergreen Simon Latham v Chris Hamer. By the Dave's own players admissions, Chris is 'a bit of a weirdo'. Coming into the third game at 1-1, Simon drew his whip and saw himself finish at canter at 3/1.

Second race, Andy took on the rather solid John. Resplendent in colourful silks, Andy soon had his opponent twitching more erratically than a bookie with the favourite out in front. He ran through his opponent faster than a dose of Coronavirus. There were several steward's enquiries, from John, aimed at the marker Corteen, however they were straws for which he was grasping. 3-0

The third race saw a revitalised Chris Nuttall up against a young Arab mustang Wazz. It wasn't the usual trotting around like a proverbial show pony for Nuttall. Some new feed and time in the Maldives stud sowing some oats of alternative kind seems to have calmed his nature. No longer was the tin drawing his balls at high velocity like iron to a magnet, Nuttall's shots were now played to length at the pace of a steady trot. The young mustang eagerness showed, and he snorted aplenty but Nuttall cruised home happily on the bridle. 3/0

Fourth race saw John Corteen, Hassi Marines equivalent of Desert Orchid, take centre stage. The faithful grey though, unfortunately pulled a fetlock in the first furlong and was touch and go but ran on gamely. If he'd been a thoroughbred, he'd been shot, however the ageing stallion rallied and managed to steal a game from the athletic Danny, finally going down 3/1.

The late race featured Ben Nelson and a strong young stallion in Thomas. Nelson was out of the stalls quickly taking the first two games. One could've been mistaken for thinking this was an exhibition event with some of Nelson's stroke-play. Thomas wasn't done though and rallied well securing another consolation point for The Dave before Nelson saw the Marines home.

Pulling up lame wasn't enough for Corteen to avoid the coveted Match W award, much to the relief of a nervous Latham. A date in the Sauna followed where steaming coats were rubbed down enthusiastically by the euphoric jockeys, each jostling for the favoured position. Happy days to remember for a long time to come.

Roll on next week. H2 Marines still unbeaten in 2020.

Team 3 report home v Cheethamhill 3

Not a massive amount to report tonight as they only had 3 players available but here goes.

AJ v blank

Cracking warm up with the rest of the team and managed to take the p##s out of Aaron by playing on his knees 😊. 3-0

Steve M v blank

Mr Michie I would presume was all tucked up at home with a wee dram in front of the fire with his big fluffy slippers on whilst watching braveheart 😊.

No point coming from rubble valley for nothing. 3-0

3-0

Simon B v Tom

Hooray a bit of racquet action.

Saw SB this week against tricky Ricky getting a proper tonking 😊 but nothing like it tonight seeing tom off in quick time. 3-0

Aaron v Gary woods 3-1

Our resident road runner started off like he'd been hog tied and was soundly pounded.

Then the proverbial light bulb clicked and the shackles were shed to a full flowing energiser bunny that ground Gary into the floor.

Boss man v Volvo (actually Volvo but Volvo is easier to say) 3-0

I seem to be making life very difficult for myself now. Volvo didn't have much to offer so I decided to offer him all the chances he needed (much to SB's amusement) Pulling my groin in the second game didn't help but points are needed in our persuit of glory so in corteen fashion played through to the end.

Big points haul tonight with some help obviously but not our doing.

Big push to the end now to be champions.

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Haslingden 4 WON 17 points to 5

We travelled over the hill to the posh Dingles. Hasi had all 5 players there by 7.05 pm , Crow Wood had 1, but that's all we need. Off we go.

#4: Ray v Glyn

Ray had been warming up with Bruce and was raring to go. He didn't want another repeat of last week's slow start. Bish bash bosh, 3-0, he didn't let his opponent get to double figures in any game. Damn good Thursday night player is Ray. Does the business, no fuss, just gets on with it. His only loss this season is to Dumbledore.

#2: Derek v Michael

Not a good night for my return to team squash. He was very slow to clear on the backhand side and I didn't make him pay for it. A night I'd rather forget. Lost 0-3.

#5: Steve v Dave

Dave is one of those tricky opponents that has the shots if you put the ball too close to him. Keep him moving and the game becomes a whole lot simpler. Steve cruised to a 2-0 lead, had a wobble then took control again in the 4th. Won 3-1.

#1: Danny v Phil

I haven't seen Phil before, but he has a powerful left-handed forehand, and seems better than his ranking would suggest. He's on the way up.

He gave Danny a great deal of trouble.

I am prepared to offer a handsome financial reward to anybody who can teach Danny how to play a drop shot ([Editors Note : I'll throw in chocolate and beer](#)). I'm not sure what he's doing when he thinks he's playing a dropshot but it's unlike anything I've ever seen.

Fortunately, the rest of his game was good enough and he ground down Phil to clinch the match for the team with a 3-1 win, but they were long games. Well played sir!

#3: Bruce v Dermot (the name should be familiar)

The games were tight, and Dermot seems to have developed a new steel and determination. He gave Bruce nothing. At one-point Bruce let out a mighty yelp of pain. Dermot had somehow clattered one of Bruce's knees. Dermot was unmoved,. Bruce limped around the court for the allowed 90 seconds before getting back to his task of making. They were tight games, but Bruce got the 3-0 he deserved.

Another good match and Haslingden 4 are now able to finish either 3rd or 4th. 4 matches to go, 3rd spot is ours for the taking.

Next week it's Tame Valley 5 at home. Very winnable.

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