

Week 19 report

The Quarter and Semi Final stages of the Five A Side competition were played this week at the Devonshire and Jacksdale Social Club.

At Jacksdale, in the Quarters, the Miners Arms just edged out the Out of Town in a ball a man shoot out, whilst the Red Lion beat the Village Inn in straight legs with a top score of 36. In the Semi Finals the match swung both ways before the Red Lion eventually won by three legs to two to reach the Final where they will play the Honeypot. After beating the Boot & Slipper in the Quarters the Honeys easily beat the Carnfield in straight legs in the Semi Final. Unfortunately the South Normanton Club couldn't match their earlier form in beating the White Hart.

In the league this week, the Staff of Life won their third consecutive match 7-0 as they easily beat bottom side Jacksdale SC, scoring 213 pins in the process. This was helped by Pete Topliss's 29 including a 13 pin stick up and a magnificent 3 nines by T Wakefield. This puts the Staff 4 points above the Out of Town and 6 above the Heanor Labour Club. The wheels are coming off at the Out of Town as they lost for the second week running, this time to the Gate who won 4-3 and top scoring in the League in one leg this week with a leg of 78. The Labour Club, after a maximum points win at the Village, could still actually win the league as they have a game in hand of the Town and play the Staff at home this week. The Carnfield Club gained revenge from the previous night, by beating the Honeypot 5-2 away from home. In the final match, the Red Lion won away at the Miners to probably cement a fourth place finish in the division this season. Stick ups this week in the Prem included J Hunt's 13 in totalling 26 for the Gate and S Mee of the Red Lion who scored a 15 in totalling 28 pins on the night.

In Division Two, the White Hart could do nothing about one of the legs at home to the Crossings Club but won the other two to win the game 5-2. This means that they probably can't afford to drop a single leg in their remaining three matches, in order to win the league. Level on points with the Bargate team, but behind on the Head To Head Rule, are the Snooker Club. The Somercotes side won comfortably 7-0 versus the George. However top single leg score in the Division came from the Westhouses Social Club (or "Corner Cub" as they like to be known). They scored 71 pins in one leg, which included stick ups by R Harper (15) and M Rode (13), as they beat the Eclipse 5-2. In fact the Eclipse are getting better each week and this week managed 52 in one leg. If only the season had just begun for them! The Beehive won the local derby 7-0 at the Thorn Tree and the Moulders gained maximum points at the Devonshire.

The Sunnyside Club can win the Division One title this week, which they thoroughly deserve after a great season. This week they easily beat a depleted Black Boy side and included a solid 25, including a 12 pin stick, up from D Capewell. A win which puts them nine points in front of the Boot & Slipper, who themselves can clinch a minimum of second spot this week. The Boot dropped two points at home to a spirited Victoria, whilst third placed Heanor Con Club won 5-2 at the bottom side Alfreton Town SC. The Heanor team had one leg of 69 in their total of 193 pins. The Station only needed nine players to beat the Keys 7-0 and the French Horn beat the Black Bulls Head 5-2. This makes it close at the foot of the table which could see any of the Keys, Black Bulls Head or Alfreton Town relegated. Last season's Div2 champions, the Vic have probably just done enough to escape the drop, but they only have two matches remaining, which could just see them in trouble should scores go against them in the last three weeks of the season.